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THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1961-66

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 24th November, 1964.

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

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., (*Speaker*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS; Mr. F. C. GODDARD; 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; 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 since the circulation of the Minutes of the meetings of the 14th and 17th November, 1964, respectively, certain errors have been discovered therein. As a result of that, those Minutes are being reprinted correctly.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD and Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY entered the House and took their seats.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Premier and Minister of Finance, I am commanded to lay The Draft Boundaries Commission Order, 1964.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS and Mr. N. W. BOWLL entered the House and took their seats.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay Statement showing the sums advanced to the Postmaster General for the payment of Money Orders, the amounts repaid to the Accountant General, and the amounts due by the various Post Offices to 30th September, 1964.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries, I am commanded to lay the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Order, 1964.

And on my own behalf, I am commanded to lay the Local Government (Pensions) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1964.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

Resolution to authorise the advance of \$300,000 for the purpose of making advances of salary or wages to persons employed by Government.

Resolution to place the sum of \$17,854, at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1964-65, Part I Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65, No. 39 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, I beg to give notice of the following:-

Resolution to approve the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Order, 1964.

And

A Bill to provide for the collection, in respect of the years 1956 to 1964 inclusive, of certain monies agreed to be paid by producers of sugar and fancy molasses towards a Provident Fund for workers in the Sugar Industry.

I also beg to give notice of my intention to ask for leave to deal with this Bill in all its stages today.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting in order to deal with the Money Resolutions of which notice was given today. I also beg to give notice that the Oral Reply to Question No. 12/1964, asked by the hon. junior member for St. John, is now ready.

QUESTIONS

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Joseph. His Question relative to the delay in introducing the annual legislation to fix levies for sugar and molasses.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I was about to ask this question. The Hon. Minister speaks so softly but it seems to me as if the notice which he has given today is the same thing I wanted to find out. I am referring to the Hon. Minister of Social Services. I therefore will not worry to ask the question.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Thomas. His question relative to inconvenience experienced by people in the country districts having to travel to town to pay their water rates.

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

Is Government aware that people living in the country districts do experience much inconvenience, having to travel to town to pay their water rates?

2. If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, will the Minister set about establishing branch offices in the country districts, probably at the Branch Post Offices, in order that such people will be able to pay their Water Rates at the said places?

BILL READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, seconded by Hon. J. C. TUDOR, the Bill to provide for the collecting, in respect of the years 1956 to 1964 inclusive, of certain monies agreed to be paid by producers of sugar and fancy molasses towards a Provident Fund for workers in the Sugar Industry, was read a first time.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Standing Orders 5, 14, 16, 18, 40 and 45 be suspended for the remainder of today's sitting.

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

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

QUESTION TIME

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

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Question Time. Intimation has been given that the Reply to Question No. 12/1964, standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. John, is ready.
2.55 p.m.

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

To enquire of the Minister of Labour:

How many persons from the parish of St. John have made application for emigration to Canada under the Domestic Workers' Scheme during the years 1961, 1962, 1963 and 1964?

2. How many of these applicants have actually been selected?

3. Will the Minister state what is the basis of selection and who is responsible for making the selection?

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

During the years 1961, 1962, 1963 and 1964, 1, 2, 3, 6, persons, respectively, from the parish of St. John made application for emigration to Canada under the Domestic Workers' Scheme.

In the years 1961 and 1962 and 1963, of the numbers making application for emigration, 1 was selected each year. In 1964, 2 persons were selected.

Basis for selection

Candidates must be in good physical and mental health.

Candidates must be of good character, and agree to remain in domestic employment for at least one year.

Candidates must be unmarried girls without children, within the age group of 21 to 35 years. Consideration may be given to extension of age limit to 40 in exceptional circumstances. Candidates selected should have a minimum of 5 years formal education; preference is given to those with higher qualifications. Credit is given for special courses in homecraft, domestic science, and experience is also taken into account, particularly experience with modern household appliances.

Candidates must satisfy the selecting authority that they have had at least 2 months training in housekeeping and waiting at table. An interest in Child Welfare is an advantage.

Candidates must not fall within those classes of persons prohibited from entering Canada by the provisions of the Canadian Immigration Act.

