THE
House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1961 - 66

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

) today.

THE House of Assembly Debates (OFFICIAL REPORT) SECOND SESSION OF 1961-66 HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY Tuesday, 9th February, 1965. Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12 o\'clock (no

PRESENT

His Honour E. L. CARMICHAEL, J.P., (Deputy Speaker); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P., Mr. F. E. MILLER; Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., (Minister of Education); Mr. S. E. SEALEY; Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries); Mr. W. R. LOWE; Mr. G. V. BATSON, (Chairman of Committees); Mr. J. B. YEAHWOOD and Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (Minister of Health, Housing, Local Government and Community Development).

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the last meeting are not yet ready for confirmation.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD entered the House and took his seat.

DOCUMENTS

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the Seventh Annual Report from the 1st April, 1962, I to31st March, 1963, of the Housing Authority of Barbados.

PAPERS LAID

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

The Land Development Duty Regulations, 1965.

The Customs Duties (Barbados Association for Mentally Retarded Children) Regulations, 1965.

The Warehousing of Rum in Bond (Amendment) Regulations, 1965.

Also, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works, I am commanded to lay the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Regulations, 1965.

Mr. MOTTLEY entered the House and took his seat.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Premier and Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of $123,456 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1964-65 part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65 No. 56 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

On behalf of the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works, I beg to give notice of a i Resolution to place the sum of $29,762 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1964-65 Part II - Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65 No. 54 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

On behalf of the Hon. Premier and Minister of Finance I also beg to give notice of the following: -

A Bill further to amend the Income Tax Act, 1921.

A Bill to provide for the establishment of a Supplementary Sinking Fund.

On my own behalf, I beg to give notice of a Bill to provide for the making, in certain circumstances, of Severance payments to workers displaced as the direct result of the permanent closing of any sugar factory or cane syrup plant.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice of a resolution to place the sum of $50,16I at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1964-65 Part II - Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1964-65 No. 55 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

I also beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the grant of a lease to the Barbados Sugar Producers\' Association (Incorporated) of approximately four acres of land situate at Waterford for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a research unit in agronomy.

Messrs. HOLDER, GODDARD and LYNCH entered the House and took their seats\"

REPLIES LAID

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 8/1964, asked by the Hon. senior member for St. George, is ready.

Similarly, I beg to give notice that the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 18/1964, asked by the hon. Junior member for St. Joseph, is ready.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Com-

mittee of Supply at its next meeting in order to deal with the Money Resolutions of which notice has just been given, with the exception of one Resolution. With reference to the Resolution for the sum of $29,762 which stands in the name of the Hon.Minister of Communications and Works, we have copies of this Resolution available for circulation among at hon. members, and it is the intention of the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works to ask for lea veto deal with this Resolution in ail of its stages today.

QUESTION

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is a question standing in the name of the hon. Junior member for St. George relative to the slaughtering of certain strains of the pig population in this island.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Deputy Speaker, to enquire of the Appropriate Minister;

Is the Minister aware that two of the best strains of the pig population in this Island: namely, the \'Large Black\' and the \'Large White\' are in danger of extermination because of the indiscriminate slaughtering of the boars and sows, the producers of the said strains?

2. Will the Minister take immediate steps to rectify this state of affairs by imposing controls upon the slaughtering of the said strains or by such other means as to the Minister may be deemed suitable?

Mr. CORBIN entered the House and took his seat. BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

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

A Bill further to amend the Income Tax Act. 1921.

A Bill to provide for the establishment of a Supplementary Sinking Fund.

A Bill to provide for the making, in certain circumstances, of Severance payments to workers displaced as the direct result of the permanent closing of any sugar factory or cane syrup plant.

Mr. WALCOTT entered the House and took his seat.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is not that I am in any way preventing hon. members from going on with any Private Members\' Business which they want to do, but in order to provide for the uninterrupted flow of Government Business at today\'s sitting of this House, If hon. members so desire. I beg to move that the Standing Orders 5, 14, 16, 18, 40 and 45 be suspended for the remainder of today\'s sitting.

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

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

12.25 p.m.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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

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

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

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

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

The question was put and resolved in the afflma-tive without division.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair, and fine House go into Committee of Supply, and that it be an in-struction to the Committee to deal with the Resolution for $29,762, of which notice was given earlier today.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-65 No. 51

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is for the sum of $12,000, and you will note from the Addendum that the sum of $50,000 which was provided in the Estimates for the year 1964-65 to meet expenses of attendance by Government representatives at Conferences and other visits abroad has proved to be insufficient, and in order to meet the estimated expenditure to the end of the current financial year, a further sum of $12,000 is requested.

As hon. members are aware, Sir, invariably near the end of the year it is found that the amount provided in the Estimates for these purposes is insufficient, and the Legislature is accordingly requested to provide further finance in order to cope with the further estimated expenditure to the end of the year. In this case the additional expenditure is estimated at $12,000, and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman. I have no general objection to the passing of a Resolution that deals with Conferences, but I would like, on this occasion, the Hon.. Leader of the House to give us some more information. The Addendum to the Resolution states that the sum of $50,000 which was provided in the Estimates for the year 1944-65 to meet expenses of attendance fry Government representatives at Conferences and other visits abroad has proved to be insufficient. The sum of $12,000 is now requested to meet requirements to the end of the current financial year.

Mr. Chairman, I am a believer in Conferences, because I feel that when you meet people and talk to them, you get to know them better and they get to know you. I do not subscribe to the view that Conferences Just mean getting in an aeroplane and going for a holiday. I have been pressing the Hon. Minister who is in charge of the Ministry for some years to attend the International Labour Organisation Conference that is held annually in Geneva; but it always seems to me that this Government says the expenses are too much to send a delegation to this very important Conference. It is only the World Conference in which a delegation from this Government can participate with anything approximating to equal status with any of the other International Conferences, because they do not get invitations to attend the others. It is one of the United Nations\' Agencies, and I am a bit surprised that a Government which is predominantly a Labour Government never allows its constituent members to be Exposed to this sort of Conference that goes on in Geneva annually, so that employers in Government and workers would become acquainted with I.L.O. standards by brushing alongside World Leaders, and some Ministers of the Governments of the highest rank in big countries would get to know them. I am amazed, however, to find that the Government utilises the I.L.O. Services through its experts; but the experts come after the Conferences. It is the Conferences that determine what sort of needs you have, and from that we get the experts. There would be no experts if you had no Conferences. I am therefore suggesting to the Minister

that the time has come when Barbados cannot act as if the world revolves around us at Broad Street

or Government Headquarters, and that what happens at I.L.O. has some significance to the people of Barbados. I hope this may be the last occasion on which I will have to tell the Minister that money spent on that is money well spent.

12.35 p.m.

My criticism today is on the basis of lack of information, and I hope the Hon.Minister will be able to tell us something. I do not subscribe to the view that Parliament is some busybody.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, if the hon. member would permit me, I would just like to say that I am making a desperate search for the required information. It appears that the Government\'s file on the matter has not been sent down to the House, and that is why we are lacking in information. There was some carelessness in not sending the file down.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, I am not one of those members who want you to tell me how you spend the money. I am dealing with the information. I feel the Government has a right to send a delegate to the I.L.O Conference. I know that they are invited annually, because over ten years ago the United Kingdom delegation lead by the Workers Chairman of the Conference made recommendations to the I.L.O, that non Metropolitan Governments should be invited to the Conference in order that they may have the right to debate, so that when independence came, the people would be accustomed to meeting at big World Conferences, and they would not be strange to the atmosphere.

I do not want to worry the Hon. Minister about how the money is spent. The I.L.O. is one of the few organisations which has survived since the Treaty of Versailles. I feel this Government should send a delegation once a year to the I.L.O. in the same way as Trinidad did before she became independent and in the same way as British Guiana; I believe, although British Guiana is not independent, they sent a delegation there last year.

The point which I was making was this. We are not busy bodies. Parliament is a very important sector of our life, and I feel that we do not get in Parliament even Progress Reports or even information about Conferences. The little information which we get sometimes, we have to read it in the newspapers or hear about it through statements made at some functions by Ministers or we have got the information through some other source. When we are passing a Resolution such as this, I think the Minister should take the opportunity to let us know something.

Sir, there is one aspect to this Resolution which I want to say something about. We are on the throes of discussing the formation of a Federation of the \"Little Seven\", and at the same time that we are on the throes of discussing this Federation, the Governments of Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad, and I understand British Guiana also, have been talking about a Summit Conference, while the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago has consistently and persistently criticised and has done everything, if it were possible, to stop the Federation which is being projected.

I would be a hypocrite, therefore, to vote money to send the Hon. Premier of Barbados to meet Dr. Williams at any Summit Conference. A Summit Conference in this context is hypocritical and farcical. Why should we meet Dr, Williams? I would say that I have a lot of respect for Dr. Williams, but my respect does not go further than I see your behaviour. It appears that Dr. Williams can only praise you

when he is the head of anything. At one stage he was criticising the University of the West Indies, but now that he is pro-Chancellor, he is not criticising it. I am not one of those people who would do that. I am opposed to Barbados spending money on the Summit Conference when one of the leading men is opposed to the Federation which you are now forming. That does not mean that I am opposed to regional co-operation, but I am not meeting you at this stage until I have settled my own home affairs. We have

had Dr. Williams criticising the whole idea of a West Indian Federation.

Now, Sir, if you leave Trinidad out of the same Conference, what is the point of meeting Bustamante of Jamaica? There is no point in meeting Jamaica unless you are going to talk about cricket or fotball. Jamaica seceded from the last Federation. I am not criticising Jamaica for taking its own stand by pulling out of the Federation, but what is the point of bending over backwards Just for the sake of unity? It is farcical to do so. The idea of a Summit Conference sounds big to us but, as a matter of fact, I think that we of the West Indies like to copy too much from others. They are calling a Summit Conference; but, I say, why should we meet at a Summit when we are submerging in all those problems which we have to deal with?

I do not think Barbados is justified in meeting Dr. Williams at a Summit Conference when he is a violent opponent of the Eastern Caribbean territories federating. You should spend more of that money in trying to meet those who are in favour of federating together. I would be in favour of sending a Parliamentary delegation to the same territories which you are trying to federate with so that the ignorance of the Barbadians about the other territories with which they are going to federate would be removed. There are many members of this parliament who do not know anything of the other territories. There are many members who do not know Montserrat, and there are many members who have not visited Dominica and many who have not been even to St. Lucia, which is next door to us. They know nothing at all of the territories, and it puts them in a completely false position because it is really a difficult thing to ask people or to ask leaders to be involved in a federation with other territories when they know nothing of them. Barbados wants to be in a federation in the same way that Jamaica was.

12.45 p.m.

With regard to a Parliamentary delegation to these territories, with all due respect to the Parliamentarians in this House, some of them are positively lacking in this knowledge, and they do not get such knowledge just by sitting in this House from Tuesday to Tuesday or by passing Resolutions in here or in going up and down the island; you can only get this knowledge by visiting these territories. Without this knowledge, Barbadians become parochial, only dealing with matters relating to Barbados and Barbados alone. You have the sad spectacle that members of this Chamber Just do not know the West Indies and, for that reason, it may be, Dr. Williams can speak as he has spoken and nobody has raised a finger at what he has said. I believe that I have had closer relations with Dr. Williams than anybody else here. In 1955 he was adviser to me at a Plantations Conference in Geneva and he laid down principles for plantation workers throughtout the world. I had the honour to be Chairman of the Conference of Representatives of Labour from all over the world. It is true that the United Kingdom invited me as aTrade Unionist, but what I am saying does not reflect on this man\'s ability because, in other respects, I believe in a lot of things that he has done.

As he said, Federations are always difficult. Well, marriages are difficult too, but because marriages are difficult you do not say that people should not get married. There is no royal road in these things. However, Sir, I do not see what Justification the Barbados Government would have because they have no executive power - I do not see what Barbados is doing or what the Barbados Government is doing in a Federation of the \'Seven\' if in the same breadth the Premier is meeting with the Premier of Trinidad who is doing all he can to prevent - in one breadth he would be preventing things if what he said had any effect on these things. If it is his opinion that we should go into a unitary state with Trinidad, that is his view; but I say that we have no right spending money in meeting Dr. Williams in any Summit Conference. Finally, I would like the Hon. Minister of Trade to treat this House with the respect which Parliament deserves. I have come to the conclusion that too many important Conferences have been held and not a word has been said in Parliament about them. I would like to say

here and now that the idea that Parliament is a body or organization prying into what the Government is doing, must be dispelled. The idea that we are here to approve of funds and also to debate important issues and matters affecting the country as a whole must be aired; these things must be discussed in here from time to time, I can say this because I do not like to be patting anybody on the back when he should be slapped. I think that the Government should take a complete right-about-turn and stop this practice which was taking place during the regime of the last Government in which there was this total secrecy about public affairs, as if the running of the country was the preserve of those persons who happen to be Ministers. In order to have Ministers you must first have a House of Assembly. Nobody in Barbados elects any Minister; you elect members of this House. The Clergy, unfortunately, are not eligible to stand for election in this House, but I do hope they will have full emancipation so that they can run for membership of this House as they like, and the barriers of being Clergymen would in no way preclude them. I sincerely hope that these people will become independent and free enough so as to be able to speak their minds without any interference that the Treasury imposes now.

Why should we wait for any Secretary of State for the Colonies to come down here and tell us that we should talk these things more? No Secretary of State from paradise is going to come here and tell me that I should discuss something or that I should not discuss anything. Again, you have this oldfashioned idea, this bogey, that you must wait until the Secretary of State for the Colonies comes over to have this window dressing. I do not believe in that sort of thing at all. I do not think it should be necessary for any Secretary of State for the Colonies to come here at all because things would be so clear. I do not like this secrecy and I hope that the Government will see to it that these matters which are really important, these international issues are ventilated and reports are made to parliament and that Parliament is treated with the courtesy which it deserves. I do not believe, I will not say, that this is entirely the fault of the Ministers; it may be the fault of Parliament also, Mr. Chairman, I am not saying this and making it one of those cheap criticisms which we hear, because it may be regarded by some people that this is what the opposition is saying. 12.55 p.m.

I do not belong to any Opposition: I belong to the House, If the Government presents something that is worthy to be supported, I am going to support it, and I am not going to look to see what there is in it not to be supported. I opposed the last Government that was in power, and I hope as long as I live to be able to do so, because their whole exercise and attitude was inimical to the growing aspirations of a country with any pride, and I have no uses for them.

The views of the Hon. Leader of the opposition party and mine could never synchronize, because as I have said already, Conservatism within the context of a colonial and emerging territory is as incongruous as putting arsenic into milk and drinking it. As I have said, even the Leader of the Opposition is a contradiction in terms, because you could not see him within the context of a colonial territory leading a Conservative Party with what Conservatism means. That is convenient arrangement and I hope he will live long enough; but when he passes on, that will never be repeated, because if I may say so, you do not get these geniuses all in one generation. It will take another generation to produce a man like him who is from the emerging people and at the same time is the banner-bearer for Conservatism, which means that the same thing that made him an emergent man is the same thing he is holding the flag to preserve. I say it is incongruous arid is not symptomatic of his whole physical, educational and cultural upbringing, because the fact of Conservatism in Barbados would have left him where Conservation meant to leave all of us - that Parliament was not meant for us, but fora handful to rule.

Be that as it may, he has chosen that, and I like democracy because we live in a democracy; he has made his contribution. I am not a member of the Opposition, because none of the Opposition Parties in this House could accommodate me. An Opposition party must have a philosophy of its

own, not a philosophy to oppose, but a philosophy that is positive in content. For that reason I feel that the Government has for some time not been paying the attention to Parliament as it should, and I think the time has come when greater attention should be paid to these matters, and that important Conferences should be reported on. We have not heard in this House one word about what this Summit Conference means. We have read about it in the newspapers, and we have read that British Guiana wants to come into the Conference; but what we ask is: what does the proposed Summit Conference mean with British Guiana coming into it? You should let us know what it means, and not use Parliament purely as a means of approval or a body for ratification. We will ratify, but as a positive institution we do not get what we deserve. Those are the criticisms I have to offer, and I hope the Hon. Minister will give them the attention that I feel they deserve.

Just to summarize briefly, there can be no justification for this Government continuing to ignore important Conferences like the I.L.O. Conference, and I hope what I said would not be regarded as applying to me, because I am General Secretary of the Barbados Workers\' Union and I deal with international affairs. I believe I travel in and out of this island more than many members, and it could not be anything for me. I even shuddered this morning, Mr. Chairman, when I heard that an American Airline had exploded on leaving Kennedy Airport and 80 people lost their lives. I could have been in that, because when you have travelled in the same aircraft and when you have gone from place to place, you have to say that you are lucky when you hear about these things, but you are not so lucky when you are in them. I would therefore not be looking for a voyage or trip, but it is something which I feel this country should be given an opportunity to be exposed to.

On the other ground, if I would be opposed to this Resolution, it would be because I did not think that Barbados has any right to participate in a Summit Conference with Dr. Williams of Trinidad when Dr. Williams is on the doorstep every day, whenever he gets an opportunity, criticising the idea of a Federation of The Seven. Meeting him is making him feel more powerful and that he can criticise all these things. The time will come when he will have to meet with people, because sooner or later he will have to deal with the Seven if The Seven are in earnest, and I hope the Government will take these

things into consideration. I hope also that on this whole question of national Conferences they treat the House and Parliament with the confidence and the respect that it demands.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I really cannot let this Resolution pass like this. Some time ago, Sir, we had a Resolution of this sort, and I asked the Government to let us know about these Conferences, and when they go away and return to let us know what was happening, or if they had gone anywhere at all. I am very glad to hear the hon. senior member for St. Peter taking it up also because when I asked the question on the last occasion, the reply was that the last Government never said anything either; so that makes me believe that as far as the present Government is concerned, two wrongs can make one right. Because the last Government did not do it, they are not prepared to do it.

Now, Mr. Chairman, we have only about six weeks before the Financial year ends, and I would like to know from the Minister if the sum of $12,000 is expected to be spent during this year, or whether the vote has been overspent and some of this is to offset the amount.

2.05 p.m.

I would really like to know that because in my opinion $12,000 sounds very big to be spent between now and the Annual Estimates. In the Addendum they say that \"the sum of $50,000 which was provided in the Estimates for the year 1964-65 to meet expenses of attendance by Government representatives at Conferences and other visits abroad has proved to be insufficient. The sum of $12,000 is now requested to meet requirements to the end of the current fin-ancial year.\"

How, Sir, I would really like to know how that money is being spent because, as the Hon. Minister has said, and rightly so, if he were not in favour of the way in which the money was spent on their going to some conference, they would not go at all. But the money is there and they can spend it: and so long as it is a Conference, they are going to spend it because the money is there to be spent on Conferences and Delegations,

Not long ago, the Hon. premier went to a funeral in Jamaica and I would really like to know if the expenses incurred were met by the Government. I am not saying that because I am against it. I do not know how to get that information, but I believe you can get it from that vote. I do not want it to be thought that I am so cheap or that I am concerned with cheap politics as to run about to find out how this money is being spent, but I do not believe that this was taken out of his pocket. If it comes from Government funds and it is taken from this vote, it is really spent in another direction.

They expect of us that all we have to do is to come here and vote. This is our time and opportunity to make enquiries and ask questions. I would like to know how much of this money has been spent or if all of it has already been spent and this vote of $12,000 is to help offset it,or if this $12,000 is required to be spent in the next six weeks. The members of the last Government were being lambasted by this Government for spending so much money on these Conferences and Delegations. They said that they were spending all the taxpayers\' money on Conference and Delegations, just flying in and out. The same thing is being done now and I have not seen a decrease in the vote, nor have I seen any more work being done.

I do not know, but it is not good enough for us to be annually passing $50,000 and then passing this

vote too. No man is going to pick up his pen and sign a cheque and not look to see what he is signing for. We are not signing a cheque, it is true to say, but we are voting the money. All that we are doing is to pass the Resolution for this money, but we cannot tell the people of Barbados one word at all about it. If anybody asks me how much we spent on Conferences, I cannot tell him anything at all. It may sound as if it is cheap politics, but you are spending the taxpayers\' money and they should be told something. You are spending now $12,000 after you have been given $50,000. There are six weeks more to go. The Hon. Minister has not told us one word as regards how many more Conferences he expects that they will attend in the next six weeks. Sometimes I believe that you know these things within six or eight weeks ahead of the time.

There may be some funerals coming up or something of the sort. This is not good enough, and some respect should be paid to this House and the taxpayers because it is their money and we are responsible for it. The time will come when someone will be asking us or telling us how much money was spent on Conferences, The present Government told the people that they would not be spending so much money on Conferences and they accused the last Government of spending too much on Conferences. However, I am not sorry that they have said so because it would give me a lever to tell the people about it.

I hope the Hon. Minister, when he gets his files, would be in a position to tell us how much of this $12,000 will be speat within the next six weeks and how much of the $50,000 has been spent or is in hand.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, if I may refer firstly, to the comments of the hon. senior member for St. Peter on the question of participation of the Government in the annual exercises of the I.L.O., I think the fact that the Government has taken full participation in the documentation o\' the I.L.O., the research facilities and the specialised Conferences of that organisation is sufficiently indicative of the fact that we appreciate the significance of the work of the organisation. Our failure to participate in the Conferences of the I. L.O. is in no way a lack of appreciation of the work which the organisation makes in its specialised

field or that we are indifferent to the advantage of participation.

