

THE House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1961-66

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 5th May, 1964.

Pursuant to prorogation the 1961-66 Legislative Session was re-opened by His Excellency the Governor, Brigadier Sir John Montague Stow, K.C.M.G., in the Senate Chamber, Public Buildings, at 10 o'clock a.m. today.

The following Members of the House were present in their Chamber:

His Honour Mr. J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C. (Senior member for St. Lucy) (Speaker); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P. (Junior member for St. Joseph); Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, O.B.E. (Senior member for St. Peter); Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY, C.B.E. (Senior member for the City of Bridgetown) (Leader of the Opposition); Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS (Junior member for St. Peter); Mr. F. C. GODDARD (Junior member for Christ Church); Mr. F. E. MILLER (Junior member for St. George); Hon. C. E. TALMA (Senior member for Christ Church) (Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries); Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A. (Junior member for St. Lucy) (Minister of Education); Hon. E. W. BARROW, B.Sc. (Senior member for St. John) (Premier); Mr. J. W. CORBIN (Senior member for St. Andrew); Mr. S. E. SEALEY (Senior member for St.

Michael); Hon. G. G. FERGUSON (Junior member for St. Michael) (Minister of Communications, Works and Housing); Mr. W. R. COWARD (Senior member for St. Joseph); Mr. R. St.C. WEEKES (Junior member for St. Philip); Mr. W. R. LOWE (Senior member for St. George); His Honour Mr. E. L. CARMICHAEL, J.P. (Senior member for St. James) (Deputy Speaker); Mr. G. V. BATSON (Senior member for St. Thomas) (Chairman of Committees); Mr. N. W. BOXILL (Junior member for St. Thomas); Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD (Junior member for St. John); Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS (Junior member for St. Andrew) (Minister of Social Services).

HOUSE SUMMONED TO OTHER PLACE

Honourable members being in their places, the Sergeant-at-Arms entered the Chamber and informed Mr. SPEAKER that His Excellency the Governor was ready to receive the House in the Senate Chamber.

Mr. SPEAKER preceded by the Marshal carrying the Mace cradlewise and followed by the Honourable members in pairs according to seniority, proceeded to the Senate Chamber and waited on His Excellency the Governor.

His Excellency then addressed the two Houses of the Legislature as follows:-

Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly:

In opening the new Session of the Legislature I offer a very warm welcome to the Senate as the reconstituted Upper Chamber of the Legislature and especially to the individual Senators whose appointments were announced on Saturday last.

The Barbados (Letters Patent Consolidation) Order, 1964 made by Her Majesty the Queen on 26th March, 1964, and the various measures of local legislation enacted during the last Legislative Session, which together contain the amendments to the constitutional provisions of Barbados, have now been brought into operation. In addition to the replacement of the Legislative Council by a Senate, provision is made in particular for the following changes:-

The Constitution

- (i) the post of Attorney General to be a ministerial post instead of a Civil Service post;
- (ii) the establishment of a post of Director of Public Prosecutions and the abolition of the post of Solicitor General;
- (iii) the abolition of the Executive Committee and the transfer of the powers and functions of the Executive Committee and the Governor-in-Executive Committee entirely to the Cabinet;
- (iv) the transfer of authority in respect of the management of Government finances from the Governor-in-Executive Committee to the Cabinet and the Minister of Finance.

Provision has also been made for the appointment of Parliamentary Secretaries from amongst members of the Legislature to assist Ministers in the performance of their duties.

In accordance with these provisions, the announcement of the following appointments has already been made:-

The Honourable H. A. Vaughan, O.B.E., formerly Minister without Portfolio to the post of Attorney General, and *ex officio* as a Member of the Privy Council;

The Honourable E. R. L. Ward to be Minister without Portfolio;

Mr. W. E. Jacobs, O.B.E., Q.C., formerly Solicitor General to the post of Director of Public Prosecutions;

Mr. N. W. Boxill, M.P., to be a Parliamentary Secretary, to be attached to the Ministry of Communications, Works and Housing.

On the advice of the Premier, I have given directions for the re-allocation of responsibility among Ministers for subjects and departments of Government, to be effective from 5th May, 1964, as follows:-

The Honourable Cuthbert Edwy Talma to be Minister of Communications and Works;

The Honourable George Granville Fergusson to be Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries;

The Honourable Arlington DaCosta Edwards to be Minister of Health, Housing, Local Government and Community Development.

The Honourable E. W. Barrow, Premier and Minister of Finance will assume responsibility for Civil Aviation, Meteorology, Town and Country Planning, Lands and Surveys and matters relating to the University of the West Indies.

The Honourable W. A. Crawford, Minister of Development, Trade and Labour, will assume responsibility for Social Security.

Also on the advice of the Premier, I have today appointed Senator Hazeline Odessa Gittens to be a Parliamentary Secretary to assist the Minister of Health, Housing, Local Government and Community Development and the Minister of Education in the performance of their duties. Senator Gittens will have special responsibility in the latter Ministry for the Schools Meals Service.

The main constitutional provisions for Barbados are contained in the Order in Council and the local legislation to which I referred earlier. There are, however, certain conventions which are related to those constitutional provisions and I now wish to restate briefly the more important of these conventions.

Having regard to the responsibilities of Her Majesty's Government to Barbados with regard to such matters as external affairs and relations, defence and external security, the responsibility for such matters will remain with the Governor.

There will be a new convention obliging the Governor to accept the advice of Ministers in exercising any function vested by law in the Cabinet. The right of the Governor to refer matters back once to Ministers for reconsideration will therefore be discontinued.

It is agreed that the delegation of power to individual Ministers will be subject to the overriding authority of the Cabinet to decide questions of policy.

In exercising the prerogative in the prorogation and dissolution of the Senate and the House of Assembly, the Governor will act in accordance with the conventions which Her Majesty observes in similar circumstances in the United Kingdom.

The freedom of action of the Judiciary from executive interference is being preserved. The Chief Justice will retain administrative responsibility for the Judiciary, the Magistracy and the Registry and he may deal directly with the Governor in these matters.

Express provisions have now been made relating to the position and powers of the Director of Public Prosecutions; while the maintaining of law and order is, in normal circumstances, one of the functions of the Premier, it is an agreed principle that, in exceptional circumstances, this responsibility will fall on the Governor.

As regards the general public service, the convention is being retained whereby the Premier, who is a member of the Privy Council, will absent himself from meetings of the Council when an appeal by a civil servant against a disciplinary decision of the Service Commissions is being heard. Duties in respect of charges against civil servants in disciplinary cases will in future be performed by a senior law officer.

It is proposed to introduce legislation early in the coming session to preclude Members of the Senate, as well as Members of the House of Assembly as at present, from serving as members of the Service Commissions.

The constitutional changes which I have enumerated now make the way clear for the achievement of Independence for Barbados, to which end my Government is firmly dedicated. In this connection my Government feels that Barbados can seek independence either in a Federation, if a Federation is established on satisfactory terms, or if necessary alone.

In May, 1963, a Commission was appointed under the Boundaries Commission Act, 1962, for the purpose of reviewing the constituencies into which the Island is divided. The Commission was required to submit a report by the 15th of April, 1964, and it is understood that by that date the Commission's Report had been submitted to His Honour the Speaker of the House of Assembly.

At the beginning of this year, legislation was enacted to provide for a reduction from 21 to 18 in the age at which citizens of Barbados become eligible to vote at elections for the General Assembly or for Local Government Councils.

Federation

In May, 1962, on the eve of the dissolution of the West Indies Federation, representatives of my Government, together with the Governments of the Windward and Leeward Islands met in London with the Secretary of State for the Colonies to formulate a plan for a federation of their territories, which was the avowed desire of the Governments of these territories at that time. Since then, the Government of Grenada has declared its intention to seek further association with the independent State of Trinidad and Tobago rather than with the other Windward Islands, the Leeward Islands and Barbados. During the past two years the Governments of Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent have held continuous discussions with my Government in furtherance of the plan for the establishment of a Federation of these territories and during August to September last year both Houses of the Legislature of Barbados signified their approval of proposals for the establishment of a Federation of the Seven East

Caribbean territories and in particular endorsed the proposal that the new Federation should be independent from the establishment of the first elected Federal Government.

My Government and the other six Governments referred to above have stated very clearly to Her Majesty's Government that they consider that no conference to settle the details of a constitution for an independent Federation of these territories should be held until satisfactory assurances about the quantum and duration of financial assistance which will be forthcoming from Her Majesty's Government have been obtained.

In the meantime, the Seven Governments which are represented on the Regional Council of Ministers are engaged in resolving such minor differences as still exist between Unit Government so that unanimous agreement can be reached on all the essential conditions for the establishment of the Federation.

At the opening of the Legislative Session in December, 1961, I gave a preview of the programme of development which my Government proposed to institute for the people of this Island. It will therefore not be inappropriate for me now to give some general indication of the progress which has been made during the past two years and four months.

**Development
Programme**

During the first five weeks of this year, at the invitation of my Government, Dr. Richard Jackson, Reader in Public Law and Administration at Cambridge University, conducted an enquiry into all aspects of the working of the three Local Government Councils of this Island. It is expected that Dr. Jackson's report on his enquiry will soon be received.

**Local
Government**

It is customary on these occasions to review the state of the Island's finances and to attempt a forecast of the economic outlook. However, in accordance with the practice instituted by my Government two years ago, full details of the financial and economic position of the Island will be contained in the Economic Survey which will very shortly be published at the time of the introduction of this year's Budget.

**Financial
Position**

The enactment of the Industrial Incentives Act and the Industrial Development (Export Industries) Act, providing additional incentives to approved industries, has enhanced the industrial climate of Barbados for establishment of new industries. Since the legislation was passed in July, 1963, more than 30 applications from companies have been received. There have also been many enquiries, some of which it is hoped will lead to firm decisions to set up operations in Barbados.

**Industrial
Development**

Since December, 1961, twelve new industries have been established with pioneer status, providing employment directly for more than 250 persons.

My Government will continue to promote the establishment of industries in the Island. For this purpose the Barbados Development Board will be reorganised and replaced by an Industrial Development Corporation. This Corporation will be relieved of the loan-making functions presently exercised by the Development Board as well as those functions concerned with the development of agriculture and will therefore be able to concentrate on its prime functions of promoting industrial development and management of industrial estates.

Legislation designed by means of income tax and customs concessions to encourage the construction by private companies for lease of certain types of industrial factories will be introduced in the near future.

The present industrial expansion has created a need for the regulating of standards of local products and consideration is being given to the establishment of an organisation to ensure that uniformly high standards of quality are maintained.

The present reserves of natural gas are expected to last for about ten years at the present rate of consumption. The Government is endeavouring to interest oil companies in undertaking further exploring and drilling in the hope of discovering oil and additional supplies of natural gas. In the meantime, however, plans are being formulated for the supply of manufactured gas in the event that efforts to discover new sources of natural gas are not successful.

**Labour
Legislation**

The Trade Union Act, 1963, came into force on 1st April, 1964. This Act, apart from bringing within its scope civil servants and other persons employed by or under the Crown, employees of local Government Councils, agricultural workers and domestic servants, permits peaceful picketing at the residence of persons involved in a dispute.

The new Workmen's Compensation Act, 1963, for the most part, also came into operation on 1st April, 1964. This Act extends protection to workers whose emoluments do not exceed \$4,800 per annum and covers for the first time domestic servants, fishermen, chauffeurs and boatmen.

The Act also substantially increases the benefits to workers injured or killed as a result of accidents during the course of their employment.

Employers are now required to assist with the medical expenses of injured workmen and with funeral expenses in cases of death.

The first step towards a comprehensive revision of the legislation relating to the opening and closing of shops has been completed. The recommendations of the Committee which was appointed to enquire into this matter are being studied by my Government.

Proposals for regulating the procedure for settlement of disputes in essential services are under consideration and it is hoped to introduce the necessary legislation during the coming season.

The tourist industry has made rapid strides since 1961. Earnings from this source increased from \$15.9 million in 1961 to \$18.9 million in 1962 and \$21.1 million in 1963. The prospect for 1964 is that a figure of 23.5 million will be achieved. The number of tourists visiting the Island rose from 37,000 in 1961 to 50,500 in 1963, and it is anticipated that a figure of 57,000 will be reached in 1964. The number of beds in hotels have increased from 1,926 in 1961 to 2,250 at present, and it is estimated that approximately 325 direct jobs in hotels have been created since 1961.

Tourism

It is my Government's intention to continue to promote the expansion of the tourist trade and to do its utmost to establish Barbados as one of the most attractive tourist centres in the area. Special attention is being given to the development of the summer business as well as promotion in new areas, especially South America.

My Government intends to construct a 150-room hotel to be managed by Hilton Hotels International Inc. This hotel, which is expected to be completed by the winter season of 1965/66, will among other features provide adequate facilities for international conferences and conventions and should provide a further fillip to the tourist industry.

A school for training hotel employees will shortly be set up under the aegis of the Ministry of Education. This training will be designed to raise the standard of service in hotels, as well as to meet the growing demands for staff created by the rapid expansion of the tourist industry.

The Sugar Crop for 1963 was 190,697 tons. The estimated crop for 1964 is 170,500 tons. The high incidence of cane fires this year has so far caused considerable loss to the Island. There have been 337 fires affecting 3,770 acres as compared with 248 fires affecting 1,993 acres during the same period in 1963.

Sugar Crop

My Government wishes publicly to acknowledge the invaluable services rendered during this and past years by the officers and men of the United States Naval Facility based in St. Lucy in assisting the local fire service in fighting fires. Their timely intervention has in many in-

stances considerably reduced the loss of life and property which might otherwise have been occasioned.

The Barbados Government was represented for the first time at the Commonwealth Sugar discussions which were held in London during October and November, 1963. At these negotiations an increase in the negotiated price quota of sugar was obtained which resulted in an increase to this Island from the *basic* quota of 126,000 tons to a new quota of 135,264 tons for 1964. The negotiated price remained at \$221 per ton for 1964. In addition, for as long as the International Sugar Agreement remains in suspension, the total amount of sugar which Barbados will be permitted to export to all Commonwealth territories, both at the negotiated price and at the world price, has been increased from 163,000 tons to 203,750 tons. The Commonwealth Sugar Agreement was extended for a further year to 1971. The principle has been accepted by the British West Indies Sugar Association, who are the signatories to the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement on behalf of the West Indies, that the Barbados Government will in future continue to be represented as a member of the negotiating team with Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom at the annual price fixing and quota negotiations.

Sugar Funds

Monies from the Price Stabilization Fund are now being utilised for the development and reorganisation of agriculture in the Island instead of only remaining on deposit or invested in overseas territories as heretofore. Among the purposes for which such monies are being used are to assist in financing a Provident Fund for workers in the sugar industry, severance payments to sugar workers, protective works to bulk sugar installations, an Agricultural Development Corporation and purchasing of agricultural properties.

Sugar Enquiry

The Commission of Enquiry under the Chairmanship of Dr. Rawle Farley, which was appointed in November, 1962 to enquire into all aspects of the sugar industry with special reference to its finances and general economics is expected to present its report soon.

Soil and Land use

During 1961-63 the Soil Conservation Section of the Regional Research Centre of the University of the West Indies carried out a soil and land use survey of the Island. The data provided by the team has been mapped and provides information showing the division of the soil of the Island into its various categories, an indication of where each soil type is found, and the general slope of the land on which each soil type occurs on the map. The Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries has made this information available to the farming community and continues to issue soil map bulletins which give information for each particular soil type and the particular cultivation treatment which should be meted out in respect of each type. This information is also useful in the control and protection of our underground water resources apart from its main

purpose of providing a scientific basis for the Ministry's advisory and experimental work. This is the first time in the Island's history that such complete basic information has been provided to guide the farming community in making the most efficient use of the land.

Work on the soil conservation project is continuing. A total of approximately 721 acres has so far been reformed. 350 acres of this is reclaimed land. A pilot project for the utilisation of wind power for generating electricity for irrigation and domestic purposes will be carried out in the Scotland District with the technical assistance of the Brace Research Division of McGill University. A development programme for the Scotland District is being prepared.

**Soil
Conservation**

My Government has formulated detailed plans for the establishment of a Lands and Surveys department which will be attached to the Home Affairs Section of the Office of the Premier. This department will be responsible for survey control work throughout the Island and will facilitate the working of a system for the registration of titles to land. These proposals will very soon be submitted for the approval of the Legislature.

**Land and Surveys
Department**

The Barbados Marketing Corporation has been reconstituted and a new Board appointed for a period of two years with effect from 15th March 1964. The abattoir commenced its operations in February of this year with the assistance of an expert from the British Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who advised and trained the staff in modern and improved methods of slaughtering. The operation of the vegetable section of the Corporation has already made a substantial contribution towards reducing the prices of green vegetables to the consumer and there is an indication that the producer is even more willing than before to increase his planting of food crops. The Corporation has also provided facilities to the hucksters for obtaining good quality produce at reasonable prices much easier than before.

**Food Production
and Marketing**

A substantial market is being developed overseas for local produce especially yams and sweet potatoes. The requirements for the compulsory planting of food crops have been revised for the 1963-64 crop year and now permit farmers greater flexibility in deciding what food crops should be planted within the total compulsory requirement of 12% of their arable land. Selection work is being carried out on 7,000 new varieties of sweet potatoes. Planting trials on English potatoes have been carried out on various soil types. Bananas and pineapples are being developed as new crops. Banana nurseries have been established and planting material is available for propagation and distribution.

**Agricultural
Credit and
Farming
Incentives**

The loan policy of the Agricultural Credit Bank has been revised to ensure that the funds of the Bank are utilised to make more loans available for productive purposes, such as cultivation of land, purchase of fertilizer and livestock and for irrigation, rather than to encourage transactions in land.

A scheme for making incentive payments to farmers based on production and for a system of supervised credit has been approved for implementation during the financial year. The purpose of the scheme is to induce a substantial expansion in crops other than sugar cane, to ensure that production is carried out on a planned basis and that credit made available by the Agricultural Credit Bank is efficiently utilised for the purpose for which it was provided. The incentives will provide for grants and loans for the purpose of pangola grass development, for irrigation and for improving the standard of livestock.

Dairy Industry

The Government owns 25% of the shares in the Barbados Dairy Industries Limited, a company which has been formed in conjunction with Northern Dairies Limited of Great Britain and the New Zealand Dairy Production and Marketing Board for the heat treatment of locally produced milk and for the processing of milk from imported raw materials. The Company will commence building construction work soon and the plant is expected to be in operation by 1965.

Co-operatives

Eight new co-operative societies were registered during the past year and overall membership has now been increased by a further 1,000 members to 3,800. The share capital and savings of these societies is approximately \$90,000. The Canadian Government has provided training courses and has made available five scholarships for co-operative officers and for workers in the voluntary field of co-operatives during the present year.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries has assisted in the formation of a Cane Farmers' Association with members drawn mainly from the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Joseph. This Association was represented at a meeting of the Caribbean Cane Farmers' Association in Jamaica in 1963 at which the Government was also represented. The 4-H Club movement has been revived: 19 Clubs have been formed during 1963 with a membership of approximately 400. The organisation of District Agricultural Shows has been revived: the first show was held at Jerusalem Agricultural Station in 1963 and arrangements are being made for a show to be held at the Home Agricultural Station in St. Philip during next month.

Reports have now been received from the Bellairs Research Institute of McGill University on the research which they have for some time been carrying out on the coastal currents in the vicinity of the Island and the movement of flying fish and other current borne species. These reports will be particularly useful in planning the further development of the fishing industry. My Government has also agreed to participate in a United Nations Fisheries Research Project which aims at determining the commercial feasibility of deep sea fishing in the Caribbean. The headquarters of the project will be in Barbados and active operations are due to commence next year.

Fishing Industry

During the year the Government acquired Graeme Hall Estate in Christ Church and the Haggatts group of estates in St. Andrew for agricultural development purposes. It is further proposed to acquire Fairy Valley Plantation in Christ Church. The purpose of acquiring agricultural land is to assist the Government in the implementation of its policy of diversification and to reduce the danger of fragmentation or other forms of development which are likely to affect adversely agricultural production and efficiency.

Agricultural
Development
Corporation

A plan has been prepared for the establishment of an Agricultural Development Corporation which will be charged with the operation on a commercial basis of all Government-owned estates and agricultural projects, including the Scotland Factory. The Corporation will also be given the responsibility for operating projects for the development of the fisheries of the Island and will be designed to stimulate and encourage development in the private sector, both in agriculture and in fisheries. Legislation to give effect to these proposals will be placed before you at an early date.

The Port Department was established in 1961 to operate the Bridgetown Harbour as a self-supporting project. Up to the present the Department has been able to meet all its commitments. The Bridgetown Harbour continues to attract an increasing number of cruise ships as well as ships for bunkering. In order to provide better berthing facilities for ships, a second tug has recently been purchased and put into service. Provision has also been included in this year's Estimates for improved fendering for the Harbour.

Bridgetown
Harbour

It is proposed to examine the possibility of increasing the depth of the Harbour to 36 feet in order to accommodate vessels of greater draughts. Material for permanent repair of the damage caused by high seas in January, 1963, has arrived, and work will commence shortly.

Housing

Negotiations are in train for the purchase of Delamere Land, St. Michael, and eighty-four houses have already been moved from this area to land at the Pine Estate. New areas for re-development purposes have also been acquired at Clinketts, St. Lucy, Heywoods, St. Peter, and Long Gap and Lodge Hill, St. Michael.

During the past two years 121 new houses have been constructed by the Housing Authority and a further 95 are almost completed. During the same period some 680 workers have been assisted with loans from the Housing Authority towards the purchase and/or repair of houses. It is, however, an important aspect of the policy of my Government that all workers should be encouraged to own their own homes, and proposals have recently been announced for the sale to tenants of the Housing Authority of the houses and land which they occupy.

The Mortgage Insurance Act which was passed in 1962 has set the pattern of a new departure in housing finance and negotiations have recently been completed by my Government for the purchase of Husbards and Oxnards Plantations in the parish of St. James for the purpose, among other things, of making land available under the Mortgage Insurance Scheme for housing for middle income groups.

Civil Aviation

The parking apron at Seawell Airport has been extended to provide parking space for large jet aircraft. It is proposed to construct a second taxi-way at the Airport and negotiations for the acquisition of additional land for this purpose are well advanced.

Transport

In March, 1963, a Committee under the Chairmanship of the Honourable E. R. L. Ward was appointed to enquire into the public transport services of the Island. The Committee submitted its report in January, 1964, and this report is being examined by my Government in order to determine the future of all public transport services in the Island.

Water Services

As a result of almost two years of research by Dr. Tullstrom, a Hydro-geologist, whose services were made available under the United Nations Technical Assistance Programme, an extremely useful report on the Island's water resources has been produced. In the light of this report my Government has adopted a policy with respect to the protection of the Island's water resources which involves the imposition of restrictions on building in certain areas.

The new wells which have been sunk at Hampton, St. Philip, and at Newmarket, St. George, are already producing some 1.5 million gal-

lons of water daily. When these wells come into full production it is expected that a further 3.5 million gallons of water will be added to the daily water supply. During the past two years approximately 23 miles of 4" mains have been laid in various parts of the Island and 75 new stand-posts have been connected.

The construction of the East Coast Road was started in May, 1963, and work is progressing very satisfactorily. Approximately one mile of the road and one major bridge crossing has been completed. Extensive excavation work along the remaining 2 1/2 miles of the first stage of the road has also been done. It is hoped to link Belleplaine with Cattleshwash by this road during the course of this year.