Candidates must have satisfactorily completed a course of training at the Housecraft Centre.

A Joint Selection Committee comprising the following persons is responsible for making the selection of domestics to Canada viz:

- (i) The Labour Commissioner;
- (ii) The Assistant Labour Commissioner;
- (iii) The Manager, Employment Exchange; and
- (iv) A Canadian Lady."

Mr. SPEAKER: There appears to be no supplementary questions, and the Hon. Leader of the House may now proceed with what he proposes next to proceed.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, there has been no intimation on the part of any hon. member that he wishes to proceed with any matter standing in his name under Private Members' Business, and therefore I beg to move that Government Business be now taken.

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

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 3 be the first Order of the Day under Government Business.

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

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-65 No. 38

I - Annexed Estimates - Post Office - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, as hon. members will see, the Addendum sets out the object of this provision. Supplementary provision of \$7,275 is required under Annexed Estimates, Post Office, for the purpose of providing a heavy duty truck for use in transporting mail between the Post and the General Post Office.

At present, the onus of transporting mail does not fall on the Post Office, and I propose at the next meeting to bring down a Bill whereby we will be asking the House to agree to an amendment to the present Post Office Act 1911, 1911-8, in which the onus of transporting mail in future would not rest on the Masters of the ships or the ships' agents, but on the Post Office authorities. I hope to bring down that amendment next week, but in the meanwhile I am asking this Committee to agree to the passing of this Resolution for the sum of \$7,275 which will be a preliminary step to making arrangements for the transportation of this mail to and from the Port.

Proposals will also be brought down at the same time as the amendment to the Post Office Act, 1911, for increased staff, that is, by way of a driver to drive this heavy lorry. It is also proposed that the truck will be covered with a canvas to protect the mail; so that the amount of \$7,275 includes the arrangements for the transportation of mail from the Post Office to the Deep Water Harbour and vice versa.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I beg to second that.
3.05 p.m.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Chairman, I quite agree with the purchase of this truck but now that the Government has the full responsibility of the Post Office, I think that the truck which is being ordered for the transportation of mail between the Port and the Post Office should be properly covered and protected and it should not be just a platform truck. This mail will be transported from the Port and the temptation might be there to rob the truck. While it may be covered from the weather, the loss in transit of any of these bags of mail would be great because that is a most important cargo which would be transported through the streets. I know that the price which you are paying is only for a platform truck but the Public Works Department should be called on to provide a certain type of truck which would give adequate protection to the transportation of mail.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I do not think my colleague is singing a solo. While I support the Resolution by the Hon. Minister of Communications, like the hon. junior member for Christ Church, I feel that now that we are coming for money to buy a truck for this purpose that it should be a light steel framed van with a lock which is built for this purpose because it must be borne in mind that some very valuable mail and packages would be transported by this vehicle.

While I support this Resolution I know that this money is only the price of a platform truck. The more modern we get, and everybody is getting modern, the more modern should we be. I hope that the Hon. Minister will bear what I have said in mind and, if necessary, instead of just having this platform truck and throwing the packages on it that we get a proper van for this purpose. We all know that between the ship and getting to the Post Office anything may happen with a truck transporting mail moving at that slow pace, therefore I think that you should get a standard Post Office van. I think the time has come when the Government should own one of those vans. If it is possible at all to get the cost of one of those vans, instead of coming for money for this type of vehicle, I suggest that you would get one of those type of vans.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I will also add my quota. I do feel that it should be an order for a specially made van for the purpose and along with that it should be specially ventilated because of the heat of the day, especially that heat which you get when you are coming from the Port to the Post Office. I believe that you would have driving this vehicle a Postman-Driver who would be wearing his uniform. I am throwing out the hint that this lorry should be so ventilated that the driver would be able to drive it in comfort. It is all right to come and ask for money to buy a lorry but you should make a special survey and get the necessary instructions how this van should be fitted. I say so because at present the Post Office has a van which drops out parcels to people. On one occasion a Postman-Driver

had to stop at me with a package and when I went to him to take my package he was perspiring so much that I asked him if the rain was falling. He said "no; the van is very hot". I know that if that goes on, soon I may be able to pick a berry. I know that there are some drivers of vans who have to take off the doors of vans in order to get ventilation.