It is merely. Sir, that the Government has decided that the cost of participation in their annual Conference, is a little more than we can afford, as hon.members are aware, when we have to send a tripartite delegation which comprises of delegates of the Employers\' Federation, or any existing organisations of workers along with the Government delegation, we have to pay the expenses of those three delegations. Up to this year, the hon. senior member for St, Peter would recall that his Union was represented in Denmark. As a matter of fact, I think that he, himself, went.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. The Hon.Minister would know that we of the Union stand our own expenses. The Government of Barbados only approves, but it has no part in saying who should be sent.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I do know that we have sent representatives of the Workers\' Organization for training in Canada and elsewhere, and we have released to them the maximum of facilities offered by the Evening Institute to the extent which we could afford. The time will come when we will be able to send representatives of the Employers\' Federation, the Workers representatives and

the Government representatives. In 1962-63, we did it, but we have not done it since then. I think the House knows from the widespread contributions which we have made that we appreciate to the full what the contributions of the I.L.O. are to the welfare of these developing territories.

1.15 p.m.

With reference to our association with the West Indian Summit Conferences, I have not got the Agendas here, but at each of these Conferences every single item on the Agenda was of some significance to this country. I remember that at the last one in Trinidad individual Ministers of Government went down to deal Individually with matters affecting their respective Ministries. All the Ministers were there simultaneously for the entire duration of the Conference so as to allow the particular Minister to appear when matters affecting his Ministry were discussed. We had five Ministers there at the time and whether it was a matter of Communications and Works, whether it was a matter of Higher Education affecting the University of the West Indies, whatever it wast the hon. member can rest assured that we were able to participate in what ever was for the best interest of the colony. As a matter of fact, prima facie it might appear that by the stand taken by Jamaica and Trinidad our interests were not linked with the territories with which we are linked, but it ha shad to be admitted that our interests in the region are so clearly linked that regional formation in a number of fields is necessary; we have to participate in these Conferences which are called Summit Conferences because of their high level. We attend these Conferences because the matters which are discussed mean something to this country, and these additional matters would still have to be resolved whether we were in the Federation or not; we will have to be in conference with all the territories concerned. That, in no way, would inhibit our closer association with the territories and I can assure the hon. member that these Conferences are by no means unnecessary exercises.

With regard to the absence from the House today of the file dealing with this question, there is a new file which has been made in relation to this additional amount for which we have asked, and I think that one reason for that is that even as far back as last year, before we came into office, the amount voted for Conferences was the same as it was previously. In other words, in the Estimates for 1961-62, the sum of $50,000 which we asked for last year, was provided for the last Government. They have been getting that money for a number of years and we also gave them a supplementary amount. This year we got $50,000, the same as they got in the years when they were in office, and whenever the amount exceeded we gave them a supple-mentary vote. Naturally, Sir, we will not spend this money in the next six weeks, Every hon. member knows that all the bills do not come in at the same time. The sum of

$50,000 has been provided in the Estimates for these Conferences and Delegations; that has proved to be inadequate and this sum of $12,000, this additional amount, is now required, When all of the bills come in for this current year, whatever money is needed will be spent, in fact, if you were to check the Estimates for this year, you will see that originally the sum of $50,000 was voted and then we came for an additional $12,000. The same thing has been done in the year before, and in the year before that, we spent something like $52,900, The total expenditure on Conferences for 1963 amounted to something like $53,000 approximately. Anyhow, Sir, whatever money is required for expenditure under this Item will be utilised and the remainder will be left in the Treasury.

The importance of these Conferences far outweigh our contributions, and, when the time come, every Minister of the Government will give an account of his stewardship in this respect, so that the House

will be made aware of the value to this Colony of every trip made abroad by every Minister of this Government, Obviously, Sir, with the increasing commitments of the country in Inter-territorial and international affairs, the significance of the Conferences which are taking place now must be much higher than what it was before; it must be higher than what was taking place some four, five or six years ago. We have not asked for a single cent more during our term of office than what has been asked for in previous years by the Government which was in office before us.

1.25 p.m.

We all get suppiementaries every year and we ask for additional Estimates of around $10,000 or $12,000, but as to what part of it would be spent I could not undertake to say now. The Financial Secretary himself does not know, and though the Auditor Genera! himself would have an idea, he would not know the actual figure. Hon. members have had the Estimates for the current year before them, and I am sure that if we had been budgeting for more than is normal and had spent that entirely and still asked for more, we would have heard much more about it when we brought down the Estimates for consideration as we did in March last year. When the final figures for the year 1964-65 are known I am sure that Hon. members will have no more cause for criticism than they had when they got the figures for 1963-64. I think, Sir, that is ail I need say at this stage. I do not know if there are any other capital questions unanswered, but we expected to hear the Hon. junior member for St. Joseph make the same speech this year that he made this time last year when we asked for supplementary estimates to this vote. Exactly what he said then he said again today, and what he said on these two occasions, he said in here before, and each time he got the same answer that we are moving ahead so rapidly and have to attend so many far-reaching Conferences that the role we are called upon to play is increasing; and we are not, six years after, spending any more than we spent six years before.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman. I understand that that the hon. senior member for St. Peter questioned the advisability of this Government taking part in a regional exercise with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the Government of Jamaica and included by implication the Government of British Guiana as well. I should like to disillusion the hon. member on the score that this exercise is a waste of time. Within the pa st 72 hours the Government of Barbados has had to put down at least two additional items on the agenda for the proposed Conference which will be held in British Guiana next month, and although we have not had approval from the other Governments, for the inclusion of these items on tne agenda, I should like to take the liberty of disclosing to the House what those two items are. One of these items is a proposal by the President of the United States to impose a levy, a capitation fee or whatever you feel like calling it, on every American citizen leaving the United States to spend a holiday abroad. If the Government of Barbados which is a non-independent territory made representations to the Government of the \' United States, we would have to go through the torturous exercise of relaying this submission to Her Majesty\'s Secretary of State for the Colonies, It would then be passed to the Foreign Office, the Foreign Office would then pass it

to the British Ambassador in Washington, and the British Ambassador in Washington would, I presume, either himself or with one of his emissaries or secretaries go up to the White House at a duly appointed date some months hence, and present this representation from the Government of Barbados,

Only three or four weeks ago a communication frwn the Minister of Finance in Jamaica addressed to me, but unfortunately sent through the British High Commissioner in Kingston, took ten days to arrive

in Barbados, and by that time I was in Miami and had to telephone the Minister of Finance in Jamaica to find out what was his decision on a certain matter which I put to him three or four weeks earlier. As far as this Government is concerned, we run an efficient organisation. We do not think that we have any Messianic right to preside over the destinies of the people of this island. We think we have a right to preside over the destinies of the people of this Island as long as we continue co do those things which will raise the standard of living and give the maximum amount of social and economic stability to the inhabitants of the territory. That is our political philosophy. Now, at the same time, this Government also has to be the watchdog of the economy, and if anything is being done which will affect the standard of living in an adverse way such as the proposal by President Johnson, it is this Government\'s duty to do something about it. The most effective way of doing something about it is to gat together with those territories which happen to have similar interests as ours and to make direct representations through the External Affairs Department of the Government concerned.

I will give another illustration. I was asked by the independent Governments of Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica to preside over a Regional Shipping Conference which was held in Barbados in December, One of the decisions made at that Conference was that we should ask the Canadian Government to send out a team of experts to the area to make a study of the structure and organisation of the shipping service and to get a report by the end of March. We did this through the External Affairs Department in Port-of-Spain and not through the British Government, because the British Government had displayed a hostile attitude towards the Shipping Service.

Now I am not a great stickler for protocol if the proctocol is not in the interest of this territory. I find it much more useful to use the good offices of the Governments of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago in order to get things done. The result is that we have had the survey, a team is out here - and this was only the second week in December - and the possibility is that we may have that Report submitted by the end of February in stead of the end of March.

I will give you, Mr. Chairman, another illustration about the advisability of cooperating with the Government of Jamaica and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and any other Government in the region other than the Governments in the South. I should like to say in parenthesis right here and now that both on the official side and on the political side, I find it easier to communicate and find a community of interest with the larger territories than the pettifogging politicians in the Eastern Caribbean. I am making a positive statement to that effect. The Ministers of this Government and the Barbados Government Officials have been subjected during the past two and a half years to the greatest possible strain on our patience and our understanding. When we meet with the Prime Minister of Jjamaica and with the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, I do not entertain any inferior complex with either one of them, and therefore I cannot adopt the attitude of the hon. senior member for St. Peter. I am not concerned with what they did with the last Federation, I have heard the hon. member say that what happened should have happened a long time ago. As a matter of fact, I think that the territories of Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica have probably performed a great service to the cause of West Indian unity and West Indian nationhood in helping us to get rid of what Dr. Williams described as the worst Federation in the history of mankind. I did not agree however, with the ap- proach either on the domestic level or on the inter-territorial level of the Prime Minister of Trinidad on the way in which he pulled out his country from the association to which they were formally committed.

1.35 p.m.

I think it was an example of bad taste and bad statesmanship; but that would not prevent me or the Government from sitting around a table and considering a matter which

I consider to be in the interest of the people of Barbados.

The other matter which I want to draw to the attention of this House is that recently the British Government has launched a three-pronged attack against the economies of the territories in the British Caribbean. The first is by the collaboration between the political parties in the United Kingdom to impose a more severe restriction on the movement of our people to that territory. The second is the imposing of a Corporation Tax on British industries which would discourage any kind of investment in the Eastern i. Caribbean. We have now the Tourist Industry being ruined by President Johnson. We have the Corporation tax proposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and that is something which they intend to implement. Thirdly, you have an increase in the restrictions on the limited immigration of Barbadians into the United Kingdom.

We discuss matters on that level. We do not discuss who was at a State dinner; because that would be only of interest to one simple-minded individual. I have heard it being said that Dr. Williams said that he was not sitting down with Sir Alexander Bustamante because they gave Bustamante a Knighthood but did not give him one. We do not discuss such matters; we discuss the economy of this region on a high level, and -I say this with all due respect to those who are responsible in the Eastern Caribbean - you cannot find many who are capable of discussing matters or who give indications of understanding correctly what is going on in the outside world. Therefore, Sir, to state that we are not talcing part in Conferences because a single Prime Minister has acted in a way which we do not consider in the best interest, is not a matter for us; it is a matter for him. If he had seen the light in the same way as the hon. member who was formerly a member of the Labour party has seen it, like Paul at the gates of Damascus - may bet the same conversion has taken place with the Prime Minister of Trinidad. It has taken place to such an extent that every time they propose to have a Conference, they ask us whether the Premier of Barbados would be Chair-man and they say that we are the true architects and the only sincere Architects of West Indian unity. Are we then going to turn our backs on the rest of the West Indies? We are not going to any Conference just because we want to take part in any unitary state . I do not think anybody in Barbados would like any unitary state. We have a constitution which is second to none and we do not intend having any other authority than that which we now have over us, however brilliant or outstanding it may be, of any metro-politan country in any part of the world including the United States, France, the Netherlands; neither do we Intend submerging our national identity with any territory in the Caribbean. But at the same time I am saying that what we have been discussing with the Ministers of other Govern-ments over a period of time is that this Government does not intend to enter into unitary status or even association with the United States - or Canada for that matter - if in the long run it means a downgrading of the political status of the Island of Barbados. We want to go forward. We do not intend to go back. We do not intend to become a grant-aided territory. We have been standing on our own feet for too long to be hoodwinked either by Trinidad and Tobago or the United Kingdom or any Government in the Caribbean area or outside of it. We are not doing things which we consider are not in the best interest of our people.

As far as these Conferences are concerned, I am not taking up what the Barbadians call \"anybody\'s firerage\" because in a few years if something happens, it should not be said that the Party which we

now have should not be in existence, I rejoiced in the break-up of the old Federation because it was presenting a very bad image on the inter-

national level. I would say that it was the worst Government in the history of mankind. If that is so, why should we therefore resent anyone drawing this to the attention of other Governments and relieving us of further disgrace?

As far as this Resolution is concerned, we do not have to be apologetic about anything. I, myself, do not like to be going around on all of these Conferences. There is nothing which I like better than sleeping in my own bed, because when I go around on these Conferences and come back, it takes me a period of time to recuperate from having to sleep all over the place. It is not only that. Unfortunately, international relations call for more and more of these Conferences because what you want to do, you can do in the shortest possible time by attending these Conferences, and what you would take two years to do otherwise by a Conference is now accomplished by a single visit. But it means that a Minister has to work twice as hard as a result of Conferences and Delegations. We have to leave the work which we are doing here, and there is no locum ten ens who is supposed to get on with what you have to do. As a matter of fact, our Ministers are over employed with what they have to do so that Conferences and Delegations are not any sprees for us. We consider that it is our duty to attend these and we have to go through with them. I would say that more money has been spent out of this vote on the officials than on Ministers. Every single visit by an official has to come out of this vote.

1.45 p.m.

When we have people visiting Barbados and we have to provide the transportation and matters of that kind, all of that also has to come out of this vote. This is not a bill from B.W.I. A.. Here is an illustration of the relative expenditure between this Government and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago spent over $3 million on Conferences and Delegations. The Prime Minister\'s trip alone to Africa and the Mediterranean cost $I million plus. When I go on a trip, I should have with me a secretary and some Civil Servant because I have to answer the telephone and I have to pay for my typing. I have to keep a check on my engagements unless I am going with more than one Minister. Sometimes I forget my appointments. When the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and I went to a Conference in London, the delegates from St. Lucia Grenada and Dominica had chauffeur-driven Rolls Royce Cars; on the contrary with the Barbadian delegation, six and seven of us were crowded in a taxi and at times we tried to divide four and sixpence into seven. Sometimes one would say: \"All right, I will pay for it this time.\" (Laughter) Every other delegation was driven from Marl-borough House in chauffeur-drivenRolls Roycecars, which costs 25 guineas a day. Sometimes the taxi drivers would refuse to drive us In a group and we have had to go through the arithmetical exercise of dividing 4/6 between seven of us so as to see how much we will have to contribute. (ASIDES) The Barbados Labour Party delegates used to have Rolls Royce cars too. However, we preferred to travel by taxi or bus. I hope, Sir, that I do not get any of our people into trouble because whenever the conductors recognized the Leader of the Opposition, the Minister of Trade or myself they would say \"The whole group travelling free this tripl\" (Laughter}

I do not know of what nationality these conductors were. We used to travel by bus because we found that it was cheaper to do so, because the conductors paid for it out of their own pockets or something like that. What I want to point out is this: when we compare our expenditure of $52,000 with $3 million

in Trinidad, the budget of Trinidad is not three times the Budget of Barbados. They probably have budgeted for $400 million in revenue. These are the relative expenses and travelling is an expensive thing. You will find that this bill for Conferences and Delegations will have to go up from year to year. That is inevitable. We do not control air transport in Barbados. When you consider what has happened as a result of all that, when the investment in Barbados last year was only $25 million, and the capital thrown into this country went up by 40%, are you saying that the people who have to look for $35 million worth in business and make a profit of $4.6 million - could any-

body tell you that $50,000 is extravagant in relation to other interests? If you could show a profit last year of $4.6 million on your working for that year, do you think that the shareholders would want to throw you out of office because you spent $53,000 and you brought in a profit of $4.6 million? They would probably want to increase the directors\' remuneration if you had brought in that profit.

Some people regard politics as an arena in which they can ventilate their ignorance, their bad taste sand their bad manners, but we do not regard being in politics as an opportunity which would be afforded us to do all of these things. I think, Sir, that we have been doing our duty at a comparatively low cost to the people of this island. I do not think that there is any other Government in this world who could produce the results which we have produced for the outlay which the taxpayers have undertaken.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I do not think that if the Premier were in here and heard what was said, he would have said anything different from what I said. I will repeat what I said and it does not matter to me what conclusions he draws. He is at liberty to draw any conclusion which he wishes to draw from what I say. I am still a free man. Whether he believes that I am suffering from an inferiority complex and he does not suffer from it, that is a matter for him, I would not attempt to justify that with him. I have lived too long a life both in public and in private for me to demonstrate that I am possessed of any inferiority complex. I will repeat Just what I said. The Trinidad Prime Minister has repeatedly referred to this question of Federation, to this present Federation. I am not interested in the past Federation, and if what I said has brought out today what the Premier has now told us that he is no longer willing to go into any Federation with these people in the Eastern Caribbean colonies, then that is a settled matter. 1.55 p.m.

If the Premier now says this, all it means is that we all have spent money on these Conferences which will be proved fruitless. The Conference went on at Marlborough House, and the Premier says he travelled in a bus, but that is the Premier\'s business. If his leadership is to travel on a bus when he goes on an important delegation, I would not be the one to underwrite that here. If he is a bus traveller, - he can walk if he likes, - if a leading public figure has to travel in a bus, I as a member of Parliament do not regard that as being in consonance with the position of leadership, if we are going to accord the Governor the privilege of driving in a motor car in dignity. That sort of talk is for when you are having a political meeting anywhere in St. John to let the people understand that you are not out to spend too much money and that you will travel in a bus, because the Prime Minister of Great Britain is not going to travel in a bus when he comes here. If you are going to have a delegation and you are going to put them in a motor car when they come here, I am not going to insult our delegation.

What the hon. member has said is cheap politics and does not answer any question, because that is something he could not mean. To get in a London taxi and try to divide 4/6 among themselves, is for drunkards and not for anybody leading a delegation. If you do that, I fail to see what you are going to

do with $24 a day which you are given to pay expenses unless you want to come back with a bank account. If you want to be parsimonious, then your allowance should be in consonance with living of that sort. We have accorded our delegation the sort of allowance that they do not have to travel in a bus, because we not only give them a living allowance in a hotel, but a subsistence allowance of £5 a day, and we have provided a travelling allowance, and the man who wants to travel in a bus or pay 4/6 is a miser.

What I have said, Mr. Chairman, is that if I had anything to do with this Conference I would not meet Dr. Williams at the Summit Conference, when at the same time he is carrying out a relentless attack on the Federation that we are undertaking; and even if it appears that I have an inferior complex by repeating that, I repeat it. If you go on this way, you are either a hypocrite or you do not mean what you say, and therefore you should drop out of the East-

ern Caribbean Federation and form your own independence so that you can go with whom you like. Big countries have to withdraw from Conferences. At one time Kennedy said that he was not meeting the Russians unless he was satis-fied it meant something. He did not meet them for the sake of meeting them. If the economic position of certain people make them express themselves badly, that is not their fault, because some people get their education by various means. Somebody\'s father might have stolen Society money and given him the education, or he may have done something dishonourable to get money to give the education. I never criticise people with their education. In this rank and file community of ours, you cannot ridicule people who cannot express themselves, because grammar is only a means of communication, and if a man says \"I are gone\", though it is peculiar, you know what he means, and that is, that he is not coming to you. In a community like Barbados, when a Premier makes a statement like that and we depend on so many people without the means of expression, then those of us who cannot express ourselves would still be outside. It is, however, those same people who cannot express themselves who have made this political revolution, so that the ones who can express themselves are here, because the ones who cannot express themselves dissipated their early lives in a lot of stupid pursuits, and now that they have reached the evening of their days and have nothing to contribute, they want to be as appointed apostles of righteousness, and they are the ones riding on the bandwaggon.

Mr. Chairman, I do not take these statements seriously, because when you come into a Chamber like this and make a statement like that, even if he means me, I will say that I have been expressing myself well enough in all company to be regarded as a good ambassador not only to Barbados but to the West Indies. One of the worst types of conceit you can suffer from is educational conceit, because it is the economic situation of this community that has made some ignorant, and not wickedness. I have said that Dr. Williams is an opponent of the Eastern Caribbean Federation in which Barbados is involved, but I am sensible enough to know that the Barbados Government can Join any Summit Conference it pleases. It can Join one in Viet-Nam; that is the prerogative of Government, and the distinction between a Government and Parliament is that it does not mean that because Government cares to join some Conference in Viet-Nam that when the matter reaches here, I am to agree to it. That is why, when you come to Parliament for a vote like this, one is free to say as I said, that Dr. Williams is making statements against the proposed Federation, and I do not see why you should be meeting with him in these circumstances. Everybody agrees with the situation in Britain and in the United States, but who can tell the Barbados Government \"No\" if they want to impose a tax on Barbadians leaving Barbados? The Barbados Government can do that and only the electorate can make them change.

Mr. Chairman, the Trinidad Government imposed a travel tax on people, and anyone can under stand and appreciate what is being done; but you cannot in one breath say that you are independent to do what you feel, but the fiscal policy of another country is not a matter for them. Both the British Government and the American Government are free and Independent sovereign Governments to impose these fiscal policies as the Barbados Government can. The Barbados Government can put a tax tomorrow on anybody as long as it passes the Legislature, and that is the law. If President Johnson says he intends to put a tax on Americans leaving America, it would affect us and we will make a protest; but we still have to bear in mind that it is for the American people who put President Johnson in office to make a change.

2.05 p.m.

The British Government has imposed immigration regulations. That affected us; but, may I say, suppose some members of our Government had to put cm a tax. You may put on a tax on the igorant or illiterate to say that they should not come to Parliament. This Parliament would be a paradise.

Sir, I do not want to be unkind, but the Hon. Premier should not make that statement because he has members in that Party, and if it comes to expressing themselves they cannot express themselves. If we have heard so, what that has to do with us? Some of our members speak on matters, but as regards expression, they do not have it. It is one of the things which I would say that the old Federation gave breath to the same sort of thing which the Hon. Premier was talking about; but that is nothing to emulate. Not only would it destroy the West Indies\' image, but it would destroy the local image also. Only a Barbadian ignoramus would get on a platform as a politician and say that he is a knight and talk about knighthood as if it is some intellectual human being. Only Barbadians accept that because Barbadians seem to think that when you are a knight, you are a god. Because of all this stupidity, many of the young people grow up in ignorance.