Roads and
Bridges

The programme of reconstruction and repair of tenantry roads and improvement of other roads has continued steadily. During the past two years approximately six miles of tenantry road have been added to those already maintained by the Department of Highways and Transport.

The project for the canalization of the Constitution River is now fully under way and has already provided a considerable improvement in the amenities of the area. Complementary to this project are such works as the provision of a new Victoria Bridge designed to accommodate four lanes of traffic and two pedestrian lanes, and a new bridge on Constitution Road, as well as other major improvements at road junctions.

Another major work which is also progressing satisfactorily is the construction of a car park by means of reclamation on the southern side of the inner basin of the Careenage. This car park, which will accommodate 160 cars, will, together with the other new car park constructed on the old river bed, provide accommodation far in excess of that at the Central Foundry site which is now required for other purposes.

Arrangements for free Secondary Education came into being in January, 1962.

Education

3,640 additional places through extensions and replacements of existing Primary Schools and 1,050 places through extensions at the Secondary level were provided in 1962 and 1963. Seven additional Science Laboratories were constructed during this period at the Secondary Grammar Schools. A new Primary School, at Deacon's Road, to accommodate 640 pupils will be opened within the next three months.

The programme for providing additional school places and relieving congestion in the Island's schools by means of extending and replacing existing buildings and by providing new schools as necessary will be continued by my Government.

The programme of land acquisition to provide suitable playing field space and vegetable gardens for the schools will also be maintained.

Comprehensive schools will continue to make provision for a varied education catering to academic and practical needs. A new school for girls at Government Hill to accommodate 800 pupils will be completed in the current financial year.

Provision will be made for the introduction of Nursery Schools, at first on an experimental basis, and for compulsory attendance in the primary schools at such stages as are found necessary.

The School Meals Service began in January 1963 at three schools: St. Clement's in St. Lucy, St. Christopher's in Christ Church and Westbury in St. Michael. It is proposed to extend the service to certain other rural parishes as it is considered that this Service contributes significantly to higher standards of health and nourishment among children of primary school age. The possibilities of external aid for the service are being explored.

A new building containing a laboratory, library, two lecture rooms, an art room and two administrative offices has been built at the Erdiston Training College to allow for better facilities for trainee teachers. Extensions at the College also include a student's common room and quarters for staff.

The training of teachers, both Secondary and Primary, whether in Government-maintained or Private Schools, will continue to be one of the main activities of the Ministry of Education. Discussions are in progress with Harvard University on proposals for the introduction in Barbados of a Team Teaching project to be supervised by this University. Team Teaching has had considerable success in the United States of America and my Government is grateful for the interest Harvard University has shown in the matter.

Emphasis will continue to be placed on the provision of facilities for training in the technical field. Two classrooms, one workshop and

one laboratory have been constructed at the Technical Institute while the welding and forge shops have been extended. The possibility of providing more advanced courses at the Technical Institute is being explored. The feasibility of establishing one or more trade schools for the training of artisans is also being examined and a Committee on Industrial Training and re-training has been set up to advise my Government in the matter.

My Government will continue to examine how best it can assist private schools to improve the standard of education they offer. At present the Government allows these schools exemption from payment of import duty on educational material and has approved a system of refund of fees to candidates who are successful in specified public examinations. The Government has also arranged for the training of private school teachers in the course conducted by the Extra-Mural Department of the University of the West Indies.

The possibility of establishing a College for the education of trade unionists is under study, and discussions on this matter will shortly be carried on between the Ministry of Education, the Barbados Workers Union and the University of the West Indies.

The College of Arts and Science of the University of the West Indies in Barbados opened in October, 1963. My Government offered ten Inaugural Science Bursaries tenable at the College to mark the opening. The Government at present pays the fees of all Barbadian students, whether day or evening, reading degree courses of the College. This practice will continue.

The acquisition of a permanent site for the College is nearing finality. The Barbados Government has agreed to provide this permanent site as part of an agreed contribution equal to 10% of a grant being made by the United Kingdom Government towards the capital cost of the permanent buildings of the College.

The establishment of a Public Records Office to ensure adequate care and preservation of the Island's archives is shortly to take place. An Archivist has been appointed to head this service. Archives

The Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation was established in 1963 and the radio station began broadcasting last December. It is proposed that the functions of the Corporation should be extended to include the operation of a television service. Broadcasting

**Medical and
Health Services**

The main building of the New General Hospital will be completed in a few weeks' time. Certain minor works will be completed within three to four months later. Transfer from the Old to the New Hospital is expected to start in June and will cover a period of approximately four months. Provision of funds for additional staff and equipment will be sought shortly in the Legislature.

A Joint Committee of the Government and the University of the West Indies is making plans for the training of medical students from the University at the New Hospital. An application has been made to the General Nursing Council of England and Wales for recognition of the Hospital as a training school for nurses.

The cost of constructing the Hospital was revised in 1962 at \$8.6 million compared with the original estimate of \$5.8 million, the increase being due mainly to the increased cost of materials, equipment and labour.

**District Hospitals
and Children's
Homes**

With the co-operation of the local Government authorities a survey of the twelve Almshouses was carried out during 1962 and 1963; as a result, centralisation of these Almshouses will be effected in the direction of a more rationalized service. The plan envisages improved amenities in more congenial surroundings for inmates and staff, and the complete separation of children from the sick and aged by the provision of at least two Children's Homes. The placing of children now living in Almshouses with suitable foster parents will be encouraged in order to give the children a normal development in the family.

It will thus be possible through this re-organisation of the Almshouses to make use of existing buildings for the establishment of additional District Hospitals. This development will further extend the improved medical services to the rural areas.

An examination of the existing School Medical and Dental Services is being undertaken in order to effect their improvement and extend the range of their operation. Plans are also being made for the operation of a Mobile Dental Clinic which the Junior Chamber of Commerce has kindly offered to present to the Government.

Social Security

Mr. H. W. Stockman, C.B.E., Social Security expert made available to this Government under the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance between October, 1961 and March, 1962, has reported on the feasibility of establishing a centralized Social Security

Scheme in the Island. A Committee consisting of representatives of the Government, workers and employers has been appointed to prepare an administrative plan for a scheme of Social Security based on Mr. Stockman's report.

In January, 1963, a Committee was set up to examine existing Social Legislation legislation affecting children and young persons. This Committee hopes to report shortly. During the past session, legislation was enacted to give effect to the following social measures:-

- (i) to increase the maximum allowance payable in respect of estranged wives and children;
- (ii) to extend the father's liability for maintenance of illegitimate children from 12 years to 16 years and to increase the amount of maintenance payable;
- (iii) to make incest an offence by law;
- (iv) to raise the age of consent by females to 16 years;
- (v) to increase the maximum weekly rate of old age pension to \$2.40.

The smocking industry is growing from strength to strength and today employs some 300 female workers. The income to these workers from this industry is about \$10,000 a month and negotiations are in train for extending the industry.

Handicraft
Development

The World Health Organisation and UNICEF, who are jointly sponsoring the Environmental Sanitation Scheme have provided additional equipment for use in the scheme. During the past two years 3,446 households have been provided with improved sanitation amenities under this Scheme. It is proposed to construct 24 additional communal baths and latrines in districts where the need is greatest.

Rural Amenities

The Sports Section of the Ministry of Social Services has been strengthened to provide for a more effective aid to organised sports and games in the Island. The Lawn Tennis Courts at the Garrison Savannah are being operated by the Sports Section for the coaching of school children. The Courts have also been made available for local and inter-territorial tournaments. Investigations are continuing for the establishment of a Sports Stadium.

My Government wishes publicly to acknowledge and to express its appreciation of the large measure of assistance, both in terms of skilled personnel, material and equipment, finance and training opportunities,

External Aid

which have been provided by Governments and other institutions within and without the Commonwealth, and by agencies of the United Nations.

Civil Service

In my speech at the opening of the Legislative Session in December, 1961, I paid tribute to the devotion to duty and impartiality which the Barbados Civil Service had in the past demonstrated. I also emphasised the responsibility which would continue to fall on the Civil Service in assisting the Government in accomplishing its plans. My Government wishes to express its gratitude to all members of the Service and particularly to those occupying posts of responsibility for the very satisfactory manner in which they have met the challenge and for the work which they have accomplished during the past two years.

My Government also wishes to express its appreciation of the services which are so unselfishly rendered by members of the Public Service Commission, the Judicial and Legal Service Commission, the Police Service Commission, the Statutory Boards and other Committees.

Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly:

I now declare the Legislative Session open and I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may always rest upon your counsels.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,
BARBADOS.

5th May, 1964.

His Excellency presented a copy of his Speech to the President of the Senate and to Mr. Speaker.

HOUSE RETURN TO ASSEMBLY CHAMBER

Mr. SPEAKER preceded by the Marshal bearing the Mace and followed by other hon. members, returned to the Assembly Chamber.

PRAYERS

Prayers were read.

Mr. SPEAKER: When the House attended the Senate Chamber, His Excellency was pleased to deliver a Speech of which I have been favoured with a copy which it is my duty to read, and I now propose to do so.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think you can be saved that duty.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am grateful to the Hon. Acting Leader of the House.

STANDING ORDERS OF THE HOUSE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, before the business of the House is proceeded with, I beg to move that the Standing Orders of the House for the last Session be the Standing Orders of the House for this Session.

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

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

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. senior member for St. Thomas be appointed Chairman of Committees.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to second that motion, and in doing so I would like, as one of the senior members of this Chamber, to offer a bit of advice to the Chairman of Committees. It would not be my lot after today to say what I am going to say now without infringing the Rules of the House. I have come to the conclusion in my own mind that, for the benefit of this Chamber, I would like the Chairman of Committees or any Chairman of Committees to know that ignorance of the Standing Orders of the House should not be the hallmark of any quality to become Chairman of Committees. I feel, Sir, that an intelligent application of the Standing Orders of this House will save us many an embarrassing moment, and I do hope that what I am saying now will be taken in good faith; that is to say, that the Chairman of Committees should regard May's Parliamentary Procedure and the Standing Orders of this House as some things of an abiding book with him and he should be thoroughly acquainted with them.

Every hon. member of this Chamber is willing to abide with the Standing Orders of this House and the Chair, and all those who have a wide knowledge of parliamentary procedure know that sometimes things get out of hand and you get a bad reflection because the Chairman of Committees unwittingly and without malice is ignorant - I use the word "ignorant" in the context of not knowing what the Standing Orders are - and is not ruling promptly. I would admonish the Chairman of Committees to bear that in mind and to accept this in good faith. This is not being done with any rancour or bad feeling, but I do feel that the good name of this Chamber should be preserved. I feel that this House should reflect, even if it is no more than the pigmentation of its composition, that it is a different House from what it used to be. There is too much talk that this House or the House of Assembly is not what it used to be, and it is a sad reflection on those of us who have the honour to occupy these seats now. The Standing Orders of the House and May's Parliamentary Procedure were printed for this House to use; they should not be looked upon as some things occupying the shelves of this Chamber and some things for the Librarian to dust from time to time.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I would have to associate myself with the remarks of the hon. senior member for St. Peter.

11.25 a.m.

When we are speaking on a matter of this sort, it is not that we are against the particular member or Chairman. We would like to maintain the dignity of this Honourable House at all times, and hon. members cannot maintain it alone without proper rulings from the Chair.

I will appeal now to the Chairman, whosoever he may be, to be strong in his ruling, because if he is not strong in his ruling, everything will be weak. Now, Sir, one of the main things that a Chairman or a Speaker should keep his mind's eye focussed upon is to see that no hon. member strays from the point that is in front of him, whether it be a Resolution, Bill or otherwise. It is his duty not to think of the particular speaker at the time, but to keep his mind's eye on what is in front of him and not to allow any member at all, whether it be the Premier of his Party, a member of his Party, or a member of another Party, as my good friend would say, to take up the wrong longitude. If he keeps his mind's eye there, all dignity of this House will be maintained; but if he takes it upon himself to allow one hon. member, regardless of who the member may be, to stray, he cannot expect the others to keep to the straight and narrow way; he would be making an opening for all others to come in, and a very wide opening at that. I know from the last Session that that is what was happening. I would not say that the Chairman did not know the Rules, because he is one who, I presume, can read, and he should always refresh his mind on the Standing Orders and May's Parliamentary Procedure, so that he would be able to rule within his rights, and not allow any hon. member of any Party to make him break the Rules of this Honourable House, because if he allows it, he is doing it. As soon as one member acts to the contrary, he should call on him and ask him to keep to the point, and I am sure that a lot of work will be done and the dignity and respect of this Honourable Chamber will be maintained.

I sincerely hope, Sir, that he will remember what I have just said and take it seriously, consult with the Standing Orders and not allow any member, when another is speaking, to cast asides that he can hear. As soon as he can hear them, he must expect that the entire House can hear them; so he should put his foot down on it and not allow another member to get up and say what he thinks fit or whatever he cares during a particular debate.

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

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is most unusual for a homily of this type to be delivered on the nomination of a Chairman of Committees. Over the period of 13 years in which I have been in this Chamber, I have never

known whether there are soliloquies or homilies to be indulged in. The only contribution I would have to make on this occasion is this: if the hon. member whose nomination has just been brought forward refrains from copying the example of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph when he occupied a similar position, I am sure that he will be a worthy occupant of the Chair if he did the opposite to what the hon. junior member for St. Joseph did. I do not want to go into details, but we have suffered in this Chamber from partiality, a lack of knowledge of procedure, the ignorance, the vituperations and the vindictiveness of the past Government, and all I would ask the hon. member for St. Thomas to do in the discharge of his duties, is that if he wants any guidance in the performance of his duties, to do the opposite to what the hon. member who has just sat down has done.

The question that the Hon. Senior Member for St. Thomas be appointed Chairman of Committees for this Session was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

PRINTING COMMITTEE

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: From the document issued to hon. members, the next item is the appointment of the Printing Committee.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, subject to their willingness to serve, I beg to move that the members of the Printing Committee in the last Session be the members of the Printing Committee for this session.

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

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

SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next matter will be the appointment of members to the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, subject again to their willingness to serve, I beg to move that the members of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank in the last Session be the members for this Session.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I beg to second that.
11.35 a.m.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am asking a question. I am wondering whether, in view of the fact that the hon. junior member for St. Thomas has been appointed a Parliamentary Secretary, it is advisable that he should be on the Committee. I would just like to hear the hon. Acting Leader of the House on this very important point. I am sure the hon. junior member for St. Thomas himself would prefer to devote his attention wholly to the duties of Parliamentary Secretary.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is not a matter of what the Hon. Leader of the House says, because it is a matter which the House is dealing with, and appointing a member to a Committee is within the province of this House. The convention that a Minister should not normally be a member of a Committee is a convention because that Minister has administrative functions to perform and has also to deal with policy; therefore I am surprised to hear the hon. Leader of the Opposition asking that question because I take it that whenever the Leader of the Government resigns and an alternative Government comes into power, it is the Leader of the Opposition who should be taking over the Government, therefore, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition should not be asking those elementary questions.

Sir, it is a matter of what you would do. The position is that a Parliamentary Secretary is not a Minister; therefore, a Parliamentary Secretary can be a member of a

Committee. It is not a question of asking the Leader of the Government what the position is because a Parliamentary Secretary performs no function in the country which would be conflicting with any power he has. If the hon. junior member for St. Thomas wishes to serve on this Committee, it is a matter with which there is no conflict. We do not like the idea of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition wondering what the Leader of the House would say on this matter because this is no point to need any statement made by the Hon. Leader of the House as to what the position would be in appointing a member like this.

The question that those members who served in the last Session of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Board be members of that Board during this Session was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

SUGAR PRODUCTION AND EXPORT CONTROL BOARD

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, subject to the willingness of the present members of the Sugar Production Export Control Board, who served in the last Session to serve again this Session, I beg to move that those members be appointed members for the present session.

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

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

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that the following members be members of the Public Accounts Committee for this Session:-

The hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown (Mr. Mottley), the hon. junior member for Christ Church (Mr. Goddard), the hon. junior member for St. James (Mr. Holder), the hon. senior member for St. Joseph (Mr. Co-ward), the hon. senior member for St. Peter (Mr. Walcott), the hon. senior member for St. George (Mr. Lowe) and the hon. junior member for St. John (Mr. Yearwood).

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

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

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

VICTORIA EMIGRATION SOCIETY

Mr. SPEAKER: Subject to their willingness to serve, I am asking the three members, who were good enough to serve in the previous Session, to continue to serve for this Session on the Victoria Emigration Society.

They are: The hon. junior member for St. James (Mr. Holder), the hon. junior member for St. Philip (Mr. R. St. C. Weekes), and the hon. senior member for St. Michael (Mr. Sealy).

I therefore declare those three hon. members appointed by me in accordance with the Act to serve on the Victoria Emigration Society.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the following:-

The Public Officers Loan and Travelling Allowances (Scheduled Officers) Regulations, 1964.

The Local Government (Pensions) (Amendment) Regulations, 1964.

Statement showing the amounts advanced by the Government of Barbados, and amounts received from Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom under the Provisions of the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts, for the period ended 31st December, 1963, in respect of Schemes sanctioned by the Legislature.

Statement showing an Account of the transactions in rum in the several Districts of the Island for the Quarter ended on 31st March, 1964.

Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for twelve months ended 31st March, 1964.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Development, Trade and Labour, who is not now in his place, I am commanded to lay the following:

The Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1964.

The Drawback of Duties (Wickered Bottles) Regulations, 1963.

Report of the Public Utilities Board for the year 1963.

The Customs Duties (Materials for the manufacture of containers for the marketing of locally manufactured Margarine, Lard and Biscuits) Order, 1964.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself, I am commanded to lay the following:-

The Gunpowder (Amendment) Regulations, 1964.

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 29th February, 1964.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of \$11,100 at the disposal of the Cabinet to supplement the Estimates 1964-65 Part 1 - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65 No. 1 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Also, Resolution to place the sum of \$1,980 at the disposal of the Cabinet to supplement the Estimates 1964-65 Part 1 Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65 No. 3 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution. 11.45 a.m.

Mr. Speaker, I also beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Maintenance Order (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1922.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of \$3,570 at the disposal of the Cabinet to supplement the Estimates 1964-65 Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1964-65 No. 2 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the grant by the Minister to the owners of Clifton Hall Plantation in the parish of St. John of a right of way over a road 14 feet wide and 1,136.2 feet long over lands owned by the Crown.

I also beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1943.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting in order to deal with the money Resolutions of which notice has just been given.

NOTICE OF RESOLUTIONS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

WHEREAS this House has learnt with regret of the recent death of Sir Milton Margai, first Prime Minister of the Independent Commonwealth territory of Sierra Leone.

BE IT RESOLVED that this House desires to express its sincere condolences to the family of the Prime Minister, and to the Government and people of Sierra Leone.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I also beg to give notice of a congratulatory Resolution to the Other Place which reads as follows:-

WHEREAS this territory has, since 1639, ever possessed a form of Government consisting of Governor, Legislative Council and General Assembly, and,

WHEREAS by general desire, and with the approval of Her Majesty, the Legislative Council has ceased to exist, being succeeded by a Senate, and,

WHEREAS the form of Government henceforth to be enjoyed by the citizens of this territory shall be that of Governor, Senate and General Assembly, and,

WHEREAS both Houses of the Legislature now reflect the democratic achievement, by the citizens of the territory of full internal self-government.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the House of Assembly rejoices that the ancient Parliament of Barbados is once again fully constituted; extends its warmest greetings to the Senate; promises the expeditious dispatch of business to that Chamber, and anticipates the fullest co-operation in the speedy advancement of the public welfare.

You will notice, Sir, that, as I have read this Message, there has been some variation or there have been some variations from the printed text.

I beg to give notice that, later in the day's proceedings it is our desire to invite the House to pass the Resolution and the congratulatory Message both of which I have just given notice.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, before I give notice of this Resolution, I should like to enquire why there is this obvious discrimination in the substitution of this type of microphone for the other ones. I notice that the Ministers have been furnished with new microphones and those who come between are somewhat drop-outs in the House. I want to know what are the reasons for this obvious discrimination. I notice that Your Honour has been granted a microphone which is very distinctive in every way.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform the House that I have been one of the persons who have suffered most from the inadequacy of the equipment which we have here, and the Official Reporters and the members of the Press have made many complaints over a period of time. The equipment which we now have is some seven or eight years old, and I have asked the Government Electrical Department to have a proper check made in order to ensure that the equipment is adequate. Whether it is due to the heat of the debate or the elasticity of the demand, the microphones at the two extremities - the far side of the Government and the Official Opposition - have been abused and they are extremely sensitive. It was found that some of these microphones needed replacement and the ones which we now have up here, are on loan temporarily. I have asked the Government Electrical Inspector, with your Honour's permission, to examine the old system of amplification in this Chamber with a view to notifying the Legislature when suitable equipment can be discovered and to have all of these replaced; to have the amplifier which is on its last legs replaced so that the Official Reporters and the members of the Press would be able to enjoy better acoustic facilities.

The discrimination is that we were suffering from having to use very inadequate equipment whereas the voice of the hon. senior member for St. Peter could always be heard at its full power when we, on this side, could hardly be heard. The position, therefore, is that we have only equalised the situation.

Mr. WALCOTT: My voice was equalised with theirs because I was a great sufferer too.

Mr. SPEAKER: I should like to say that the purpose of this microphone in my hand is that when I speak my voice should be heard over the voices of all other members. (Laughter).

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I hope that the new microphones will be microphones which are going to hang from above so that the voices can go above. These contraptions which we have here, could be used for other purposes, but I would prefer to have the microphones which are over-hanging, because the sound of voices is carried better than by the use of the equipment which is now before us. Anyhow, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

WHEREAS the workers in Barbados recognise the inevitability of change and progress;

AND WHEREAS the workers know from bitter experience that economic or industrial re-organisation, though perhaps in the longterm interest of the community, may nevertheless work grave hardship upon individual workers who lose their employment as a result;

AND WHEREAS workers are satisfied that by the application of fore-thought and an enlightened consideration of the needs of the individual some of the worst features of industrial changes may be mitigated;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly request the Government to consider as an urgent requirement of employment policy the enactment of legislation of general coverage to ensure that workers, severed from employment through no fault of their own, be adequately compensated.

11.55 p.m.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill to amend the Maintenance Order (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1922 was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill to amend the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1943, was read a first time.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the Financial Report of the Accountant General for the month ended 31st January, 1964.

I also have the honour to inform the House that I have received the Report and recommendations of the Boundaries Commission appointed by the Act.

RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE re DEATH OF SIR MILTON MARGAI

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to deal with a Resolution of condolence to the Prime Minister, Government and peoples of Sierra Leone, to which the hon. junior member for St. Lucy referred earlier today.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. and Learned member for St. John is asking leave of the House to deal with a Resolution in connection with the recent death of the Prime Minister of Sierra Leone, of which notice had been given earlier today by the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted the hon. member. Let the hon. member proceed.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, one week ago today the members of the Commonwealth in the outside world learnt of the death of Sir Milton Margai, the first Prime Minister of the independent Commonwealth territory of Sierra Leone.