Mr. Chairman, I hope the Hon. Minister will take into consideration all that has been said as regards ventilation, and so on, of this vehicle.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I have made notes of all the points put forward by the three hon. members who have spoken and I would see to it that the most suitable type of vehicle is required.

Mr. Chairman, as you would realise, time is the essence of these things, and as far as the particular lorry is concerned, we had advice on the type which should be bought and certain arrangements have been advised by the Public Works Department. However, Sir, I have made special notes of the points raised and I will see that many of these points are incorporated on this occasion.

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, before you report to Mr. Speaker, the passing of this one Resolution in Committee, my instructions are that there is another Resolution which has been sent down today to be dealt with in all its stages. It is the Resolution for the sum of \$300,000 for the purpose of making advances of salary or wages to persons employed by Government. This is an annual thing now. Every year, since we came into power we have been doing it. It is for the purpose of advancing loans at Christmas time to persons employed in the Government.

However, Sir, I beg to move that we now report the passing of one Resolution in Committee of Supply.

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

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN reported and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

3.15 p.m.

RESOLUTION re ADVANCE TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, on checking the documents which I have before me I have discovered.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I regret to have to inform the Hon. Leader of the House that I am advised that the Amplifying Equipment has ceased to function as it should function.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I presume, Sir, that Your Honour will take the proper steps to have it functioning as soon as possible.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have taken those steps immediately.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: As I was saying, Sir, I have just discovered that there was a Resolution sent down by the Government to be dealt with today, and the Clerk has had copies of that Resolution circulated. I am now requesting permission to deal with that Resolution. The Resolution is in connection with the sum of \$300,000 to be advanced to Government employees as a sort of Christmas Loan. I beg to move that this Resolution be taken as the next Order of the day.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day therefore stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House:- To move the passing of the following Resolution:- Resolution to authorise the advance of \$300,000 for the purpose of making advances of salary or wages to persons employed by Government.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, the Government has annually, since its accession to office, taken this step around this time of the year in order that its employees in certain categories may be provided with additional spending money at a time of the year when, in consequence of our custom, the demands are higher than they are normally. In accordance with this practice, it is again proposed this year to advance sums of money to certain categories of employees in the Government Service. The basis on which these advances are made are as follows: in the case of the unestablished and casual staff, an advance equivalent to twice the net weekly earnings receivable by them during any average week in the period of eight weeks immediately preceding the date of payment. In the case of other Government employees, an advance equivalent to 50% of the net salary receivable by them for the month of December, 1964, where the salary does not exceed \$150 per month; where the salary exceeds \$150 per month, an advance of 25% of the net salary receivable by them for the month of December, 1964, or \$75, whichever is the greater.

In other words, if an employee is getting under \$150 per month he will get 50% of his net salary, and if he is getting over \$150 a month he will only get 25% of the net salary or \$75 whichever is the greater. He will not get less than \$75. Persons in these categories are not eligible for a loan unless all previous advances have been repaid in full. The basis for deduction is that the advances will be deducted from the salary and/or wages in equal monthly or weekly instalments as the case may be, between the pay day next following the date of the advance and the 31st day of March, 1965; and the consent of such employees must be obtained in writing before the advance is made.

One reason why we are trying to deal with this matter today is that in the past the advances were paid on or about December, 19th to the monthly employees and on the last pay day before Christmas in the case of weekly paid employees. The Civil Service Association has requested the earlier payment proposed by November 30th. It is proposed to pay this advance on or about December 15th in the case of monthly employees, and in the case of weekly employees, on the pay day immediately before 15th December. This will make the date of payment somewhat earlier. I do not think that there is anything more I want to say in connection with this matter except that I would like to request the concurrence of hon. members in the matter so that it may be possible to release this proposed advance on the earlier paying dates. Hon. members will also note that the amount required this year is \$25,000 in excess of last year. Last year the amount of the Resolution was \$275,000 and this year is for the sum of \$300,000. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY rose to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have been advised that in consequence of the amplifying equipment not working as it should, lights are not available. I am reminding hon. members also that the evenings are closing earlier.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I thank Your Honour for the reminder, but I will be finishing my speech within fifteen minutes from now.
3.25 p.m.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, it is always refreshing to find that even Government members with the experience of the Hon. Leader of the House still suffer from short memories. The hon. member said that the Civil Service Association has made this representation. Apparently he has forgotten that during a debate on a Resolution similar to this I made that suggestion, because we on this side of the Table thought that the last pay day before Christmas was really throwing money into the hands of people and they could not use it for the purpose for which it was mostly desired, and that was for the purpose of helping their children and family. Anyhow, I am very glad that they have at least found somebody whose word they can take, and if it is the Civil Service Association, I accept that. I shall therefore deal with paragraph (b) which says:

"No employee should be eligible for an advance in 1964 until any previous advance has been repaid in full."

Will the Hon. Minister tell me what is the position with the amount which we voted in 1963, whether there are any outstanding amounts and in what category they are? I should have prefaced my remarks by saying that I do expect that they will have some outstanding amounts especially in some of the casual labour or unemployed category, but I have been hearing something via the grapevine, and I should like the hon. member to tell us either to erase or prove rumour to be a lying jade. Let us know exactly what is the true position with the amount we voted and in what categories monies are owed to the Government and have not been paid.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, before the Hon. Minister replies to the hon. senior member for Bridgetown, I should like to deal with paragraph (a) which says:

"All members of the established staff and casual employees who would normally continue to be employed by Government to the end of the financial year on the 31st March, 1965, and other Government employees who receive monthly salaries shall be eligible for advances of wages and/or salaries at Christmas time, 1964".

Now, Sir, there are workers from various Departments who have been laid off through no fault of their own, and as this paragraph reads, they will not be entitled to a loan, although there is a possibility that as soon as the particular Department is ready for them again, they may be re-employed before the end of the financial year. I should like to know from the Minister whether any consideration will be given to these people, because those who are working will draw their weekly or monthly salary as the case may be and still be entitled to make a loan, but those who are not working at all will not be entitled to a loan. It will be very hard on those workers who have been laid off, because here you may have a family in which the breadwinner is not working and cannot get a loan, and next door the breadwinner is working and is going to get a loan. In other words, that breadwinner and his family will be able to eat a nice Christmas dinner, while the other one will only be able to think about wind pies.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot speak anymore. The hon. junior member for St. Thomas is breaking the Rules of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is very difficult to hear. I trust no hon. member for St. Thomas is breaking any Rule of this House.

Mr. SMITH: Somehow he does not like to hear when one is speaking about poor people, because he is high up now that he has nothing to do with poor people; but I am so low down and so poor that I have to think about my brother.

Mr. SPEAKER: Then let us continue about the Resolution.

Mr. SMITH: I should like to know from the Minister, Sir, how he is going about this, and if he is going to make some kind of provision to help those people until they are re-employed, because they are not dismissed, but merely laid off because there are no available funds at the moment

to pay them. Funds will be available at some time and you cannot treat that particular worker as one who has been sacked, because even on plantations some workers will be entitled to a loan by the managers to help them at Christmas time. There is nowhere for those people who have been laid off last month or last week to make a loan except from the Government, and if provision is not made, one might think that these people are being laid off in order to get away from helping them with a loan at Christmas. If consideration is not given to those workers who are at home now practically nursing their fingers or facing starvation, it would make the workers feel that you lay them off because it was not your intention to give them a loan, and that would be more than a hardship.

I should therefore like to hear from the Minister what he is going to do in such cases, because it would be more that inhuman to close the door on these people. If a small loan would help those who are working, what do you think about those who are not working and have two, three or four children and a wife in a home? It is a serious thing to think of, and I hope the Hon. Minister will satisfy this House and the entire public with his reply.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, sometimes it really gives us pain to listen to the hon. member. To me, a man who understandeth not is just like a beast of burden. The Resolution before the House concerns all members of the established staff and casual employees who would normally continue to be employed by Government to the end of the financial year on 31st March, 1965. The Government knows that there are some people who are not able to make ends meet although they work from month to month and from year to year.

3.35 p.m.