I hope the Hon. Premier would discontinue making these statements. They have a way of kicking back at us. Somebody will tell us, when you produce candidates who are not the best; \"what are you carrying them to the House of Assembly for?\" There is nothing wrong with that when people from the University whom we have sent there are not eager to come forward as candidates. If we have to wait for the people who could express them selves as candidates, we would be still in the canefields and we would not be in here. We all would join in wishing for better education of our people because it is a good thing to do, but I do not think we can introduce an argument like that in this debate.

Sir, I cannot say that the Government should not go to a Summit Conference, but I am a member of the Barbados House of Assembly and if Dr. Williams says something in Trinidad which is against Barbados, I can speak on it. I agree that all members of the Eastern Caribbean have some fears for us. That is why I would like to see some members of the West Indies meeting other members in order to allay their fears because it is true to say that they have more jealousy for Barbados than anywhere else. They feel that Barbados wants to do this and do that and it is because they do not know enough. That is why I agree that we should have a Conference. I would like to see more Parliamentary delegations going out. I said just now that you should take some of the members from here and send them out and let them meet other people in the other Islands because the other people, I think; would have a better appreciation for Barbados. The mere fact of their rooming together and having conversations with one

another would make them to understand Barbadians better. However, I do not think that you should regard these things as having an inferiority complex.

I am not saying that you should not have regional organisations. I have attended more regional meetings and regional Conferences than all the Ministers on that side. As I have said, I have been to Conferences of the I.L.O. and went as far as even to represent the British Government. The Barbados Government did not send me to any I.L.O. meeting last year at all. I would like the Hon. Premier to understand that where I.L.O. meetings of an international character are concerned, the Government concerned must approve of any of their nationals going, unless it is a meeting in which nationals have no bearing, I rose just now because I did not want the Hon. Minister to give the impression that the Barbados Government paid for my attendance at the I.L.O. Conference, As a matter of fact, the Barbados Government is not even a contributory member of the national organisation.

I only rose because the Hon. Premier made this re-mark about what I said that they are not participating in meetings because of what Dr. Williams said.. I do not think what the Hon. Premier said had any relevance to this issue about the Eastern Caribbean Federation. I believe that all of us have our reservation about the leaders of the Eastern Caribbean, but I object to what he said and I do not like these unnecessary remarks being made. To my mind, Mr. Chairman, the days for that sort of business are like in the days of the old Piles when they talked that sort of business. Socialists do not express themselves in that way. Socialists of today have passed the stage of talking about

things pertaining to privilege as if privilege means something to the people\'s existence.

How can you express yourself is purely a matter of opportunity. Those who are lacking in opportunity cannot express themselves in an eloquent form, but it can be said that expressing yourself properly adds a great deal to the merit of your contribution. I would say when a person cannot express himself, it is because he did not have the opportunity. I do not like the Hon. Premier saying that because I feel it was not necessary. We should not now be projecting an image that is not in consonance with the community which we represent, because in the community which we represent we have more people supporting us who have not had the opportunity of expressing themselves than those people who can express themselves.

2.15 p.m.

The ones who could express themselves, expressed themselves in whatever form they could and they said that they wanted a change. Their expression has brought us in here in large numbers. I see that too many of the leaders which the proletariat have produced and created have turned around - well, it seems to me to be endemic in the Barbadian society that these leaders which the proletariat have produced have perpetuated this sort of nonsense. We have one in his old age. Instead of dispelling this sort of thing, you are underwriting this nonsensel I think it is time that we should ban this sort of thing from our thinking completely. Whether a man can express himself in good English, in bad English or otherwise, yet he is willing to express a point of view which means something for the benefit of the community, and should encourage it.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to prolong this debate because it is now longafter the statutory hour for lunch; but the hon. senior member for St. Peter is the self-appointed

champion of the proletariat, so much so that he has envisaged a state of affairs in Barbados in which there will be an element in the community which will make absolutely no attempt at self-improvement. Well, Sir, when a person has been in this Chamber for 17 years and all he can do is to impute things of the Government in bad langage and in bad English, then he is not fit to represent anybody in an educated and an intelligent community like this. Speaking the Queen\'s English is not a matter of education; I have met people who have not had any formal approach to education as such - in fact, we have had people who had not gone much further than the second or third standard at school, but we do not like to have people who would sit around the Conference Table and make us ashamed. We have had people who have burned the midnight oil and who have been able to improve themselves. I do not think that there is any excuse for anybody not being able to help himself although there are some people who think that there is some special glory in being a butcher of the Queen\'s English.

When you go to represent the people of this island from this Chamber, I think you should try to improve yourself by reading books or listening to people who know how to converse. We do not always speak absolutely perfect grammar. We lapse into the vernacular, sometimes deliberately, sometimes subconsciously. I do not envisage that there will always be the proletariat, because I look forward to the day when everybody will be on the same level. It does not take education, but interest in correct parliamentary procedure, and at least doing justice to the Queen\'s English. How can we lift up the people when we go to Conferences? Do you think that I would feel happy in taking some people on the opposite side of the Table to a Conference with me and then you need an interpreter to interpret what they said? Do you need to go to Harrison College to improve yourself? Do you need to do that? All it shows is a sloppy state of mind which they have never been able to get out of, and they do not have the mind to lift themselves out of it. I have heard University Graduates express themselves badly and there is no excuse for them either.

I do not know what statement Dr. Williams has made to which the hon. senior member for St. Peter is referring.

On the official level, Dr. Williams has strongly supported the idea of an Eastern Caribbean Federation. On every occasion that he has had a discussion with the Secretary of State for the Colonies he has supported the idea of an Eastern Caribbean Federation. At the Committee of 24 at the United Nations when they were discussing about Colonialism, the Trinidad Ambassador to Washington, Sir Ellis Clarke, took up the cudgels for Federation on Dr. Williams\' instructions and delivered a very biting speech, highly critical of the British Government and their attitude towards these islands, and urged the Committee to do every-thing possible to see that these islands not only had Federation, but that they had a Federation which would be strongly supported financially and independence in the shortest possible time. If Dr. Williams said that he does not see much chance of the Federation coming about in the immediate future, he is not saying anything more than the truth. Is that something to be critical of Dr. Williams for? Until you get some of the cobweb swept away, both of the thinking of Her Majesty\'s Government and in these islands- in the Governments of these countries the only Federationists in the West Indies are in the island of Barbados; so what are we criticising Dr. Williams for when he has supported Federation? Not only has he reported to me what he said, but the Secretary of State for the Colonies reported to me that Dr. Williams supported Federation.

The hon. junior member for Su Peter talks about a relentless campaign having been waged. The hon. member could not be further from the truth. Dr. Williams has never waged any campaign against these

islands. As to what Dr. Williams had said in 1962, he did not intend anything to be taken seriously:he had been subjected to such treatment by his colleagues in the Federal Labour Party that he said; \"If you want to discuss the question of a Unitary State in Trinidad, we would discuss it with you.\" He intended that as an insult, and the Grenadians were stupid enough to think that he was to be taken seriously. You only want to go to Trinidad to see what a unitary state has done in Tobago.

2.25 p.m.

Quite apart from that, it is constitutionally impossible under the present constitution of Trinidad for Grenada to be joined; so why newspapers are exercising them selves and publishing headlines about unitary statehood. I really do not understand. Mr. Blaize is in a nervous state because he is a simple-minded soul and took Dr. Williams seriously, but this was meant to be an insult to the people associated in the Federation. That does not include the Government of Barbados, because he knows that we know better. This is the only thing Dr. Williams has done, and to suggest that Dr. Williams is pursuing a campaign against the formation of an Eastern Caribbean Federation, all you have got to do is to read the reservations on the draft Federal scheme proposed by Barbados to find out who is pursuing the campaign against an Eastern Caribbean Federation, and you will find out that it is right here within the Eastern Caribbean, and not outside at all.

Mr. Chairman, I do not think that one should speak of a Head of State in derogatory terms unless he has done something to deserve it, or unless the hon. member is trying to make it impossible for us to meet around a table in British Guiana in a friendly kind of atmosphere. With regard to the United Nations, only October and November last year a Committee of 25 was appointed. Nobody was appointed from Barbados and Sir Ellis Clarke had to represent us, and I would like to read some time this afternoon what Sir Ellis Clarke said in the Committee of 24 into the record of this House so that any body coming after would not have any illusions where the Government of Trinidad and Tobago stood in this matter. We have to be truthful on anything that Dr. Williams has said about the possibility of a Federation. The British Government wants to get rid of the responsibility of these islands, and they would even like to see us as a Republic because then we would not come into the Commonwealth and would be excluded altogether, Because they want to get rid of us, .it does not mean that Barbados should take on the colonies or relieve the British Government of the responsibility of paying back these islands some of what they have extracted over the past 300

years. We should go and read our history. We are not collecting any bills for the Colonial Off ice, because they have not done anything as far as we are concerned to promote the legitimate economic interest of this territory. But I would be falling in my duties, Mr. Chairman, as one Head of Government to another, to allow remarks which tend to challenge the sincerity of the Head of another State, remarks which are entirely unsupported by the facts.

Mr. WALOOTT: Mr. Chairman, so far as I am concerned, the Hon. Premier has a right to defend another Head of State, but I do not know if he reads everything. I have made a positive statement, and it is for him to prove that the statement is untrue. Dr. Williams wrote a book en-titled \"Capitalism and Slavery \"before the last Federation. He went to Geneva in 1955 before he became Prime Min-ister of Trinidad and Tobago, and though you do not always take what is published in a newspaper, sometimes the paper is brought up for libel. It does not matter to me waht Dr. William? thinks about what I say, because he has not elected me to the Barbados House of Assembly; but it was reported that Dr.

Williams, writing more than once in \"The Nation\", his Party newspaper, criticised the Federation and said that all Federations have failed and are difficult. If the Hon. Premier had made a speech to the effect of the one he made today at this time last year, I would ask; \"Why worry with an Eastern Caribbean Federation?\" If you as Leader of the Barbados Government are saying today what you have repeated about the Eastern Caribbean Federation, what I would like to ask is whether we have reached the stage where there is no hope for this projected Eastern Caribbean Federation. Why ask the Secretary of State to come and meet us? To waste time? You are the Government now; so what is the idea of going to London in May?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order, I should like to inform the hon. member that I did not invite the Secretary of State out here. The gentleman is new in his office, and like any other person who is new in an office, he has got to get a first-hand knowledge of the territories that he may have to deal with and see the personalities with whom he may have to deal. As far as I am concerned, I have advised the Secretary of State that I do not know that there is anything controversial in Barbados, but if he would like to meet the members of the other parties, this would be quite in order, and the Barbados Government is not opposed to it; but we are not meeting him. The Democratic Labour Party would meet him if we had something to protest about.

With regard to a Conference in May, I personally doubt the Secretary of State made that statement. That statement may have appeared in the newspaper, but I have no knowledge of a Conference in May. We have made our position clear that we are not going up to London to argue about any Federal Constitution in front of any Imperial masters. We will have our Constitution ready here, we will have complete agreement on every single item, and not one single item must be reserved before the Barbados Government sends any delegation to London. We had a lot of reservations, but for the sake of unity we have decided that whatever the majority thinks, we will go along with. As a matter of fact, on review, we have come to the conclusion that we have gone much too far. My personal reservation is on the name, because I do not agree that it should be called \"The West Indies Federation;\" but that is only a name, and what is in a name? As far as the capital is concerned, they can put it wherever they like, it does not matter to me; so the Barbados Government is perfectly flexible on these matters. When it comes to the Federal Constitution, we say we are not going up to the United Kingdom for any Conference except to get the formal document signed, to shake hands-and I hope it will be a golden handshake - with the people with whom we were formerly associated and tell them \"goodbye\" and ask them to wish us luck as we say \"goodbye\", but with our pockets laden with the financial support which we will need over the next ten years. I did not go up there to sit down, and Sandys told me that he is buying no Federation; but if a member of the Royal Family did not cross the room at the same time, there would have been a little more than an argument,

because I do not believe in people being rude to me unnecessarily.

2.35 p.m.

Mr. WALCOTT: Sir, I rise on a point of order. What is this sort of thing which you are allowing? You are sitting down and paying no attention to what the Hon. Premier has just said. I do not know If you want to underwrite it. How can that be a point of order?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member has not got to the point of order yet.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, will you ask the hon. member to sit down? The hon. member said that there was a Conference in May and we were inviting the Secretary tf State down here. We do not run our business by the Colonial office. We make our decisions down here. I have •aid before that the Barbados Government would not be sitting down to any Conference in England. We feel that Conferences about the West Indies should be settled in the West Indies; therefore, if the Secretary of State said that in the West Indies, that is his opinion.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, you cannot do that, no other Chairman would do that. Are you telling me that the Hon. Premier has not finished his point of order yet? What do you mean by telling me that? Is it like something which you manufacture? Is it like your building a house and you have not finished it yet? These are some of the Inflictions which you have to endure.

The point which I am making is that I am not here to criticise the Hon. Premier or his Government for taking a decision on any matter which comes within their province. All that I was saying was as far as what Dr. Williams said in relation to the Eastern Caribbean Federation, of which I had no expression of opinion from the Government, even if the Government has any doubts about the Federation proceeding on lines which are worthwhile, I cannot see your meeting a man at a Summit Conference if he is opposed to what you are doing at that level. That is so elementary. It will mean the same thing as what the Hon. Premier said if you are taking them in their regional sequence. He said that he would not go to London to meet the Secretary of State for the Colonies until he has settled all of his business here. Put that alongside of what I have said. He went on to say that he has no interest in talking about his problems 5,000 miles away, I said in the same breath that I am not going to have any discussion with you when you have differed from me on a fundamental basis. Dr. Williams has written the book \"Capitalism and Slavery\". He was one of the biggest protagonists for the West Indies Federation when he was a student and when he was in the Caribbean Commission. The Hon. Premier said that he has very good reasons to doubt the validity of the last Federation. He had rows with the Prime Minister and he still boasts about it because Barbados like to boast in that way. Mr. Manley was a friend of mine, but he was responsible for the breakup of the Federation because he wanted a referendum, and after he had lost in the referendum, Jamaica pulled out, and then Dr. Williams said that if Jamaica pulled out, he was not going in any Federation with the other members of the Eastern Caribbean.

We know that we have a problem; but the Hon. Premier must be willing today to admit that some of those who were pro-federationists are speaking now as if they are anti-federationists. The Hon. Premier was so very enthusiastic about a West Indian Federation that he brushed some of those things aside. Today, he talks of seeing the light. I am not vexed with him if he has seen the light now. But it takes Parliament to back up the Premier. If the Hon. Premier is saying to us that he has his reservations about the Eastern Caribbean Federation, that is not in any way anything to do with what you are going to do. We do not want to go on everlastingly talking about it. Whither are we going from here? What he is saying today, I regard as mere stupidity. What is the use of everybody going into a Federation and saying that they are not going into the Federation if the Federation is not going to make them better off? Australia has a Federation, and Queensland was one of the

poorest states in the Federation. Did that prevent their taking Queensland into the Federation? When you are talking about Australia, you are not talking about Queensland. I am sorry about that remark because I am a believer that greater consolidation is more useful, and I feel that the attempt to destroy

by word the unity of the \"Seven\" would be disastrous, Barbados has 240,000 people, and the Hon. Premier has said that we are not a grant-aided country and he is not going in anything that will lower out status. I am sorry to hear what the Hon. Premier said today because that is tantamount to saying that this present Federation is Just like the other, because while the other came into being for a short time, this is still-born. There are difficulties of this Federation ever becoming a reality. I would say that I do not like the image which this Federation is projecting to the world. I have some friends who think that the breaking-up of the last Federation projected a very serious position for us and I feel sure that if the West Indies Federation was still surviving, by now we would be on a better road to progress.

The hon. member said something of the British Government giving us aid, I do not need anyone to tell me that. As a matter of fact, I have said, that this Government has sat down on its own rights when it comes to that. I said that if you were nationals, you would have to build your own infra-structure and that the British Government should be carrying this burden for you because you were colonies for so many years.

2.45 p.m.

I will not come in here today and say that we will get aid because we want independence. We have built the East Coast Road, and we have built the Hospital for $9 million. We have also built the Deep Water Harbour. You do not make money when you build the East Coast Road or the Deep Water Harbour, but the Government should tell Great Britain that these are the things which they have to give grants for. We have this economic viability which we talk about, but we cannot be economically viable by ourselves. It is just like people who have the idea that when you borrow money, you have sinned. The old-time people would tell you that you should not stretch out your neck too far, that if you did not have $10 in your pocket you should not borrow $10. As I have said, the old-time people would make you believe or they had the belief that when you borrow money you have sinned.

Mr. Chairman, I am very glad that I have raised these questions here today. This is the sort of debate which we should have, because we now have the idea of the Premier which we did not know before. I think that this matter has been put in a perspective such that I will have a different thinking about the Eastern Caribbean Federation, because from what the Hon. Premier has said today, things are not going well in this proposed Federation. St. Lucia has reservations, Antigua has reservations and I have always said that as soon as you start off with too many reservations in these things, they end up with all of these misgivings. I conclude, therefore, from what the Hon. Premier has said today, that. It may be, what Dr. Williams said was not what he was thinking about Federation, but it may be that he had some information about the Federation which we in parliament did not have. I say that I must express the view that Federation was something which we were in, but from what we have heard from the Premier now, this Eastern Caribbean Federation is not any different from the previous West Indies Federation; the only thing is that the West Indies Federation was born, whereas the Eastern Caribbean Federation is still-born.

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

CHAIRMAN REPORTS PROGRESS

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report progress and ask for leave for the Committee to sit again.

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

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, speaking on the motion that you do now report progress, I should like to say that the Hon. Leader of the House, the Hon. Minister of Education and I, have with us now a complete breakdown of the expenditure on Conferences and Delegations up-to-date and we will be very pleased to show it to hon. members, I hope, during the luncheon interval.

The question that the Chairman do now report progress and ask for leave for the Committee to sit again, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until 3.30 p.m. of the clock.

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

The question that this sitting be now suspended until 3.30 p.m. of the clock, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr.. DEPUTY SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

2.55 p.m.

On resumption,

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I observe, that there is no Quorum, and ask that you direct the Clerk to ring the Bell.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. member for drawing it to my attention. Let the Bell be rung.

The hell was rung end a quorum was obtained.

Mr. SPEAKER: When the Sitting was suspended, I am advised that the House had just reverted from Committee of Supply, Before a motion is made, may I inform hon. members that I have received communication of this day\'s date informing me that the Right Honourable Anthony Greenwood, M.P., Secretary of State for the Colonies, proposes to visit the Legislative Chambers at 10.15 on Thursday, 11th February, 1965. The communication states; \"The Secretary of State will visit the Senate Chamber before proceeding to the House of Assembly Chamber. I should be grateful if you would make arrangements for Mr. Greenwood to be met on arrival at the House of Assembly.\"

May I inform Hon. members who may care to be present that, of course, they will be extremely welcome, but the Secretary of State will officially be met by His Honour the Deputy Speaker and myself when he arrives at this Chamber?

STATEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH WHITLEY COUNCIL

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I should like to ask leave of the House to make a Statement in connection with the Whitley Council.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. and Learned member for St. John is seeking the leave of the House now to lay a Statement in connection with the Whitley Council, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, on Monday, 1st February, 1965, an article appeared in the Advocate newspaper published in this island which stated in the head-line \"Civil Servants and Postmen to benefit from an Overtime Increase. CSA Accepts Challenge.\"

The content of the article is as follows:-

\"The Barbados Civil Service Association and the Barbados Government have reached agreement for an increase in overtime rates for Civil Servants; according to Mr. Algy Symmonds, president of the association.

Mr. Symmonds, addressing the annual general meeting of the Barbados Postmen\'s Association, said that the increase might not be backdated, but he wanted to get it implemented as soon as possible.

\"These increases which will be effective in general throughout the service will also include the postmen,\" he said.

Mr. Symmonds, who was speaking on trade union status for the Civil Service Association, also referred to the fact that some sections of the association had recently decided to leave the association and Join the Barbados Workers9 Union.\"

Nowt Mr. Speaker, I should like to say that this article would give the impression that the Government had, without seeking the approval of the Legislature, made decisions regarding the conditions and terms of employment of mem-bers of the Public Service of this island. I should like to place on record that this statement is quite misleading, and that the Cabinet has considered no such increases in overtime rates for Civil Servants as attributed to Mr. Symmonds who is President of the Civil Service Association. The Whitley Council of the Civil Service of Barbados has a Constitution which was approved by the Government on 23rd April, 1945, and the objects of the Whitley Council as outlined in paragraph 10 of the Constitution are as follows;-

\"The general objects of the Council shall be to secure the greatest measure of co-operation between the Government in its capacity as employer, and the general body of Civil Servants in matters affecting

the Civil Service, with a view to increased efficiency in the Public Service, com-bined with the well being of those employed, to provide machinery for dealing with grievances and generally to bring together the experience and different points of view of members of the Civil Service.\"

It goes further to say in paragraph 14 that -

\"\'The decisions of the Council shall be arrived at by agreement between the two sides, shall be signed by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and shall be communicated to the Government without delay. No decisions shall become operative until the approval of the Governor and, where necessary, the Legislature shall first be obtained. Provided that, in any case of disagreement between the two sides the provisions of clause 12 of the Constitution in regard to special committees shall be resorted to. In such a case the special committee shall consist of such equal number of Members from each side of the Council as may be determined by the Council and selected by the respective sides thereof, together with such other person or persons (not being members of the Civil Service) as the Governor may, at the request of the Council, appoint. The decision arrived at by such Special Committee shall be binding on the Council and shall be reported to the Government in accordance with the procedure indicated above. The decisions pf the Council or of a Committee appointed by the Council shall not be disclosed by any member thereof.\"

I should like to emphasise this: paragraph 15 goes on to say this;

\"Only statements issued under the authority of the Council shall be published and such statements shall be as informative as possible.\"

I hope the newspapers get this, I should like to make it clear, Mr. Speaker, that the statement attributed to the President of the Civil Service Association was an unauthor-ised statement. The members of the Cabinet, apart from myself, have no knowledge that any such discussions were taking place, and certainly there has been no submission

to Cabinet of any of the matters to which the President of the Civil Service Association referred. Not only is it in contravention of the Rules of the Whitley Council, but it is certainly a contravention of the rights and privileges of Parliament, because the matters to which the president of the Civil Service Association referred can only be decided in the last analysis by the Legislature itself.