I have only had the privilege of meeting the late Sir Milton Margai during the course of the Prime Ministers' Conference which was held in September, 1962, but for a number of years — I would say 15 years and upwards — I have been well acquainted with the other members of his Government and particularly the Foreign Minister, Dr. John Karefa-Smart. It was through the good offices of Dr. John Karefa-Smart, the Foreign Minister of Sierra Leone, that I had the privilege of meeting one of the senior statesmen of the Commonwealth, Sir Milton Margai. Sir Milton Margai has done what other African leaders in the post-war era have not succeeded in doing. Indeed, at the time of the Independence of Ghana, Sir Milton Margai predicted that Sierra Leone for economic and historical reasons, was always about five years behind Ghana, and he foresaw that within that period the territory of Sierra Leone would itself achieve independence. I think it was a matter of within 18 months, without any civil commotion, without any revolution or without any upheaval, that Sir Milton Margai was able to win independence for the territory, both the Protectorate and the Colony of Sierra Leone. This was a very rapid transfer from a state of colonial dependency and an absence of representative institutions in the Western democratic sense, although representative institutions in a sense did exist throughout West Africa. This was a very rapid change over from a system which has been imposed on that country to one where Sir Milton Margai was able to take his rightful place in September, 1962, with the full status of Prime Minister of an independent territory under the Commonwealth.

The amazing thing about Sir Milton, Mr. Speaker, was that I would not like to say that he was born a politician. He was certainly born the son of a Chief, but chieftainship did not automatically carry with it in any part of Africa political acumen any more than wealth in this country carried any kind of business acumen or political obligation at all. Sir Milton Margai, after studying his profession and working in the hinterland, as it were, of the Protectorate of Sierra Leone, became distressed at the conditions of his people and entered the political arena. It is great credit to his guidance that his brother who is a member of the profession to which Your Honour has the honour to belong was in opposition to Sir Milton Margai to the pre-independence period, and was able to join with him in the clamour for independence, and has been able to succeed him as Prime Minister on the unfortunate passing of Sir Milton himself.

That all these things have taken place in Sierra Leone with such smoothness, with such rapidity, without any acrimony and without any of the post-independence ills that former Commonwealth Colonial countries appear to be wedded to is a great tribute to the man himself.
12.05 p.m.

It would be invidious, therefore, for me to attempt to eulogise at any length on this great man because he has already left a monument to the independence of his country.

I, therefore, beg to move the following Resolution:

WHEREAS this House has learnt with regret of the recent death of Sir Milton Margai, first Prime Minister of the Independent Commonwealth territory of Sierra Leone,

BE IT RESOLVED that this House desires to express its sincere condolences to the family of the Prime Minister, and to the Government and People of Sierra Leone.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to be able in the midst of death of a noble statesman to second this motion. Sir Milton Margai in his early life paralleled in some measure that of another country's doctor, Dr. Duvalier, but when he entered politics it will be noticed that he took a different road from that which Dr. Duvalier chose to follow because in his particular political life he did not adhere to the idea of the new democracy which is being adhered to in other states, that is to say, one party in power and the other in jail; therefore, the late Sir Milton Margai's name will go down in history in Sierra Leone as a very distinguished statesman.

Sir, there is a link between Sierra Leone and the Western World occupied by us in that Freetown was the first state from which slaves who came out to the West Indies were repatriated.

The late Sir Milton Margai is now succeeded by his brother, and the name of Sir Milton Margai must go down in history as one of the great men of the British Commonwealth and it may well be said of him that he has erected a monument more lasting than brass. It gives me great pleasure, Mr. Speaker, to second this motion.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, anything in common with Africa should be of some great significance to us, and the passing of Sir Milton Margai is a classic example to Barbados and the West Indies that here is an African who could rise to the position in Sierra Leone as the first Prime Minister and who was not afraid to accept imperial honours and still remain an African. That man was Sir Milton Margai. To West Indians for a man to be knighted as "Sir", and hold the reins which the late Sir Milton Margai held in his country is regarded as betraying his people, but Sir Milton Margai has demonstrated that to any African with the opportunity of having education it was part and parcel of his outlook that independence was an inevitable goal. For that reason it gives me great pleasure in supporting this Resolution, and I therefore take this opportunity to say that I hope that this will spur Barbadians onwards to the goal which Sierra Leone has reached.

Mr. Speaker, some years ago, Sierra Leone was regarded in Barbadian and West Indian politics as a backward place: but like Ghana, it has now reached independence. Therefore, when I hear Barbadians beginning to bemoan independence, I wonder if they have any knowledge of history and what is taking place. I am pleased to know that Sir Milton Margai was one of those great statesmen who in keeping with the leaders of developing territories has found himself in the vanguard of moving his people onwards to independence.

Sir, for me Sierra Leone was the first country which I knew of in Africa because as a small boy growing up, my mother spoke of two of my uncles serving in Sierra Leone. I grew up and heard the story of those two uncles of mine, each having distinct characters of their own, and it seems as if I have taken more to one than the other because one was quiet and the other belligerent. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I have within my family a sentimental attachment to Sierra Leone. Although I have never visited Sierra Leone, I have been to the West Coast of Africa and the people whom I have met from Sierra Leone have given me the impression that there is some affinity between West Indians and the people from that part of Africa.

Mr. Speaker, the late Sir Milton Margai is a man from whom any of us can copy, and I am sure that it is a source of regret to the people of that country that a man of Sir Milton's qualities has passed on at a comparatively early stage in the career which he has chosen and that he has not lived long enough for his name to be marked out as they would like. However, Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting this Resolution.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I, too, wish to associate myself with the various speakers on this Resolution. Reading the history of Africa and reading what used to happen there, I would say that the late Sir Milton Margai was one who was sent by God because he took it upon himself to lead his people on to independence. It must have taken a man with faith, honesty of purpose and one who cares more for the people than himself to lead his people to that goal. Knowing the hard work that one would have to do to lead his people on to independence in a country such as Africa, therefore, you can understand that it was no bed of roses for Sir Milton Margai.

Sir, I did not know Sir Milton Margai, personally, but reading of his activities politically you can only arrive at one point and say that he was one of the men from God. I can add no more than to support this Resolution and say "May God rest him in peace."

Mr. COWARD: Mr. Speaker, I, too, as one who is interested in this generation, rise to associate myself with the views expressed by this honourable Chamber in respect of the late Prime Minister of Sierra Leone. I was not acquainted with the late Prime Minister, but from the sentiments expressed in this Chamber by hon. members who were more or less acquainted with him, I can quite see that he was a man who deserved praise. I must say that as one who has worked well for his people, although he has passed on, his name and good work will continue to live.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have great pleasure in associating myself with the tributes paid by all sides of this House to the life and memory of the first Prime Minister of Sierra Leone, the late Sir Milton Margai, and I propose in the passage of this Resolution that hon. members stand in their places silently for a period of one minute.

(After one minute's silence,)

Mr. SPEAKER: I take it that it is the desire of this Honourable House that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by telegram.

RESOLUTION OF CONGRATULATION TO THE SENATE

Mr. SPEAKER: The other Resolution stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, the acting Leader of the House: To move a Resolution from the House of Assembly to the Honourable Senate.
12.15 p.m.

LEAVE TO DEAL WITH RESOLUTION

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the leave of the House to deal with this Resolution of which I have previously given notice.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Acting Leader of the House is seeking leave now to deal with this Resolution, in accordance with the notice which he gave earlier today, copies of which have been circulated to hon. members. If there is no objection, leave will be granted the hon. member. (After a Pause). No objection having been heard, leave is granted and the hon. member may proceed.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I believe that by now the members of the Other Place will have risen after their first day's sitting. In that respect, they are a bit more fortunate than we are, but if they have not yet risen it would have been a nice thing for them before they concluded their first sitting, to have received some Message of greeting and goodwill from this Chamber. However, I believe that if a thing is good it will keep, and therefore I beg to move the passing of the following Resolution which will reach the Other Place, as I know it will reach them, in the proper time. The Resolution reads as follows:-

WHEREAS this territory has, since 1639, ever possessed a form of Government consisting of Governor, Legislative Council and General Assembly, and,

WHEREAS by general desire, and with the approval of Her Majesty, the Legislative Council has ceased to exist, being succeeded by a Senate, and,

WHEREAS the form of Government henceforth to be enjoyed by the citizens of this territory shall be that of Governor, Senate and General Assembly, and,

WHEREAS both Houses of the Legislature now reflect the democratic achievement, by the citizens of the territory, of full internal self-government.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the House of Assembly rejoices that the ancient Parliament of Barbados is once again fully constituted: extends its warmest warmest greetings to the Senate: promises the expeditious dispatch of business to that Chamber, and anticipates the fullest co-operation in the speedy advancement of the public welfare.

Mr. Speaker, in these days there is very little reason, at least in the Commonwealth countries which are not yet independent, for boasting of all the connections which exist between these territories and the United Kingdom: but I think that with both the Commonwealth countries which are independent and those which are not independent, there is something which exists and it is shared between themselves on the one hand and the citizens of the United Kingdom on the other. They share in such desire, both the peoples of the United Kingdom and the peoples in the Commonwealth countries, that political and constitutional changes, when they take place, should take place with the minimum of fuss and the maximum of popular advantage. Mr. Speaker, there are countries in the world today where the dissolution of one section of the Legislature and its replacement by a differently constituted new section of the Legislature would have caused upheaval and most certainly loss of life. We can think of some countries even nearer to us where constitutional changes have come with the maximum political emotion. Fortunately, the case with us is somewhat altered, and it will be the boast of the people of Barbados that they have taken our constitutional developments in their stride, and throughout the long and eventful history all that has happened is that our political progress has been more happy, peaceful and tranquil than otherwise. Today, in our history, another historic milestone has been reached. An unelected legislative body which can share with this ancient Assembly has gone out of existence by popular approval and consent; it has been ushered out with great thanks for what it has done in centuries gone by, and it is now replaced by a Body which is more in consonance with political development, not to speak of the progress of the people of Barbados. That is why I think hon. members of this House would wish to show a gesture of goodwill to the Members of the Other Place as they take on today what is perhaps the first step of a long and very interesting career in the constitutional procedures.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether it would have been possible for us to have done this in any other century and, secondly, I do not think it would have been possible to do it at any other time than this time. The change in the composition of the Other Place is the same sort of change, the same element of progress as the changes we have seen in the constitutional development in the Commonwealth within the last ten years, and, in this country, in the constitutional development we have seen in the last two and a half years.

As hon. members contemplate the future co-operation which will exist between this Chamber and the other Chamber, they will find that in this Chamber and in the other Chamber there will be sitting members who think in some respects as the majority Party will think, in some respects as the minority Party thinks and there will be other persons, who have a contribution to make, drawn from some other sections of public life in this country who still have an important part to play; but in that Chamber, which is now political in its complexion as the old Chamber has been so surreptitiously, hon. members will have representations in their views which will make for the smooth working and the smooth relationships of the public business in both Chambers.
12.35 p.m.

This Resolution, therefore, seeks to record the continuity which has existed in the constitutional development of Barbados first of all, and secondly to demonstrate the wishes of this House that future relations between itself and the Other Place shall proceed on the same basis of goodwill in the public welfare, and thirdly while we promise that for our part in order not to hold up the Other Place in its work we shall expedite public business from our Chamber to that Chamber in the shortest possible time and in the most efficient manner, we also anticipate in consequence of our own actions the fullest possible cooperation from the Other Place in producing and cementing the advancement of the public welfare in this territory.

Mr. Speaker, in formally moving the Resolution, I should just like to draw the attention of hon. members to a change which must be made for grammatical reasons in the last paragraph of the Resolution, and it is after the word "extends" to delete the word "their" and substitute the word "its".

Mr. Speaker, I formally beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, I have great pleasure in supporting this Resolution on the opening of the new Senate and extending our greetings to them, and looking forward to the greatest cooperation between these two Chambers.

Mr. Speaker, I would also at this stage like to pay tribute to the work that has been done by the Legislative Council over a period of three centuries. That body has had many distinguished persons in community life drawn from all phases of activity — professional, mercantile, Trade Union and others — and they have played their part well, and I wish to thank them for what they have done. They have gone out of office, but with flying colours. Changes are taking place, and it is but natural that we must bring up to date a Chamber more in keeping with the constitutional changes, and you may say today for the first time that persons are being appointed to that Chamber on a Party basis. On many occasions in the past members of the Legislative Council considered themselves non-partisan, and even if you asked them to address a meeting of a political nature, they would hesitate and often refuse on the grounds that they did not wish to identify themselves in public with one Party or the other. That is not so today, because the Government Party has nominated twelve, the minority Party has nominated two, and the Governor in his own discretion has nominated seven to represent other sections of the community whom he thinks can contribute to the good working of that Chamber and bring to bear on questions their experience, knowledge and wisdom.

I do hope, Sir, that that Chamber will continue to express forcibly the points of view that they have always held, and although they must pay certain regard to the political feelings of their Party and of this Chamber, their experience can, because of the fields from which they are drawn, play a great part in moulding legislation we send down and in expressing the public opinion as it is today. I wish them the best and look forward to many, many years of cooperation between this Chamber and that.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that the Hon. Premier is not here, because what I am going to say the Hon. Minister of Education cannot answer for him. I would like to associate myself with the general remarks on and the general tenor of this Resolution in congratulating the new Senate, because that is a compliment that is in order on a historic occasion such as this. Today we are ushering in the new form of the Other Chamber, and I am very glad to say that it is nice to see these things can work smoothly.

Everybody knows, Mr. Speaker, that I am not a believer in a two-Chamber House, but I am not going to dilate on that as I have said it already. However, the more I see and read of developing and developed countries, the more I can see the necessity or the reasons why older countries had a two-Chamber House; but the more I read and the more I live in this community, the more I find that these reasons are no longer consonant with what these communities are pressing for. We are pressing for more speed and more expeditious legislation, and therefore if you have a democratic basis at the level where people are elected, that is the answer to what the people require; and if you are giving people the right to choose their representatives, then any other super-imposition on top of that is only a bit of what I would regard as mediaeval window dressing that has no application to today. The reason why Britain has a second Chamber in the House of Lords is not the same reason why Barbados is going to have a Senate or why the Leaders of the day believe in a two-Chamber House; but under this constitution I agree with the Senate being constituted as it is, as it is now a political Senate with the Prime Minister having the right to nominate twelve persons, the Leader of the Opposition the right to nominate two persons, and the Governor in his own discretion to appoint seven persons. I agree that the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition should have the right to withdraw those persons who cannot carry out their wishes.

I do not know what the Leader of the House would say, but where I would draw the line is that now that this Cham-

ber has been constituted, I want to say publicly that representing a big organisation as I do — the Trade Union is one of the 20th Century institutions in any democratic country; and though the Prime Minister may select Twelve Trade Unionists, we do not regard the selection by the Prime Minister of a Trade Unionist in his Party's twelve as giving the Trade Union any representation, because I would like to say here publicly that we cannot see the Trade Union Movement in any inferior position to those seven persons whom the Governor will appoint in his discretion, which means that they will have a greater freedom of expressing the interest they represent in the Senate than the Trade Unionist who is likely to express the views of his Executive on matters that will come to the Senate, and he is likely to be withdrawn for conflicts with the Party.

12.35 p.m.

Now, the Hon. Premier can submit the names of all who are from the Trade Union movement and in their own individual capacity. They can be members of a political party; but speaking as a Leader of the Trade Union movement, I will not be able to accept that you are according to the Trade Union movement representation because you have given the person as distinct as from giving the Trade Union movement the representation which it should have.

I feel that just as the Governor selected businessmen, may be, from the Chamber of Commerce and such bodies, the consultation required for these things was necessary in the same way. As an example, if tomorrow I were not a member of this Chamber and I was not the Leader of the Trade Union movement, it would become a very strange commentary for anyone to say that you have given representation to the Trade Union movement. This is no reflection on the persons who have been selected because, as I have said, the person who has been selected from our movement has been a member of the Trade Union for many years and one whom the Union has spent money on; therefore, that goes to show that we have confidence in this member. We have spent money on him, thus making him capable to be in the position which he is now.

However, I cannot under this new constitution accept that the Trade Union movement has been represented, and I say without boasting that the Barbados Workers' Union represents more varied interests than what any other person is selected on the Senate to represent. There is no one person outside of a Minister who represents more varied interests than I, as General Secretary of the Workers' Union, owing to the cross section of workers whom the Union has to deal with. We have workers in the Union from telecommunications back down to the stage of street-cleaners working for the Bridgetown City Council. An organisation with that cross section of interests is one which I feel that any Governor or any State recognising that institution as such, where the person would be there having those interests to represent, would appoint him in such a manner that he would be free to do so and not be called upon to be removed because the problem which we have and which is quite evident is that if the Hon. Premier is changed in office, his successor is not bound to have the composition of the Senate in the same form as that of his predecessor. Even in the United Kingdom when the Prime Minister is changed, it does not follow that the Cabinet will remain the same as that which it was under the preceding Prime Minister. You will also get the position where members who serve, let us say as recently in Mr. Macmillan's Government, would not be willing to serve in the Government under Sir Alec Douglas-Home. We, too, can get that situation arising here where the Premier can be succeeded by another member of his Party and that member chooses members of his choice.

We do not want the Trade Union's choice to be pushed around. We do not want him in a position where, should there be a change of Government, he can be in the position where he will be changed. That will make the Trade Union member regard himself as some Senate football, and it would have a very unsavoury effect on the general position. We feel that an organisation as big as ours deserves a member in his own right to be nominated there. As I have said, we would not mind if the Hon. Premier in his choice of twelve members chose all from the Trade Union move-

ment. However, we cannot accept that because the Parliamentary Secretary, the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, was formerly a member of the Trade Union Movement that he is now representing the Trade Union movement. He does not because he does not owe any allegiance to the Union now.

With these constitutional changes, the convention which I would like to see invoked in here is that the representative of the Trade Union movement is a free choice of the Head of the Administration. I find it extremely difficult to understand how it is that the Head of the Administration could not find within those playing a part in the social and economic interests of the country, the Trade Union movement playing any important part, particularly when it is remembered that the Trade Union movement recently was at the stage of creating a national catastrophe. Next Thursday night, I hope to show a film — and I hope some of the members of this Honourable House will come and see it — where the late Mr. John F. Kennedy spoke to the F.I.O. They will hear the late President of the U.S.A. speaking to trade unionists at their convention about two weeks before he was assassinated. That will give hon. members a knowledge of the extent to which the trade union movement is held in the world today. We regard the trade union movement as the bedrock of our democratic society, and I find it extremely difficult to understand how within those interests of the seven whom the Governor had to nominate, he could not find room to put someone from the Trade Union movement. I say with all due respect to the person whom the Hon. Premier has appointed that, never mind he is a member of the Trade Union, he is one of the twelve members appointed by the Premier; therefore, he cannot be regarded as a member from the Trade Union movement. I say that a conflict is likely to arise because when we were dealing with the Trade Union Bill, I took one view and the Hon. Premier could not prevent me from taking that view although it was against the view of the Government. There are bound to be occasions when the Government will take a view different from that of the Trade Union because they will be forced to take a view on a national basis while we from the Trade Union will take a view on sectional interests. According to the convention, that member is likely to be withdrawn if he votes against the Government because under our constitution, it is expected that the twelve members of the Senate who are appointed by the Premier will have to vote in accordance with what the Party puts up, and not according to their individual rights. That is what we agreed to, and for that reason I cannot see now how a member selected by the Premier will be able to exercise that freedom.

12.45 p.m.

I have nothing against giving anybody representation in the Senate, but the present composition of the House of Assembly does not confer any special privileges on anyone. The Official Opposition has four members, there are three members of the other Party and there are three who are uncommitted in Parliament. On the basis of giving the other Party the right to have a member up there, you can see what the kind of membership is. I presume that the Governor must have asked somebody in the other political Party; I doubt very much that Mr. St. John was picked out as a person who is a member of the Labour Party and placed in the Senate; there must have been some consultation with the leadership. When that sort of treatment has been accorded to a political Party which has representation in the House of Assembly *vis-a-vis* the Barbados Workers' Union representation in the island, I am saying that this organization should not be treated in the same manner as a political Party which is a minority Party, and which is not as big as the other Opposition Party in the House of Assembly. If that Party was accorded that treatment, then there has been a positive insult to the biggest national organization in this island representing sectional interests.

Mr. Speaker, there is no other organisation which is as big as the Barbados Workers' Union. I quite agree that the Hon. Premier has the right to nominate any twelve members from any place. He could have nominated twelve persons from the Brethern, he could have nominated any twelve from the No Hell or from the Roman Catholics; but the twelve persons whom he has nominated can be withdrawn.

I do not accept that the Trade Union should be left in mid-air or that the Trade Union representation should be left on the basis of the Premier having the power to withdraw persons from the Senate if they did not agree with the policy of the Government. I feel that the Barbados Workers' Union should have been represented and I regard the action of the Governor very strongly if his prerogative has been exercised in the manner in which it has been exercised. You could find social and economic interests which would include the Trade Union. If you say that a Trade Unionist has been put on already, then the same thing can be said for the other people too. The Barbados National Party was there in the person of Mr. Leacock and there would be no point in putting Mr. Robinson, Mr. Ward or Mr. Hunte. What different business interest are you getting from them? This overweighting of the business interest is against what you would regard the Trade Union as having the right to be represented. Mr. St. John will be representing a section which is opposed to the Government whereas the Barbados Workers' Union would be representing no particular interest. I am saying that the time has come when we of the Barbados Workers' Union do not regard ourselves as any poor relations in the community, but as an important element of the whole fabric of society.

This whole recognition of the Trade Union position in this society as an important element is not reflected in the new conception in having no member appointed by the Governor as representing sectional interests, while other interests have been represented. As to the members who have been selected to their posts, I congratulate them. I believe that emergent territories do not need opposition. You can be so nationalist in your concept that you can be striving to create a nation for yourself, and there is not much room in emergent territories for these conflicts, because the minds of the people with whom we have to do, cannot understand the intricacies of opposition which has come over the years in different societies; so that they get confused in their very concepts. You have ignorant statements made, which are associated with other things. I do not believe that our society is suitable for opposition in the sense in which an Opposition Party is there for; I think our societies are more suitable for national movement. You take any two people who do not belong to the same political party; if, for instance, the hon. junior member for Christ Church is found journeying with me, then people say "You are selling us out". Or they will say: "You are getting very near to my family." If the hon. member comes down to me, they will say that something is happening. A man would look at you and say that you are associating with a man who is of a different colour from yours, and he will say: "Do you not know that he is a white man"? And on another occasion people will tell you that you should not do that.

Mr. Speaker, from my point of view, I have no objection to the persons who have been appointed to the Senate. The person who has been selected for membership of the Senate from the Trade Union is my personal friend and there is nothing personal with me; but I cannot allow my personal relationship with any member of the Barbados Workers' Union to blind my point of view of principle. I feel that if the Barbados Workers' Union is the Institution which it is, then it should have been accorded the sort of treatment which such an Institution deserves.

12.55 p.m.

With those remarks, I would say that the Senate has my very best wishes and all the compliments for a successful period in our history, and I hope that future generations would be pleased with what we are doing today.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I will have very little to say on this matter, because as you know, Sir, I was here from 9.30 this morning and it is now 1 o'clock; so you would know what is happening. Now that we have changed over from the old Legislative Council to the Senate, Sir, I still have praise for the old Council, because they have done a very good job in spite of the various threats to overthrow them by both Governments when they seemed to differ at some times. They did a good job and voted according to their consciences. That happened before because there was no one standing by with the big stick in the corner to take it up at any time and bring it down upon them. They therefore have

my praise for doing a very good job conscientiously and fearlessly.

We all agreed, Sir, to the method of selection of the members of the Senate; but bearing in the mind the composition, my only hope was that the Governor would try to save us with the seven whom he would nominate, forgetting that he would have to do it or could only do it with the advice of the Premier.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I apologise for interrupting the hon. member, but I do intervene to correct the impression he has made. The powers which the Governor used in this matter were powers exercised in his own discretion absolutely untrammelled, and to say that he exercised that discretion on the advice of the Premier is certainly not correct, and I would not like that to be thought or said or carried from this Chamber. His Excellency in the choice of the seven exercised his own untrammelled discretion, and I feel that the hon. member, having had it pointed out to him, would wish to correct the impression which he has given.