The Government will not feel good to know that people are working with them for the year round and at the end of the year are crying that they do not have anything and that is why the Government has brought this Resolution to aid that type of people. If the Government employs other people for three or four months after they have left the cane fields, Government cannot go and lend those people money because when the crop starts again those people would go back and work in the crop. Even in the Northern District Council, I know that the money has not been paid back in the Treasury because some of the people have gone to England and America and some are even walking about. The Government has said that those who are normally employed should be granted a loan. We know that the wives of some of these poor working class people may need shoes at this time of the year and may even have debts to pay. Government has taken upon themselves to provide this Resolution to loan these people whom they believe are in need a little money to help them through at Christmas time. When Government lends to those people who are normally employed in the Government Service, they know where they would be getting back their money because they know where those people would be working. But they cannot lend those people who just work with them when the crop is finished. When the crop is finished, you meet lots of people who go to the Highways and Transport Department and ask for jobs and they are given jobs. When the crop starts again in January, those people go back to work in the crop.

Sir, I do not like to hear people who force these ugly issues to the fore. You hear these people get up and tell you about the poor every time. The first thing every politician talks about is the poor. He shields himself by the name of the poor. They cannot go anywhere unless they use the word "poor". What do they contribute to the poor? They tell you about the poor and say that the Government could do better and should do this. I know if the hon. junior member for St. Joseph has fifty persons working with him and he was going to lend out \$1,000 and some people came in at the last hour and he knew that they were not staunch with him, he would not take up his money and lend them. Money which is lent out is very easy to be received but very hard to be paid back. This money has to be paid back into the Treasury.

Sir, I am afraid that this Resolution, as it stands, no matter who would say this or say that is quite easy to understand. You cannot take the taxpayers' money and give it away as the hon. junior member for St. Joseph has said. Do not say because you want a political platform that you should lend those who are laid off because the world would come to a close before some pay you back.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, just let me say one or two words in reply. The hon. senior member for the City reminded us that it was his suggestion for the early payment of this loan and I need hardly assure him that my personal reference to the Civil Service Association making the suggestion was not done in any way with the intention of denying him any credit which may be due to him. This suggestion came from him. According to the files before me, the Civil Service Association made representation to the Government in this particular connection. Presumably, the hon. senior member for the City made the suggestion originally and the Civil Service Association regarded it so appropriate as to take action on it so that when it went to the Government, it reached us in the form direct from the Association. Since the hon. senior member for the City has reminded us that he made the suggestion, I am sure the people involved would appreciate the person to whom credit is due.

With regard to the actual position of funds advanced, the amount advanced in 1963 was \$262,919. Of this amount \$4,185 remained unpaid at the 30th September this year which I consider is a reasonably good repayment. I should not be at all surprised if the greater part of this amount is not paid in time for those workers to borrow money again for the simple reason that of the amount advanced during the previous year, there was only \$762 outstanding by 30th September this year, therefore, as regards the incidence of repayment, I would say it is highly satisfactory.

One other point. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph.---

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member has not answered the other point I made.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that is not a point of order.

Mr. MOTTLEY: If Your Honour so rule, I would request the Hon. Minister to answer that other question which I raised, I do not know how I should put it.

Mr. SPEAKER: There are various ways of doing that. One way is by passing a note to the hon. member. That is the purpose of having party whips.

Mr. MOTTLEY: What category are they in?

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: In the main, they are the casual workers.

With regard to the other point by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, he said that according to the Resolution before us: "all member of the casual staff who would normally be considered to be employed by Government to the end of the financial year on the 31st March, 1965," the inference which he drew was that there is no expectancy of continual employment for the others and that you would not lend them an advance. All I would say is that the hon. member in his own personal business - and you can either be a philanthropist or one to take any risk which you like - would be able to do that, but when you have the responsibility to disburse Government funds, you have to take that responsibility in a serious manner.

3.45 p.m.

Casual workers are entitled to this money except those who are not likely to be retained in employment. In any project which is undertaken by the Government from time to time, the Government will employ an additional number of people on a temporary basis. Is the hon. junior member

for St. Joseph suggesting that persons who are employed on a temporary basis, those who are not permanently employed, should be advanced a loan? That is hardly a serious suggestion.