We know, Sir. and we fully appreciate that in the last Government there were certain people who were not members of the Government, that is, not members of the Cabinet, who ran the country and the Civil Service, but we follow the established Parliamentary Rules and Practices, and we never disclose any decision of Government which has to be approved by the Legislature until such approval is actually sought and obtained.

3.40 p.m.

I have read paragraph 15 of the Constitution of the Whitley Council and the Publication of Statements, and I would like Your Honour to clear up any misunderstandings whatsoever as to matters of the Whitley Council and ourselves, being members of the Cabinet responsible for Establishment matters. I think it is a correct thing for me to make this Statement before there is any further

deterioration in the standards of the Public Service and the performance of officers\' duties.

With your permission, the Royal Commission on the Civil Service, 1929-31, pointed out that \"the chain of responsibility between the civil servant and his employer is longer than the corresponding chain in private employment. The \"managerial element\", that is, the Official Sides of the Whitley Councils, is responsible to Ministers, and Ministers are responsible to Parliament.\" The Royal Commission added:

\"In our view it is impossible, even if it were desirable that a Whitley Council in the Civil Service should function as a legislative body. The members of the Official Side possess no power or authority except what is delegated to them by Ministers. The provision that the decisions of the Council \' shall be reported to the Cabinet and thereupon shall become operative\' appears to us to be a misstatement of the position. In fact the position is, and must remain, that, unless the Cabinet through Ministers authorises the Official Side to agree, no agreement can be reached on the Council.\"

\"On this view it is clear,\" the Royal Commission concluded, \"that proposals for giving the National Whitley Council an \"\'independent\" Ministerial chairman are misconceived. It is not unknown, though unusual, for a Minister to attend a departmental Whitley Council meeting, but that is a gesture of goodwill rather than a matter of principle, and controversial topics are usually avoided on those occasions.\"

Therefore, for some newspapers to say that the Government did agree to some things put forward by the President of the Civil Service Association, I do not know how that could have taken place when we did not have the opportunity to know what is the situation.

It goes on to say that \" the establishment of Whitley Councils cannot relieve the Government of any part of its responsibility to Parliament, and Ministers and Heads of Departments acting under the general or specific authority of Ministers must take such action as may be required in any case in the public interest. This condition is inherent in the constitutional doctrines of parliamentary government and ministerial responsibility, and Ministers can neither waive nor escape it.

It follows from this constitutional principle that, while the acceptance by the Government of the Whitley system as regards the Civil Service implies an intention to make the fullest possible use of Whitley procedure, the Government ha snot surrendered, and cannot surrender, its liberty of action in the exercise of its authority and the discharge of its responsibilities in the public interest.

In other words, the Official Side has no authority except that of the Government, and the Government cannot be compelled to exercise its authority by way of Whitley procedure. But that is not to say that any Government will willingly or irresponsibly disregard the advantages of acting in Civil Service matters, wherever possible, by consultation and agreement with the representatives of the Civil Service.\"

Now, it appears that the occasion of the President of the Civil Service Association not only reminding the Government but Parliament was the occasion in connection with the Postmen\'s grant. His making that statement is because the Civil Service Association is claiming to be in a better position to represent the workers, particularly those of Division 111, or something like that, - the Key Scale established

workers - than the large Trade Union in the territory. It is a matter for them to resolve their Jurisdiction in whatever way they think best, but I would not have the President of the Civil Service Association saying that this Government has given approval to the statement which they have made of the lower grade or branch of the Service, and also that by implication the Government is prepared to short circuit parliamentary procedure and is prepared to give publication to matters which have not been considered by Parliament.

To sum up, there were discussions and other representations on the staff side, and the officials are working in my Ministry on certain proposals; but in this modern atmosphere of industrial warfare, these matters have been brought up to the front. As a matter of fact, with respect to this matter dealing with these people, these proposals were never even reported back to me as Minister of Finance. They would first have to be submitted to me, and after that, if I thought fit, they would have to be submitted to the Cabinet and there they would have to be agreed upon.

(Loud Asides).

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I would have to stop speaking until I can hear my self. There is a lot of loud speaking on the other side, particularly by the hon. junior member for St. George0

Mr. SPEAKER: I will ask hon. members, in view of that, to be perfectly quiet even when they are speaking sotto voce.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: As I was saying9 the matter would have to be submitted for the approval of the Cabinet and then to be approved by both Houses of the Legislature. There is this tendency being mooted around by members of the Civil Service that they make final decisions on these matters; but as long as I am in charge of Establishment, no Whitley Council or whatever it is, would be making any charge on the Treasury without the approval of Parliament. (Cheers)

Mr. SPEAKER: In respect of the statement made by the Hon. Premier, I am grateful for that being pointed out to me. I will consider whether this constitutes a breach of privilege of Parliament. I will therefore give instructions to have the matter investigated.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. W. A. CRAW FORE): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House resume Committee of Supply.

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

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

3.50 p.m.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1964-65 No. 52
OUTFIT ALLOWANCE TO WARRANT OFFICER INSTRUCTOR
HEAD 23 - BARBADOS REGIMENT

Hon.W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, this Resolu-tion is a Resolution for the sum of $25,398, and the first Item in the Schedule is under Head \"Barbados Regiment\". It is a New Item which deals with an outfit allowance to the Warrant Officer Instructor. Hon. members will see from the Note to this Item that the Warrant Officer Instructor is, by the terms of his appointment, entitled to an outfit allowance at the rate of $22.88 per annum. As a result of an oversight, no financial provision was ever made for the payment of this allowance to the present holder of the post who was appointed with effect from 16th May, 1963. It is therefore nearly two years that this Officer has not drawn this allowance and therefore this sum of $43.00 is requested in order to enable payment of the allowance to be made to the end of the current financial year. I beg to move that Head 23 stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that. Me question was put and resolved in the affirmative uithout division.

HEAD 27 - PUBLIC WORKS
ITEM WITHDRAWN

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, according to the Resolution, under this Head \"Public Works\" there is a New Item \"Powder Magazine\" for which the sum of $25.355 was being asked. However, Sir, we are now asking that this Head be not included in this Resolution at all. We are not proceeding with it now. I am therefore asking leave to withdraw this Item from the Schedule so that the entire amount which is being asked for under the Resolution will be the amount asked for under Head 23, namely, $43.00 in respect of the outfit allowance to the Warrant Officer Instructor of the Barbados Regiment.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Hon. Minister is asking leave to withdraw this Item from the Schedule to this Resolution and if there is no objection, leave will be granted (After a pause). There being no objection, leave is granted.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that this Resolution as amended do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1964-65 No. 53

Hon. W. A. CRAW FORD: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is a Resolution for the sum of $14,150 under three Heads of the Estimates. I propose to take these Heads separately.

HEAD 12 - CHARGES OF DEBT Head 12 - Charges of Debt -was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, under this Head, this amount of $13,107 is required to meet the interest charges on loans. The amount provided in the Estimates for this purpose has proved to be inadequate, and this sum is now required to supplement the provision for this current financial year. I beg to move that Head 12 stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 13 - CUSTOMS Head 13 - Customs - was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, under this Head the sum of $1,000 is required to supplement the overtime vote for Customs for the remainder of the financial Year. Hon. members will see from the Note that, in view of the increased traffic at Seawell Airport and the large number of tourist boats arriving at the Port, the amount provided in the Estimates to meet overtime fees has proved inadequate. Hence this sum is being asked for to supplement the Estimates to the end of the financial year. I beg to move that Head 13 stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I would like to draw something to the attention of the Government. I have done It before and I will do it again. I think that the Customs arrangements in this island need a little tightening up. You have ships and small craft lying along the quay side; this is an open port and I do not consider that to be in the best interest of this colony. I am wondering to what extent this island is losing revenue which must be considerable because, for security reasons, I cannot see how, along that open roadside, you can really protect this island.

Moreover, Sir, on this question of Customs, I wonder if the Hon. Minister would be willing to make a Statement relative to this matter which came out in public. The Port of Bridgetown nearly came to a stand-still on one morning, and no statement in connection therewith has been made by the Government. I would like to know if the Hon. Minister is going to make a statement in this connection. How is it that the Port Department was not opened in accordance with the statutory time? Since then I have heard of the termination of the services of a member of the Civil Service. I may say, Sir, that I was called out from my home early in the morning and that is why I am asking this question. This was an explosive situation taking place at the docks, but it did not precipitate a whole stoppage of work because people were available to carry on their duties. I wonder if the Hon. Minister is willing to make a Statement as to the reason why the Customs Department was not opened according to what is allowed by the Statutory hour. I think it is fair to the public that we should know what is the result of what took place and what the position really is.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, the Customs Department is one of the Departments allocated to my portfolio. That was so right from the beginning of this Session in 1961.

4.00 p.m.

Unfortunately, although I deal with Establishment matters, the question of discipline and control over the members of the Civil Service is a matter for the Public Service Commission and not for the Government. The Government has no disciplinary powers over any Civil Servant. This is exclusively within the powers of the Public Service Commission.

I notice that a statement was made in the Press by a responsible officer of the Civil Service Association a few days ago to the effect that the Government has said that the matter was closed. No Minister of Government has any offical knowledge, no more than any other member of this House, of anything relating to the staying home of a number of Civil Servants who are employed at the Customs. Under the Rules of the Civil Service Association, a Civil Servant is entitled to stay home for three days without producing a medical certificate and without giving any reasons for doing so, and they are entitled to a certain number of days casual leave per annum. Unless they exceed that number of casual days in total in any one year, then no one can actually enquire as to their reasons for staying home. If they give a bad reason for staying home, it may be another matter; but I should like to make it clear that when a so-called responsible Press in this island states that the matter of the dismissal of a probationary employee has been

submitted to Government and the Government said the matter was closed, it has never been to this Government; it may have gone to the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, but certainly not to the Barbados Government.

Mr. WALCOTT: May I ask the Hon. Premier if he is aware that the Customs, which should come to his attention as the Minister responsible, was not opened at the statutory time, and was it drawn to his attention that the Customs did not operate for some time, and it therefore stultified work on the docks? If this is so, I am asking the Hon. Premier if he is going to institute an enquiry into the reasons and causes why the Customs was not opened at the statutory hour of 8 a.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman. I am aware that the Customs did not open, and it was reported to me because the business community and other citizens of Barbados would be concerned in the failure to open the Customs. It was reported to me that the Customs was not opened at the statutory time, and the reason for the delay in opening was also reported to me, That is as far as the matter goes. The reason given was that some of the employees did not turn out to work.

I am stating. Mr. Chairman, that the whole Civil Service can go on a total strike, though I am not inviting them to. Under the present Constitution of Barbados and the conditions of employment of the Civil Service, if the Civil Servants chose to stay home for three days, they could bring all Government work to a standstill, because this is what the present Constitution allows them to do. If they stood home for more than three days, they would have to produce a doctor\'s certificate to say why they were absent from work.

Now the Civil Servants obviously have their legal advisers behind them or in front of them pushing them from behind, and I may have my own ideas; but when they fail to come out to work, it is a matter for the public Service Commission to institute an enquiry if the Public Service Commission thinks fit. The matter was reported to me, but it was not within my jurisdiction.

Mr. WALCOTT: I would not like to press this, Mr. Chairman, because it would create a very dangerous precedent; but I would not like to see the Hon. Premier in his Ministerial capacity passing over his Ministerial responsibility to the public, because the Public Service Commission is not responsible to the public for the opening and closing of the Customs. That is the function of the Minister, because tomorrow the Public Service Commission cannot decide if the Customs should open or close. The Minister must do that; and I am raising here, as a matter of public interest, that the Hon. Premier should institute an enquiry; if not, I may have to make a substantive motion that the Minister should open one, and not call upon the Public Service Commission. If it has been drawn to the Minister\'s attention that the Customs was not opened at the statutory hour, it is within the province of the Minister to institute a Departmental enquiry into the causes and reasons, because the public has been affected. The reason why I say that is because the public cannot ask the Public Service Commission why the Customs was not opened. We can only ask the responsible Minister, and the Hon. Premier has said that all the Civil Servants can take that line up to three days; but I am sure that if the whole Civil Service stood home for one day - I would not even go to the extent of saying three days - the Hon. Premier should institute a public enquiry as to how it is 85 people took sick at the Customs. I would go further and say that 85 policemen out of 600 were not sick on that day. There are 7,000 people in the Civi Service, and I am sure that if 85 persons took ill in one Department the same day, it would be a matter of public interest. I am not getting into this matter from the industrial aspect. I agree with the Premier from the industrial aspect that a probationer being dismissed, whether it was right or wrong, is something different from the Premier having an enquiry into why the Customs did not open. If he says this is a matter for the Public Service Commission, that is a matter of opinion; but I do not subscribe to the sugges-tion that it is a matter for the Public Service Commission

why the Customs did not open. The Government of the day is responsible to the nation, and not the Public Service Commission. The Public Service Commission is only a body that is advisory \' to the Governor and cannot make any decision. They can only make recommendations, and I cannot see them making a decision as to the opening and closing of the Customs.

Mr. Chairman, I am satisfied in my mind that an investigation should be held at Ministerial level and no lower so that the public will be satisfied that from a Ministerial point of view it has been ordered that an investigation should take place into why 85 people did not turn out to work, because if the Public Service Commission decides it is not taking any action, then it means no action will be taken. I feel that there should be a Ministerial direction, and if there is anything that disrupts the Public Service to the extent that this has, the Minister responsible, who in this case is the Premier, should be willing to tell the House that he has given instructions that an enquiry should take place, and not leave it to the Public Service Commission to decide if they are going to carry out an investigation, because the Public Service was disrupted, and in that the Premier is responsible to Parliament and to the public for what happened on that day.

4.10 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to prolong this part of the debate, but I must make my position quite clear. If the Customs is not open on a day that it should normally be open, as Minister in charge of the Customs, I can ask the Head of the Department to give me a report. When he says that the keys were lost or somebody locked a door, I do not see how an enquiry could be made into that.

If a Civil Servant has the right to stay at home for three days without giving a reason, how can you enquire of his reason for staying at home? By law, he is allowed to stay home, without giving a reason, for three days. If he stood home for a day, it needs not to be supported by medical evidence. If he stood home for the reason which the hon. member gave, then the Public Service Commission will have to say whether they should dismiss all the people who stood home. If they said that they stayed home because they were not feeling well, you could not go and examine that statement because the law allows them to stay home for three days without giving a medical certificate. I am sure if I stood by such an enquiry, the hon. senior member for St. Peter would be the first to challenge why I opened such an enquiry.

Mr. WALCOTT: I wonder, Sir, if the Hon. Premier is speaking as a lawyer or as Premier. That is what a defence lawyer for the Civil Service would say. Because you grant them the right to stay home, and all of them could stay home that day, there is nothing to prevent an enquiry being carried out so as to see what that enquiry would reveal. The Hon. Premier knows that very well, because people can use \"big-foot\" moves on you.

Under the Better Security Act of this country, nobody at the Waterworks Department, the Barbados Light and Power Company can stay at home without giving a reason. They call it conspiracy if it is proved under the Better Security Act that on the ground that you are sick you stayed at home, and you could not give a positive reason when everybody stayed away so as to prevent the Public Service from being carried out. They could be charged for conspiracy. These people in the Public Service could not be charged for conspiracy, because I think that they are not under the Better Security Act.

The fact that the men have a right to stay home for three days does not mean that eighty-five of them could stay at home on the particular day in question. The Hon. Premier said that I am a trade unionist, but I am one of those practical trade unionists. I would not encourage any person to stage a strike. I will have to tell the Premier that in another matter which I have to put before him soon. In that matter, we are facing the stage when we will have to go on a strike: but when we reach that stage, we will give you early warning.

Sir, without examination, it looks too much of a coincidence that 85 people would take sick the same day, unless we had an influenza epidemic - and I think that in the days when cholera was rampant, you did not have 85 people taking sick one day. To have such a high percentage of Barbadians sick in one place is phenomenal.

I can understand the Hon. Premier being cautious, but I do not like this cautious view being expressed by any Minister. I understand that, they are about to pass legislation to make control of Government offices at the Seawell Airport and essential service because if the people who work up there had a grievance and they stayed outside even for one day, that will cause a disruption in the aeroplane flights that day. I do not think an aeroplane can be up in the air like a butterfly and land without any answer from the people who work in the tower.

We, of the Union, have Government officers who have signified their intentions to join the Union, and we have given them permission; but any time we intend to take action, we will tell you. I will have to tell the Government soon that we may shut down the Asphalt Plant at Mangrove.

This is not taking away any right of the worker to stay at home. I am not saying this as a trade unionist. As a matter of fact, when I speak in here. I represent those people who elected me. I do not represent the Barbados Workers Union when I come in here; I represent the people who elected me. I feel, in the interest of the Public Service, that you should have an enquiry into the matter. So far as the Public Service Commission investigated the man\'s case, that is another matter. I feel, Sir, that we are entitled to know quite clearly why it happened so that the situation would not occur again.

The question that Head 13 - Customs - stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 23 - BARBADOS REGIMENT

Head 23 - Barbados Regiment - was called.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, you will note that there was this Head which was considered under a previous Resolution. I do not know how it came to be repeated here. I am, therefore, asking leave to delete Head 23 from this Resolution.

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

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Chairman, the entire amount under this Resolution would now be $43,107 and I am moving that that amount under this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

4.20 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-65 No. 52 HEAD 39 - GENERAL HOSPITAL

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDSrMr. Chairman, the next Resolution is a Resolution for the sum of $34,000 in respect of four items under Head 39 of the Estimates dealing with the General Hospital. The first item is Item 10I - \"Substitutes for Oncers and Servants on Leave\"; the next is Item 112 - \"Maintenance of Motor Vehicles\". Item 118 is \"Incidentals\" and Item 124 is \"Laboratory\". In respect of the first Item, the sum of $25,500 is required; in respect of the second Item, the sum of $3,000 is required; in respect of the third Item, the amount required is $2,500 and in respect of the last Item, the sum of $3,000 is required. Relative to the Substitutes for Officers and Servants on leave, for the opening of the New Hospital, it became necessary to obtain the services of 30 people to carry out maintenance work at the Hospital in the matter of cleaning. That was necessary if the Hospital was to be ready for the

opening on the 14th November, and it was from this vote of $25,500 that the cleaners were paid. Asa result of that, there were other people who were substitutes for officers on leave and who also had to be

paid from this vote, so that by the end of December, the vote was almost spent. It is unfortunate that we were not able to deal with this matter on Tuesday last so that the people who have worked at the Hospital in January would have got paid. These were sub-stitutes on a temporary basis.

I know that there was a threat made and I have nothing to say in relation to that until all hon. members have said what they have to say. I will then reply. As regards Item 112, \"Maintenance of Motor Vehicles\", there was a new Ambulance and a Volkswagen which have been surveyed for the purpose of reinstatement, but these two vehicles, which have been surveyed recently, have not been giving satisfactory service at all. Consequently, much more money than we anticipated has had to be spent on the maintenance of these vehicles; therefore, there is the necessity for this supplementary amount. On the question of Incidentals, there is the cost of the moving over of patients from the Old Hospital to the New one, and because we were operating two Hospitals at one and the same time, one kitchen was operating for both Hospitals and, as a result of all that, the amount originally voted under this Item has proved to be inadequate. We are therefore asking for this supplementary provision of $2,500.

When we come to Item 124 \"Laboratory\", there have been additional cases, an additional number of patient shave been attending the Outpatients Department, and these additional cases required more Laboratory investigations; hence the sum of money which has been provided under this Item has become inadequate. There is the need for more Laboratory equipment for carrying out the tests. I beg to move that this Resolution for the sum of $34,000 do now pass.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, last Tuesday I objected to this Resolution being dealt with in all of its stages and the Hon. Premier, in objecting.to my statement, said that he was placing on record that I, as a Trade Unionist, was voting against these servants getting their money in order that I could talk about the doctors. I do not know what led the Hon. Premier to make that statement, but he made it as if I did not have the right to say that I was not prepared to vote for this Resolution be gone through in all of its stages last Tuesday, because the Hospital is a very important institution. If it is the Premier\'s intention to follow the pattern which some former Ministers have adopted when I spoke on any matter which the Government was bringing down, then he is free to do so. That was all to distort what I said and to say that I did not want these people to get their money. If there is any hostility to me in the approach which I take in this matter, then I will accept the challenge of hostility and let the record be there. The Premier can reply to anything which I say.