Mr. SMITH: Now, Mr. Speaker, I heard on the radio with these ears of mine that subject to the approval of the Premier the seven would be appointed. I do not know if the hon. member was listening then.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If the hon. member would again give way, I hope that he heard over the radio my own voice, because I first announced it, and he could not have heard me announce that. What he heard was that twelve persons were nominated by the Governor on the advice of the Premier, that two persons were nominated by the Governor on the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, and that His Excellency acting in his own discretion had appointed the following seven. Those are the facts.

Mr. SMITH: Well, Sir, I did not hear the Hon. Minister over the air. Anyhow, be that as it may, I am not going to travel in that direction; but I am still saying that I was relying on the Governor to safeguard us with his seven. (A VOICE: He appointed one from the Labour Party.) Now, Sir, when I use the word "us", I was not speaking for the Labour Party; I meant the people of this country. If the hon. member says that he gave one to the Labour Party, then I will go further and say he has not given us sufficient. He did not give the Trade Union any at all, and he has not given us sufficient. There were twelve nominated by the Premier whom we all saw this morning and two nominated by the Opposition Leader. Let us now go a little further back. I am not in a position to say to which Party the Hon. Mr. Ward and the Hon. Mr. Robinson or the Hon. K. R. Hunte belong. When you get these members there as a body with the two from the Opposition Party, and one Mr. White from the Opposition Party is put on, what will happen?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, that this debate looks like getting out of hand so far as the hon. member's contribution is concerned; but I should like to point out that it would be better for him if he cannot remember the proceedings and the facts connected thereto to put off his remarks until a more convenient and appropriate season. It is not proper for him in the first place, Mr. Speaker, to call the names of the members of the Other Place and drag them into this debate. In introducing the motion I refrained from doing that, and the hon. senior member for St. Peter also made his points without doing that; but if the hon. member must call their names at least he should get them accurately placed, because the last name mentioned is the name of a person appearing on the list recommended by the Hon. Premier, and therefore on the list of the Democratic Labour Party.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I say this, and in so doing I am inviting hon. members to bear in mind Standing Order No. 26 (9) which says *inter alia* "the conduct of Her Majesty, members of the Royal Family, the Governor General of the West Indies, the Governor, members of either House of the Legislature, judges, or the performance of judicial functions shall not be referred to except upon a substantive motion."

I was tempted during the remarks of the hon. senior member for St. Peter to advise him to be wary of appearing to be about to contravene that Standing Order. I would advise the hon. junior member for St. Joseph that except on a substantive motion he would not be in place to make any reference to the conduct of the Governor, because he would be referring to his conduct if he mentioned certain things he did or certain things he omitted to do in the performance of his office. As to the point made by the Hon. Acting Leader of the House, I do not think we have any Standing Order which expressly precludes the mention of the individual name of any member of the Other Chamber. That is a question of taste which is good or bad. I hope where we have no Standing Orders we will continue to exercise good taste in preference to any other sort of taste.

The hon. junior member for St. Joseph may proceed on the Resolution.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I cannot understand some hon. members on the other side of the Table. The hon. senior member for St. Peter rose and called names, and the Hon. Minister of Education who was in his seat did not say one word. That is why I called names also.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I did not call names in the same context, and I was quite clear not to do what Your Honour suggested. I called names to show where the Governor acting in his own discretion had the right to appoint persons, and the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition also had the right to nominate persons. 1.05 p.m.

I said that it should be in the same manner as the person who is a member of the Barbados Labour Party is given the opportunity. I was making a comparison to show reasons why the member from the Trade Union movement should exercise that same freedom. I was not commenting on that person. I was only showing the freedom which that person would be able to exercise. That is where I said that I could not understand how the Trade Union was left out. I tried to avoid challenging the person. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph must bear in mind that my comparison was different from what the hon. member is doing. All I did was to show that we did not get that treatment which was given to the Barbados Labour Party.

Sir, I do not want to reduce this debate to personality. As a matter of fact, I congratulate all those who have been appointed because I consider all of them have a contribution to make.

Mr. SMITH: The Hon. Minister of Education has objected to my calling names and I said that the hon. senior member for St. Peter called names too. We are dealing with calling names and Your Honour has brought to our attention that we are not to call names. I am only saying that if the Hon. Minister of Education had got up and done the same thing when the hon. senior member for St. Peter had called names, I would not have called names. What has happened is that not long ago, the hon. senior member for St. Peter said something relative to the appointment of the Chairman of Committees and I got up and said the same thing about the matter. The Hon. Premier did not hear the hon. senior member for St. Peter but he heard me and he flew on me and called me all sorts of things. It is a good thing that Your Honour stopped me; otherwise this Session would have started off hotly. I said that the hon. senior member for St. Peter said the same things. In other words, we meant the same thing. The same thing has happened again. The Hon. Minister of Education did not say anything when the hon. senior member for St. Peter was speaking, but as soon as I called names, he got up and objected. My shoulders are broad enough to take on all of them whenever they like to attack me. They are not afraid of me but they are afraid of the hon. senior member for St. Peter.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, I must object to the hon. member's remark of being afraid of me because I have had clashes with every other member of this Chamber. It cannot be

said that the hon. member is making a comparison when he referred to Mr. White and that it was in the same way as when I called names because I never got down to that sort of comparison. All I asked was that the Trade Union should be represented in that light. I called a name in a completely different form from what the hon. member has done; therefore, he is not doing the same thing. What I said in respect of the Chairman of Committees was also completely different from what the hon. member said. I was not needling any one.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, I will not go any further on this matter because I am just as anxious as you are to leave. I am not going to call any names now but this is supposed to be a political appointment. It is politics. Nominating these members is purely a political matter, and anyone who can read and think can clearly see that these members are comprised of only two Parties. You cannot say anything else.

I agree with the hon. senior member for St. Peter when he says that the Trade Union, comparatively speaking, is not properly represented in the true sense of the word because it is a big organisation and is working on the side of the workers. Regardless of what may be said, the Barbados Labour Party has done a good job. I will not say anything more. I am going to end up by saying two or three more words. If you look at the complete composition of the membership of the Senate, you will see that it is comprised of only two Parties. Only two Parties are represented. We know to ourselves that it is a fact that the Hon. Premier of this country can withdraw a member from that Senate whenever he thinks fit. Members who have been selected by him will not be able to speak out as they really would like. There would have to be somebody like me to talk whenever the time comes, regardless of whatever happens to them. Not so long ago, it has happened in this House - and hon. members should not forget it - but there was something which came up in this House and the Hon. Premier said that if any member of his Party voted against it, he would put them out of his Party.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I ask the hon. member to confine his remarks to the subject matter of this instant debate?

Mr. SMITH: That is why I am wishing the members of the Senate well. I sincerely hope that they will stand up to their own convictions and forget what can be done by any person and vote according to their consciences; that is to say, that they will forget that they can be sacked. If they do not vote according to their consciences, we would be heading for chaos. What will happen? Really and truly, if anything goes wrong here and it goes up there and it cannot be put right as before, it will go wrong too. There will be a majority of the Government up there, and if they vote for it although they see something wrong, we will be heading for chaos if the members are not strong; therefore, I am appealing to them to be strong. They are not put there to be bribed; and if they see anything wrong in a Bill or Resolution, they must be strong enough to vote against it. In other words, they must forget Party and do justice to the people.

Sir, I am still a little unhappy, and for me the selection in some cases is not the right one. However, I sincerely hope that I will be disappointed and everything will work well and in the interest of the people. If it does not, I would have to say that it may be an unhappy combination. 1.15 p.m.

Mr. COWARD: Mr. Speaker, I do not think I could sit idly by and allow the debate on this Resolution to continue without declaring my sentiments on this particular issue. I see that the Government is following the trend today relative to constitutional changes, and I do hope that these changes which are taking place will be changes for the better. However, Sir, I would like to pay tribute to the past members of the Other Place for the valuable services which they have rendered to the people of this colony over the past years. I hope that the present members of the new Senate will continue to follow the pattern which has been laid by the outgoing members.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard hon. members in this Chamber say that their organizations and parties are not properly represented on the Senate. As an independent member of this House, I would like to say that when we come into this Chamber the first thing we do is to say Prayers. We pray to Almighty God and I feel that we should always put him in front of us. Therefore, as I see it, I think that we should think of some of the religious bodies in this island in the matter of the composition of the Senate. When we think of religious bodies, we should think of the late Rev. Godson who was a member of the Other Place and who has done so much for the poor and underprivileged people of this island. That is why I feel that the religious bodies should be considered.

You will agree with me, Sir, that when one sits in a Chair as a Judge, that is something different from when he is acting as a defending barrister. As a defending barrister, he can only see on one side whereas the Judge has to weigh everything carefully. That is the work of the Other Place; they have to weigh everything carefully. I do hope that the Members of the Senate will take it to themselves to weigh things carefully before they arrive at any decision. With those few remarks, Mr. Speaker, I have great pleasure in supporting this Resolution.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, I want to associate myself with some of the remarks which I have heard today. In the first place, I must congratulate the members of the past Legislative Council who have served us for many years. I say to the past Legislative Council: 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.' When we turn to the Senate, we have heard quite a lot of judging; I do not think we should judge any of the members of the Senate who have been selected to carry out this important work. I think that what we should do is to wait and in our hearts pray to Almighty God to give the members of the Senate wisdom and understanding that when any matter goes from this House to them they will be able to do justice to it though the Heavens may fall. I remember that Solomon of old was coming into power and God called upon him to choose something which He should do for him. He said: 'Here is the whole world with all of its gold, choose.' Solomon said: 'Give me wisdom and understanding so that I will be able to judge over the people in righteousness.' That is what everyone of us should pray for and on behalf of the members of the Senate; we should pray that they be given wisdom and understanding so that they may judge everything in righteousness.

Mr. Speaker, these persons are young people who have just come in and we should ask God to help them in all their ways; we should not judge them. When we send any Measure to the Senate from this House, I believe that they will do the best that lies in their power to it. I do not doubt they will do that whether they be members from the Opposition or from the Government. I believe that these persons will perform their duty and do what is right for the good of the community and of the island as a whole.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I could not let this occasion pass without sounding a brief note of warning. The whole British system of democracy, which has been so greatly admired, has been founded on system of checks and balances. One of those checks and balances has been removed today. It is obvious that the last Speaker did not study the Bill which brought the Senate into being; otherwise he would have noted that there are twelve representatives of the Government in power as against an aggregate of nine members from all other sources. It is clear, therefore, when a Bill goes from this House to the Other Place, what the decision is more than likely to be. Added to that, if any one does not speak in favour of the Government which appointed him, he can be removed just as was done by Sir Alexander Bustamante in Jamaica. For the future of the Senate we all wish good fortune, but it is like a plant which buds forth its tender leaves of hope. A person goes to the Senate and then the cold frost from across the way comes and he falls like Lucifer never to rise to again. That is why I speak guardedly of the Senate. The fact is that a man might go and speak against the principle of a Bill to which the Government is paying adherence and he can be removed - and removed immediately. 1.25 p.m.

We can only hope, therefore, that the members of the Senate will acquit themselves like men and not render judgment hoodwinked, and contribute what they can towards the good Government of this Island which we all love so well. It is true, as the hon. senior member for St. Peter has said, that they must all have a contribution to make. All of us do not have the perspicacity to see what the contribution is in the case of individual members, but they must be able to make some contribution; otherwise I am sure they would not be there. However, there is one good point about it; any member of the community can identify himself with certain members of the Senate. The motto, some have been unkind to say, which activates some of the thinking in the Senate may well be a fidelity which is within everyone's ability; but we wish them well, and look forward to their contribution towards the good Government of this Island.

Mr. SPEAKER: If no other hon. member wishes to speak, will the Hon. Mover avail himself of the opportunity to wind up the debate?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I apologise for having to detain the House, but I think it would be improper for me to allow this debate to close without setting the records straight. I am astonished, Sir, at some of the things I have heard in the course of this debate. In the first place, this was meant to be a congratulatory message of goodwill to the members of the Other Place on the assumption of their office, as I believe any person taking up new duties for the first time would wish to have the hand of fellowship extended to him. I anticipated of course, - and this was quite proper - that hon. members on all sides of the House would make some comment on the constitution of the Senate. That would be well within their privilege to do so. One or two or possibly three comments made were within their purview and were quite proper and quite within the entitlement of hon. members. One or two on the other hand have amazed me to the greatest extent, and it is on those that I would like to make these comments.

In the first place, Mr. Speaker, I think hon. members should realise that everything that is said in this Chamber is eventually by Royal Instructions transmitted through the Governor to the Secretary of State, and I am sure that when the Secretary of State reads some portions of the debate on this congratulatory Resolution, he will wonder whether he has not been misled into believing that the present constitution of Barbados which is now in force has been in fact the result of all-Party agreement, because I have heard representatives of political Parties speak in this debate and have shown a catastrophic ignorance of the constitution of Barbados as has been agreed by all Parties sanctioning it, and I have advised the Hon. Premier to make public for public viewing the Letters Patent with all the provisions which they contain, so that every citizen of this country can see what the written constitution of this territory is. To hear some people talk about the composition of the Senate, you would have thought it was only this morning that the provisions of the constitution were made known.

This Chamber was represented by some of its members at a joint meeting with the then Other Place, and in that joint meeting certain provisions which are now agreements and which are now enshrined in the Letters Patent and the Royal Instructions were hammered out and were unanimously agreed on. To say, therefore, that you have reservations about the political activities and orientations of the majority members of the Other Place is utter nonsense and demonstrates a complete unawareness of what has been happening in this country, and it assumes and shows that those persons who talk that way do not understand that if there were a general election tomorrow and the Government changed hands, it would not be we who would have the twelve, but the incoming Government would have the twelve. What would people think of me if in these new circumstances I got up and said I feared that the twelve new members of the majority side in the Other Place would act according to the dictates and agreements of their Party policy? what would you expect the Senators of the Democratic Labour Party to do in the Upper House? Would you expect them to break Party discipline and act as if they belonged to no

Party at all, to vote and speak as if they were there on their own account and not by nomination by the Chairman of the Party, who because his Party is the majority Party is head of the Government and therefore Premier of the Island? Where are we going to? How shameful it must be to read in the proceedings of this debate that hon. members of this Chamber are not aware of the provisions of the written constitution which are now enshrined in the Letters Patent and Royal Instructions and which bear the Queen's signature! I am really grieved at this situation.

The contribution made by the hon. senior member for St. Peter is well taken. There is a point of view which can genuinely say that you express surprise that the composition of the Senate is not as full or as ample as it should be. That is a genuine point of view; but the point of view which says that people who are now in the Senate are political appointees and therefore are going to be less free in their deliberations because they are political appointees, is, I think, catastrophic and really shameful on a day like this; and I wonder, Mr. Speaker, when I hear this kind of contribution to a debate whether we are really fit for independence; and when I say 'we', I do not mean the broad masses of the people; I mean we who are supposed to be leaders of the people and spokesmen of the people in this Assembly.

I cannot find words to express my horror at what I have heard, and I want to make it perfectly clear that the constitution of this island as it now stands appeals and applies to every political Party in or out of Government. If there is a change of Government, the composition of the Senate would change, not in its number, but in its political complexion, and that is what has got to be understood; so that the bemoaning of the fact that the majority Party has placed twelve people there to carry out its policy as it goes to that Chamber from the House of Assembly makes no sense whatever. I want people to understand that if they really want to show and demonstrate goodwill to the members of the Other Place, they should not speak as if a lot of nitwits or half idiots have been sent to the Other Place because they belong to a Party, because what holds good with respect to the majority Party holds good with respect to the Minority Party, and holds good with those who have no Party affiliation. Just as it is within the competence of the Hon. Premier to advise the revocation of an appointment of any of our Senators who break Party discipline, it is within the competence of the Leader of the Opposition to advise His Excellency to revoke the appointment of the two Opposition appointees, and it is within His Excellency's discretion also to revoke the appointment of those whom he has appointed in his discretion, if he feels that their acts and conduct as members of the Senate are not consonant with what they are there to do with the highest ideals of public responsibility.

I would therefore appeal to hon. members when they are discussing constitutional matters to discuss them in the light of facts as they now are, and to give the impression that they do understand the constitution of Barbados and not allow people outside, especially the Secretary of State who has more interest in this matter than anybody else, to read anything which would make it appear that he has been misled into believing that the provisions which are now the law of the land did not come about as a consequence of all-Party agreement.

Mr. WALCOTT: If the hon. member would give way, I should just like to say that I would not like him to associate the word 'free' in relation to the twelve members not having freedom of expression. I used the word 'free' in relation to the appointment of a member from the Trade Union who would not have that same freedom of acting as he would have, had it been otherwise; but I would not like the hon. member to feel that I was opposed to the idea of the twelve members being political appointees, because I agree with that.

1.35 p.m.

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RESOLUTION
OF SYMPATHY

Mr. SPEAKER: May I mention that I have received from Mrs. Beryl Blackman and family a card expressing her thanks and gratitude with respect to the Resolution of Sympathy which was passed by this Chamber some time ago in consequence of the death of the late lamented Hugh Duncan Blackman.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: That concludes Government Business, Mr. Speaker.

THE ADJOURNMENT

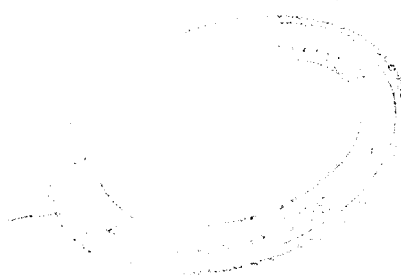
The Order Paper having been fixed,

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I rise to move that this house do now adjourn until Tuesday, 12th May, 1964, at 2.30 p.m. o'clock.

If I may say this with due respect to Your Honour, I would like to tell you that we enjoyed very much seeing you in your new robes today, and by your attire how much honour you have shown us, resplendent in the way in which you have turned out. While we would like to see you resplendent as you were today all the time, we know that it may not always be possible, but we would like to see you often in these robes.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I say thanks for your appreciation in providing this robe for ceremonial occasions. The robe was made to fit any Speaker, but the wig was made to fit my head alone.

The question that the House now stands adjourned until Tuesday, 12th May, 1964, at 2.30 p.m., was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.
1.40 p.m.



THE
House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1961-66

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 12th May, 1964.

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

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., (*Speaker*);
Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, O.B.E.
Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Communications and Works*); Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., (*Minister of Education*);
Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Mr. S. E. SEALEY; Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (*Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries*);
Mr. W. R. COWARD; Mr. R. St.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; Mr. G. V. BATSON, (*Chairman of Committees*) and Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the meeting of 5th May, 1964, have been printed and circulated amongst hon. members, and unless there be any objection, those Minutes will be taken as read and confirmed. (*After a pause*). There being no objection, those Minutes are now taken as read and confirmed

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, Messrs. BOXILL and MOTTLEY entered the House and took their seats.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. and Learned Premier who is not now in his place, I am commanded to lay the following:-

Quarterly Digest of Statistics No. 28, December, 1963.

The Customs Duties (United Kingdom Technical Assistance Schemes) Order, 1964.

Messrs. MILLER and GODDARD entered the House and took their seats.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. and Learned Premier who is not now in his place, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve of the compulsory acquisition of land at Spencers, Christ Church.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Post Office Act, 1911.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

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

WHEREAS the bend in Edge Hill Road in the parish of St. Thomas is very dangerous to vehicular traffic;

AND WHEREAS several vehicles have overturned at the said bend already;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House request Government to set about either widening the said road or extending the guard wall around the said bend to avoid any further accidents.

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

WHEREAS this Island is in dire need for places set aside for the general public so that they may, without interference, find recreation, relaxation and entertainment on public holidays and other such occasions of a festive nature;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House request Government as an urgent priority, to acquire, develop and beautify for the purpose abovementioned the following sites in this Island:-

Morgan Lewis Bay, St. Andrew
River Bay, St. Lucy,
Cherry Tree Hill, St. Peter, and
Bath Beach, St. John.

Mr. LYNCH entered the House and took his seat.

BILL READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Post Office Act, 1911, be now read a first time.

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

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

QUESTION TIME

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Question Time, but there are no questions.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: We will now go on with Private Members' Business. The First Order of the Day under this Head stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Peter:-

To move the passing of a Resolution *re* legislation of general coverage to ensure that workers, severed from

employment through no fault of their own, be adequately compensated.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, it is not that I am not prepared to go on with this Resolution today, but the Hon. Acting Leader of the House has intimated to me that he is not thoroughly *au fait* with all matters connected with this Resolution and, should the occasion arise that he would be required to reply on behalf of the Government today, he would not be in a position to do so. For that reason, Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to proceed with this Resolution at this stage.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to thank the hon. member for his courtesy.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: As there is no other Item under Private Members' Business on the Order Paper, we may now proceed with the Orders of the Day under Government Business.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The First Order of the Day under Government Business stands in the name of the Hon. Acting Leader of the House:-

To move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the Island.

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

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-65 NO. 1

The following Resolution was called:-

Resolution to place the sum of \$11,100 at the disposal of the Cabinet to supplement the Estimates 1964-65 Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65 No. 1 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution, 2.55 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave of the Committee to take charge of this item which stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Premier.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Acting Leader of the House is asking leave to deal with the Resolution in the absence of the Hon. Premier, and if there is no objection leave will be granted.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I think that hon. members of the Committee will recall that before the end of the last session the House gave its approval to the Civil Establishment Order which sought to make certain adjustments in the Police Establishment by the creation of some additional posts including two posts of Assistant Commissioner, one additional post of Senior Superintendent, four additional posts of Inspector and three additional posts of Corporal. Arising out of this Civil Establishment Order and the creation of these additional posts in the Police Establishment, it is necessary that we seek supplementary provision to meet additional expenditure arising from the following items: washing allowance, clothing and equipment, travelling and furniture and office equipment, and the re-

spective amounts required are shown in the Addendum to the Resolution.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-65 NO. 3

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, as hon. members will be aware, it was announced in the Speech from the Throne that two Parliamentary Secretaries had been appointed recently, one to assist the Minister of Communications and Works and the other, a member of the Other Place, to assist the Hon. Minister of Education and the Minister of Health, Housing, Local Government and Community Development. This Resolution therefore seeks to make provision for travelling allowance to be paid to the two junior Ministers, as it were, and it is proposed that this travelling allowance to each of them should be at the rate paid to a Minister with portfolio, because of the tremendous amount of local travelling these two Parliamentary Secretaries will be expected to undertake. The sum of \$1,980 represents travelling allowance for both of them to the end of this financial year beginning the current month.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. MILLER: Before the question is put, Mr. Chairman, I would be happy if the Minister could give some further detail relative to this travelling. The post of Parliamentary Secretary must involve some office work, and I presume there is a good deal of time spent with the Permanent Secretaries in respect of the Ministries. This would involve very much more work by the member for St. Thomas beside his responsibility as a member of Parliament. I am wondering if the Minister would be willing to go a little further since it has been decided to appoint these members as Parliamentary Secretaries. If these officers or Assistant Secretaries or junior Ministers are expected to do all this additional work, they should be compensated. I can appreciate the idea that it is going to involve additional work and some travelling, and hence a Resolution for this \$90 a month, but you can only travel if there is something to travel for, and this involves a good deal of preparation and some office work. I feel Government must be thinking of compensation by way of some salary in addition to what they are now receiving as members of Parliament, and if it is not disclosing anything which has not been decided upon, you should consider a vote in the Estimates as it has not been stated anywhere. I wonder if the Minister in charge of the Resolution would be willing to give the additional information that is requested.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, before the Minister replies, I should like to say that looking at this matter, I have no quibble with the \$90 a month for travelling, because I would say in a general way that \$90 a month is not an unreasonable amount, but a comparatively small amount of money to pay for travelling within the context of a person who is providing his own car with all the expenses involved. I do not like easy lessons, and what I am not clear about is why you have to arrive at the same travelling allowance for a Parliamentary Secretary as for a Minister on the basis that he is supposed to do the same amount of travelling as a Minister. My concept is not that at all. A Parliamentary Secretary is not a Cabinet Minister; he is to assist a Minister in his parliamentary duties, and that is why they are Parliamentary Secretaries, and are either from this House or the Other Place, and not Secretaries in the ordinary sense as in the United Kingdom where under-Secretaries are persons from the Civil Service. If you are going to have a Minister drawing a commuted allowance of \$90 a month, it does seem to be awkward to have a Parliamentary Secretary *vis-a-vis* a Minister in the same position. By no stretch of the imagination are you going to

suggest to me that a Parliamentary Secretary *vis-a-vis* a Minister has to do the same, because in any case he has to do what the Minister directs him to do. He or she is not a person in himself or herself and has no administrative powers. They are under the control of the Cabinet and under the direct control of the Minister, and I do not like these easy lessons of coming down with an arrangement where you have something already ready-made for the Minister, and you say this is what you are going to do for the Parliamentary Secretaries.