Mr. SMITH: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I do not mean the casual people; I mean the permanent people who have been laid off through lack of funds. There are these permanent ones.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is a point of elucidation.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Even if a man has casual status he is entitled to a loan, much more those who are employed on a permanent basis. It is only a question of people who are not re-employed during the year. We have a permanent staff and a casual staff. There are those who may be referred to as even being less than casual staff in the sense that they are employed temporarily on a project and we do not know when they will be employed again. Therefore you cannot make any advance to them. So long as people are employed casually and on a permanent basis they are entitled to a loan. I do not think that the hon. member is seriously suggesting that the Government should go further than that.

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LEASE OF LAND TO THE GIRLS' INDUSTRIAL UNION

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Health and Community Development:-

To move the passing of the following Resolution:

Resolution to approve the lease to the Girls' Industrial Union of a parcel of land situate at Constitution Road in the City of Bridgetown.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the Girls' Industrial Union has made representation because of the lack of space, for the use of a portion of land containing by admeasurement 1 rood, 26 perches aback of the Union's Headquarters for the purpose of extending its services. This Union was formed in 1912 in order to give its members educational and recreational opportunities so as to help them to make their homes happy and comfortable and also to assist them in earning their living. The Union has a membership of approximately 700 and it is perhaps one of the largest voluntary organizations in this island for women and girls. (ASIDES).

Mr. SPEAKER: Will hon. members please co-operate bearing in mind that neither the amplifying equipment nor the lighting is available?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: This Union has various functions and among them is a programme for training the young women in handicrafts, household furnishings and cookery. The girls also benefit from being taught in Commercial subjects. These subjects are conducted by the Barbados Evening Institute and there special classes held by the Institute in dressmaking, shirtmaking, book binding, cookery and pastry making. On the other hand, the Government has been making use of the headquarters of the Union for training employees for the United Kingdom programme. This Union is also used as a centre for the Barbados Branch of the British Red Cross Society which is responsible for providing meals from Monday to Friday for persons who are desperately in need of this sort of assistance. The programme is known as the meals on wheels programme. The Union is also used as a centre for the Barbados Women's alliance.

You can therefore see, Mr. Speaker, that the activities of the Girls' Industrial Union are many and varied. The members of this Union would like to make provision for more recreational facilities for the young ladies who at-

tend the Union but the question of space is against them. This portion of land which we are desirous of leasing to the Union is a part of the portion of land acquired in the construction of the new Hospital on the old St. Michael's Rectory site. It is adjacent to Queen's College and hon. members will note that the lease of this land is for a period of five years in the first instance, and if at the end of that five years this land is not required by Queen's College for extension purposes, the lease will be renewable. We have been given the assurance that the land will not be required for Queen's College in five years. If at the end of that period Queen's College does not require the land, the lease will be extended.
3.55 p.m.

If by the end of that time Queen's College does not require the land, the lease can be extended. It is to be leased to the Union at the peppercorn rent of 25 cents per annum, and one of the conditions is that there is to be no permanent building provided on the site. A temporary building can be erected, and they can use this land for netball or any sort of outdoor game. One other reservation is that there is to be no actual programme carried on beyond 20 feet from the brink of the river, because it would not be safe for the playing of games.

I therefore beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

RESOLUTION re THE SUGAR INDUSTRY (RE- HABILITATION, PRICE STABILIZATION AND LABOUR WELFARE) ORDER, 1964

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am asking for leave to deal with this Resolution standing in the name of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for Christ Church has already asked for leave to deal with the Resolution standing in the name of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted the Hon. Minister.

There being no objection, the Hon. Minister of Communications, Works and Housing is granted leave to deal with this measure.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as is customary at this time of the year when the final price of sugar is known, a Resolution such as this which deals with the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Order, has to be approved by both Houses of the Legislature in order that the final payments may be made to cane growers.

Now as this Order sets out, it may be cited as the "Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Order, 1964", and is made under the "Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Act, 1947." This is a customary order that is made each year, and under this Order there shall be raised -

(a) on all sugar manufactured in this Island during the year 1964 a levy at the rate of twelve dollars and twenty cents per ton;

(b) on all fancy molasses manufactured in this Island during the year 1964 a levy at the rate of twelve dollars and twenty cents per two hundred and ninety wine gallons.