The Hon. Minister of Health said that he is prepared to answer anything. Last Tuesday when the Hon. Premier made his speech and left the House, you would have believed that this money did not also concern the Medical Staff. This is a staff which they employ. What do you call an Officer? Is he not a doctor? This item 10I is \"Substitutes for Officers and Servants on Leave\", and the amount required is $25,000. These people are not maids, because you do not pay the maids this sort of money, and therefore this would have to apply to the doctors. The Note to this Item states: \"The original vote has become inadequate owing to the fact that it has had to be used to pay salaries,\" To whom do you pay salaries? You pay salaries to those whom you employ permanently and you pay wages to those you can fire when you like. The Note goes on to read \"and wages of temporary emergency staff engaged for preparations for the opening and the partial occupation of the New Hospital whilst the old one is still being used.\" The other amounts are for supplementing the provision for the main-tenance of motor

vehicles, for incidentals and the last one is for the Laboratory. Relative to the maintenance of motor vehicles, the note explains that the expenditure has been higher than anticipated owing to the necessity for re-

taining the use of three vehicles which have been giving unsatisfactory service whilst replacements are being awaited. The Note with regard to Incidentals is that because of the transfer of patients from the Old Hospital to the New one and the continual transportation of food, and so on, from the Old Hospital to the New, the transportation costs have been higher than anticipated. Finally, with regard to the Laboratory, the Note states that the increase in the number of patients in the Hospital and of Outpatients and Specialist Clinics has induced an increased number of Laboratory investigations.

Do you mean to say that you have not got doctors in the Laboratory? Mr. Chairman, we want to put the Hospital on a new footing at the beginning, and the Hon. Mirdster in introducing a Resolution in connection with this same Hospital some time ago - well, apparently, there is some difference of opinion between what the Hon. Minister has said and what the members of the Barbados Branch of the British Medical Association feel.

4.30 p.m.

Now the Hon. Minister and every hon. member would know that I am not here to represent the British Medical Association, because they have their own organisation; and if something is done at the Hospital which affects the doctors, I think they have a right in their own Association to make any protest they feel they can make. Now the Minister is right when he says he is under no obligation to consult anybody. The only person a Government has any obligation to consult are the electorate at an election; but during your term of office, to get good Government you should consult voluntary organisations on matters on which you feel they would be able to advise you, and I would say that I do not believe any Minister would embark on a big project without consultation with some of the people involved.

When the Premier made the quip that I would be voting against these people getting their money, I would like to remind him that the only people whose salaries and con-ditions of employment have been re-adjusted since the Government came into office are doctor sand professional people, but none of the other people ha shad any adjustment; so there is no point in raising that because it has been done by the Government on many occasions. Sometime ago the Minister brought in a Civil Establishment Order and made adjustments for the doctors - not for the maids, orderlies or porters; they are paid the same way, and they are standing at ease until somebody gives them a prod to move. But I would like to say that I think the Minister would be well advised, if there is anything to be cleared up, to take this opportunity to do so. We are not conducting our business through any newspaper or any Senate, Now I hear a lot of things through the grapevine, but I ignore the grapevine. I heard that someone came and asked me if I am pushing the Minister without Portfolio for this Ministry and not the Minister concerned, as if I have had any discussions with the Minister. There is some idea that I discuss matters with Ministers. I see the Ministers if I come to the House or if I go to Government Headquarters to meet them in their official capacity.

Mr. Chairman, there is no Minister sitting a round that Table who can say that since he has been in office I have been and asked him to help somebody with a job, because nobody comes to me and asks

me to see if I can get the Minister to help him with a job. I do not know how the people in St. Peter get Jobs, because there is no Minister from St. Peter. I have discussions with the Minister son matters which the Government writes the Union about and that is about all. Very rarely do I have what I would call political matters to discuss with Ministers other than in this Chamber, and the reason for that is very simple. No Minister has any obligation to me nor have I any obligation to any Minister. No Minister has done anything for me nor have I done anything for any Minister; so I can speak freely on any matter when I come to this Chamber. If the Minister has as powerful, or if not as powerful, as important an organisation as the Association of doctors in the island, it is pointless to ignore them. I can only speak for people as I know them, and I have read, though I do not know if it is true, that the Specialists here line their pockets with money and think about making money.

I have had some dealings with doctors in Barbados, Mr. Chairman, and I have had dealings with doctors outside Barbados, and I would say that the Specialist doctors in Barbados are working in this country for very reasonable fees and cannot be regarded as lining their pockets. I had the example of finding out that for a doctor charging $10 W.I. here as specialist fees, his counterpart in New York would be paid $25 U.S., four times as much; and I believe that doctors like any other professional persons do free cases also. Doctors are making money in Barbados because they are in short supply, and on anything that is in short supply you will make money. During the war anybody selling slips, potatoes, yams or cloth made money. Motor car tyres, gasolene and rice made money. I think it would be a bit uncharitable to them to describe them by implication as money sharks; that is not true. I think one of the most difficult things about this country is to get medical men at night.

What I am saying today, Mr. Chairman, is to save this island from getting into a rut, but if you get a row between doctors and Ministers, or between doctors and doctors, the poor patients are going to suffer, because when a man or woman is sick, he cannot afford to quarrel with a doctor or a nurse unless he does not want to remain on this side of the planet. The Duke of Edinburgh opened that Hospital in November last and among his words was that with all the implements and improvements, you had to sec what you could do for the patients, and I should like the Minister who is responsible for the Hospital to utilise his best resources in gal vanising the support of the doctors around him to make this new Hospital a success. We cannot afford to spend $9 million on any project in Barbados and not get the maximum benefit from that kind of money. We happen to be a poor community, and $9 million is a lot of money to be spent on a hospital. A friend of mine who deals with hospitals told me that by its standard the Barbados Hospital is as good as any you can find anywhere, and he said that within the context of Barbados, it is above the sort of general service in the sense that coming to a community like Barbados, you would not expect to find a hospital of that standard. You would expect to find a hospital of that standard in a richer society, he said, and asked why steps should not be taken to attract people from the other islands to come to our Hospital because it provides good services.

4.40 p.m.

He was shocked when he heard that we could not get staff - I do not mean medical staff like doctors. He was shocked because he said: \"How is it that you have an unemployment problem and you can not staff the Hospital with nurses?\" His answer was that you could get down to what they got down to in New York. They took in some auxiliary people - people who are not up to the standard of S.R.N., people who could do the rough Jobs. He asked if you could not get people to do that sort of work. He said that you should get more people at the lower level so that the trained nurses would be free for the

top level work, and you will not get trained nurses to do the low level jobs. He said that there are certain Jobs which the trained nurses do, and they are tackling the problem of nurses by bringing in auxiliary staff and at times even some of them become nurses too.

I feel, Mr. Chairman, that would go a long way to put our Hospital on a better footing. I am interested in seeing the Hospital off to a good start. I am pleased to hear the Hon. Minister say that they are going to have a Board to run the Hospital. When you have the Board, I have no doubt that the Minister would be asking the Workers\' Trade Union to nominate people to sit on that Board. It should be remembered that the Trade Union was called upon to vote $2 million from the Labour Welfare Fund to bring this Hospital off the ground. The Government did not have any money to start with and Labour Welfare Fund was used. We happen to be representatives of the workers, and the largest number of people who would be going into that Hospital would be the workers. We have the analysis that the workers resident there are between 60% and 75% at all times. You are going to have a multiplicity of problems to deal with at that Hospital. We have enough people in our Union who can serve on the Hospital Board, and I feel that a

Board would be a good buffer between the professional man, the nurses, the men down at the bottom and the other staff because discipline there is going to be an important thing.

I am glad to see that you are coming back to the idea of having a Board. Many years agof there was a Board. In these big institutions, if you do not have a Board, some of these people who come in would give the Minister an everlasting headache. If you do not have a Board, every half cent spent would have to be settled at your desk. If somebody is going to be dismissed, a Board can deal with that adequately. If anything comes up about food, a Board can deal with that,

I would like to see the Hospital put on a good basis from the beginning. The impression given was that I was going to make some raucous speech about the Minister. There is nothing raucous about my speech. I want to see the Hospital put on a good footing. I will tell the Hon. Minister that there is the temptation in modern Governments to regard consultation as taking away their Ministerial rights. That is not so. How can you live in a community where there are only six Ministers and decide that the six of them know everything and that all the wisdom is confined in the sit of them? How can you believe that? I am a practical man. Do you mean to say that when you are a Minister, you are everything? What you were before you were a Minister? You are not a genius because you have become a Minister; you can make anyone a Minister. You can call the hon. senior member for St. Andrew and make him a Minister, but it does not mean that when you make him a Minister, he will have all the wisdom. A Minister is nothing you can manufacture. I feel that as a Minister, you should not give the sort of feeling of intolerance to some of these voluntary organisations. It is true that some of them would write and make you feel that they want to take on your responsibility. I do not subscribe to the view that a Minister becomes weak-kneed when he allows people or groups to consult his Ministry, You need not have any fear about that. I believe the Government in power has realised by now that the people who were not their friends before are their friends now. But tomorrow if you are out of power, even your best friends will pass you by. You will have those friends now; but I say that you have to show your determination in a responsible community like this. You will get some people coming to you and telling you: \"From the time you were born, I know that you would become a Minister.\" They come to you and tell you that they knew your father before you were born and all that sort of thing.

Sir, I will advise the Hon. Minister, if he accepts my advice, that the advice of a voluntary organisation like the Barbados Branch of the British Medical Association should not be despised. It is true to say that some voluntary organisations, as the Hon. Premier mentioned, does not come up to a crisis. Everybody in Barbados knows what to do when the crisis is over. I would like the Minister to feel when I ask him to accept the advice of the Medical Association that it is within his power to do so. Personally, I do not think you should get professional men. more so doctors, to be Ministers of Health. If I had my way about it. I would not make a doctor a Minister of Health, because he knows too much about it. He would tell all the doctors there what to do.

4.50 p.m.

You should not put a doctor in the same field because he knows too much. It is not like where you must have a lawyer as Attorney General. It is a good thing when you have a lawyer at the head of the Government; otherwise you may not get anything done; but, constitutionally, you will accept these people and hear what they have to say. You will accept them and they will give you advice, because a new Hospital like this requires their assistance and support. From what I read in the newspaper with these charges which have been made by the Hon. Minister, this is where I regard the Barbados Branch of the British Medical Association as being grossly impertinent in their writing a letter to the Hon. Premier telling him whom they intend to co-operate with.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: It was not a letter to the Premier.

Mr. WALCOTT: Well, they wrote a general letter to the public.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order. No letter was written to me; I was shown the letter. I think the hon. member should understand that the Barbados Branch of the. British Medical Association is not employed by the Government; but if they like to submit a list of the doctors who are not prepared to co-operate with the Minister, then they must realise that that list will be under the consideration of the Public Service Commission. If they were to provide me with a list which says that they are not going to co-operate with the Minister, and if the Public Service Commission did not do anything about it, there would not be any money for them in the Treasury at the end of the month. (Laughter).

Mr. WALCOTT: My Organisation cannot tell the Hon. Premier whom he can meet and co-operate with as a Minister. We had a Minister of Labour and at one time I said \"We are not worrying with you we can operate without you we will not meet you.\" Where the Minister is making a charge to one of us or any of the doctors at the Hospital that by the end of March what would happen - I do not like this threat. I do not like this threat that you would see something. Some remark like that was made. I do not think that a Minister has to say in a debate in this House that if a doctor does not like this or that he would see what will happen by the end of March.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, it is unfortunate that the Press doe snot report exactly what is said in this Chamber, and it is also unfortunate that people are guided by what they see in the newspaper without getting the facts. What I said on this particular subject is that there are some doctors at the Hospital who are making deliberate attempts to embarrass this Government, and that if I had my way they would have been out of the Hospital long ago. I further said that it is not an easy thing to get that done because these persons are disciplined, as they are employed,

by the Public Service Commission. I continued to say that if they went on in that vein, by the end of March they would go or I would go. That is what I said and I mean every word of it.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, this is what I was saying. A Minister under our Constitution is in charge of the administration of matters which fall under his portfolio. A Minister should be able to go to the Premier and say \"Under my administration I am not getting any support from the doctors and I want you or the Cabinet to institute an enquiry into that part of the matter.\" I would make that quite clear. Let us get down to brass tacks. The Public Service Commission did not create any Cabinet; it is the Cabinet which created the Public Service Commission.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. Let me correct the hon. member on that point. The Public Service Commission is created by an Act of Parliament, and the Public Service Commission has the right to nominate a person to serve in the Public Service. No Minister, including myself, although I have the right to agree to the appointment of certain Heads of Departments, has any right to nominate any person to serve in the Public Service. However, we have this situation in Barbados where the Civil Servants can say that they appoint the Public Service Commission. I am not making any criticism of the composition of the Public Service Commission, but it is possible that if I had anything to do about it in 1959 or in 1960 you would have had a more democratic constitution, and you would not have people whom the public did not see or read about, but people who had political association with the other Political Party.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, Parliament in our new context means Parliament. The Hon. Premier knows that tomorrow with internal powers - probably he has not got down to that yet. (A VOICE Dictatorship?) Yes, but that does not mean that you cannot do it. You can decide that

there is not to be any Public Service Commission, and that all the appointments should be made by the Cabinet. 5.00 p.m.

I am not saying what is right to do; I am dealing with the powers. I was explaining to the Minister of Health that fee need not speak as I am speaking or another hon. member would speak. The Minister really does not have to come in here and say what he proposes to do in relation to what he cannot get done. Moreover, unless the Governor can show you very good reasons why he is not prepared to accept your advice since you are responsible for the administration of the Department, or unless there is something other than what meets the eye of the public in what you want to do, whether he likes it or not he has to accept your advice or call upon you to resign; and if you have to resign in protest of what he refuses to carry out, then you will have a constitutional crisis. I say that because the Minister has the power, not the Public Service Commission, to initiate a Departmental enquiry into anything that happen sunder his portfolio that he feels is against the policy of the Government; so you do not have to ask the Public Service Commission anything.

If the Minister of Education tomorrow feels that the policy for school meals is not being carries out by his staff, disciplinary action would be taken after an investigation is made; and after the investigation is made by an impartial enquiry and it is found that the policy of the Government is not being adhered to by any of the public servants, there is no question of the Minister saying \"Either I go or you go.\" That does not occur with a Minister; that occurs with an overseer. That is how an overseer would talk to a manager when he wants the superintendent dismissed, and before he says to the manager \"this is the

case\", he says \"either he goes or I go\". If your wife told you either she goes or the maid goes, and you told the wife to go, what would the world say? The Minister does not have to use those words because he can call upon the Premier, as they have collective responsibility, to institute an enquiry, and if the Cabinet collectively agrees that an enquiry should be made at Ministerial level, that is the end of it. The Premier has to inform the Governor what is to be done, and the Governor would set up the machinery to deal with it. That is why I did not like this idea of the Minister coming out in public and making a statement about people in his administration when he has the power. I would say that that savours to me of the relics of the old Govern-or-in-Executive Committee days when members of the Governor-in-Executive Committee had puffer-pigeon power. It appeared as if you had power, but you could not tell the Governor to do anything. You would tell him what you wanted done, and when you got to the bottom of Government House gap, he would have done the opposite, and put what he liked on the agenda. When you went to Government House, they would have the agenda all prepared, and if you told the Governor to put something on the agenda, he did so if he felt like it, and if you did not like it, he would say you need not come back. Today it is different, and the Minister has the power; and if he feels that the administration at the Hospital is not working well, he should institute an enquiry, not into what the Hon. Leader of the opposition has said about a doctor not speaking to a doctor, or a nurse not speaking to a nurse- because if you have a place where 100 people are working and everybody is speaking to everybody else, something is wrong. You get that kind of unity in Paradise. The hon. junior member for the City runs a school, and if he tells me that all the teachers are speaking, to each other, something is wrong. As soon as you get 100 people working together and all agreeing, then you have 100 idiots; so in a hospital you are going to find doctors not speaking, but you do not want an enquiry for that.

What is important, Mr. Chairman, is that if something is wrong to affect the administration of the hospital, the Minister\'s duty is to see that a proper investigation is carried out to remove it, and he would not have to speak in here about it. Some of us may be able to say that we understand certain things are going on; but all the Minister need tell us, if he is not aware of it, is that he will carry out an investigation, because I am sure that all members of the Government must agree with me that it is not the

duty of the Minister to give the impression that they are publicly castigating their own administration. As soon as it reaches the stage where you have to publicly castigate your immediate administration, something has gone wrong, and that is the subject for an enquiry. That is why I said it did not appear to me as the right thine, and that is why I said that a debate on the Hospital seemed to be necessary because it would give the Minister an opportunity to clear these things up. What the Minister has said confirms my view that an investigation based on what he has said should be instituted, and not say that there are doctors not doing what they should do. The Minister said \"if he had his own way,\" which presupposes that his hands are tied; but his hands cannot be tied if there is a Departmental investigation, that is to say, on what is Government\'s policy on running the Hospital. If the Government\'s policy on running the Hospital is that all patients shall be entered into the Hospital free of charge, nobody at the Hospital can block that, and if any blockage takes place, an investigation will be carried out as to why people are not admitted free. If the Government\'s policy is that patients going to the Operating Theatre must be carried on skates and they are not carried on skates, you will investigate to find out why. If they are to be carried by helicopter and the roof is to be opened and they are not carried by helicopter, you will carry out an investigation as to why it is not done. Now the question of diet and the calorific value of the food they get is not your concern because you are not a

doctor, but the running of the Hospital is the Minister\'s responsibility and no Public Service Commission can block the way of the Minister. If you have not done that, then I feel it is not fair to the doctors, no matter who they are, to make any public statement about them, because they cannot come out and defend themselves, and the only person who can defend them would be you as Minister.

5.10 p.m.

If I got up here and said what the Minister said, he would have to defend them; if not, he would have to carry out an investigation. If I said that the doctors are carrying out the policy, you will have to accept an investigation, or say that, for the time being, you are investigating the matter. If the Minister says that it is true and he is not carrying out an investigation, it is a very sad reflection on your administration.

The Hon. Premier said that they are not employees. I am dealing with them as an organisation. This Trade Union does not negotiate for doctors, but they represent the interest of doctors: and I say that they have the right if one of their doctors are threatened to defend him. I do not agree with the Medical Association when they say that they cannot co-operate with the Minister, although they have the right to say that. They should call on the Government by direct approach and have consultation on this matter against one of their members. That is what they should do but I find that there is the temptation here by certain doctors to use the columns of newspapers to say what they want. Some people think that the newspapers are a forum for discussion. But if you want to deal with a person, write them a letter, because nobody wants to feel that they are too proud to speak with you,

Sir, I hope the Hon. Minister will feel that consultation with the Barbados Branch of the British Medical Association is no direliction of his power or the Government\'s power, but that it is recognising a body which should be recognised. Secondly, - and this is my final comment - I do not know if the Hon. Minister used those words. The Hon. Premier said that Barbadians used words just like pass words. I do not know if the Minister used the words \"sabotage\". Sabotage has its own connotation in the Public Service. It means to insinuate that a public servant has committed something bordering to sabotage, and that should call for prompt and immediate dismissal because it means that you want to blow up the place. I would say that if the Hon. Minister has no specific charge against the doctors, generalisations are not going to help.

As regards the point which the Hon. Premier made when he put on record that I do not want the people to get their money and that I praised the doctors, I accept that because

this vote deals with officers and people, and in the interest of the people, the Hospital is a very important institution. I hope that the Hon. Minister, when he is setting up the Hospital, does not regard the setting up of it as to be too comprehensive as not to include those people who have the interest of the Hospital at heart as such. Sir, I had a long time to say what I had to say, but I think it was necessary that I should say what I did say.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, my remarks may be dif-ferent from the last speaker\'s. I want to start off with the discussion which took place to provide this, what I would call, \"Rolls Royce\" Hospital, The Hon. Minister will one day learn that doctors, even those who are dedicated to their profession, yearn for an opportunity to serve at a modern institution as the one which we have Just erected. Sir, you

will find that a Hospital such as that would be the source of attracting doctors who would not ordinarily have come to Barbados. It is true that in some old institutions, the authorities have erected new modern medical blocks, but in the main, when we are thinking of our Hospital and comparing it with those from Jamaica, British Guiana, Trinidad and right through the West Indies, you can find no equal to this \"Rolls Royce\" job which you have here. This Hospital itself will be a means of attracting the best.

It is true that doctors in Barbados are in short supply, and I believe that is a situation which will continue for a very long time. In Russia, the average is 80 or 90 people to one doctor. Russia has about 22,000 medical men. In Barbados with a population of 240,000 people there are just 40 doctors. Another fact which has to be noted is that the salaries paid here are 200 miles away from the salaries paid to doctors elsewhere. Probably one-third of the salaries which doctors get in countries outside is paid to doctors here, and the going is easier for them outside.

You want to take some responsibility, and I should tell you that hospitals everywhere, in this whole world, would always be a problem for any Minister. Wherever there is an institution in which the bulk of the work deals with misery and suffering, you can always expect to have these disclosures. You will always have the very thing which is now happening at the Hospital. I hope the Hon. Minister will soon get the opportunity of studying a number of top-class hospitals. We have a great problem here. Something like nearly 16,000 people pass through the Outpatient Department every month, and at no time, you can see more than 40 people or 50 people passing through the Out-Patient Department in other Hospitals. Even now, after my three years service up there, I can tell you what your change is going to be. If the Hon. Minister was right in his action and there was justification for his action, all the doctors would respond to you. I do not believe there was that justification.

We had at the Hospital, when we took it over, a Medical Superintendent.

5.20 p.m.

We had at the Hospital this Superintendent who was more than a politician. That is the truth. I did this very feelingly. From my tenure of office, the number of persons who went through the Outpatients Department remains unique. I do not think it was necessary for the Hon. Minister to adopt the attitude which he adopted. There was an officer up there, and all I did was to ask him not to return. That was all. An hour later the Director of Medical Services telephoned to say that he had received the resignation. All the doctors had to support me in this matter. We had an instance when the Matron slapped a nurse and all I did was to telephone her and ask her if it was true. On the telephone, she said; \"Yes\" and I said to that officer \"Please do not return on duty at the Hospital\". There must be a number of things which had been going on for quite a long time and I believe they started soon after the Hon. Minister assumed responsibility for the running of the Hospital.