Moreover, I am not afraid to say it because I am not afraid of the electorate. I think the time has come when this whole question of parliamentary remuneration will have to be reviewed in the light of these things, because I cannot see how it is reasonable for one to suggest that a Parliamentarian is only worth about two-thirds more than the travelling allowance of a Parliamentary Secretary. Now you have a situation in which you are paying \$90 a month to a Parliamentary Secretary and \$220 a month to a member who is elected to Parliament with all the other expenses involved in his whole career.
3.05 p.m.

Therefore, I say that he has no provision for any of his payments less income tax. There is no franking privilege. The Hon. Premier is not here, but I repudiate categorically the statement which he made originally that what a member is paid is a sort of allowance. I repudiate that because that is all moonshine. I do not know whether he means that they are allowances in the sense that the stipend is comparatively meagre.

However, Sir, people have to be realistic. I can say it now on the eve of election. I feel that if you are going to look at the remunerations of parliamentarians, you could as well review these things at once. Members in here have to do travelling, and we get no income tax reductions for any of the travelling which we have to do. Moreover, you permit a person who runs for election to this Chamber to have expenses for so doing. By law, you indicate expenses which candidates for election to this Assembly can incur as legitimate expenses, but you do not regard them as legitimate expenses for income tax reductions. You incur expenses by being a parliamentarian; and while you are paid an emolument, you are not allowed a penny deduction for income tax purposes.

Sir, I think the time has come — it might not be within the year of election — when parliamentarians should be allowed expenses. Anyone who says that we do not have expenses as parliamentarians is a fool. We do have them. Among other things, you have to address people, you have to write letters and in some way you must have some sort of office provided so as to meet people. All that incurs expense. We do not have in this Chamber any of the facilities which other Parliaments have for members. I cannot ask anyone to come here and meet me; they meet me at my office. It is not a matter of begging for more money but I feel in the light of everything that some consideration should be given to members.

Even as regards Ministers, I am not one of those persons who would say that the salaries of Ministers are fixed and they are fixed for all time. I feel, as times change, things have to change with them; if not, the quality of leadership would be only just as good as the price which you pay for it. I say that without any objection, I have no objection to \$90 a month for travelling for Parliamentary Secretaries, but I feel that if it is based purely on an equation with the Ministers, it is not an equation which we should make.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member has made a speech to which the only thing I have to add is that if travelling at the rate of \$90 a month is considered equitable, fair and reasonable for Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries, that it is about time that some revision be made to those of us who must pay income tax and who by virtue of our vocation must travel. The maximum which we are allowed in that case should not be less than that allowed to a Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary.

At one time, I was a severe critic of this, but with the extra cost of gasoline which has to be found, I have come to the conclusion that this amount seems equitable. However, I repeat that it is about time that the Government bring in some Resolution, make some amendment or the other so that the person responsible for allowing travelling allowance should take this into consideration. I agree with the sentiments expressed by the hon. senior member for St. Peter on the whole question of the revision of travelling allowance. What he has said is correct. There is none of us here who will deny that members of this House as soon as we are elected are called upon to do more travelling. Even in my constituency, which is the City of Bridgetown, a member elected is called upon to do more travelling. I agree with what the hon. senior member for St. Peter has said on this whole question; when you go into politics in this country, the people expect you to do everything possible for them. They expect you to answer every possible question and you must be able to meet them and answer them intelligently. Mr. Chairman, you know well enough how often you are called upon to visit your constituency, see your constituents and deliberate with them. I sincerely hope that no less consideration would be given persons who have to travel than that given to Hon. Ministers of the Government and Parliamentary Secretaries.

Sir, it must be borne in mind that income tax is not paid on travelling allowance. With the increase in the cost of gasoline and what it takes for the upkeep of your car, I am prepared to consider this allowance reasonable at this stage, but I think the Government should make some proper arrangements so that persons who have to pay income tax should not be given anything less reasonable than Ministers or Parliamentary Secretaries.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I was not going to say anything on this matter but it appears that all the members who spoke on this Resolution were familiar with the duties of Parliamentary Secretaries. However, I am not familiar with those duties; I do not know what a Parliamentary Secretary has to do.
3.15 p.m.

To go into the figures as to what the Parliamentary Secretary is paid for his services, I think it is very small. He has practically nothing to do. I take it so because, at the present moment, hon. members are being paid a salary of \$220 a month and then you are going to call a person a Parliamentary Secretary to do work for which he will be paid \$180 a month for his services as such Parliamentary Secretary. That makes me feel, as I say, that the Parliamentary Secretary has practically nothing to do if you are going to pay him \$180 a month for this work. I think it is an insult to the people's representatives for a member of Parliament to go into an office from morning until evening and be paid \$180 for that.

Mr. WALCOTT: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, you should be aware that the hon. member is breaking the Standing Orders of the House. We have already passed that; we have already taken a vote that the salary of the Parliamentary Secretary shall be what it is.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I take it that the hon. member was speaking in passing.

Mr. WALCOTT: In passing?

Mr. SMITH: When I passed that, I took it that the salary was \$400 a month as Parliamentary Secretary plus the remuneration as a member of the House.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, it is difficult to see how the hon. member could take it like that. He knows that a Minister's salary includes his salary as a Member of the House. Why then should the hon. member think that in one case and not in the other?

Mr. SMITH: You can see how far apart a Minister's salary is from that of a Parliamentary Secretary.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Let the hon. member stick to the travelling allowances for the Parliamentary Secretaries and not deal with the salaries.

Mr. SMITH: I say that I do not know what are the duties of the Parliamentary Secretaries. A Parliamentary Secretary must be a member of this Parliament but, at the same time, he is not a Minister without Portfolio. In my opinion, and this is my opinion alone, he is only a Minister's yard boy, because he has to sit outside and take the time from the Minister. He cannot sit in at Cabinet Level and therefore I would like to know what will be his duties.

In the Addendum to this Resolution, this is what is stated:-

"No provision has been made in the Estimates for the payment of travelling allowance to Parliamentary Secretaries. As they will be required to do extensive local travel in the performance of their duties....."

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I respectfully submit that the hon. member is entirely out of order and for this reason: before the last Session came to an end, this House passed, among other Measures, two Bills which are now Acts of Parliament, which dealt with the question of the appointment of Parliamentary Secretaries. One Bill fixed the remuneration of a Parliamentary Secretary and the other Bill prevented him from being disqualified from membership of Parliament on the ground that, being a Parliamentary Secretary, he should be deemed to hold an office of profit under the Crown. Those two Bills cover the whole scope of the appointment of Parliamentary Secretaries; therefore, for any hon. member to bring in the question of the duties of Parliamentary Secretaries, the nature and scope of their appointment at this stage, is entirely out of order. I cannot tell you what to do, Mr. Chairman, but I draw that to your attention.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I think that the Hon. Minister is right. I was just about to draw that matter to the attention of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph. It is not a question of the duties of the Parliamentary Secretaries because the salary has already been fixed.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, when the Hon. Minister got up on a point of order, I was reading the Addendum to this Resolution. Would I be out of order in reading that?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Minister was a little slow in getting up, but he was about to rise before the hon. member started to read the Addendum.

Mr. SMITH: You knew exactly what the Hon. Minister was going to do, but I did not know. The Addendum to the Resolution states this:-

"No provision has been made in the Estimates for the payment of travelling allowance to Parliamentary Secretaries. As they will be required to do extensive local travel in the performance of their duties, it is proposed that they should be paid travelling allowances at the same rate as is paid to a Minister with Portfolio, i.e. \$90 a month.

Mr. Chairman, I think that the extensive local travelling should be set out here. I take it that a Parliamentary Secretary has to do more travelling than even the Minister has to do, having regard to the fact that the note refers to extensive travelling. When you use the word "extensive" and the Parliamentary Secretary has to be paid at the rate of \$90 a month, which is the same rate that is paid to a Minister, I take it that the Parliamentary Secretary has to do more travelling than the Minister. As you know, apart from a Minister - I would not expect any Civil Servant to be checking behind a Minister of the Crown in order to know how much travelling he has done from how much he has not done. The office of a Minister is an important one and you could not put a Minister in the same position as a Civil Servant to be checking with his speedometer and that sort of thing. I do not think that you should put a Parliamentary Secretary up there. I am not quibbling about the amount, but it is the principle of the thing that I am speak-

ing of. I feel that the title "Parliamentary Secretary" is wrong; the title should be "Aide to the Minister". I feel that what a Parliamentary Secretary has to do can be done by a Civil Servant and you should allow members of Parliament to remain in their seats.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will again draw to the attention of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph that we are dealing with the question of travelling allowance and not with the salary and office of the Parliamentary Secretary. We have passed all of that already.
3.25 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: I have criticised this fixed amount for travelling on the floor of this House on several occasions. I am not criticising the Minister's travelling allowance, because you do not expect him to go to a Civil Servant and ask him to take his mileage and rate it out. He is above that. You have fixed the travelling of a Parliamentary Secretary at \$90 a month, but it takes a lot of mileage in travelling on the road to do \$90 in travelling.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I should like to tell the hon. member that the last Government is responsible for fixing this amount, and therefore it is not necessary for him to dwell on that.

Mr. SMITH: The last Government did not fix any salary for Parliamentary Secretaries. I am talking about the travelling allowance, and you have asked me to stick to the Addendum to the Resolution, and yet you are reminding me about what the last Government did. Did the last Government fix this Addendum in front of me asking for \$90 a month for the travelling of a Parliamentary Secretary? You have said in the Addendum that the travelling will be extensive, and therefore so long as it will be so extensive, it should be stated here. What I would suggest is that you fix a decent salary for the particular Parliamentary Secretary. The hon. member just said that nothing has been done for other persons who have to do travelling, but I am not going that far, although in my opinion they may do more travelling than the particular Parliamentary Secretary, because I feel that the duties of a Parliamentary Secretary are only to sit back in his chair and wait until the Minister comes out of his office and shows him something. The hon. senior member for St. Peter who is a Trade Unionist, will tell you about travelling, because he would know how far you have to travel to spend \$90 a month. The particular officer to whom we are referring would have to travel to St. Andrew, St. James and St. Philip regularly. I had to criticise this same travelling not so long ago, and it was set at \$90. It seems to be the intention of Government to set everything at \$90 a month. It seems that even if you do \$20 a month in travelling, it is their intention to fix the amount at \$90. The Civil Servants who have to do real travelling cannot feel happy about this, but they cannot go out and say it because you never know what might happen to them. Some may be satisfied and say 'hats off to the Minister', but not all. I am not against the particular officer, but I am against the principle of this Resolution. I suppose that if the Ministers' travelling was \$120 a month, this would be also \$120 a month, and I feel that this \$90 is worth no less than \$120, because if it is tax free you can get more from that than from the other pittance on which you have to pay taxes. The Government may not be studying it that way or to them it may be a good way to help the officer. I do not understand picking up berries from under the tree; I like to pick them off the tree.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am again reminding the hon. member that there is more than one officer. There are two Parliamentary Secretaries for whom this travelling allowance is being sought.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, if you draw that to my attention, I would say that the other Parliamentary Secretary is likely to do more travelling than the one to whom I was referring, because I understand that that officer has to do with the Schools Meals programme, and you do not have a pot at the Ministerial Buildings and cooking cannot be done there; so she will have to travel to where the cooking is going on and travel to the schools under the

scheme. I did not want to look ridiculous by bringing her in, and if I do, I know the Hon. Minister of Education will get up and say I am out of order. In my opinion, you do not have to be a Senator to do that job either. Any ordinary Civil Servant could have done that rather than a Senator, while the Senator could be doing something else. In the case of that officer, she may have to travel to one school three times a day, and it is a possibility that the travelling may go up, but I do not see how the other officer can do \$90 in travelling. In here is no Sunday School and you are to speak your mind clearly and broadly; but when you go outside, you should not go to the next person and say anything about it. I would not say anything about this particular officer as a person, because he is one of us; I do not mean that he belongs to my Party, but that he has ways like me - plain. But that is not sufficient for me to sit here and agree to this amount for extensive travelling, when the extent of the travelling has not been set out for one to see. This set figure for travelling is not fair to the taxpayers, and it may not be fair to the recipients, because when you have to do a certain amount of miles at one rate, and another set of miles at another rate, and it comes down to 7 cents a mile, you must know what will happen.

3.35 p.m.

That is why I say it is not fair to the taxpayers nor to the owner nor to the officer in charge. After all, he has got to look out for the upkeep of his car. Gasoline has been increased by five cents a gallon and travelling is still at the rate of seven cents; yet you still appoint people at the fixed rate of \$90 per month, and they have nothing more to do than the officers. I will never accept it because I want to represent the people who sent me here, and the people who sent us here did not send us here to look for jobs for ourselves because I am sure if we were to go out on a campaign and say that we want a job only, we will never get elected. The people know that we are strong enough to stand up to everything and will do our duty to the country.

Sir, I am saying that I am not in agreement with this fixed rate at \$90 a month for our Parliamentary Secretaries when I do not know the extent of the travelling which they have to do.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, democracy is a very painful thing, and the more I listen to debates in this Chamber, the more I am satisfied that democracy in developing territories is a very painful experiment and I am wondering if it is going to succeed. Even in watching the action of African territories, I am satisfied that there are occasions when you have to withdraw freedom from people even if you withdraw it temporarily.

I listened to the debate of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and the first thing he said was that he was not going to speak on this matter. That has become a cliché of his. The hon. member rises and proceeds to speak for a long period and even longer than members who were prepared to speak. He makes some of us feel a bit guilty.

The hon. member has been in this Chamber for a long time and I am going to show hon. members some of the failings of some of us. There is no point making every speech in here a political speech. As a matter of fact, some of the speeches which we must make cannot be political speeches because some of us would have to take our political future in our hands at some time, and if we must lead the people on, we must suffer; but if we are only going to hold a seat in here on the basis of what people want us to say, I say that we are not fit to be in here.

The hon. junior member for St. Joseph proceeded to make a speech - I hope the Hon. Minister in charge will reply to it - which had nothing to do with what we are debating. He also made facetious remarks which he does not mean. The hon. member cannot say that he does not know that the Parliamentary Secretaries are paid a salary of \$400 per month which is a salary exclusive of the \$220 which you get as an ordinary member. If a Parliamentary Secretary was getting \$400 per month as Parliamentary Secretary along with \$220 as a member of the House, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph would be the first to get up and criti-

cise it. He would say: "Are you going to give a Parliamentary Secretary \$400 plus \$220 making it \$620 a month as compared with the Minister who gets less than \$800 a month?" The hon. member knows when he said what he said about that, he did not mean that, and it does not help in any way by his making these facetious statements.

The hon. member has become an obsession unto himself, and the type of political trash which has been dished out to this community has been repeated in this Chamber. The hon. member said a true thing when he said that we all have a right to speak our minds in here but there is one thing attached to that. We have a right to do so intelligently. This is no place for a spectacle of unintelligence. This is no place where the unintelligent express their minds. When we meet here, this is the highest Parliament, and it should be only to accommodate people with disciplined minds. It is true that party politics is responsible for all this because parties are responsible for the trash which we get foisted on the community. In the name of the party we get trash interspersed between the wheels.

If you have a Parliamentary Secretary, you have one. The House has agreed to your having a Parliamentary Secretary. He gets a fixed allowance. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph has been a member of this House for 20 years. Ministerial Government came into being in 1954 which is ten years now. The hon. member sits here and has the brass and effrontery to get up and say that he was not in favour of fixed allowances. That is positive fabrication of no mean order. He could not be truthful. Far from that, it was mooted that the hon. member was going to be Minister of Agriculture; therefore, he would be receiving one of these allowances.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I say that for a Minister I would not be in favour of a fixed allowance.

As far as mooting is concerned.....

Mr. WALCOTT: That is not a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member's point of order is made.

Mr. WALCOTT: The hon. member has forgotten that he said that it was not his intention to speak. I would only say to him: 'Do not permit sour debates with things which are unnecessary. Prepare your mind for things which you intend to speak on.' I do not know if I have more discipline than anybody else because as a parliamentarian, I prepare myself to say precisely what I mean and not what I do not mean. Neither do I intend to be sarcastic on any matter just for the fun of it nor do I intend to be facetious just for the joke of it.

3.45 p.m.

The hon. member made a blanket statement that he is not in favour of this fixed allowance. To whom are you giving this fixed allowance that he is not in favour of? The hon. member says that he was never in favour of a fixed allowance; he has forgotten that in a debate on the last occasion when we were dealing with the question of Travelling Allowance for Ministers, he entered that debate when we were dealing with the post of Minister without Portfolio and he repeated the same argument. I had to draw it to his attention that it was the last Government which introduced the post of Minister without Portfolio with these allowances, and the hon. member said that, far from that, he was Chairman of Committees. He went back to the country with the Party; and how it is that, after ten years of Ministerial office, he can tell us that he was never in favour of these fixed allowances? And the only thing that they had fixed allowances was for Ministers! The Civil Servants do not have fixed allowances; the only time when you will get fixed allowances is when you are in Parliament.

How can the hon. member really mean that he is not in favour of fixed allowances when the only time when he had the occasion or the opportunity to voice his objection was

at the time when they were introduced? As to the situation which went on since 1954, can you change what went on then? Some people talk with their tongues in their cheeks; the hon. member does not mean what he says about the Civil Servants. A Civil Servant, who is entitled to travelling allowance, raises a loan from the Government for the purpose of purchasing a motor car; but the taxpayers are providing the Civil Servants with that in the first place. We have a Schedule, and the Government gives these facilities free of interest. On the other hand, a member who is the Parliamentary Secretary to a Minister, has to provide his own motor car and replacements; and it is hopeless to talk about a commuted allowance being on the same basis as an allowance for Civil Servants. My argument is that it is a question of the relationship between the two positions. If the Government regard a Parliamentary Secretary as being equal to a Minister — there is no principle involved in that. To the principle of travelling we all agree; it is a question of judgment and not principle.

I do not think it will do the debates any good for the hon. member to import into them something about duties. You, Mr. Chairman, should have promptly ruled the hon. member out of order. Some hon. members can get in anything; but in this matter you have to be extremely skilful as to whether you have enough evidence that the Parliamentary Secretaries have nothing to do. The people of the West Indies had evidence to know that the hardest job that the members of the West Indies Federation had was to read the newspaper, and their next hardest job was to see how much alcohol they could consume. *(Laughter)* That was one of the things which killed the Federation because people do not like to see their money being spent in this way. We are not in any position to have any indictment against Parliamentary Secretaries and the hon. member should not bring his Party rumblings in this Chamber. Do not let the hon. member bring what they are saying in here. Doctor Eric Williams had Parliamentary Secretaries in Trinidad, and nobody said that it was wrong to have them; but we do not want to copy Trinidad. If you have a Parliamentary Secretary, you do not expect him to be overloaded with work; that is not the idea. It is not the idea that he should be going up and down St. Andrew with pots and pans. There is too much personality in this matter.

I am submitting that people like the hon. junior member for St. Joseph should be the last persons to say these things. It seems to me that when hon. members have risen from among the people, there is always these facetious remarks being made. Perhaps if the Hon. Minister of Education appointed a Parliamentary Secretary, you would not get that same feeling because you do not have that same feeling against him. However, Sir, I think it is most uncharitable and unwarrantable to hear the remarks which have been made to the effect that this person is a Ministerial yardboy and has nothing to do. If you want to put that vulgar connotation to it, I think that that is uncharitable. A Parliamentary Secretary, by the very nature of things, is a Ministerial underling, but there is no degradation in being a Parliamentary Secretary. You ask Mr. Macmillan now if, at one stage of his life, he was not a Parliamentary Secretary. You ask Mr. Attlee if he was not a Parliamentary Secretary. That gave some of the brilliant young men to realise that they should not waste their time with pointless criticism; it gave them an early opportunity to channel their ability along the right direction instead of wasting it with criticisms of the Party. If you do not change young men at an early time, they begin to criticise the same Party of which they are members, and they become wasted material. A Parliamentary Secretary has to assist, and that is a means of keeping some of your brilliant men in Parliament.

Some men would resign from Parliament if they only held a seat, because their talents are damaged if they are just sitting down and going back out. They would have something to do with a job in Parliament. With the Hon. Premier out of the Chamber at present, I do not think that the hon. member should infuriate the House with the kind of speech which he has made. I may say that the Hon. Premier and the hon. junior member for St. Joseph are two opposites, but you can find an easy means of colliding.

3.55 p.m.

I have never found two people at two different points who can find such a medium of agreement to collide as the two hon. members. One lacks what I may call the intellectual maturity he should possess, and with the other it is a question of an unbalanced mind. A child may be able to walk, but he has not yet got balance; so he will tumble. The hon. member possesses an unbalanced mind; he argues something and then criticises what he argues, because he says in one breath that it is wrong for Parliamentary Secretaries to be regarded as such and be paid what they are paid, and in the next breath he says that they should be treated better than they are treated. It is for that reason that I would implore the hon. member not to reduce this debate to a Parliamentary Secretary issue, because some of us who have spoken wanted to use it as a means of bringing in different areas in making any criticism against the duties. We wish the Parliamentary Secretaries well and hope that they will function well. I feel for that reason that the hon. member should endeavour in this new session at least to desist from this type of debate that is very sorry not only to the ear, but when you analyse it there is nothing in it, and it looks like a cheap criticism of something which you really and truly have not studied.

The hon. member is living in modern times, Mr. Chairman, and it is stupid for him to suggest that you can have anything other than fixed allowances for people who have to perform the duties of Parliamentary Secretaries. Whatever amount you put, it must in the nature of things be a fixed allowance, because these are persons who are there, not like Civil Servants at the pleasure of the Crown, but who can be removed at will. A Parliamentary Secretary can be removed without any notice being given to him, and he cannot sue or ask for a week's pay, and it is for those reasons that you cannot begin talking about allowances. Parliament cannot represent him because it is not a Parliamentary appointment; it is a Ministerial appointment made by the Cabinet or by the Premier, and I would therefore suggest that the hon. member relate it to this.