This levy is paid into a Board and the Board then allocates it to the various funds. As set out there in paragraph 4, all moneys received by the Sugar Production and Export Control Board by way of the levies raised under paragraph 2 of this Order on all produce manufactured in

this Island during the year 1964 shall be paid by the said Board to the Sugar Industry Capital Rehabilitation Reserve Board, the Sugar Industry Price Stabilization Reserve Board and the Crown in right of its Government of this Island in the following proportions-

- (a) to the Sugar Industry Capital Rehabilitation Reserve Board at the rate of four dollars and eighty cents per ton in respect of sugar and at the rate of four dollars and eighty cents per two hundred and ninety wine gallons in respect of fancy molasses;
- (b) to the Sugar Industry Price Stabilization Reserve Board at the rate of two dollars and ten cents per ton in respect of sugar and at the rate of two dollars and ten cents per two hundred and ninety wine gallons in respect of fancy molasses;
- (c) to the Crown in right of its Government of this Island at the rate of five dollars and thirty cents per ton in respect of sugar and at the rate of five dollars and thirty cents per two hundred and ninety wine gallons in respect of fancy molasses.

Now the Addendum sets out more clearly that by an agreement made in 1956 the levies authorised under the Act on sugar and fancy molasses manufactured in the island were allocated between the Price Stabilization Reserve Fund, the Rehabilitation Reserve Fund, the Labour Welfare Fund, and the Provident Fund.

The allocation of the levies between the four funds was varied in 1961, the Provident Fund receiving an additional sixty cents and the Price Stabilization Fund being reduced by a similar amount.

As a result of joint proposals submitted by both sides of the sugar industry it was agreed that severance payments to displaced workers in sugar factories should be met by a reallocation of the levies between the Labour Welfare Fund and the Price Stabilization Fund.

Provision for the collection of the levy for the Provident Fund from 1956 to 1964 is the subject of a separate Bill to be brought before this House.

As we all know, Mr. Speaker, unless this Bill is passed and the various levies agreed on, the final payment to the cane growers cannot be made; so it is therefore very important that this Resolution be passed today so as to enable cane growers island-wide to receive their balance of payments for the price for which they sold their canes.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

4.05 p.m.

SUGAR INDUSTRY (PROVIDENT FUND LEVY) BILL, 1964

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, there is a Bill to provide for the collection, in respect of the years 1956 to 1964 inclusive, of certain monies agreed to be paid by producers of sugar and fancy molasses towards a Provident Fund for workers in the Sugar Industry, which stands under the name of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. I am asking for permission to deal with this Bill in lieu of the Hon. Minister who is unavoidably absent.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: According to the Objects and Reasons set out: this Bill seeks to make provision for the collection in respect of the years 1956 to 1964 inclusive of certain monies agreed to be paid by producers of sugar and fancy molasses towards a Provident Fund for workers in the sugar industry. The monies would be collected by means of a levy imposed on sugar and fancy molasses produced in each of those years, the rate of the levy in respect of each year being set out in a Schedule. All monies would be payable to the Accountant General not later than 60 days after the coming into operation of these provisions. The Accountant General would hold them pending the establishment of a Provident Fund for workers in the sugar industry and in the meantime would have power to invest them in trustee securities.

Clause 5 relates to offences and penalties, clause 6 provides for amounts payable by way of levy, interest or fine to be recoverable in summary proceedings before a Magistrate of District "A" and clause 7 makes it clear that the provisions of the Bill are to be without prejudice to the provisions of certain other enactments.

This Provident Fund, Mr. Speaker, has been engaging the attention not only of this Government but the last Government since the year 1956 and although it has taken some time, yet with the assistance of an actuary we are hoping to have this fund implemented soon. It would be a means of helping those people employed in the industry so that their labours would not be in vain.

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

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

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

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

Clauses 1 to 7 inclusive were called separately and passed.

The Schedule was called and passed.

On motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER the passing of one Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, it is fortunate that we have come to the end of our labours now because if the Sitting were longer, we would be labouring under difficulty due to the absence of the public utility service.

I now beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 1st December, 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.
4.15 p.m.