Mr. Chairman, all problems are made to be solved by by man. You can threaten your medical staff that at the end of two or three months there will be no money available for salaries, but do not hold people up to ransom. You could

bring the Pope, and if he could not cooperate with me - you can tell me all about Parliament, the Public Service Commission or whatever you like; but the Minister must be a man; he must have a soul of his own and he must make his Departments work. Do not tell me that you are being hamstrung by

any Public Service Commission. You are dealing with men whose livelihood must depend upon the confidence reposed by the public in them. If you make an actual statement which is apt to hurt an of fleer\'s feeling, then you will destroy everything. For heaven\'s sake, let us realise that it is the patients who are suffering all the time. You have all this inertia and shock from the settlings which are taking place at the Hospital. I am not saying that you do not want to examine these things so as to under stand what is happening up there. You can write to the Press. You have a staff, and it does not matter whether they belong to the Barbados Branch of the British Medical Association or not. As a matter of fact, last year I asked the senior doctors of that Organization to form a body of their own and to air all the grievances they would have. I did that: but we did not bring everything out in public because when you do that you may hurt the very people whom you want to protect. You are apt to upset these persons, and the question of bread and butter will mean nothing to them if they feel that they are being dealt with unfairly. Mr. Chairman, as far as I am concerned, you could not starve me long enough in order to get me to believe that something was right which I did not think was right. You would see me on the other side battling and singing as the days went by. That is why I say that we are here to respect the elementary principles of freedom and right.

Mr. Minister, you are more concerned about the souls of the people in this country than you are concerned with anything else. If the numbers in the Outpatients Department were to go up to 20,000, it is still the largest Department of the Hospital, and people are paying their attention to the running of a National Health Service. You have persons and you see them coming to the Hospital, persons who cannot afford to pay $3.00 to a doctor. They will carry home the prescriptions which are never taken to the Drug Store. What has happened? You threaten a man about his social security and he ceases to be a bread winner. You have the behaviour of people who have individual characteristics, and we want to understand and appreciate them. Let the Minister understand that a person may have a group of established habits formed over his span of life. All the habits are not always the best ones, but you are always striving to exist. Because a person is a medical or a surgical man, it does not mean that he is not subject to the same sort of explosion that any other soul is subjected to.

We had to make a survey when we were asked to use the sum of $2 million out of the Labour Welfare Fund to be used in the construction of the Hospital.

5.30 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, 76 per cent of the patients going through that Hospital were sugar workers and their contribution was $2 million to the Hospital; so you have to look at it and respect it, and today the figure remains. Possibly if there is any change, you will be riding higher; but you want to keep the men and women on the jobs, and you can only do that with rapidity of service, and with efficiency of service you can offer it at your institution. I lamented the loss of Dr. Byer, a dedicated soul, the only one left on this Island who really under stood that Hospital. You have a panel of medical men and you have the surgical boys, but Dr. Byer was down to earth, and you would be alarmed to know what a great soul he was to work with. For six months Llewellyn Davis was released to us by Nuffield Foundation, and sometimes as late as 1I o\'clock at night we brought people from the institution to tell us what to do to make it function. We tried to make sure that the Junior nurses were not overpowered by the senior nurses, and we had nurses on the panel with doctors. I can see and remember a number of faces who came to a number of meetings. We asked them if they had a point of view to tell us what we could do. Now you have a Rolls Royce Job, and sometimes the pleasant surroundings and beautiful equipment in a Hospital

are as good to a person on a sick bed as medicine, and I know that you, Mr. Minister, will agree that it is so.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I think the hon. member should address the Chair and not the Minister.

Mr. MILLER: It is through you that I address the Minister. With all this in hand, you want to make the Hospital a functional unit. It is in your hand, and do not let posterity and old age or your conscience be in trouble about this. To come and make a statement about sabotage by the doctors is destroying their respect in the minds of the people they have to help. You should call them into your office, have meetings with them and find out what they want. If a surgeon telephoned me and wanted to see me in a hurry, he has a right, and I would do without my lunch and go to see him because it is very Important, and that is the very reason why I assumed the responsibility of Minister of Health. All these factors you want to consider. There was a case where an operation equivalent to the cost of $700 or $800 American dollars was to be performed, but out fees restricted the doctor to under $100, though the patient was willing to pay. You will find that you have conscientious men, and the main back-stays in that Hospital, the bulwarks, are the dedicated souls - primarily Barbadian - who want to live in Barbados and serve that institution. They could go to other institutions and make more money on the outside; so you should close both eyes and look in the other direction. You work in your Ministry, but you do not go and fork the plants in your garden and not look with one eye at the school fees to see if they are all paid, and pretend that you do not want to know the list of those whom you know you will send out of school.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Is all that embodied in the Hospital?

Mr. MILLER: Exactly. It is so close to the Hospital that it is almost part of it. Let the country know that you are big and broad enough to see and understand these things. You have other hospitals that need the help of top Specialists and top Physicians. I have known Mr. Leacock to handle 32 cases one Friday and then 10 o\'clock the Saturday morning he was at the Hospital again. If doctors handle cases outside, you should close both eyes and go and look at your school and see if the school fees are paid. You have visiting surgeons who handle as much as 60 operations and get less than $100 from the Government, but they get the facilities of three or four rooms. Those are things you want to examine and understand. Probably half the country today is waiting for the debate in this House to see if the Premier is going to withdraw the Ministry from you. That would mean a collapse of the Government with an election next month. He could not change horses in the middle of the stream.

Mr. Chairman, I have no reason to fear anybody on earth; it is not a presumption in my nature, it is just that I was born that way. My father and my mother saw to it that I as happy to be like this, and you will remember \"Man Born To Be King\". The Premier cannot \"fire\" you but I know you have been trembling all day, and probably when you meet him you want to act like Sir Walter Raleigh. The whole world looks with jealousy at the institution you are handling. You brought an Order in here and changed the name from Medical Superintendent to Director of Hospital, but a rose by another name is the same rose. You talk about a Board, but how are you going to run this Board? For you to give this Board executive authority to dismiss or suspend, you have to come to Parliament and change the Public Service Commission, or the Board will fail. If a doctor of nurse is brought before the Board and is told that he has been unfair in his responsibility in discharging his duties, and that he should do this or that and not let it happen again, he can say \"you can\'t \'fire\' anybody.\" It is Just like the old scout who had twelve years at Glendairy. Whenever there was a row at Glendairy, he would tell them that they could

not \"fire\" anybody, and they could quarrel as much as they liked.

I should like to know, Mr. Chairman, how this Board is going to function without executive authority. It is true that you can have a million shareholders, 52,000 directors, but you must have one manager. The Minister should do everything to make us feel that he is going to make this in-

stitution work. You have to work that institution with the men who will spend their perspiration, blood and sweat to make it go. You cannot come outside and say \"they are \'fired\' \". You cannot \"fire\" a prisoner, work or no work. You want to get the best out of these people.

5.40 p.m.

This is a question of consultation, and as the hon. senior member for St. Peter said, it calls for consultation. If you want to make a success of your job, Just as they want to make a (success of theirs, you will get together and straighten out the difficulties. Doctors are human beings just as anybody else, and when you are under a strain, you will slam the door and kick the cat. It is because you have a mental strain.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. member sticking to the Resolution?

Mr. MILLER: I know you will say that. If you have hardwork to do you can lay off at times, but you cannot do that at the Hospital when people are suffering. You have to attend to them quickly. You are in a bad position looking at the matter closely. I am frank to both sides. Probably the Hon. Minister has not been in the job long enough. He will soon come to understand that all problems are made to be solved by man. This is what I would call a friendly discourse with the Minister rather than a bad feeling against him.

The Hon. Minister said that you can fire them. He talks as if he is chasing out mosquitoes one at a time. You cannot even kill one mosquito after the other. We want to ensure that the best is offered. Because of some reason that a fellow does not agree with you, you say that you are going to fire him. If a man must serve you, you must make him happy, and if he is happy, he is going to serve you well. It is just the same as if the Premier reduces your salary. You will say that you are going back to be Principal of your school. You want to make a success of the running of the institution in every respect. If the doctors there or a doctor is unreasonable, say so; but do not come out with such talk that you hurt the very people who want to run it successfully.

Sir, I do not think I need say anything more., Wherever you have an institution with an executive authority and workers, it must be an institution to suspend and even dismiss, but it is a question of how you think best to operate it. It is a question of how you do these things. I am sorry I have to tell you these things. It is sad, but it is true. As I have said, it is a matter of consultation.

Mr. Chairman, you will forgive me for taking all this time, but all my concern is as regards the health of the people. If you pay a visit to the Hospital, the first place which you would visit is the Children\'s Ward. For three days after, you would be mentally upset. It is a terrible experience. You will find children who are suffering and are helpless. You will find that there is nothing on earth which you can do that would help. That is what doctors are exposed to everyday; therefore, I appeal to the Hon.

Minister to realise that they have a hard job to perform. You have a \"Rolls Royce\" Hospital which would attract the best to come and serve. A short time ago, we had Mr. Jagan\'s wife here and she asked us to help her to plan a Hospital like that. With all your key posts up there, let them be so filled with doctors that they would say that they wish to stay here and that they would stay here even though they would probably get less salary than what they would get in Trinidad or Jamaica or even Canada. Let them say that they would prefer to take less because they belong to here.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, the duty of the Minister of Health is a very responsible one. It is just like being responsible for a whole battalion and one of them gets wiped out. I, as Minister of Health, cannot sit casually by and allow the Government and the people of this country to be taken for a ride. I am not prepared to be called a nice boy at the expense of 240,000 people.

There have been statements made, or supposedly to be made, by members of a certain body and there were certain charges laid against me as Minister of Health. These statements do not border on foundation of fact, I have not said anything in here which I am not prepared to prove if I am asked to prove it.

Sir, as regards the questions raised by hon. members this afternoon, I am prepared to answer them one after the other. I have been accused of not having consultation with the Barbados Medical Association. This is one of the accusations made by the Barbados Medical Association, and there were three other charges made by that Association. They accused me of not consulting with the Medical Service and this was done in a Press Release on 29th January. They have accused me for not consulting with the Medical Services, for attacking rather than attracting Civil Servants in one of my departments. They also expressed a lack of confidence in me. As regards the question of consultation. I have said already and would say it again that I, as Minister of Health of the Government, have no obligation to consult with that body. In the first place, I would like to know if the Barbados Branch of the British Medical Association is a properly constituted body or if every doctor in the Hospital is a member of the Barbados Branch of the British Medical Association. The answer to if every doctor is a member of this Branch of the British Medical Association\' is \"no\".

5.50 p.m.

This release was made to one member of the British Medical Association. There was no meeting of the Association; but one boss of the Association made a statement to the press saying that the British Medical Association was not consulted in this issue. I consulted my Director of Medical Services because I always do that. We have consulted the British Medical Association on many things. There was an occasion when we asked the B.M.A. to send representatives to Government Headquarters in order to discuss a very important question relative to the importation of therapeutic substances, and when the Minister involved in this matter did not take the necessary action after an agreement had been arrived at between the Ministry of Trade, the Ministry of Health and the B.M.A. representatives on local affairs, the B.M.A., after taking part in that matter, came out with a statement that they were not consulted. In their opinion, they are not consulted even when they are consulted. Mr. Chairman, I would like to know if the B.M.A. is a properly constituted body.

I was also accused of attacking Civil Servants, but hon. members know that I have always stood on the floor of this House and represented Civil Servants even when they were wrong. I have done that,

and then I have called them to my office and dealt with them in a certain way. In this issue, when we find that the services at the Hospital are such that they are at the point of breaking down, do you think that I can find the time to call people to my office to speak with them when we have this state of affairs taking place at the Hospital? I was told that it was not possible to obtain the services of medical officers at night, and now that we have six of them instead of one, who is a full-time officer, and instead of allowing one of them to be employed at the Hospital at night, three of them are now on duty there. We have one for the Surgical Wards, one for the Medical Wards and one is permanently stationed in the Casualty. You are asking an Officer to try and avoid the Government being embarrassed by people going to the Casualty Department and remaining there without being seen by a doctor because of the stupidity of placing one doctor in charge of the Hospital.

It is for three year snow that I have been asking for the services of one doctor at night at the Hospital; that could not be done and now that an officer has been removed from this office, this same thins can be donel Now the Junior medical officers are being victimised. I consider that some of the doctors are very sincere and devoted to duty, but there are about two o them - if you want me to call names I will do that. I am worried about two of them (A MEMBER: Call the names) and unless they pull up their socks, I am

not putting the interest of two doctors at the Hospital against the interest of 2,000 people in the community. I am here to represent the interest of the people in this country.

Mr. Chairman, I will tell you something more. In December, certain changes were made at the Hospital. The Physician Specialist, the Paediatrician and another officer were responsible for the medical cases. Do you know that the first time that a particular officer who was responsible for the medical cases saw a public outpatient was the Thursday after I came in here and said what I had to say? He refuses to assist the person who had the post of Physician Specialist in relation to the Outpatients Department. Now that this Physician Specialist has been appointed to the post of Paediatrician, he closed down the Outpatients Clinic at the Hospital. This Outpatients Clinic was closed down for three weeks. That is the situation with which we are faced in this country. As I said, Sir, some of these people are more interested in the matter of monetary reward than they are interested in the patients. This particular doctor was seeing after private patients who were putting money into his pocket. A case was brought to my notice a lady who was attending the non-paying Outpatients Depart-ment. This is a poor person who cannot pay for her magic attention and up to this day she has not seen the Specialist; but at the same time the Specialist was looking after the people who could pay. This person\'s name is M.M. Howard, and she has been suffering.

6.00 p.m.

The lady had been suffering, she had been to the Hospi-tal, and she came to me only yesterday appealing that he be allowed to see a Specialist, because she had go no improvement from the treatment. She said that she had only seen a junior officer in the Out-Patients\' Department but not a Specialist. She was in hospital in July, she attended the Out-Patients\' Clinic, but never saw a Specially who could give specialist advice on her illness, and that is the sort of state of affairs that is going on at the Hospital in the Medical Department. Are you telling me, therefore that I must stand on the floor of this Chamber and represent a person who is acting in that manner, a per on who 3 not doing the job for which he was employed? People are telling me that I must not let the public know this, have brought it

to the representatives of the people in this Chamber This Chamber is made up of the peoples\' representative, and I think this is the place I should say what have to say, and let the community and the peoples\' rep: sentative know what is happening at the Hospital. If I fail to do that, I would be failing in the duty for which I was placed as Minister of Health to perform. That is so much f the que tion of consultation and the question of attacks m e on Specialists. I can say a lot more on this question of asks which I was accused of making. What I am intereste in is beeing that the people of this country get the service the people we pay to give them the necessary services.

There was another instance too, Mr Chairman, where we had a doctor resigning, and more work would have been occasioned, as a result of the resignation of the doctor, to the present officer in the post. That cancer allowed us to know that he was not interested in wing up any of his consultant private practice outside the hospital to see one more public patient who perhaps was a fering at the Hospital. We asked him to do this so that lore people in the Out-patients\' Clinic at the Hospital could be seen, and he bluntly refused. He was not interested in leaving his private practice to come to the Hospitial and do more work; yet he was paid to look after public patients at the Hospital. Now you will find the same doctor ing that he is not prepared to have a Registrar who has consultant practice working with him, and in a population 242,000 there are two such Specialists in this country looking after that branch of medicine. You cannot expect two su Specialists to look after 242,000 people adequately; yet hen you try to get people with Specialist qualifications to come in and give the people of this country expert service, they do not want them, because they say they would have to share their fees with them. This is what I came out anc aid, and I said it on good authority. I do not see why I should sit back and allow this state of affairs to go on.

The hon. senior member for St. Peter raised the question of the maximum benefits where nurses are concerned, and has suggested exactly what we are doing now, that is, to have at the Hospital more Nurses\' Aides to take care of the shortage in the nurses. The hon. member will remember that when the large Civil Establishment Order was brought in for the commencement of the Hospital, in addition to the 30 Nurses\' Assistants which were on the Establishment at the time, an additional 30 were added. That was done because there was a shortage of nurses, and we thought we should follow the practice in other territories of employing Nurses\' Aides to complement the work of the nurses, and that is why 30 additional posts were added.

Now I was accused of criticising Civil Servants, but as

Isaid, a man can bear so much and no more. During the absence of our Governor last year, we had a distinguished Barbadian acting as Governor of this country who expressed a desire to see the new Hospital, and arrangements were made for him to see it. On hearing that the Acting Governor was coming to the Hospital, the officer at the time responsi ble for the administration of the Hospital went on casual leave. The Acting Governor was to visit the Hospital at

2o\'clock. Now hon. members will tell me if this is not an attempt to embarrass the Government. At five minutes to two on the day of the Acting Governor\'s visit, the same officer who had gone on casual leave arrived at the Hospital and ordered the person at the Hospital responsible for opening the various Wards and sections for visitors to go with him and a party of foreigners through the Hospital. When we got to the Hospital to meet the acting Governor we were embarrassed because we had no keys and we did not know where to go. We then had to send one of the senior engineers at the Hospital to look

around to see what part of the Hospital was opened for us to take the Acting Governor. If that is not embarrassment, I do not know what it is. When I said that there are people at the Hospital who are deliberately attempting to embarrass the Government, those were the things I was speaking about. I do not know if it was because the Acting Governor was a black man, be cause this officer carried a lot of white people with him. 6.10 p.m.

The position was that five minutes before the Acting Governor arrived at the Hospital to see the Hospital, he took a party around and he ordered the person responsible for opening the wards to take along the keys and then we had to butt about our heads.

It was customary for the Governor every Christmas to pay a visit to the Hospital, and this visit was looked forward to by the staff of the Hospital as well as the patients of the Hospital. This was stopped by the same officer.

There was a Clinic for nurses at the Hospital. When they were not feeling in the best of health, they attended this Clinic. This Clinic was closed, and there was no doctor allocated to attend to sick nurses. This particular officer stopped that. Mr. Chairman, I am pointing out a number of things which this particular officer did which were not in accordance with the policy of the Government, and all of these were attempts to embarrass this Government. Sir, when student nurses were going into the Hospital for the first time, it was the practice that these students be given a pre-medical examination before their entry into the Hospital. These students do not go into the Hospital and go to the Nurses\' Quarters and receive lectures; they have to go on the Wards with the sick people; hence the pre-entry medical examination is absolutely necessary for any student nurse. If any person is appointed as a Nurses\' Aide, before they can go into the Hospital, they have to take this examination in order to show that they are fit for going into the Hospital.

Sir, you can imagine what it is when this officer stopped these student nurses from having a pre-entry medical examination. He has stopped it so that you can now have nurses there who are not physically fit for the Job. God knows if it is for that reason that some of them are failing their examinations. This is the state of affairs which is going on up there, and all this is what is happening in the administration by a certain set of people. If hon. members do not know the facts, tell them to ask.

Last year, there was to be a Nurses Graduation ceremony as has been the custom. A couple of days before, the person who is responsible for running the Hospital said that there was to be no Nurses Graduation ceremony. Every thing was prepared for that ceremony, and then this officer said that there would be no Graduation ceremony. You are going to tell me what to do; I cannot tell you what to do. That is what I as Minister of Health have to sit down and stomach all the time.

Sir, I am not finished with this officer yet. When I am finished, he will either change or push his head in a bag. This officer when he held the Chief Executive post at the Hospital never made out a report during the time he was supposed to be holding that position. Ask him if he ever made one round of the Hospital. (A VOICE: Who is he?) I am not calling anybody\'s name. The particular officer is responsible for the administration of the Hospital. He never made one round of the Hospital, Go down at the Mental Hospital. As bad as you say the Medical Superintendent is, he makes his rounds. This particular officer never made one round, and this is the person whom I am asked to represent on the floor of the House of Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, I said that people were suffering - and I feel that some of them died too. That is my feeling because when you can take upon yourself as the senior officer responsible for the Out-Patients\' Clinic and close it down and say that you are not seeing anybody there and you are driving the junior officer under you crazy, what more would you do? We have a native doctor in the Out-Patients\' Clinic. At the same time that he is in the Out-Patients\' Clinic, he is called upon to go to the wards. It so happened that one day this junior officer squealed and they had to take him to his bed. All of this was as a result of the pressure which was put on him by that particular officer who never looked at a patient in the Out-Patients\' Clinic.

Sir, I do not care how much the B.M. A. say that they do not have any confidence in me. As a matter of fact, the boot is on the other foot. I do not have any confidence in them. I do not care when they go to the Press with their nonsense. If I come out and tell this community what they have been saying about the fees - (A VOICE: They do not place fees as priority) I hear some hon. member say that they do not place fees as priority, but I do not think so. In some cases they want to send them up as high as 400 percent.

6.20 p.m.