Moreover and finally, the hon. member has the right to say what he said, but he must bear in mind whether he likes it or not that as long as you agree with the Party system and the Cabinet system, whenever you lose at the polls you have lost the right to do all these things. We can criticise them; but we will do a better job if we criticise them soundly and intelligently, but not criticise merely for the sake of criticism.

Mr. COWARD: Mr. Chairman, many hon. members have spoken on this motion, and many reasons have been given as to why the motion should be supported or should not be supported. From my experience in travelling through this island and seeing the various projects being put up by the Government, I feel that justice and fairplay can only be maintained if we pay the Parliamentary Secretary not less than \$90 a month for travelling, because I do feel that you would only get what you pay for and no more. If you pay \$20, you will get \$20 worth, and if you pay \$100 you would get \$100 worth. I cannot see, therefore, how \$90 a month would be too much for travelling through an island like Barbados. The Parliamentary Secretary who has accepted this job will find that if for one month there is a breakdown of his car and he is called upon to do his duty and he intends to do it the right way, it will cost him more than \$90 for that one month. Mr. Chairman, I have much pleasure in supporting the amount which has been placed for travelling allowance.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, last week in the course of a debate of an almost similar nature, I had occasion to draw to the attention of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph the fact that what we say in this Chamber, whether in the House or in Committee, has to be transmitted by the Governor, according to the Royal Instructions, to the Secretary of State. Now the fact that that is so should not deter hon. members from speaking their minds, because they have been elected to represent the people, nor should it in any way inhibit them from passing whatever criticisms or judgments they like on various aspects of Government policy as these come before them; but the fact that the Secretary of State reads what we say here should remind

hon. members that it is in their own interest that their proceedings as Parliamentarians should always be construed in the best possible light, and that it is their duty to see that the best possible light is put on what they say. I fear that when the remarks from the hon. junior member for St. Joseph are looked at in the light of what is said, the Secretary of State must feel that he has been misled into believing that the representatives of the people of this island are indeed ready for this exercise of self-Government, because it already would have been noticed in the Colonial Office that the question of appointing Parliamentary Secretaries did not originate with this Government. We are the people who put it into effect, but it will be recalled, if the truth be known, both here and abroad, that as far back as 1956 there was a proposal by the former Government to appoint Parliamentary Secretaries or at least to appoint a Parliamentary Secretary, because hon. members now sitting around this Table, - some of the more senior ones like the hon. senior member for Bridgetown, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph himself, the hon. senior member for St. Peter, the hon. senior member for Christ Church as well as myself - will remember that one of the inducements held out to the hon. junior member for St. Peter, who is not now in his seat, to move from the Chair of this House as Speaker, was that he was going to be made a Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Education, and the hon. junior member for St. Peter at that time refused to accept the proffered honour of Parliamentary Secretary on grounds which I still feel were sufficient. For one thing, in 1956 there was not a Ministry of Education, and therefore since there was not a Ministry of Education, there could not be a Parliamentary Secretary to that Ministry; and secondly he refused to accept on the grounds that the details and the creation and establishment of that office were not disclosed to him. 4.05 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. You will remember that just now you ruled me out of order and said that you are only dealing with travelling allowance. What is the Hon. Minister of Education dealing with now? He is telling you about what the last Government did or promised. The last Government is not doing anything now. Your Honour ruled that we must only entertain travelling allowance and you ruled me out of order. I tried after that to keep to travelling only, and now the acting Hon. Leader of the House is travelling all over the place saying what the hon. junior member for St. Peter did, and Your Honour is sitting there and saying nothing to him!

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Acting Leader of the House is replying to remarks made and he is quite in place so to do.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The hon. junior member for St. Peter rejected the office on the ground that not enough was known about it and, therefore, he would be giving up an office for something which he knew nothing about. The hon. member who is taking opportunity to speak on this matter is able to criticise the duties of Parliamentary Secretary because such exists and exists in law. He knows that he is somewhat within his right, though not within the terms of this debate, to raise this now, or if not now, on another occasion. However, Sir, on that occasion when somebody was offered a post which was not created, the hon. member, like other members of that Party, wanted the hon. junior member for St. Peter to accept something which did not even exist.

Now, Sir, the hon. member must not rush to conclusions just like that. The hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown, the hon. junior member for St. George and the hon. senior member for St. Peter raised questions, and I propose to deal with all of them. If hon. members want to know what the Parliamentary Secretary does, that is a fair question and it can be answered and it is not my intention to withhold that information from any member. A lot of people, like the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, have talked about the differentiation between the Parliamentary Secretary in the Other Place and the one in this House, and the hon. junior member for St. Joseph went as far as to shower a lot of praise on the one in the Other Place, and in doing so, almost broke parliamentary rules by his references.

There was no need for him to do that. All he needed to do was to ask a question.

The Hon. Minister of Communications and Works is in charge of a Ministry which has about nine departments grouped in the Ministry, and these nine departments involve a certain amount of work and projects which go on from day to day. There are the Waterworks Department, the Department of Highways and Transport and the Public Works Department. There are also statutory organisations like the Housing Department and the Transport Board. There are also the Harbour and the Seawall Airport, the Government Printing Office and the Government Pumping Stations. All of these departments under the general control of the Ministry of Communications and Works are departments which have day-to-day work and need supervision, and it is therefore obvious that the Parliamentary Secretary attached to that Ministry would under the direction of the Minister be involved in that day-to-day supervision.

Nobody would expect us to say that he does more travelling or less than that done by the Minister. All that we can say, judging from our experience of what the Parliamentary Secretary would have to do under the Minister's guidance, is that it would seem to us that the rate is adequate for the Parliamentary Secretary. We cannot say whether he does less. We know that they do a considerable amount of work and both would be involved in that heavy travelling, not necessarily at the same time, but doing it to the same extent; and we all know of no better way of fixing the rate than giving the Parliamentary Secretary the same thing which you give to the Minister. The same thing holds good for the Parliamentary Secretary attached to the other Ministry because the School Meals' Service involves a certain amount of travelling.

Sir, you therefore cannot estimate what the Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary has to do; but unless you want to impute the basest possible motives to the Government, you must leave it to the Government to decide the rate and you must accept that this Government would not want to put anything over hon. members of the House.

Sir, a question was raised which deals with Parliament generally with respect to remuneration. I myself, cannot deal with those matters within the purview of this particular debate. As a matter of fact, there are matters which are essentially for the Government and the entire House, and it is one of the attributes of a developing society that Parliament should find ways and means of settling matters like these without a political debate. If hon. members wish this matter examined, it is possible for us to settle it in an informal atmosphere where all parties of the whole House, not necessarily meeting as Government and Opposition, can come together and discuss them.

I will only say that this is a matter for the Government. I do know that when we took up the reins of Government that it was entirely out of the question that we could pay any immediate attention to this matter. We were prepared to put up with any financial sacrifice and we expected other members to do so. I cannot say that the time is appropriate for discussing this matter, the proper person to speak on that would be the Minister of Finance. He is the proper person to say that the time is appropriate. But apart from that, any matter to deal with the remuneration of the General Assembly would be better settled subject to a round table discussion by members of the House where it would materially effect the whole House as a House and not affect one side of the House. 4.15 p.m.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-65 No. 2

DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES

FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is a Resolution to place the sum of \$3,570 at the dis-

posal of the Cabinet to supplement the Estimates 1964-65 Part I — Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1964-65 No. 2 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

In February 1964, Dr. Vaughn Wells was appointed as the Director of Medical Services in this island. The office of Director of Medical Services as such does not carry, as a condition of service, the provision of quarters and furniture, but it is to be remembered that when Dr. Wells was appointed as an officer on contract to the post of Public Health Officer at the St. Philip Health Centre, that appointment carried with it the provision of quarters and furniture. Dr. Wells was appointed on contract from overseas, and as he was an officer appointed on contract, he was entitled to quarters and basic furniture. This Resolution, with which we are now dealing, is a Resolution for the sum of \$3,570 for the provision of basic furniture for Letting No. 6 of the Garrison Flats which now houses the Director of Medical Services.

Mr. Chairman, we have to take into consideration that this Officer is not a Barbadian. He was recruited in the United Kingdom when he came to Barbados; and although the post as such does not carry with it furniture and free quarters, we have had to provide these quarters. Of course, a monthly rental is paid for these quarters and for the furniture. I know that my friend, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, will want to have a breakdown of these items of expenditure and I will save him the trouble of having to ask for it. The items of expenditure are as follows:-

- 6 single beds with spring filled mattresses
- 3 dressing tables
- 3 bedstead tables
- 1 tall boy
- 3 bedroom chairs
- 1 sideboard
- 1 china cabinet
- 1 settee with four chairs
- 1 coffee table
- 3 occasional tables
- 1 desk
- 1 seven-piece dinette set
- 1 refrigerator
- 1 small formica topped table (kitchen)
- 1 gas stove

and contingencies which amount to \$100. In addition to that, there were other items of furniture which we had in our possession at the Public Works and these include one dining table and six chairs which this Officer has the use of.

Hon. members may want to know what has happened inasmuch as this furniture is not yet provided. Well, Sir, the post of Medical Officer of Health at the St. Philip Health Centre is vacant for the time being, and the furniture from those quarters has been borrowed and placed at the disposal of the Director of Medical Services. We hope soon to have that post filled and it will mean that this furniture will have to be returned. Hence it is absolutely necessary for us to provide this necessary furniture for the Director of Medical Services.

On the other hand, hon. members will find that there is only a difference of \$1,200 between the salary of the Director of Medical Services and that of the Medical Officer of Health at the St. Philip Health Centre. It is reasonable that since the Director of Medical Services should have a house, and furniture is not provided for him, it will mean that having assumed greater responsibility he would be placed at a disadvantage. I therefore beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister has said that he knew that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph would be asking a question about the breakdown of this Resolution. However, Sir, the Hon. Minister should not only think of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph because I have now to ask questions which I have noted here. It would

be much better that when you bring down a Resolution like this, you should set out these things in the Addendum to the Resolution because people will want to know why we are spending this money. There is no opposition to this Resolution from this side of the House.

As to the question of furniture, the Addendum to the Resolution states that this money is needed to purchase furniture for Letting No. 6 of the Garrison Flats which has been allocated to the Director of Medical Services. I suppose that the Hon. Minister can tell us what this No. 6 Letting is rented for, and what it will be rented for, with this furniture which you are now putting in. What percentage of the salary of this Officer is taken out for this furniture? I am satisfied that, if you must get Specialists of this nature, then you must provide this furniture, because it is difficult to get houses for Specialist doctors in this field. I do not think that we have any difficulty in furnishing this flat because this property belongs to the people of Barbados. We want to know what rent you are asking for this flat; otherwise there is no criticism which we, on this side, are making in this matter.

I take it that this sort of thing must be done if you must get a proper Director of Medical Services. When I heard that you are providing these six single beds, I realised that this is something which is being provided for a man with a family. I realise that it is not too much for a person if he has a family, and in these days of family-planning people sleep in single beds.
4.25 p.m.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I take a completely opposite view. Absolutely nothing in this God's world would cause me to vote for this Resolution. This is outrageous and atrocious. This Colonial pattern idea must cease. You are paying this officer who has been appointed to this senior post a salary of \$10,200 a year. The sum of \$10,000 is a lot of money any part of the world, and if a man working for \$10,000 per annum is not in a position to buy basic furniture, who can? If he did not want the appointment, why did he accept the post when he went before the Public Service Commission and they appointed him as Director of Medical Services? Dr. Byer was here before and he did not have any furniture provided for him; he is either owning or renting a house. When are we going to stop these individual acts? You have now added on from the Treasury at the rate of enough money that would pay a man working on the Constitution River project for three years, because \$20 a week is about \$1,000 a year.

Mr. Chairman, I do not have the sentimental view about doctors as the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. Doctors are doctors all over the world, but there seems to be a different concept when people talk about Barbados. Do you believe that people study medicine for Barbados? They study medicine for human beings. There is a shortage of doctors all over the world; but do you believe that they get on with this nonsense in London? What is the justification for giving this man furniture when he is getting \$10,000 a year? The hon. member said that he was at St. Philip, to which I agree; but Dr. Standard was at St. Philip too, and he has now gone to the University of the West Indies. Do you think he can ask the University to do these things for him? Some people at some stage of their lives accept a higher position or promotion which does not always mean as much money, but they are on the way up. When you become Director of Medical Services, you are Head of the Department, and it carries with it not only responsibility but privileges also. Do you believe that I would want to be in a lower position in my own field for sake of getting \$100 more? You do not demote people and give them more money. If you take the Director of Medical Services and make him Senior Medical Officer of Health and give him less, and appoint somebody as Director of Medical Services, do you think that would suffice? Why did he not say that he was going to remain at St. Philip where he had free furniture? As a means of putting pressure on the Government he has now asked for these things. My idea is that he has accepted a post that has no furnishings. I heard the Hon. Premier say that Civil Servants cost a lot of money. You only have to add up ten of these, and you will see that that is \$30,000.

Mr. Chairman, I would say that Barbados has to come to grips with itself. People have to come here and work for what we can afford to pay, and that is why I told the Hon. Leader of the House that I do not believe that Barbados can afford a Neurologist like the United States who can talk in billions of dollars, when we only talk about a few little half cents. Do you expect to compete with a country that talks about billions? I have nothing against having equity, but I cannot support this Resolution, because I am fundamentally opposed to this Civil Servant patchwork system that whenever it comes to the Medical Services or some special service you are creating something for which there is no soundness. This gentleman was living in Barbados. Are you suggesting to me that he could not get a house? I remember the present Minister of Agriculture when he was outside the Government used to criticise these flats in the Garrison, and suggested that they should be taken away and a school built up there. Now I see people getting them for reasonable rents. I am not opposed to housing an officer of Government as an incentive for inducement to get the man, but, Mr. Chairman, if any of us accept a post of higher responsibility we cannot go for the higher responsibility and then want all these things. Although you are moving away from the Colonial concept, there are certain things practised in the Colonies for which you have to pay through your nose. This gentleman was in a job where you provided a house in St. Philip, because you would not send an officer to St. Philip and ask him to look for a house to rent. We had to build a house in St. Peter for a doctor; but sometimes you build these houses and somebody moves in and says they are too flat, too high, have too many staircases, the kitchen is not big enough or the roof is not high enough. They always criticise, because it is difficult to build a house to suit everybody's likes and idiosyncrasies.

Mr. Chairman, I am opposed in principle to this. I was opposed at the time when you provided one for the Chief Justice. When you are not Chief Justice you live in a house, but as soon as you become Chief Justice suddenly something happens to you. Some people have the idea that to become Chief Justice you have to go through the mill. A Chief Justice is a man who ten years ago was a Puisne Judge; but as soon as you make a man a Chief Justice, somebody has the idea that you must adorn him with all these embellishments. The Director of Medical Services comes into that category. As soon as you have made him Director of Medical Services, he cannot get a house. Poor people working for small salaries have to find a house; but as soon as they work for \$10,000, they cannot find a house to rent. Do you really and truly believe that a man working for \$10,000 cannot find a house to rent? This will happen as long as you have houses at cheap rents and you are taking out 10% or whatever the percentage is from the salary. I do not even think that at the Garrison you take out 10%; I think you charge them rent. I think it is when you build a house that you take out a percentage for rent. As far as I know unless it is changed, there is a fixed rent for quarters at the Garrison.

4.35 p.m.

The rents for the Garrison flats are fixed unless the Cabinet has made a different order. As far as I know, the rents for the flats at the Garrison are not geared to the salary of the people who live in them. Mr. Burrowes, the Financial Secretary, has one, and he is an officer who is not entitled to a house; so you have to charge him rent. There are other officers living in Government quarters who are not entitled to quarters. As a matter of fact, there are very few officers whom we have who are entitled to quarters. The ones who are entitled, we have to provide them with one. The Director of Medical Services is not entitled to one.

I will show you how. Dr. O'Mahoney was Director of Medical Services living in the same Garrison Flats when he took up the office. He was succeeded by Dr. Byer who lived in his own house. The other person who has taken up the office has found it difficult to live in a flat without its being furnished; yet he is paid a higher salary than any of his predecessors. The third officer has come in at a higher salary and is living in the same flat which a man died in, and the accident that this gentleman who is promoted by the Barbados Government has found it difficult on promotion to have his own furniture is because he was enjoying facilities

of the same order in a lower post. It means now that if you were to take the Superintendent of the Prison and remove him from there and appoint him to something which is more promotion, because that post has not a free house, the next thing you will hear from him is that he cannot live unless he has a furnished house and you will come here and say that you must give him a house and servants. That is what Dr. Vaughn Wells is saying. He was at St. Philip's Health Centre enjoying the facilities for that Health Officer; and now he is appointed Director of Medical Services, which is a higher post, he still wants those things which he enjoyed in the lower post. He wants the higher post which carries more salary, and he also wants the same things which the lower post carried with it. If a man is willing to accept promotion in the Government Service, he should be willing to forego these things. All the Chief Medical Officers previous to Dr. Vaughn Wells came and filled the post and could find places to rent or had their own houses. I do not see why we should be forced to do this. It is a small amount it is true.

Our Ministers do not enjoy houses owned by the Government. The Hon. Premier does not enjoy a free house, and I believe that the dignity of office of Premier does require a free house. We are still carrying on with the Colonial concept. Some of these officers, like the Director of Medical Services, when they operate in London or the United States of America, live in a flat like anybody else. Of course, if you want to be in the best type of flat, you live in Chelsea where the elite lives. Are you going to suggest that in England they carry on this sort of nonsense which we are carrying on? We pay them reasonably good salaries and you are now furnishing a house for them. What do you want these people to do? Do you want them to bank all their money? With our economy, a man who is working for \$10,000 per annum, can you say that he is not working for a good salary? We have people who work for only \$7.00 a week. Our national income stands at \$500 or \$600 per annum per person; therefore, if you are getting \$10,000 per annum for filling an important post, are you saying that it is not a good salary? We have just increased the salaries of Government Officers and you are now coming with new proposals for this new Director. It means that every time one man leaves you, the other one is holding you up to ransom.

Go up there and see the people who are holding these things over you. Any man who can put a yacht in the sea can buy a bed. You want this exclusive living on the one hand and then show that you are parsimonious on the other. I do not subscribe to that. I feel this new proposal to the officer holding this post should be refused. I go further and say that in different circumstances, the officer would have been refused. If he were the Clerk of this Assembly, he would have been refused. I find it difficult to keep up with the adjustments to people's salaries. I work hard and I do not ask people to give me these embellishments. I hold an important position in this Island and it is as important as anybody else's. I do not feel that I am second to any. I make no joke about that, but you do not ask an organisation to do more than it can.

Sir, I do not see why I should agree to this. I am very sorry that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition subscribes to this because in principle I do not see why you should be granting this officer furniture in a flat. I do not regard what the Minister has said is a good reason for giving this officer these things. The Director of Medical Services enjoyed this facility at a lower post and now he has come to a higher post which does not carry these things, you come here and ask that he be given them. You are saying now that for all times the Director of Medical Services should enjoy these facilities. You are telling us that the furniture is for the Director of Medical Services and it is not for No. 6 Flat. As a matter of fact, it is not No. 6 Flat with which you are dealing. According to this, it is to purchase furniture which has been allocated to the Director of Medical Services which means that if he leaves there, though it is No. 6, the next man may not live there but may not want furniture, but you are saying that you are doing it for Letting No. 6. Why this officer cannot go in Letting No. 6 without furniture supplied to him?

4.45 p.m.

What is wrong with it? Is it leaking? This is a question of spending \$3,570. A man is a doctor and he reaches the stage of being Chief Medical Officer; and do you mean to say that, for all of these years, he is not in a position to buy a bed? He was sleeping in a free bed in St. Philip and can he not buy a bed now? When some people were coming into the House of Assembly, they did not have Frock Coats and they asked their tailors to allow them to have these coats and they paid for them afterwards. (Mr. MOTTLEY: Some of them did not get into the House.) I am not opposed to furnishing flats if that is going to be the Government's policy; but when you give this treatment to the Director of Medical Services what else are you going to do? What will happen to a man who is at the Customs Department? You are accustomed to giving the Customs Officer at Seawell furniture and quarters; what is going to happen if you bring him back down here? Each time you remove an officer, are you going to do this sort of thing? This provision does not appeal to me as something which is reasonable; I must say that the arguments which have been put forward by the Hon. Minister do not appeal to me as being reasonable in support of this Resolution. I am opposed to opening the door to this new Colonial service which seems to me to be re-imposed although we are on the threshold of independence.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I should just like to say a few words on this Resolution. When Dr. Byer, the former holder of the post of Director of Medical Services, was leaving Barbados, it was quite clear that we had to appoint a successor to him. It will be remembered that Dr. Byer was a Medical Officer of Health functioning in Speightstown and, similarly, Dr. Wells was operating at the Health Centre in St. Philip. You have a Director of Medical Services and some facilities must be provided for him. I do not think that we should be worried about the salary. For instance, your Anaesthetist is entitled to quarters, or the Physician Specialist, or the Secretary at the General Hospital, for that matter, is entitled to quarters. You have another case where the Surgeon Specialist is entitled to this treatment in accordance with the terms of his agreement.

In the case of the Specialist, Doctor Wells, he could demand quarters because it is a question of the comfort of his home. It is a long time since I left the Ministry of Social Services — it is almost two and a half years — and perhaps the Hon. Minister will enlighten me on certain things. With reference to this Flat No. 6, it may be that this Flat has been lying idle without furniture. Dr. Byer has been a great loss to this country and he is now serving one of the countries in the area, that is, Jamaica; but surely the authorities could make the necessary arrangements for this officer who is successor to Dr. Byer. When we have these officers appointed, arrangement has to be made for their accommodation and that is a question which we have been up against for many years. We want to attract proper Medical Officers. I do not know that there is anything unusual about the appointment of Dr. Wells as Director of Medical Services and the provision which is being made for him. We erected a new building for the Superintendent of the General Hospital on lands at Enmore. Dr. Wells is like any other Specialist Officer who is coming here and who is not expected to settle here; when you have these Specialist Officers you have many of them who would settle down for one year. Such an officer or such officers are like rolling stones, and if they are not satisfied with the condition which exist, they will not remain here.

I could hardly think of our having a three-bedroom flat with furniture which is not in use. I hope that the Hon. Minister will enlighten me on this question. Dr. Byer gave of his accumulated knowledge and experience, and all of a sudden he had to leave us and we would be in trouble if we had this furniture to be sold. I remember I had to ask the Secretary of the General Hospital to surrender his quarters at the Hospital for the accommodation of a doctor, and as to the arrangements which we had for the Matron, she gave up her quarters. I would like to know what prompted the authorities not to surrender Dr. Byer's house to the Director of Medical Services; there must have been some good reasons why the house had to be occupied by somebody else and you have to furnish this new letting at the Garrison, 4.55 p.m.

As I have said before, it is a long time and I am not familiar with what has taken place. However, I should like to know if this is a new structure or one of the three-bedroom quarters which has been lying idle or without furniture. For my benefit, I would be glad if you explained this, because it would answer a few things that have been exercising my mind.

Mr. WALCOTT: It has been a long time since the hon. member has entered a debate, and I do not know what has happened with his thinking. There seems to be something different about members of this House. It seems they are eating some strange meal. When you become a member of this House, I do not know what goes wrong with your thinking. How can you compare this with a man at the Hospital? This is just like the Headmaster of a school. You give him a house to live in, but it does not mean that every teacher must have a house at the school. Are you suggesting because you build a house for the Headmaster that every teacher at the school should have one? What has happened here is that you are providing the Director of Medical Services with the facilities of a flat. Dr. O'Mahoney lived there as well as Dr. Byer, but what you are providing now is something new, because if it were not new, it would not be here. This is the first time that Barbados is buying furniture for the Director of Medical Services; so it is a question of adding something more. Next time you will be coming down with something for Dr. Cochrane. Every now and again you get a man whom the Lord has specially made for Barbados, and you pull down every star from the sky and give to the man in order to keep him, forgetting that the man is going to die too or as if he is eternal. We might give him these things and then next day he dies of heart failure. I would like to know how the world would get on if doctors and others were not in it. Roosevelt has gone and Kennedy has gone, and all of us here will go, and the sun will come through the same place at 5 o'clock this time next year whether or not we are here. The public has been quarrelling about the Hospital and saying that you have to go there and wait for eight hours and cannot see a doctor, and the reason for having a doctor on the spot.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like hon. members on my left to allow me to hear the hon. member who is speaking.

Mr. WALCOTT: That is the House of Assembly that is in St. George. If we had a surgeon living in St. Joseph, everybody at the Hospital would say that he is living in St. Joseph and cannot get down; so you have built quarters for him at the Hospital. However, nobody goes to Dr. Wells with a stumped toe. He operates from his office in Bridgetown; he is an administrative man, and you do not go to him for an operation. He could, therefore, live in St. Lucy, for that matter. Every now and again these officers come and put these gimmicks on you. Some time ago the Attorney General put to you that he wanted basic furniture. If it comes down now to the political Attorney General having to live at the Garrison, everybody will shout for murder and say "You see when you put these politicians in power?" The Attorney General has gone back to England, and somebody tells you that the furniture is still yours as if we have a big auctioneer's mart. Let the Government walk about seeing how much furniture they can buy and see if they would not take over from Realtors and become auctioneers! Are we buying on the basis, as the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has said, that in the end the furniture will still be ours?

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I asked a question to find out whether we were paying for the flat together with the furniture, and I am reminding him in anticipation that the furniture should remain ours. This is not the first time I have seen this. I should like to remind the hon. member of a similar debate here in which he was on the other side, because I asked if the Attorney General was sleeping on soap boxes. Today I am satisfied that if the Government wants a technical man like a Public Health doctor, they must do these things, because it is difficult to get a trained Public Health man. The hon. member said a few moments ago that there seemed to be some feeling of fear for doctors, but he cannot refer that to me in my entire career in this House.

Mr. WALCOTT: The hon. member said I was on the other side, but when a Resolution came here to provide furniture for the Attorney General, I opposed it, and he can go and get Hansard. He is a gentleman by the name of Mr. C. A. Burton who is back in England today. We furnish Government House, and I came along and found the home of the Director of Agriculture furnished. There you require a doctor to live in at the Hospital, it is obvious that you must furnish the place. It would be just like the nurses. You cannot expect them to sleep in the Hospital and tell them they must bring a cot, a little house or a tent to sleep in. You have to find good quarters for them, but the Director of Medical Services is an administrative doctor who deals with the Department on the Wharf. The Director of Medical Services is therefore free to live wherever he pleases. Do you realise that Doctor Leacock would have to get permission from the authorities to live outside the Hospital, and if you required him to live inside, he would have to? The reason why they have granted this concession to Dr. Leacock is because he lives around the bend at Shop Hill, and it is only five minutes' ride to the Hospital. He is one of the doctors who works extremely hard, and nobody is going to worry about a doctor living near the Hospital who works as hard as he does, because he has a reputation of not being unwilling to come out and work for any person at any hour of the day or night.

5.05 p.m.

That cannot be on all fours with an administrative doctor. An administrative doctor is living in his own house. Sir, when are Barbadians going to wake up from their colonial slumber? If it were a question that you could not get doctors! But you are now paying them and buying furniture for them and doing all that sort of nonsense. Do you believe that they carry on with this sort of nonsense in the United Kingdom? They do not furnish a flat for anybody on an ordinary basis. They come to take up a Colonial post and they want a nurse for their children and all these things and you, therefore, create this class distinction. I am not a Colonialist; I do not believe in this nonsense. If the office is an office for which you have to furnish a house for the holders of the post, furnish it; but if it is one for which you do not have to furnish, let the officer furnish it for himself. If Dr. Vaughn Wells was a doctor at the Hospital, surely, you could grant him that. The next thing you are going to hear is that you will have to furnish a house for nearly every officer who is Head of a Department.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Sir, in reply to the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown, the rental paid for Flat No. 6, is \$48 a month and the rental paid towards the furniture is 7% of the actual cost of the furniture which is \$15 a month.

I am sorry that I cannot reply to the hon. junior member for St. George because he has contributed absolutely nothing to the debate.

In reply to the hon. senior member for St. Peter, who says, that this is an outrageous and atrocious question of finding furniture for the Director of Medical Services, may I point out, Mr. Chairman, that the Director of Medical Services, before he agreed to have the appointment confirmed, pointed out that he was at a disadvantage, taking into consideration that he had additional responsibility. The Director of Medical Services is responsible for the co-ordination of all the work in the field of health. The difference between his salary and the other post is \$1,200. He is an officer who has been recruited to Barbados from the United Kingdom on contract, and he was eligible for a house and furniture. He came here, and has been offered the post of Director of Medical Services because it was felt that he was the best of all the applicants for the job. He was doing his job satisfactorily and he has asked as a condition of his accepting the post that the Government supply him with a furnished house. He delayed for approximately a month before he accepted the post, and this delay in his accepting was due to the fact that he would have been at a disadvantage. He thought that the Government should supply the furniture and we considered it quite reasonable.

The other consideration, Mr. Chairman, is this. The post of Director of Medical Services requires along with

other qualifications, qualifications in Public Health, and it is extremely difficult to find a young doctor taking up Public Health because one has got to do a certain amount of training towards a Specialist degree for a Diploma in Public Health if one has to hold the post of Medical Officer of Public Health. He is a Specialist in his own right. If we think of Specialist officers at the General Hospital, there is very little difference between the basic salary of the Specialist officers — and I prefer to say the Surgeon Specialist, the Physician Specialist or any of those officers — and the salary of the Director of Medical Services, but yet the Director of Medical Services is a specialist in his own right. Added to the basic salary of a specialist officer like the Surgeon Specialist are fees which he gets. He is paid for operations if he is a Surgeon-Specialist or for consultation if he is a Physician Specialist.

Now, this is not anything new in Barbados, but it is peculiar. It is common knowledge that the young doctors do not take up public health. It is more profitable for them to specialise in some other branch of the service.

I am replying to what the hon. senior member for St. Peter said. I was making the point that the Director of Medical Services is a specialist in his own field, and I cannot understand how the hon. senior member for St. Peter can expect that a man who is responsible for the co-ordination of the work in a Department should be at a disadvantage to another officer where that Department is concerned. This is what technically happens. (A VOICE: You do not buy furniture for him.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: May I hear the Hon. Minister without interruption?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I was saying that Dr. Vaughn Wells was recruited here as Medical Officer of Health for St. Philip just a short while ago. Furniture was provided for him. He was appointed to the higher post of Director of Medical Services, but he only accepted that post when it was decided to let him have furniture in the quarters. This is not a free gift of furniture to Dr. Wells or the Director of Medical Services. This is furniture provided by the Government and rented to the officer in question.

5.15 p.m.

I do not consider the position to be as the hon. member has said. The hon. member has said — of course I will not worry to reply to the question as to whether this Officer had to buy a bed or not; I consider that as being silly. The question is whether we want to have a Director of Medical Services or whether we do not want to have one. The hon. member has said that the Director of Medical Services is an administrator, and therefore he does not have to get out of his bed at night; but I should like to say that if anything goes wrong at the General Hospital and it needs the presence of the Director of Medical Services, then he has to be there. The Director of Medical Services has actually assisted in the day-to-day work at the Health Centre when we were short of Medical Officers of Health or when these Medical Officers have gone on leave. The Director of Medical Services has actually performed the duties of the Medical Officers of Health and I have no doubt that this officer will perform such duties at any time when he is asked to do so.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I cannot go into this childish argument which I have been hearing. I would like to contain myself; I am saying that an Assembly or this Assembly must be able to argue and debate what has been put forward. You must not talk as if you heard something; you must talk what you know. Sir, every Medical Specialist is a specialist in his own right. There is no inferior Specialist; there are other men in the Medical Services who are Specialists. Doctor Forde has qualifications in Public Health too. It is a question of choice. Dr. Forde is the Medical Superintendent of the General Hospital; he has a house and if he had accepted the post of Director of Medical Services he would receive a salary of \$10,200. He now gets \$9,240. I say that the Director of Medical Services is an administrative Doctor, and as being in the position of an administrator, he has to be there. I cannot accept that the Director of Medical Services is incapable of dealing with

somebody at the Hospital because he is an administrative doctor. I say that he is not required to come out at night because he is not living in the Hospital. His position *vis-à-vis* his counterpart is different and therefore you give him furniture. You are providing the basic furniture; you are asking for this sum of \$3,570 which this officer does not have to look for, and then what he is utilising he is not being called upon to pay for.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I have pointed out that the present officer is paying for the use of the furniture, which is provided by the Government, at a rental of \$15 a month.

Mr. WALCOTT: You divide \$15 a month into \$3,570 and you will see what it means. Do you think that I have not been to school? You are renting him a house with furniture in it to which he is not entitled; you are providing this officer with this facility to which he is not entitled. We had a man all the way back in 1927, and ever since then we began to appoint Specialists. We had Dr. Weatherhead who was a Barbadian and he was the Director of Medical Services; we also had Dr. O'Mahoney and we had Dr. Byer. Dr. Byer was in the same position as that in which this gentleman was; Dr. Byer was Medical Officer of Health in Speightstown.

You tell me that this man is a contract officer; all right. You say that this man is paying \$15 a month for this furniture which you are renting him. You regard that he is paying this money and you have to put this \$3,570 to his credit; if you do that to everybody you will see how much it will cost you. Do you know how many years you would have to wait to get back this money if you put people in this category? Mr. Chairman, it is time that the Ministers get down to these facts and figures themselves, and do not be caught up with this sentimental argument. I have been down here for too long to be told that you cannot get people; you want to appoint a person to a post and that person insists that you must give him certain things; it is nothing more than that. With all the doctors in the world, are you saying that you cannot get doctors? At one time it was said that you could not get lawyers either, and now you can get them all at a penny.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, I cannot understand how the hon. senior member for St. Peter could criticise the Government of this country in providing this money for this furniture for the Director of Medical Services. The hon. member fails to see the importance of having a man to supervise the public health standards of the community in which there are 250,000 people; it is important to have a man who has to decide for the people of this island where health standards are concerned. We know that if proper health standards are not maintained in this country, then we are nowhere. This is a question of the expenditure of \$3,570 for an individual or in furniture which we will have there.
5.25 p.m.

It is true that the furniture may depreciate to some extent, but it is still that of the Government, and at the same time you are looking after the welfare of the community, and seeing to it that you give an incentive to people to come to the country, in the same way as we have had to provide houses or quarters for other doctors who have got to come here. In getting doctors to come to this country to look after the welfare of our community, we have got to get someone who is eligible and who is authorised to co-ordinate all the work in the field of health, and one who will see that the health standards of our community are maintained at a high level. To get the men we have to offer incentives, and this is an incentive we are providing just as we provide for any other skilled Technical Officer which we want.

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

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of three Resolutions in Committee of Supply and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

THE MAINTENANCE ORDER (FACILITIES
FOR ENFORCEMENT) (AMENDMENT)
ACT, 1964

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned senior member for St. John: to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Maintenance Order (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1922.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask leave of the House to take charge of this item in the absence of the hon. member who is not now in his place.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Acting Leader of the House is seeking the leave of this Chamber to take charge of this measure in the absence of the Hon. and Learned senior member for St. John who is not instantly in his place, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted the Hon. Acting Leader of the House.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Maintenance Order (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1922, be now read a second time.

Sir, hon. members will recall that Section 11 of the Maintenance Order Act, 1922 makes provision for the extension of that Act to any British possession so long as the Government decides that the other territories have made some sort of provision for enforcement as this territory has done; in other words, that there has been reciprocal provisions made by the Legislature of the other territories which would enable enforcement of these Orders in the various territories. However, it would appear, under the strict reading of the law as it stands at present, that some doubt is created about the actual scope and interpretation of the words "any British possession", in view of the fact that some British territories are independent countries, and some British countries are of course Colonial territories, and in view of the fact that some doubt is created as to what the most accurate interpretation is of the words "any British territory" or "any British possession", accordingly, this Bill seeks to remove any possible doubt about any interpretation by providing for reference to "any part of the Commonwealth" as defined. In other words, when this Bill is passed, reference to a Commonwealth country, no matter what it is, will be construed as reference to a British country of whatever status. In addition to that, an opportunity has been taken to make provision whereby Orders made by the Courts may be transmitted between the Attorney General or other appropriate officer of his territory in the Commonwealth country to which the Act is being extended, and an officer designated for the purpose by the Government of this Island. The attention of hon. members is therefore drawn to the provisions which are very simple in their effect, but really clarify a situation which may well have led to a considerable amount of controversy over specific and accurate interpretation.

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

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. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. BATSON in the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

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

5.35 p.m.

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

**THE SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 1964**

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day is Order No. 3, standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Michael, the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries: Second reading of a Bill to amend the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1943.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act makes provision specifically for loans for the cultivation of sugar cane. It is now proposed that these loans should be made for crops other than sugar cane. These crops must be approved by the Minister of Agriculture and published in the *Official Gazette*. It is for crops such as food crops and those for the raising of cattle on farms and for the dairy industry.

This Bill also seeks to amend the appointments. As it is at present, Mr. Speaker, one appointment is made by the Governor to membership of the Board, one by the Agricultural Society, one from the Other Place and four from this Place. The Chairman is also appointed from one of the members and he is appointed by the Governor. This Bill seeks to amend that appointment where the Governor nominates members and in his place, the Minister takes over the function.

The remuneration for the Chairman and other members of the Bank is to be fixed by the Cabinet by an amendment to the Act. Prior to this, the Chairman received \$20 per meeting and other members \$10 per meeting. Now, we are stating that the Chairman should receive \$30 per meeting and each member \$15, and that there should not be more than four meetings to be paid for in any one month. This amendment brings this Board into line with other Statutory Boards.

The Cabinet also has the right now and not the Governor-in-Executive Committee. Hitherto, the Bank appointed the staff considered necessary at salaries over \$600 per annum. The staff now appointed at this salary must be approved by the Cabinet.

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

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister some general questions on these amendments. It seems to me somewhat strange that this Bill which seeks to make provision for a change in nomination of the functioning body has been brought in and nothing whatsoever was told to the Board. I say that because at the last meeting which I attended, the Bank was seeking some legal advice as regards people who were making applications for loans for the cultivation of crops other than sugar cane. People were coming in wanting to borrow money to buy lands from Haggatts Estate and we found ourselves unable to make a loan for that sort of thing because if we made a loan for that purpose, it would be tantamount to our buying the land itself. We had before our minds what happened in the case of Joes River and there was some misgiving about that.

I consider it appropriate that the Board should have been informed about these amendments. I believe the purpose of one of these amendments is for something which has not been stated because I cannot see the Government bringing in an amendment to extend the scope of the Bank to making loans for the cultivation of crops other than sugar so that people can make applications for loans for the purpose of cultivating carnations or hollyrocks, and we would have to lend money for that purpose. I believe it is Government's intention to utilise the money for Government's own undertakings and I think that should have been said, and said quite bluntly, if that is the position. Do not put it for the cultivation of food because there would not be any reason to amend the Act in a form like that. What has

happened is that after a Commission of Enquiry was set up, a grant was made to the sugar planters of the Island; and with the money which was given them, they voluntarily agreed to the establishment of a Bank, and not to the division of it as the planters in St. Vincent did.
5.45 p.m.

I would say, therefore, that this is a little different undertaking or a little different projection from a Government Body which the Government has set up. This is a Statutory Board in the narrow sense that the United Kingdom Government has sent money and created this Board. It was not Government funds *per se*; it was the United Kingdom Government's money and the planters decided to form this Board. It seems to me that the Government is still retaining the position that the appointments will be made from the House and the Chairman would be appointed by the Minister.

I would like to draw to the attention of this Chamber very firmly and strictly that there is a Clause in this Bill namely, Clause 4, which reads as follows:-

"Notwithstanding section 4 of the principal Act, no person shall after the coming into operation of this Act be appointed as manager, or as a clerk or other employee of the Bank, at a salary in excess of six thousand dollars per annum without the prior approval of the Cabinet."

Sir, I would like to make it clear to the members of this Chamber this is a three-man outfit which handles a lot of money. There are three people, namely, Mr. Bethell, Mr. Symmonds, who is the Clerk, and a Messenger. Where you have a man like Mr. Symmonds who has been working at the Bank for the last fifteen years, unless he is incompetent or he is an idiot, he will be looking for promotion. I think that something should be stated quite clearly; I am stating that although we have no guarantee that a Board will appoint a man to a post, it is unlikely that the Board would not appoint a person who has been with it for the last fifteen years as distinct from what is likely to take place if the Minister has to give prior approval. It is clear in my mind that if a Minister wanted to appoint a person to a post, notwithstanding the qualifications of other persons he would appoint that person as against other persons who had the qualifications to do that particular job. I cannot feel that the occasion would come for Mr. Symmonds — I do not know how long Mr. Bethell would have to go, but it will mean that Mr. Symmonds would have to line up.

Mr. Symmonds accepted the job when there was a Board and he feels that he has given satisfaction to the Board. A man who has served for fifteen years in one post does not have any further fifteen years to serve unless he is going to serve under the earth. I am making my position extremely clear, and I say that a person should have written into the Act that you are going to compensate him for any disadvantage which he may have in that the Board is precluded from appointing this person and that the Minister must give prior approval to the appointment. If there is any political satellite — all political parties have satellites. I am sure that the Hon. Minister must have some people knocking at the door, and the old Minister who thought that he had friends will find that all his friends have gone because they find that the Minister is no longer able to help them.

We have some people in Barbados who can make a treaty with the Devil and say that the Lord has sent them. We have officers who work in quasi-Government Department; I would not like any one to say: "Mr. Symmonds is not fit because he is not one of us; he does not vote for us and he does not belong to our side". All along, this Officer has been doing his job conscientiously for the island and now somebody comes up and says that he is not a Barbadian, but he is an Australian! No politics should put a man out of a job or prevent him from being promoted in a job. We, as representatives of the people, are abused; but in the end we do not have to ask anybody for any recommendation; we get our recommendations from the people. I would like it to be unequivocally stated that the passing of this Bill will not prevent or preclude serving officers from being promoted, notwithstanding the fact that the Minister

is the person who has to see about the prior approval. Mr. Symmonds and Mr. Bethell are the two servants at this Bank and I feel that the Board would be precluded in its efforts in some way. In the past Mr. Bethell succeeded the person who was the Secretary as Manager because he held a position which Mr. Symmonds is now holding.

I would not like it to go on record that we are making this amendment which will have the effect of depriving certain officers from having the right of promotion within a Department in which they have been serving all along because the matter is now in the hands of a politician. Before, it was a matter for the Governor; the Governor had the right to appoint a Chairman; but now the Minister has the right to appoint the Chairman, which is as it should be. The Board used to appoint the officers, not the Governor; but now you are taking the matter out of the hands of the Governor, and a man who was appointed by a Board previously now finds that his conditions have been altered because his employer is a different person. For that reason, I think that we will have to make sure that the persons who are now serving are safeguarded beyond any shadow of doubt. I am in politics and I feel that anybody who is in politics should do his best to preserve the position of career people who are not in politics and who have to serve whoever or whichever body has been elected to office.

5.55 p.m.

I served on that Board on two occasions, and I have found that the officers there do their best to carry out the Act as it is and give every courtesy to every member; but I could not sit here and feel that somebody would be getting behind some Minister to say "A good job was done at the Agricultural Credit Bank, but this is the man to serve the Party now." There are unreasonable people who feel that you have to hold on to a politician, and they say "this is our Government, and therefore we are going to put our people there", and they would have no conscience or a conscience as black as midnight and ask people to appoint some person because he was a good Party follower, notwithstanding the fact that they have raked up a lot of trash about the people who have been serving. I could not be a party to that. Mr. Symmonds has served that Bank well, and I could not be party to this Ministerial change meaning that this is the thin edge of the wedge in stultifying the hope of promotion that a certain officer should get, and now it has been changed, he has to form fours and walk about.

I would hate to see a man who is not a Party man or even in politics start shouting that he was always on your boys' side and that he is glad to see them in. Sometimes it flatters the Ministers who as human beings are not immune to flattery. If anybody tells the ugliest man that he is good looking, he would smile, but a man would have to be very good looking for him to smile if somebody told him he was ugly. Ministers are not immune to flattery, and people can give you all the sweet chat and news and tell you the worst things about other people, and sometimes when they are leaving, they tell you that things are a bit tight and ask if you can loan them \$5.00 until next week. They could have made the story a bit shorter if they had come to the point, but they leave you a little poorer as a result of the flattery they have given you. I am not one to flatter people, and I say publicly for all and sundry to read that I feel that Mr. Symmonds and Mr. Bethell are two serving officers, more so Mr. Bethell. I do not know how old the gentleman is, but I believe he is nearer the age of retirement than Mr. Symmonds, and I would hate to think that when the time comes for Mr. Symmonds to look forward to his rightful promotion as Manager of the place, not necessarily under this Government or under this Minister, because Government does not hold a legacy, that political pressures are brought to bear on the Minister. I feel sure that if the Minister of Agriculture is still there, he will act fair, but it is still a political appointment, and sometimes political pressures are brought to bear on Ministers although they have Ministerial authority. I live in a small community and my ears are not completely away from the ground, and I do hear things off and on, but I throw this out as a solemn bit of warning in the best interest of what is fair and I hope that the Minister will allay my fears on this point.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would just remind hon. members of Standing Order No. 40. I was about to intervene when the hon. senior member for St. Peter was speaking to remind him of that, and to let us avoid appearing to deal with the details of the Bill whilst we are on the second reading, and that was a detail, namely section 4, albeit a sufficiently important detail, almost to be regarded as tantamount to affecting the principle and general merits of the Bill. That is why I allowed the hon. senior member for St. Peter to proceed in dealing with a particular aspect which was a detail, although it was a detail which may well be taken to affect the general principles and merits of it. I will ask hon. members to bear that in mind in the second reading when discussing this, and going into Committee when section by section could be critically reviewed.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I would like to speak after the Minister replies, but in this case I cannot, because I would have liked to hear the assurances given to what the hon. senior member for St. Peter wanted to know. However, Sir, I am afraid of these political appointments because they can be very dangerous. The hon. senior member for St. Peter would hate to think that either one of these officers would be given an unfair deal. I do not know Mr. Bethell's age, but as far as I can see, he is on his way out. I have known him for a very long time. The hon. member would also hate to see anyone get his place other than Mr. Symmonds, and I agree with him, but there are several people who would like to see that happen. Now I have to be very careful with my words because the same member for St. Peter would get up and attack me and call me some of everything except a democratic human being. Knowing and seeing what is beginning to happen with these political appointments, Mr. Speaker, there is no hope. You would be surprised to know, Sir, that I have heard that canvassing has begun already, and if I were the Minister, I would not undertake to make appointments of this kind if I wanted to be popular with my supporters, because you might find 5,000 supporters applying for this one job, and it would be a very difficult task to catch the judge's eye at the next elections. As a politician, I would do as others have done and not be responsible for appointments of this kind.

6.05 p.m.