Mr. WALCOTT: On a point of order.Mr. Chairman, I have never said that they did not charge any fees; what I said is that they cannot say that the fees which are charged by doctors in Barbados as Specialists Fees are exorbitant. You pay a Specialist in Barbados a fee of $10.00, and I have had the experience of paying four times that amount for being told the same thing, that a doctor in Barbados has told me. In Barbados it is a question of ten West Indian dollars, whereas in New York it is a question of $15 or $20 U.S.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, I got the impression that the Hon. senior member for St, Peter was making the point that these people are not concerned with fees. I was criticised for mentioning the amount of fees which these people would like to have. Certain organs of the Press and these people have criticised me for that. I am not concerned with them; I am concerned with the thousands of people who are not getting the services of the Hospital, which they deserve. There are thousands of people who are suffering in this country because they are not getting the services which they should get from the Hospital. That is all. Some of the recommendations which these people have put up for an increase in fees are, in some cases, 444% more than what they formerly got; yet it is felt that they are not interested in fees. What I am telling you, Sir, is that my grouse is not with the B.M.A. as such, but with some of the members of the B.M.A., because they seem to pay no regard whatever to the Hippocratic Oath which they have taken. They seem to forget that their primary concern should be that of the patients. They no longer seem to be conscious of the fact that the patient is the most important person in the Hospital. They no longer seem to be

conscious of their work, but that seeing after the patient is their work.

Mr. Chairman, I will tell you why I have mentioned all of this. You have patients who go to the Casualty of the Hospital or to some of the Clinics, and those patients are treated like dogs by some of the Hospital Officers up there. People know that that is true. I can afford to dwell on this issue, Mr. Chairman, because I know I am right. Perhaps, I am more outspoken than some other persons,

However, I know what my duties and responsibilities are. I am conscious of the responsibilities which I owe to Civil Servants, and I am more conscious of the responsibility which I owe to the thousands of people in this community. I will not swallow these things. Since I am conscious of the responsibility which I owe to the people of this country, it is my duty to see that they are not fleeced, but that they get the best service which the Hospital can offer. That is all that I am asking of the doctors at the Hospital. Some of them are my friends, but I will talk to any doctor or anybody else, and if I see that he is wrong, I will say that he is wrong. If I see that you are right, I will say that you are right. When I refer to some doctors. I use the word \"some\" advisedly and I may say that there are a limited few - about two or three,

Mr. Chairman, we had a case up there where an Officer was telling a patient some of the most crude and wicked things you could think of. As I have already said, the patient, or looking after the patient, is no interruption of the doctor\'s work. Some of these doctors do not seem to understand that attending to the patients is their work. They do not seem to understand that the patient is flesh and blood, and has the same mind as they have, Some of these doctors forget all of this. When people ask them: \"Do you remember that I held you in arms?\" Their reply is \"What am I to do with that?\" Some patients are relieved of their illness merely at the sight of the doctor; but if patients are treated roughly by the doctors, do you believe that they will be relieved of their illness? That is what is happening at the Hospital. Some of the doctors do not seem to remember that if people did not become ill there would be nothing for these officers to do. There would be no need for them. Mr. Chairman, I am doing what the people of this country have put me here to do - that is, to represent them. As I have already said, the boot is on the other foot; I have no confidence in some of the members of the British Medical Association.

Mr. Chairman, I think I have covered all the points which have been raised by hon. members. I did not worry to deal with the question as to how Barbados has suffered the loss of Fellowships. (ASIDES) Mr. Chairman, I cannot hear. (Laughter). \\ was saying. Sir, that I did not worry to mention that in 1962 we suffered the loss of some Fellowships because of nepotism. Because of that, certain documents which should have been signed were not signed because the people who wanted to go to these Fellowships were chosen by the World Health Organisation. That Organization wrote letters to me in which they deplored the attitude of the doctors employed by the Barbados Government in that we did not send any Nurses to the Fellowships offered by the W.H.O. That took place because these documents were not signed, and Barbados had to go without the training of two Nurses, which was offered in 1962. That is the sort of thing which I have suffered for two years. There comes a time when after fire has been put under the pot it reaches boiling point, well, Sir, I have reached boiling point where these cases are concerned, I cannot hold out any longer. I do not have any more secrets whatever for people who have said that they have no confidence in me. 6.30 p.m.

I heard hon. members say, Mr. Chairman, that they have more to say on this issue; so I will sit and give those hon. members an opportunity to raise their points, because I may have something more to say.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I should Just like to raise this point. The hon. members spoke about a Specialist Paediatrician and a Physician Specialist. I think these are matters which the hon. member should get straight. If you

are going to make these statements, one should know how many patients the Paediatrician has to see and how many the Physician Specialist has to see, because you cannot give this House a proper statement of the work doctors have to do unless you say what it involves. If a doctor has to see 60 or 70 patients a day, it is different from one who has to see ren or twenty. The hon. member talked about the Out-Patients\' Clinic, but I do not believe that the Out-Patients\' Clinic is the only duty of the Physician Specialist, at the General Hospital, because there are beds inside the Hospital that he has to attend.

The hon. member said that the Head of Department never made a round during the time he was acting as Head of Department. If you are running the administration as Minister, what kind of policy have you laid down with regard to the duties of your Medical Superintendent? This has been going on in here endlessly. There was a time when the Medical Superintendent was employed to administer the Hospital. I was a member of the Board, and there was no obligation on his part to do medical work as such, but he did it if he felt like it, and that was under the terms of employment. Then there was another doctor who did medical administration, and he was more than a medical man. Dr. Humby came here and did a lot of medical work and ran into difficulty with people. Humby was a good man, but he still ran into difficulty with the people who were administering; so when the hon. junior member for St. George says that Dr. Humby ran into trouble with the last Government, it was not a question that Dr. Humby was not a good man, but you get these clashes; with personalities at institutions. If the Hon. Leader of the opposition were Premier, nothing would go wrong with Dr. Humby, because he had all praise for him.

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order, I am going to speak on this matter, but I should like the hon. member to know that I do not have all praise for my wife, let alone Dr. Humby; so get that straight. I do not believe that because a man is a doctor, he is the son of God Almighty come down,

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, that is not a point of order, but I am only showing you that some people praise others, and some do not; but you do not begin to bring that as an argument. What I would like to hear from the hon. member is what are the duties of the Paediatrician and the Physician Specialist, because we have already agreed in this House that all the Specialists can do private practice. That has been agreed upon because of practical difficulties, and if they do not do private practice, there would be some people going without seeing a Specialist. What is the point of bringing a Specialist and then telling somebody that he has to pay $500 to go to New York when you have a man here? The idea therefore of getting him to do private practice was that instead of going to the Hospital and doing it for free, you made those who could afford it pay for the service. Some people can pay, and therefore you are rendering a paid service from which the Hospital gets some of the money and the doctors get some. I should therefore like to know what the Paediatrician is doing, and how many beds you have for the Physician Specialist, because you must know these things. You should not say that he is not attending the Out-Patients\' Clinic and therefore you will close it down as if the doctor is some heathen. Those are things people should be made to know.

The hon. member talked about the Acting Governor visiting the Hospital. Imagine that the Acting Governor is going to the Hospital and you have not given instructions! The Minister is going with the Acting Governor; he is not going to pick him up on the street, and therefore he would inform the persons concerned that the Acting Governor would be paying a visit at the place at such-and-such a time. Can you imagine, Mr. Chairman, that the Acting Governor of the Colony would be visiting the Hospital and somebody can pick up the keys and the Governor cannot get in? If you had informed any person about that and he did that, prompt disciplinary action would have to be taken. Not only did the

person do that, but he arrived at five minutes to 2 o\'clock and carried out the person with the keys. If I were a play-play Minister and playing in a yard, I would say

\"you are sacked\". Do you believe that if I had invited the Acting Governor to visit our building that the messenger could close the door because he was coming at 4.05 p.m. and the messenger goes off at 4 o\'clock? I know Barbadian Civil Servants, and I feel that if they knew that the Acting Governor was coming to any place, they would not close the door because some of them like playing up to Governors too much What I have been made to understand is that sometimes the Minister may feel that because he is Minister he can walk in anytime. Some members of this House of Assembly have the idea that when the House is not meeting they can walk in here and hold on to the Stenographers and Reporters as though they employ them. When another Government was in power, the Ministers wanted to come in here and make the Reporters write what they would have liked to say as if the Reporters were their Reporters.

I am not accusing the Minister of not treating the people at the place with the courtesy they deserve, but I want to ask, now that the Minister has come back, whether the Acting Governor paid the visit and there was nobody there to meet him. If you were going with the Mayor and nobody knew that the Mayor was coming, the same thing would happen. Now the hon. member said that the officer stopped a Christmas party. How can an officer stop a Christmas party?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I understood that during my absence the hon. member for St. Peter said that on the occasion when the Acting Governor went to the hospital, I walked in there without informing the Hospital authorities.

6.40 p.m.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member cannot rise on a point of order like that in Committee. Even if I said that, the hon. member can reply. That is not a point of order when a person can reply to anything which you have said. You cannot get up on a point of order and say that.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On this occasion, the visit was arranged and immediately.....

Mr. WALCOTT: That is not a point of order; that is a reply. The Hon. Minister is replying to what I said.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am listening to the point of order.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am listening to the point of order.

Mr. WALCOTT: The Hon. Minister cannot tell me what he did. What he did is a speech.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I am refuting what the hon.

member said.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will the hon. senior member for St. Peter please sit down?

Mr. WALCOTT: I am not sitting down.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will have to hear the point of order.

Mr. WALCOTT: The Hon. Minister cannot come in the House and rise on a point of order like that. What are you thinking? Are you crazy? The Hon. Minister came in here, went around by somebody and then took his chair, rose and said \"I rise on a point of order.\" A point of order has to be on something which I said.

Mr. CHAIRMAN. I will have to hear the point of order.

Mr. WALOOTT: The Hon. Minister came in here and went around by another member. He then took his chair and rose on a point of order. How can he do that? Do you think inside here is a rum shop?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am hearing a point of order.

Mr. WALCOTT: I am saying that he cannot come from outside of the House and rise on a point of order. What nonsense is this?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of privilege/I very much deplore what is going on. I do not think it is competent that the Chair should entertain what the Chair is now entertaining. I am not making any speech now; I am concerned with the privileges of this House, and any member, even the hon. Junior member for St. Joseph, in his lack of wisdom can see that the hon. senior member for St. Peter is wrong.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Premier from his remarks is saying to this House that I do not have any sense. Is that fair? I am asking that those remarks be with drawn. I object to those remarks.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, if I have said that the hon. Junior member for St. Joseph does not have any sense, I withdraw those remarks. It is said that every fool has his sense. So I would be the last person to say that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph does not have any sense.

Sometimes we feel that a member is interrupting unnecessarily. It is not for us to shout to the Chair and tell the Chair that you cannot entertain that, because that is questioning the knowledge, the integrity and dignity of the Chair Itself. Whether you agree or disagree with the Chair, you should not do that. Very often I do not agree with the rulings of the Chair; therefore, it is not a question of whether I agree or disagree with the Chair. But it is not proper for a member to get up and shout and say that you cannot allow somebody to do this. I am sure that the hon. senior member for St. Andrew, like anybody else, is anxious to see that there is a decorum in this House.

Mr. WALOOTT: The Hon. Premier does that to the Chair too. The Hon. Minister of Health has no right to walk into this Chamber as if he is walking in from a pub and then say \"I rise on point of order.\' It is like burlesque. The Hon. Minister is quite in order, when I have spoken, to get up and reply, but

two wrongs do not make a right. He was not in the House; so he cannot say that he heard me misquoting him. I cannot rise on a point of order by information. A point of order presupposes that you have heard what the other person said.

Sir, what I am saying is this. The Hon. Minister said that when the Acting Governor arrived at the Hospital, there was no person there, and far from that, the person who should be there to open the door was not there. The particular officer came and took away the person with the keys, and to their embarrassment they found no person to take them around. I cannot see, where instructions were given that the Acting Governor is arriving at the Hospital on any day in question and he arrives with the Minister of Health and the persons to greet them were not there and no excuse was made, that that was not an occasion for prompt disciplinary action to be taken against the person. I know what is a Minister\'s function; therefore, I say that that was an occasion for prompt disciplinary action to be taken.

Now, Sir, the other point was that the particular officer stopped a Christmas party. There again, if you have a regular Christmas party, that is an instruction from the Minister or the Government or whoever it is. If it is Hospital business, may be, it is within the the province of the person in charge. That is not a matter of policy of the Government; therefore, that is why the person in charge could have done that. I am the General Secretary of the Workers\' Union, but there is no policy as regards our having a Christmas drink. That is done by the members of the Executive Council. If some person decides that a Christmas party should take place, they work on that. I do not know if for that occasion the Hon. Minister mentioned that it was to be held with any money which the Government is spending.

The Hon. Minister also said that the particular doc-tor closed down the Clinic. What is the position? What pre-

vented the Hon. Minister from asking why is the Clinic closed? What power has a doctor to close the Clinic? All of these are things which I can say are matters which you should tell us. You do not have to defend a doctor because doctors are not people whom laymen in their capacity can defend. If you are talking about Government\'s policy, that is what you can defend. As regards the holding of a Nurses Graduation Ceremony, that must be an internal matter. As the hon. Junior member for St. George said, in these things, if you have difficulties between staff and administration, there should be consultation. Let me say this. Do not believe that this is the first time that you are going to get this. You are going to get this even if you have angels there.

6.50 p.m.

I do not believe that the points which the Hon. Minister has raised could be in any way embarrassing to the Government. Whether you have a Graduation Ceremony or not, is that a Ministerial instruction? But we know what is a Ministerial instruction as against internal action. The closing down of the Out-Patients Clinic is a serious matter, and that is the only one thing that the Minister has named in which you can say that that would be against the policy of the Hospital. The Hon. Minister has said that an officer has never made a single round at the Hospital. I heard the hon. senior member for the City say that when Dr. Forde was appointed as Medical Superintendent, he was not in favour of making a Specialist the Superintendent of the Hospital because he felt that the Specialist\'s services were more valuable to the Hospital as a Specialist than as a Superintendent. Dr. Forde envisaged these same

problems that a Superintendent would have to sit down and look over papers and seeing how Nurses went to work, seeing the rostrum of doctors and so on; but that was not the objection of the Public Service Commission.

This Officer never made a single round at the Hospital because, it may be, that he was made the Medical Superintendent and he was also allowed to have private patients. The reason for that was quite obvious. If you are seeing 100 persons you will see 100 persons, but it is a question of how you are seeing them. You may be seeing 50 persons here and 50 persons there. The doctor agreed with having consultant practice and also being the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital. Like the hon. junior member for St. George, I do not subscribe to the view that, in Barbados, we have done something for good and for evil. It is more for good than it is for evil and l am extremely pleased to see that we have now reached the stage where we are attracting some of the best doctors who are returning to Barbados, That is a very good sign. If we were to watch this position clearly, we will see that we are getting some of the best doctors of a certain type because the others could live in Canada and in New Zealand much more easily than in coming out here.

All of us have different temperaments. As the hon. junior member for St. George has said, when you become a doctor you are still a human being. Some doctors are easy while others are not. Everybody cannot be like the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. He is him self, and if you try to be like him you will only make people laugh at you. He is a \"hail fellow, well met\" with everybody. (Mr. MOT-TLEY: Not with everybody.) I do not consider that what the Hon. Minister says is any criticism a gainst anything which is done against Ministerial or Government policy. What you have is more a question of internal friction at the Hospital between the medical staff than anything else. You do not have any points of policy except the closing down of the Out-Patients\' Clinic. I do not see that the question of the Nurses\' Graduation Ceremony is a matter of policy. What happened at the Nurses\' Graduation? Was it an order of the Minister? I do not see that the Nurses\' Graduation is a matter of policy nor is the question of making rounds at the Hospital....(Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS Is that all that I said?) You do not want me to go about these things like a child. You have not said how many people the Paediatrician must see. These Children\'s Wards and the number of children in these Wards are limited, but you have other wards in which there are people. The Horn Minister gave the im-

pression as if the physician Specialist does not have to see people other than the paying patients.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. Did I hear the hon. member correctly, Mr. Chairman? Did I hear him say that I said that the Physician Specialist is not

required to see people other than paying patients?

Mr. WALCOTT: No, no. What I said was that the impression you gave is that the Physician Specialist only sees paying patients, because you only mentioned the paying patients and the Out-Patients\' Clinic. Well, you can have both, because there can be paying patients and non-paying patients. The Physician Specialist has to be in the wards too. What the hon. member is saying is something which you must examine and see if you are calling upon the Physician Specialist to have consultant practice at the wards and at the Out-Patients\' Department too.

7.00 p.m.

Do you want the Physician Specialist to attend the clinics, do the wards and private practice also? What kind of man would you get? If the hon. member wants to rise on a point of order, that is his duty; because from what he is saying, he must do out-patients work.

Mr. Chairman, if I get any gesticulations from the Gallery, I will get it cleared right away. Some of the people in the Gallery do not regard that they are here by privilege, and I will put them in their places.

Hon. E. W, BARROW: On a point of order, Mr. Chair-man, I believe you have the Rule Book, and there is a Rule of the House.....

Mr.WALCOTT: Do not mind any Rules; mind any rudeness out there.

Hon. E.W. BARROW: The hon. member is not supposed to call the attention of the Chair to strangers in the House unless he wants the House cleared.

Mr. WALCOTT: You should not quarrel with the newspapers either unless you want them to go out. You still want them to take down what you say.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: There is a Rule dealing with this kind of thing. However, the hon. senior member for Bridgetown has been padded up for the last half an hour.

Mr. WALCOTT: I am going to let the hon. member come on to the wicket, but sometimes you see a 3lip field move and you back up to suit; but some of the fellows in the Gallery feel they can move around too quickly for us. They do not know that we have been in here long enough, and we have to let them know promptly that they only come here to listen.

The Minister should therefore institute a Departmental enquiry to make sure that the duties he wants carried out at the new Hospital are carried out, because from what the Minister has said, he is not going to get efficiency if a doctor ha s to do consultative practice, and attend the clinic s and wards also. You have turned it into a teaching institution: but do not think that, because you do not see a Professor sweating for 40 hours, he is not lecturing, because nobody knows how much time he has spent in preparing the lecture. If you want a physician Specialist to work in the clinics, in the wards, and have consultative practice, you have to think in terms of how many people it involves which a man can handle, because soon and very soon everybody would be getting the same dose of medicine, as aspirins would be given for headaches, backaches and other ailments. I hope the Hon. Minister will call his panel of doctors and Physician Specialists at the Hospital together and do everything to get efficiency so that the doctors would give him top service at all times, and not a broken down service.

Mn MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, little did I know when I suggested to the Hon. Minister of Health and Social

Services that all was not well at the Hospital that such a controversy would be caused. Above all, little did I expect someone would be so silly as to think they could beat me into the idea of saying that because the Minister used what some people call strong language, but what I call my lan-guage, that he

should resign. People regard it as the duty of the Leader of the Opposition to say \"Resign, resign.\" I am not giving anybody any satisfaction that way. I have never asked anybody for any position in the opposition, and I told the people in the Labour Party that they could keep the money as far as I was concerned, I could not be dishonest when I find a Minister taking an interest in people whom he should take an interest in.

Now the difference between the Hon. Minister and myself is that when I was finished it would not be a question of my using or sheltering behind privileges of the House, because what I say in here I can go outside and say, and I can go outside and say that all is still not well at the Hospital. You have more than 240,000 people in this country and you have one public Hospital, and I can remember saying at the opening of the Hospital that it was a lovely building, but that a building does not necessarily make a Hospital; it was a question of the medical staff, nurses, orderlies and the very cooks. Now I am not going to be like the Minister. If I have to call names, I will call them. I want to say here and now that in spite of the fact that I am a great critic of medical men, if anything went wrong with me or any of my family at home, I could get one dozen or two dozen doctors to come to me at midnight or I o\'clock in the morning. I can speak from my experience from sitting on the Hospital Advisory Board for sometime from which I was kicked off for expressing my personal views. I am not like the ex-Prime Minister of the West Indies who pontifically and dogmatically said in the Lower Green that had it not been for two specific doctors in Barbados, he did not know what he would do, and those were Dr. Catoand Dr. Cummins; but the next day the first person I saw with a piece of bougainvillea in his hands was Adams at Dr. Manning\'s. I have the greatest respect for learning and education, but I am not going to make any man believe that, because he is learned and well educated in a particular field more than I am, he is God Almighty. I just want him to know that he is another man and I can talk to him. When I suggested to the Hon. Minister that all was not well at the Hospital, I had to talk with him on this matter.

7.10 p.m.

This I would say for the Minister - but it would be a different matter in an election. I would have to fight - there was not one single case which I had to report to him that he has not investigated and given it prompt attention. I am going to say instead of his calling names, I can call names. Despite the very unhappy human relations between the then Medical Superintendent, Dr. Harold Forde, and the Hon. Minister, on every occasion, which I have had to telephone him about somebody else and about the treatment of somebody else by some doctor, the Hon. Minister immediately enquired and gave me satisfaction and set the record right with the person. That is being fair to the man. Very often, I had to offer criticisms, but you will see where I said in this House that this particular man is a very highly qualified man and a very highly qualified man on paper. (A VOICE: How do you mean?) You can be a good man on paper, but the biggest bloody idiot when it comes to your dealing with human nature. On paper, I said that this gentleman is an ably qualified man, and if we had such a highly qualified Medical Superintendent, hundreds of people would not have to go away to obtain the services of a physician Specialist; they could afford to stay here and get it in the country.

I say that to show you that I have nothing against this medical Trade Union, known as the B.M. A. When the B.M.A. had its first conference in Barbados, I was then a brand new Mayor, and I gave them an excellent reception. Could anyone then say that I have anything against these people? But because I did that, it does not mean that I should not say anything against them. It is not the way that I am treated by a doctor; it is not the way in which the Hon. Premier is treated by a doctor. I am in this House to

express my views. I am here to represent those who cannot re-

present themselves, and that applies to everyone of us. That is why we must offer criticism where it is due, and praise where it is due.