I am afraid I can allay the fears of the hon. senior member for St. Peter that what he would hate to happen is what is going to happen.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that hon. members are under some form of suspicion and I must at this stage allay their fears.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I point out to the Hon. Minister that according to the records, he seconded the motion made by the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries, and the hon. member at the time did not state that he reserved his right to speak on the motion. On the other hand, it is recalled that the hon. senior member for Christ Church has only recently retired from being Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries, and I can very well see his craving the right to speak on this matter. He forgot to state when he seconded the motion that he was reserving his right to speak, and I suppose he can ask for leave to speak.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am asking for leave to speak on this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for Christ Church is asking for leave to speak on this matter. If there is no objection, leave will be granted the hon. member. (A Pause)

Hearing no objection, I assume that leave is granted.

The Hon. Minister may proceed.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. There is absolutely no necessity for hon. members to be suspicious in this case. This is the last of the Acts which is now being brought into line with our constitutional advancement so that wherever the word "Governor" is, it would be substi-

tuted by the word "Minister". While that word would be substituted, the appointments would remain substantially as they are at present, and for that reason the composition of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank, the composition of the appointment of members will remain identical as it is. It is just that the function which was vested in the Governor, is now vested in the Minister as is the case with other appointments to Boards.

The second point is simply this. In accordance with all Statutory Boards, all salaries of persons appointed on the staff over \$6,000 per annum are subject to the approval of the Cabinet as well as the nomination, but the power of appointment rests substantially in the hands of the Minister of the Board because the majority will always be able to control the minority. The Minister appoints one member and you have at least six other members who are not appointed either by the Minister or the Cabinet, but appointed by the House of Assembly or the Other Place; therefore, to accuse the Minister of having opportunity to help his friends or to say that there is some sinister plot and that trash is not the case.

I hope I have settled the minds of hon. members and put them at rest by telling them in this case that the Act is amended, in the first place, to enable the Government to carry through with its policy of diversification. If you look at the Act, you will see that if you wish to plant just a small acreage in food, you would not be entitled to a loan now. We want it to be amended so that you will be able to plant more in food and for that reason we want to extend the facilities of the Bank. We want to encourage the production of more food crops while in no way diminishing or retarding the planting of canes. I do not think there is any other valid point to which I should refer, but if there are any other points, I will answer when the House goes into Committee.

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

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

Clauses 1 and 2 were called separately and passed.

Clause 3 was called, It reads as follows:—

3(1) Section 3 of the principal Act is amended in the following respects —

- (a) by the substitution of "Minister" for "Governor" wherever the latter word appears;
- (b) by the substitution of the following subsection for subsection (11) —

"(11) The Chairman and other members of the Bank shall receive such remuneration as the Cabinet may from time to time determine."

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of this section, the persons appointed by the Governor to be a member of the Bank and to be Chairman of the Bank and holding office immediately before the coming into operation of this Act shall continue in office —

- (a) in the case of the Chairman, until his appointment shall be revoked by the Minister or he shall cease to be a member of the Bank;
- (b) in the case of the member, in accordance with the provisions of the principal Act as if he had been appointed by the Minister.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: I beg to move that Clause 3 stand part.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I am going to deal with Clause 3. The Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing, spoke on this because I believe this matter is more his portfolio than the present Minister of Agriculture, and I say that because by this matter coming down so early in the Session, presumably it was done under the guidance of the Hon. Minister of Communications.

When it comes to the financial provisions, what I want to point out to the Hon. Minister is that if you take a cursory glance between this Board and other Statutory Boards, you will find that the Government provides the finance for the other Boards while it does not provide finance for this Board. For example, the Government decides who should be the Chairman of the other Boards. Really and truly, what this Board operates on is really not the Government's money. This money comes out of the Bank. This Bank loans out money and it does not get any from the Treasury. Far from that, this Bank had money invested during the last war and it made a loan to the Government. I repeat, this Bank does not operate with Government's money. This Board is not like the Housing Authority or the Transport Board.

6.15 p.m.

This is not a Board that the Government's money is in. It is true that the Government has control over appointing the members of the Bank; any Government which is in power will have the majority of members in the House and they will decide who should go on the Bank. As the position now stands, the Government can decide who should go on the Bank and who should not go there. What I am pointing out is that it is not the Government's money *per se*; and when you put Bank members there, they should be given the freedom to exercise things because it is not the Government's money which they are handling. I believe what has been put down as the remuneration for members is what the members decide and what the House approves of. I do not think that members would quarrel now, but the Cabinet, in determining this money, treat it in the same way as if it were a department of the Government with which they are dealing or as if it was money that the Minister was in control of.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Sir, I think that the hon. member for St. Peter has misconstrued the point. The entire Board is composed of seven members. One is appointed by the Governor, one by the Other Place, four by this Chamber and one by the Agricultural Society, which gives a total of seven members. That was the composition of the Board before. The only change which there is in this Bill is that the one member who was appointed by the Governor will now be appointed by the Minister. That means that there are still the other six members, four of whom will be appointed by this Chamber, one by the Senate and the other by the Agricultural Society. The only other authority which the Government will have in this matter is the question of the payment of salaries. The Board makes the appointment of members and it is only in cases where the salaries exceed the maximum of \$6,000 a year.....

Mr. WALCOTT: On a point of order. I have not reached there yet, Mr. Chairman; I was dealing with Clause 3 where it is the Cabinet who determines or decides what the remuneration should be. That is not strictly the decision of the Cabinet, because it is not Government funds, but Bank funds. It was also left to the Bank to submit a proposal to the Government if they saw fit to do so. The Bank itself cannot pass laws.

The question that Clause 3 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division. Clause 4 was called, It reads as follows:—

"Notwithstanding section 4 of the principal Act, no person shall after the coming into operation of this Act be appointed as manager, or as a clerk or other employee of the Bank, at a salary in excess of six thousand dollars per annum without the prior approval of the Cabinet."

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 4 stand part of the Bill.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, this Clause states

"Notwithstanding section 4 of the principal Act, no person shall after the coming into operation of this Act be appointed as manager, or as a clerk or other employee of the Bank, at a salary in excess of six thousand dollars per annum without the prior approval of the Cabinet."

This is not Government money which you are spending. This is what the principal Act states in Sub-clauses (1) and (2) of Clause 4:-

"4.(1) The Bank shall appoint a Manager at such salary as it shall think fit who shall with the approval of a majority of the members of the Bank manage and conduct its business."

(2) The Bank shall also appoint such clerk or clerks or other employees as may be necessary at such remuneration as it may think fit."

That is the law as it is now. This Bill says that if you want to appoint a person above a salary of \$6,000 a year or over \$500 a month, you must have the prior approval of the Cabinet. We are saying that this is not in consonance with this Bank. It is just like if you were to nationalise the Banks in Bridgetown; you take them over and run them. What I want to know is this: Why should the members of the Bank be the members which the Government has put there? In any case, the Government has a measure of control. The members from this House are three members of the Party. (A MEMBER: Mr. Chapman.) (ANOTHER MEMBER: He is not a Party man.) He must be a Party man if the Government has put him there. If the Party votes for Mr. Chapman, well then, they want him to be on the Board. In this case half a dozen is the same thing as six. What I cannot understand is that the Bank is distinct from the other authorities from which this legislation is copied. You have the Transport Board the money for which is voted from this Assembly; you have the Development Board and the money for that Board is voted from the Assembly; but we have no money voted for the Bank and why should they be in any different position from that of the members of the Housing Authority? The position is that you are copying legislation without analysing it.

No satisfactory explanation has been given to me as to the interpretation which you are giving to this Clause which says:-

"Notwithstanding section 4 of the principal Act, no person shall after the coming into operation of this Act be appointed as manager, or as a clerk or other employee of the Bank, at a salary in excess of six thousand dollars per annum without the prior approval of the Cabinet."

I want to know how this works. Can the Board meet and decide that such and such a person is the person whom they want to appoint, send the matter to the Cabinet, then the Cabinet sends it back and says: "We will agree to the appointment of this person", and then the Board meets formally and appoints this person? You do not know who will initiate this appointment, whether it is a question of the Cabinet or a question of the Bank. Does it mean that people's names will have to be submitted to the Cabinet for its approval and then the Cabinet sends the matter back or what? What is the position?
6.25 p.m.

The Minister must bear in mind that the Bank is not in the same position. The Bank is like a school. I do not know what is the position now, but at some of these grant-in-aid schools the Minister of Education had no authority to appoint the headmaster, nor did you have to submit to the Minister the name of the next headmaster to Combermere School or Harrison College to get his approval or that of the Cabinet. The Governing Bodies of these schools have that authority. The reason why it was so is because people were paying school fees and they were part and parcel, but with the Bank it was not getting money from the Legislature. When you established the Bank it became a separate

and distinct incorporated body, and when you put the people there, it was their duty to run the Bank unfettered. I want to know why the Minister is seeking to have something to do with the Bank now, though he will have to admit that the Bank is not administering public funds in the sense that it is not administering money voted from the Treasury. The Bank is a separate and distinct organisation as the money does not come from the Treasury; it is kept at the Bank and invested as the Bank so pleases. I should like to know, therefore, why Treasury control is to be exercised in this.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the object of this amendment in the first place is to bring the provisions of this Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act into line with modern amendments and changes which have taken place since constitutional advancement. The second object is to expand the purposes of loans so as to carry through with our policy of diversification. As far as the power about which the hon. senior member for St. Peter is asking and the question of having a certain amount of jealousy between the Minister and the Cabinet, I will attempt to explain that again. In the first place, the power to appoint a Manager or member of a Board rests as it did all along in the hands of the Board comprised mainly of members from this Chamber; so we have not attempted to take away any power from the House or the Other Place or the Agricultural Society. It is only one appointment which was made formerly by the Governor which is being made by the Minister and that is the Chairman. On the question of the money not being voted in here, we all know the origin of this Bank, but the fact remains that they are Government funds, and Government is controlled by the highest administrative body which is the Governor-in-Executive Committee, drawing its four members from the House, two from the Council and so on. Today it is no longer the Governor-in-Executive Committee, and I am shocked to hear the hon. member talking that way when he has fought so hard for this advancement.

Mr. WALCOTT: On a point of order, this does not give the Governor-in-Executive Committee any authority, and that is the point I was making. The Bank is an incorporated body like the Bank of England, and the hon. member should know that the Bank of England has directors, and though the Prime Minister is First Lord of the Treasury, the Bank of England operates as an entity within itself with its own appointments as distinct from appointments to the Statutory Boards under the British Government as you have here. I can bring the Bank of England Act and show that it operates differently from anything in England, because it does not work like a Statutory Board though persons are put there by Ministers, because when they are put there by Ministers, they act independently on behalf of the Bank of England and not on behalf of the Government.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: All I am saying, Mr. Chairman, is that these Statutory Boards, when all is said and done, come under the final control of the Governor-in-Executive Committee. Today in place of the Governor-in-Executive Committee, under the new constitutional changes, you have the Cabinet; so wherever you find the Governor-in-Executive Committee appearing, you will find the Cabinet appearing, because it is a Cabinet system of Government in which the hon. member has played such a prominent part for these advancements. It is not, therefore, a question of the Cabinet trying to control more than it should control, because the Cabinet is the final and absolute authority of the land, no matter who liked it. Whatever Cabinet is in power will be the final authority and you have to accept it; so you must have some controlling body which is now the Cabinet controlling the finances of this country.

Finally, the Minister of Finance may be delegated certain decrees later on as far as this Act is concerned and as advancements go on, so that it is not a question of this Act or this amendment being out of alignment. They are directly in alignment with the constitutional advancements and changes which have taken place within recent years. I think I have covered the point and do not need to explain it anymore.

Mr. WALCOTT: I do not think the Hon. Minister is *au fait* with this. The hon. member talked about constitutional changes, but they do not affect the Agricultural Bank,

because the Agricultural Bank was never subjected to the Governor-in-Executive Committee Act. Let me read Section 4 of the Act for him. It reads as follows:-

"(1) The Bank shall appoint a Manager at such salary as it shall think fit who shall with the approval of a majority of the members of the Bank manage and conduct its business.

(2) The Bank shall also appoint such clerk or clerks or other employees as may be necessary at such remuneration as it may think fit.

(3) The manager or any clerk or other employee may be dismissed by the Bank, and the vacancy so created filled.

(4) All judgements and decrees for the payment of money and the cost incident thereto, obtained against the Bank, shall be satisfied out of its property or funds."

You cannot sue the Bank and then collect from the Treasury. If they go and trust something and do not pay, the Government is not involved.

"(5) The Bank may arbitrate any matter in dispute or compromise any proceedings, and any money the payment of which is rendered necessary by such arbitration or compromise shall be paid out of the funds of the Bank."

You will see that everything is going by the Bank.

"(6) Legal expenses incurred in and about the business of the Bank, the costs of books, stationery, office rent, and any other expenses of whatever kind other than the above necessary in conducting the business of the Bank, inclusive of pensions to the Manager, Clerk or Clerks, or other employees, shall be defrayed from its funds."

6.35 p.m.

The Bank pays income tax to the Barbados Government. What department of Government pays income tax? The Housing Authority does not pay income tax; the Development Board does not pay income tax. The Bank pays income tax like an ordinary taxpayer. When you are paying income tax, what sort of nonsense you are going to have? You are paying income tax and they are telling you what you must pay out as salaries. You appoint people on the Bank, but the Cabinet has the ultimate control. If the Government passes a law that none of the commercial banks should operate, that is the end of it. If the Government passes a law that men should not cut their hair, the barbers would have to go to sleep. Therefore, you do not have to question the powers of the State. We know the powers of the State. There was no question of the powers of the Executive Committee with this Bank because this Bank was constituted like the Bank of England. It operates on statute as an entity and not as a department. The Government has absolutely nothing to do with the expense of the Bank.

What I would like to know is this. Why is it that the Government must approve of the appointments? The Government is not going to pay the salaries. The Bank has a lot of money there. The Manager of the Bank does not get the salary of the Governor, but we have enough money there to pay him as much as you pay the Attorney General. What I am saying is that I cannot understand the Hon. Minister saying that this is equivalent to all the other Acts relating to statutory bodies. That is in so far as the Government is appointing somebody. I cannot see that they have taken over the Bank completely. They have left all the other clauses of the Act as they are. The Bank still has to pay income tax.

What I am pointing out to the Hon. Minister is that in so far as this Bank is constituted, it is distinct from the other statutory boards because the Government has to subsidise the others with money. It is only a matter of loaning money to these people, and the Hon. Minister is saying that it is absolutely no harm in leaving the matter where it was. Members of this Board should be sitting there in their own right and doing as they see fit without anybody running behind their backs and telling the Minister to get such and

such a person off that Board. You know, Sir, that we have some ignorant, facetious people in Barbados who when you are sitting on a Board like this, like to go and talk to the Minister about you as if you are a little child.

I want the Hon. Minister to understand that so far as this Act is concerned, there is nothing in it to give the Cabinet the feeling that appointments should not rest with the Board. The Government's position is not in jeopardy by the operation of this Bank. The Government does not have to spend any money on this Board. Personally, I think the administration went too far by their writing in that clause and putting the authority in the hands of the Government as if it were a Government aided board. I do not see any reason why the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act should have in it a clause that the Cabinet should give approval to every appointment over \$6,000 because the Bank does not spend Government's money.

The Hon. Minister said that this is public funds. You may say that what money the Trade Union has is public funds. I feel that the Bank should be left alone to appoint its servants, and the Act as it now stands is appropriate. Confidence would be maintained with its servants. Any Government in power is going to have the majority of members on the Board at any time and that is why I say that this part of the Act should remain as it is.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, it is really very difficult on this side of the House to appreciate the fears expressed by the hon. senior member for St. Peter. Indeed, this Act has been quite adequately explained by both Ministers, but I want to draw two points to the attention of the Committee and they arise out of remarks by the hon. member who has just sat down. In the first place, what hon. members of the Committee have to realise is that the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank, while it is true may be completely a self-supporting institution, it is nevertheless one of the financial institutions of this Government; and being so, it cannot expect to be entirely free from the supervision from that body which has an overriding power over it.

There is nothing harmful in having the appointments of the most senior officers of that Bank subject to the approval of the Cabinet. That is in common form with all statutory boards; and although the Sugar Industry Agricultural Board is not a statutory board in the sense of the Transport Board, it is a public institution, and being a public institution I do not see why it wants to contract out from the authority which the Cabinet gives to these organisations.

I do not suppose, for instance, that there are more than three, if so many, or possibly four, employees of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank who are in receipt of emoluments in excess of \$6,000. I do not think that there are as many as four. This Bill, therefore, makes provision, *vis-a-vis* these appointments which presumably are to be made to posts which carry considerable financial responsibility and to which the holders of the posts must have a certain amount of knowledge, that the prior approval of the Minister should be sought. Here again, you cannot expect the Cabinet in this century with all that has happened, one which is responsible as ours, to be completely unaware of who holds the senior responsibility in public financial institutions, their merits, their qualifications and all of that. Because the Cabinet wants to make sure that the fittest persons only are appointed to these posts, it does not mean that the Government is placing the prior claim. There is a sense in which the Cabinet has to interfere and it is a very important contingency if the members of the Bank did something — let us say, the nomination of a person who by actual experience and knowledge was completely unsuitable to the post.

6.45 p.m.

But the very act of making such a nomination would be a responsible act on the part of the Board. We have no fear that our overruling authority will be used against the nomination so long as that nomination to posts is honourable and responsible as we believe it will always be. It is one thing to argue about the extent of the Board in the operation

of public funds and it is another thing to say that because that is so, the Cabinet should have no authority whatever in the appointment of the senior officers. That is a contention which we reject offhand, and certainly in the case of your financial institutions, we could not accept at all. In the last resort, the Cabinet of this island would be held responsible if something were to go wrong with the Bank. That, of course, is a remote possibility; but if in the future something should go wrong with the administration of the sugar industry, how will that wrong be put right if the Government cannot act in such a crisis?

Hon. members have to realise that we, on this side of the House, do not arrogate and have never arrogated ourselves more power than we can conveniently and democratically discharge. One accusation which could not be made against this Government is that we have been partial in our appointments to Boards; but, in some cases, that is what the Government now in opposition has been doing. In 1961 we did not revoke the appointment of members of the Housing Authority until fully nine months after; similarly, with the Tourist Board. In the case of the Transport Board and some other Boards, we have not just pushed people off the Boards and put on other people. That is not the attitude which we adopt in these matters. But I must emphasize that nobody could expect the Government to derogate its responsibility towards financial institutions of a public nature. That the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank is self-supporting is not relevant to this argument, but the fact that it is a financial institution is relevant to the issue; and if it is serving the island, then the Cabinet is well within its rights to take certain powers to itself in respect of the appointments to certain posts. It does not mean that the Cabinet will be guided by other than responsible considerations, and I cannot imagine that a nomination would come to the Cabinet which would be so irresponsible that the Cabinet could not ratify it. If the Cabinet are persons who are competent, we cannot just place our responsibility on the members of the Bank. We have to take counsel against the day when the membership of the Board may not be as responsible as the present members are. Hon. members will realise that what I say has reference to the present membership, and that membership is in relation to this particular Cabinet and not to any Cabinet or any Board of Directors in the future.

There is just one last point which I would like to make, and it is this: The fact that the Act now operates generally without this particular provision is no argument for not having the provision now. Parliament twenty years ago could not be expected to take account of developments which we take account of now in 1964. What the Cabinet is responsible for now would not even have been dreamt of as being necessary to have in 1943. It does not follow, however, that because more power is now being given to the Cabinet than what was enjoyed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee in a former day, that power will be exercised in an irresponsible manner.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister of Education can argue that black is white in a very convincing manner. Let us take his last argument; he realised that the Hon. Minister of Communications said that all they were doing was to bring the constitutional changes up to date and I replied to that that this was not a Government Department and from the beginning, there was no Governor-in-Executive Committee.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order. What I pointed out was that when these powers were granted in the past there was nobody who could question the authority of the Governor-in-Executive Committee, but now you can question the Cabinet.

Mr. WALCOTT: Oh, no, no! The difference between the Cabinet and the Governor-in-Executive Committee was that the Governor-in-Executive Committee was not necessarily political, but the Cabinet is political. In the United Kingdom, the Cabinet is political; the Governor-in-Executive Committee is administrative whereas the Cabinet is both. In England, the Prime Minister is the First Lord of the Treasury, but you have the Directors of the Bank of England

appointed by members of the Government. The Bank of England has a charter that it operate the Bank of England independent of the provisions which the Prime Minister would have. In England, the Prime Minister appoints the Judges and he goes to the Queen, but there are other things which the Prime Minister does not control. However, he is the Prime Minister of the whole of Britain whether it is in the private sector or in the public sector. You do not have to write into every Statute that you have to have this overruling authority. The Hon. Minister of Communications and Works says that people can question the Cabinet today but they did not question the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

6.55 p.m.

That would come from your political opponents because each political opponent would do that. Each Opposition group catches at the other fellow, because a Cabinet decision is what your political opponents use against you, because this is your action, and it demonstrates your attitude to the electorate to show what you have done; so each side is going to do that. In the last election your side spoke about the buying of water meters and said that one's next door neighbour would have to pay money to get a bucket of water. If you have a fellow as a tail-end batsman, you put on your fastest bowler to get him out. What I am pointing out to the hon. member is that if you have to go to the Cabinet, the Cabinet is going to mean the Minister, and the Cabinet is going to take final collective responsibility; so let us be quite frank about it. Let us analyse the Cabinet and see how it functions.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I believe it is the intention that we finish this Bill, and I should like to report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report progress, and ask for leave to sit again.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I wonder, Sir, whether the House could go back in Committee and finish the unfinished Bill and report to Your Honour in fifteen minutes' time.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid, as the Hon. Leader of the House is aware, that I am bound by the Standing Orders.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, that concludes Government Business for today. I had been hoping, Sir, when I was giving notices earlier today that two Resolutions which were to be included in today's notices would have reached me in time for notice to be given of them with the others. They did not arrive until later in the day's sitting, and I would now ask leave of the House to give notice of them.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Acting Leader of the House had earlier intimated to me that which he is now proposing to do, and I am disposed and prepared to allow him to do that. The Hon. Acting Leader of the House may now give those notices.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. and Learned Premier and Minister of Finance, who is not now in his place, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve of the publication in the *Official Gazette* of a notification under section 9 (1) of the Land Acquisition Act, 1949 as amended by the Land Acquisition (Amendment) Act, 1963 (Act 1963-27) declaring the abandonment of the acquisition of all that certain parcel of land situate in the parish of Saint Peter known as Forde's Pasture containing thirteen acres three roods three perches or thereabouts, abutting and bounding on lands of sundry smallowners on two sides of Heywoods Plantation and on a road-in-common called

the Major's Walk or however else the same is abutting and bounding, and that the Senate be invited to concur herein, and if concurred in,

Resolved that His Excellency the Governor be asked to assent and take the necessary steps to give effect to this Resolution.

Also on behalf of the Hon. and Learned Premier and Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice of a Resolution for the sum of \$6,042 to be placed at the disposal of the Cabinet to supplement the Estimates, 1964-65, Part I — Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1964-65 No. 4 which forms the Schedule to this Resolution.

It is my intention, Sir, at the next Sitting of the House to move the House into Committee of Supply to deal with this money Resolution of which I have just given notice.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask leave of the House to give notice of an Address.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. John is asking leave to give notice of an Address at this stage, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

Hearing no objection, leave is granted.
7.05 p.m.

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of an address in reply to the Governor's speech.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 26th May, 1964, at 2.30 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 adjourned the House accordingly.

7 10 p.m.