I can remember having a talk with a doctor who prefers to be called Mr. Leacock. I said to him that I felt Barbados should have another Surgeon Specialist. He did not agree with me, but I said that was my personal feeling. I still feel so and I am happy to see that in the new scheme at the Hospital these things are now provided. Although I support the idea of having visiting surgeons. I still feel that there should be more than one Surgeon Specialist.

Within recent years, medical people have been specialising in certain fields and little attention has been paid to the G.P. - General Practitioners. It has taken a new swing in the United States and in England because they find that human beings are more in touch with the General Practitioner, and they seem to have more confidence in him, though not in his skill but because of his human touch and his human relationship. They have more confidence in the General Practitioner than in the Specialist; therefore, that Is the reason for the swing.

I have just had a talk with some medical men. I think it should be universally known that the British Medical Association is merely a Trade Union of the medical men in this country. In the United Kingdom you have the British Medical Association and I think I am right in saying that there is a Registrar. This Act was passed somewhere around 1865. The Medical Association in Barbados has no disciplinary powers over the medical men here. Some time back, a Director of Medical Services of this country held a meeting at a public hospital, he was an Irishman and he said that Judging from his salary which he thought should be the biggest of all the medical men, that he had a suggestion to make that Government should then control the fees which medical men charged and the like. That suggestion of his brought down a tremendous row in the medical profession and it resulted in one distinguished medical practitioner who was at the Hospital being kicked out of his post as Visiting Surgeon without having a hearing. In those days I was a member of this Chamber; so I brought the matter up and I can well remember that a member of the then Government on this side said that my contribution was only when I took the occasion to defend people. I did not pay that remark any mind.

Sir, I did not hear all that the Minister of Social Services had to say when I referred to the fact that there was this bickering and row at the Hospital, and that, as a result, the underprivileged people suffered. I do not think the word \"underprivileged\" needs any clarification or definition for members of this House or for the general public. My honourable friend, the hon. senior member for St. Peter, has been pressing the Hon. Minister to tell him how many people the Paediatrician has to attend to. Let us forget the word \"Paediatrician,\" It simply means a doctor who attends to children. Certain hon. members of this House can understand and appreciate the fact that there are those of us with children who would prefer to spend more money on them than we would spend on ourselves be-cause we hate to see our infant children suffering. That is the duty of a Paediatrician Specialist.

7.20 p.m.

Some people take the degree of Bachelor of Science in Medicine, which is a high degree, and they go on to being Specialists. I have read recently of a young man in Barbados, whose father went out with

the Hon. Premier during the War and lost his life. He acquired the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons; that was Dr. Walrond. Because he acquired that, do you think that that necessarily makes him a Specialist with some experience? Let us say that Dr. St. John is a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons where the eyes are concerned. Dr. Alleyne is one of our own boys and he did his studies in nine months. You have Dr. Graham who is a Physician Specialist; he is a Specialist particularly in relation to children. Dr. Forde is a Specialist in Dermathology; he deals with diseases of the skin. Mr. Leacock is a Surgeon Specialist. Dr. H. W.

Springer, the Registrar of ihe University of the West Indies, suggested to me to buy a certain book because X wanted to be able to argue with people who would normally flaunt these things before you and you did not know what they were saying. I suggested that you should have another Radiologist at the Hospital. Let me say here and now that there are few doctors in Barbados who know anything about Radiography and taking pictures. Most untrained people can read a picture of a broken hand; but if you are going to take pictures of anything internally, the course for a Radiologist runs into something in respect of which you would have to be the son of a rich man to do that course. In the United States of America, such a course will take you from five to ten years.

The Surgeon Specialist is concerned with the brain, and it is not too easy a thing to find many of these people in Barbados. When it comes to the Physician Specialist, at the present time I consider that Dr. Forde is an excellently qualified physician and I did not think he should be appointed as Medical Superintendent of the Hospital. I said that in here, and, for some reason or other, this good doctor, this Specialist whom I have the greatest respect for, took umbrage at it. However, Sir, if you take umbrage at something which I feel very keenly, it is a matter for you. I am sorry that the hon. senior member for St. Peter is not now in his place because I do not think that the Hon. Minister of Health has answered him correctly, You have a man and you allow him to use your instruments, your Radiographers and so on. You give him the right to have private practice and it is the right of Dr. \"X\", who is your private physician, when he finds that something has beaten him, to call in the Specialist. Thar is your right too. As to the fees, I do not think that the fees which are charged are exorbitant. A fee of $10.00 is a cheap fee to pay for the services of a Specialist of any sort in Barbados. The next thing is that a Specialist is allowed to see paying patients, and he is allowed a fee of $5.00 at the Hospital in order to see people in relation to whom he gets 75% of the fees and the Government gets 25%, That is what is worrying me all the time and this is what I say: If you have a Minister, be he Socialist or otherwise, and he condones things which should not be condoned, then he is not concerned with the interest of the people who have put him in that office. All the people who make use of the Hospital want to be attended to. There are those who want to see the Physician Specialist and those who want to see the Surgeon Specialist,- These Specialists get $5.00 in their pockets when they see these people and such people should be attended to.These patients are suffering from something which a private doctor cannot diagnose, and therefore the Specialist must pay attention to them.

When you come to the Casualty, what do you find there? This is where I challenge the Govemment, and this is what I would ask the Hon. Minister to answer me about. Would it surprise the Hon. Minister to know that you have a Physician Specialist and you pay him what? (A MEMBER: $8,880 per annum.) You pay him $8,880 per annum, all of that, and you will get so many people to see this doctor, those who can pay.

7.30 p.m.

It seems to me that the survival Is for those who can pay and the others may go six feet deep, I should like to tell the Minister that for every paying patient that a Specialist sees at any hospital, be it the Mayo Clinic, John Hopkins or Bellevue, he should see two non-paying patients, because you will agree, Mr. Chairman, that the majority of people who make use of the services at the Hospital are from the rank and file, and are poor people,,.

I said at the beginning that if I had to call a doctor, I can get one; but for the grace of God I might be in the position of those who must go at the Casualty and line up and give my name and address and so on and then wait from January, 1965 until November, 1965 before I could be seen, I challenge the Minister to deny that for possibly nine months I could not see a Specialist while some dreaded disease was wasting me away. But for the grace of God I might be in the position where I could not find $5 to pay. There is no point In the Minister not calling somebody\'s

name. I call names whether it is Dr. Leacock, Dr. Forde, Dr. Graham or any of the others who draw $8,880. I have told Dr. Forde that if he came out and practiced, he would make so much money, it would not be funny, as far as his qualifications and experience are concerned. I do not know about his manner with people. The practice is for an ordinary General Practitioner to send one patient to a Specialist, and for the Specialist to send back and say he finds the patient by name should have an operation, or in his opinion, his complaint is so-and-so. Let me give you my personal experience. I went to a hospital that had 1,600 beds and the doctor who attended me told rne that he was going to bring in four other doctors because he felt \"that if one made a mistake, the others would not. It was a question of a few more dollars$ but what difference does it make when you do not carry it with you in the box? I was not interes-ted in the four doctors; I was interested in the doctor who, despite the pain I was going through, clapped me on the back and had the confidence to teil me that what they were doing was nothing to hurt me but something good for me. That is where your General Practitioner comes in.

I agree with the hon. senior member for St. Peter when he said that if Dr. Forde was told that Dr. Springer, the Acting Governor of Barbados, was coming to the Hospital and he did what you said he did, he should be severely disciplined; but I am inclined to give Dr. Forde the benefit of the doubt and say that he must have forgotten. If the Matron, however, is going to have a Christmas party and the doctor says it is not to be so, I should be the Minister. That sort of thing boils me. I will give him the benefit of the doubt, because I cannot see him knowing that the Governor would be coming and doing this sort of thing on purpose.

Mr. Chairman, it is one thing to be a well qualified man, but it is another thing to get on with human beings. I have the experience in my capacity as Chairman of the Guardians\' Committee and Chairman of the Public Assistance Committee of dealing with the Hospital every week and with poor people. I am sometimes shocked when people tell me they have been sent to the Hospital by doctor so-and-so. You need not take my word for it, because there are men in this country who have worked in England and in the United States; but every physician and every Specialist at the Hospital should be told that more non-paying patients should be attended at the Hospital than paying patients, because this the people\'s hospital, the people\'s instruments, the people\'s nurses and the people pay them. If this is not laid down by the Government, then they are traitors to the people who sent them to run this country. I heard it mentioned by one honourable member whether you wanted a doctor to see patients at $5, and then go to the Casualty and then to the wards. You have your physicians, your interns and other people, and the

Physician Specialist goes around and sees his charges, his nurses and talks to the young doctors; but it is not fair and humane to those who cannot find $5 not to be attended to. Money cannot be all with doctors. There is a run of young doctors - I am not saying all, I am generalising - who look at people and tell them that if they have to attend Court because they get in a mishap, they have to pay them $15 to come from the Hospital to the Court. That is the type of person you are having today.

Can you imagine agricultural labourers and the like, people in the walk of life who cannot afford to pay, going into the Hospital or being sent by General Practitioners to the Specialists and are not seen by the Specialists?

7.40 p.m.

Now, Mr. Chairman, I am just drawing this to the attention of the Committee for the benefit of the Hon. Minister. I have here in my hand the entire code of ethics to which doctors should adhere. I do not propose to read this but it would shock doctors to know that half of them could not be on the roll for the things which they do. I will advise the Hon. Minister to try to get one of these books. Send to England for one. I can lend you this., but I will tell you where to get one from. I can tell you that at a meeting which the Barbados Branch of the British Medical Association held in St. George, they did not have a quarter of the

doctors. The B.M.A. if a trade union of doctors.You know what I dislike about them? The remarks of some of them are most untimely. I feel that some of them have the soul of a policeman\'s old boot, I would not say ail of them. You can ask Dr. Stuart of the U.W.I, if what I am saying is not correct. Seventy-five per cent of them practise here and get a lot of practice with patients who have hypertension. Nearly all the drugs imported for hypertension, known as High Blood Pressure, may be called by a different name, but it is the same drug. You get people suffering from High Blood pressure going to a free doctor, and as hon. members may know, blood pressure is a complaint which few doctors or no doctor can cure. Therefore, it causes a lot of people to go to four or five doctors in their desire to be cured of the complaint. You will, therefore, find chat an old lady will take her last $2.00 and go to a private medical practitioner in the hope of getting a cure. Now. Sir, you will get everyone of these people who went to a private practitioner being offered tablets which I paid eight cents a piece for being sold to them at 48 cents a piece; therefore, the prescription which is handed them costs $8.00. I had the temerity to put up one of these prescriptions for some of these people after they could not afford to pay for it. And the medical practitioners who ft re not like these people who have to eat biscuits and salt fish and see the devil\'s old hell, sent a delegation to me and told me that I was wrong to do so. They said that I had no right to give those people the medicine. Mind you, these doctors know that you are going to die next week,, but they give you this sort of prescription to get these tablets. When you get a doctor like that, what else can you call him but a glorified hog mother, a sow or a boar? That is the trouble with a lot of them. Because they have been endowed with the ability to take in the learning which people have been able to heap on them, you get them getting on in that way. of course, you get men like Dr. Stuart and Dr. Ramsay whom you hear people saying of them how sweet and how nice they are. You hear people saying of Dr. Stuart \"you see how humble he is\". When you are dealing with men like that, you feel that you are dealing with another human being. You have many of those, but then there are so many of the other type that you tremble. You say to yourself, let the disease eat me. There are some of them who are so hoggish. I know of a woman who said to me: \"Imagine I went to a certain doctor\" - calling his name -\"with whose family I used to work.\" She went on to say \"Mr.

F., I know you from the time you were a boy.\" The doctor replied \"I do not see what that has to do with it. I don\'t want to hear that.\" Some of them are so hoggish that they are just fit to tie in a tree like a monkey. I know when the hour is up for you to die, neither one of them can save you. Of course, on the other hand, you have some dignified, decent gentlemen around here in the medical profession.

Mr. Chairman, I know you will agree with me. I am not accusing all of them. You have at your Hospital a young man called Dr. Harris. All that we have for him is praise. You hear people who went in to see him come out and say that he is so dignified. You have a man called Dr. Carter and, Mr. Chairman, you know as well as I do that he would leave his household at midnight and come and attend to you. He would talk to his labourers freely. Some of them, when he attended them, he knew quite well that all he could do for them, they could not possibly get better; but it was his way of handling them which made them feel quite contented.

Why do I say that? There are certain doctors whom you had at the Hospital when they were going in to attend to patients, nurses had to take bottles of rum out of their hands - a bloody lot of drunkards. I had to say to one of

then, If you want to drink rum, drink it at your home,\"

7.50 p.m.

The doctors today must remember that they are of the people, and the sooner they realise that, and the kinder they are to people, the better it will be for them. The point I am making. Sir, is that something is wrong at the Hospital. You could sing \"\'toodle-toodle\"; you cannot have anything happening at the Hospital and I do not know about it. If you have a Matron and a general run of doctors who are not on speaking terms with each other and they are passing letters and that sort of thing, then the patients must suffer. I will

continue to make this point; do you know where the people are suffering? I speak ex cathedra on this matter. You have a system of allocating beds to doctors, and it is often that you will find that one doctor has as many as four and five beds which are vacant, whereas another doctor has filled up his beds. People are sent to the Hospital, and the par-ticular doctor whose beds are allocated to him will refuse bluntly to allow his beds to be used for poor people. That is not right. We have built a new Hospital and we have built it, not with the money belonging to the doctors, but we have built it with the money which belongs to the people of this colony.

I am glad to see that the hon. senior member for St. Peter has returned to his seat. He used the word \"Paediatrician\", but the people who come from places like the Whim and such places do not understand what is meant by this word \"Paediatrician\"; they understand what is meant by a doctor for children. This Specialist takes patients at the Hospital and he receives 75% of the fees paid into the Treasury. All over the world such a Specialist has to attend to two non-paying patients and one paying patient. You go to Grazettes and blow a bugle and the number of children whom you will see coming out of the houses will surprise you. I have referred to the fact that when you send up these children, some of them may wait for nine months before they can see a doctor. When I get on the public platform and you do not put this state of affairs right, it will be \"Hell-oh-hell;\" I will go down for you. Is it not a fact that I told you that there was a child suffering from adenoids for some months? I put the matter to

the Minister, and within a short time, the matter was dealt with and the child was going to school. I paid the Minister that compliment in here, but I am now warning him. There was a former Minister of Health who used to talk a lot of garbage, and I may say that if you ever had an impostor in the country you have one now.

The Town and Country Planning Department i him to build a Hospital and come out into the road whereas everybody else had to put back their premises. It was said that the easiest way in which you could get to the doctor was to meet him at the Off ice. Now he is using our Hospital and our instruments. It is not a question of Dr. Forde alone; he is a good physician, but he is unmannerly. I repeat that it is not Dr. Forde alone. This doctor says \"Next! you want to see me? Come in.\" And the first thing he tells you is that the fee is $80,00 and you can pay it in instalments. He could not work in England because he would get struck off the Register. I will tell you about the Radiologist. What difference does it make if she does not like me? Recently, there was a patient who could not pay, but she was sent in first, or rather, she was sent in ahead of other people. I want to say this: some people believe that if you are a person who is not paying you must be sleeping under the Swing Bridge and people are coming and urinating in your face.

I will tell you what happened. Without telling the girls anything at all, the office was rung up and it was asked why this girl was sent who could not pay while there was a whole line of those who could pay. The girl was removed and the others were told to come back within the next few days. That is exactly what happened. I suggest that for every one paying patient they should do two non-pay ing, and if I am saying anything wrong, you can ask Dr. Wells, Dr. Cochrane or any of the medical men who lived in England, because there are more people who go to a hospital and cannot pay than those who can pay. The hon. member asked how many patients Dr. Graham has to attend, but it is a matter of how many go there. You have some men at the Hospital who are definitely hogs; but there are men like Dr. Ramsay, Dr. Graham, Dr. Lionel Stuart and others who are affable, and make people feel that they are human beings like themselves.

As I have said, Mr. Chairman, a doctor like Dr. Forde can come out and make much more money, but there are people who study medicine, like those who study law, who do not like the hurly-burly of everyday practice. Dr. Forde is a fine man, but in his human relationships he cannot get on with people. There is nothing I can do about it. The hon.

senior member for St. Peter quoted me correctly when he said that you should not take a man who is so highly qualified and so necessary to the community as a physician Specialist and appoint him as Medical Superintendent. You should not make Leacock, Fordecr Graham or any of these specialists Medical Superintendent, and if Forde does not like me for saying that, let him go and do what he likes. I represent the people of Bridgetown, and I feel that people should no longer have to wait for a number of months to see a Physician Specialist.

There are people in this country who can find a dollar or two to go and pay Dr. Lorde or Doctor somebody, and he finds that they are suffering from malignancy of the cervix of what is commonly known as cancer to the mouth of the womb, and they are sent to the Hospital. They are sent there because their lives could be lengthened from five to ten years, but you would be surprised to know the number of months and years they have to wait, People have confidence in me and come and tell me these things. Poverty is no crime; otherwise you could build a wall around the whole of Barbados. I will

ask the Hon. Minister to try and see that the number of non-paying patients attended to is increased.

I will tell you, Mr. Chairman, that money is a funny thing. All of us like money, and unless you have a strict hand and scrutiny over this practice, there is a temptation that if a doctor sees 30 people who are paying $5 each of which he is going to get three-quarters of the amount, and ten people from whom he is not going to get anything, but to whom he has to give his service because of the $8,800 he is getting, he will do those cases for which he is going to get money. I am not saying it is wrong but I can see that it would need some supervision. I see that you have Mr. Goodman acting as Hospital Director, and I know it is difficult for people to take orders from a person of that type whose father was a policeman. It is difficult for them to take orders from a person whom they regard as a nasty, little negro boy, and if you have not heard that, I am telling you. The hon. senior member for St. Peter sits down there as a Trade Unionist, but he knows there is a clique which feels that as long as you do not wear a blazer, you do not belong to their group and they stare through you or your wife, no matter who you are. The fact is that I can feed myself and I am not interested in them. However, I suggest to you that to combat this Medical Branch of the British Medical Association you should have instituted a General Medical Council with certain powers since you are making this a Training Hospital, and you can get the Act from England which carries the code of ethics which they must observe, and any citizen can bring them before that Medical Council for breach of those ethics.

8.10 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, I conclude by saying that my criticism is not a complete attack on them. It is foolish to generalise and say that all the doctors are bad. Of course, I know of a doctor who would ask you if you had the money before he came to you, and if you did not have the money he was not coming. Sir, I think you know that too yourself. I say that we pay great respect to men of learning. We pay respect to these men who have studied this very noble profession like St. Luket but we must still tell them, when they are wrong, that they are wrong, and remind them that we live in the days when there were men of a different political point of view, a different pigmentation than we are. We lived in the days when they were such doctors as Colin Bowen, Sir Randall Phillips who exhibited human sympathy and carried dignity with their profession. As regards Sir Randall Phillips, hawkers could go to him and he would treat them in the same way a she would treat the gentlemen in the castles.

Now, Sir, there is one more thing I want to draw to your notice. There are a lot of young men who are qualified eminently as doctors in the U.S.A. I am in touch with quite a number of them. I am going to call names. You know as well as I do that you have some young Barbadians who are eminently qualified. It is true to say that the last Government did not feel fit to employ some of them but, there are some young men who are aspiring to be Specialists and

who are eminently qualified, In fact, the last Government never answered some of the letters which were written by some of those young men. I under stand that there is some objection being put up to bringing some of these young men back here. There is a feeling among some of the English graduates that some of the people who graduate outside of England are not so goad. My answer to that is this: would these same people tell me why it was that Sir Anthony Eden went to the United States if these doctors are not good? You see that there are good doctors in America, Canada, Russia, Germany, England and all about. You have this idea that because a man graduated in Canada at McGill or Dalhousie or because a man graduated at Columbia University he is not good. Those days are gone and

it behoves this Government to try and get some of the best of those men. Just the other day, the West Indies University saw fit to send Dr. Stuart to the United States for a period of two years to go into the question of the drugs used in the United States on heart diseases. If those drugs were not good, would they have adopted that attitude? I understand from good authority that the whole plan was to put up some members of this Association some of whom have barely graduated. People sometimes sec a lot of letters behind a doctor\'s name, and because of that, they say that fellow is a lot of doctor; let us go in here and see him. On the other hand, you see one who has graduated from McGill with barely the initials \"M.D.\".

Sir, I suggest to you that you get people of the nature whom I suggest to you and that you go in the same way with your Specialists at the Hospital; but let it be known that the Specialists must come down and do some of the work to the underprivileged and the people who cannot afford to pay. The hon. senior member for St. Peter said that you took money from the Labour Welfare Fund to help build the Hospital, and having said that you i know that there are a number of people whom you represent who cannot afford to pay for specialised treatment. Therefore, they will have to get it in the Casualty. These Specialists must be told that because of our Hospital, because of all the things which we have there for them, they must do a service to those people who cannot afford to pay.

Mr. Chairman, I feel that lest it be thought that because I am the Leader of the Opposition I am among those who feel that you should defend doctors, and because you have adopted the attitude of not defending those who cannot defend themselves and you have brought to us today certain complaints which have caused a few of them to get up against you, as far as I am concerned, those same doctors were against me for a long time; yet here am I going strong like \"Johnnie Walker\". I have been in here for a long time and I feel confident that I would be in here for a long time to come to criticise them. Let it be known that I do not subscribe to the view that the Minister was wrong in his criticism. All I would say is that you must not play ostrich by burying your head in the sand. Call names. If it is Dr. Graham, say it is Dr. Graham; if it is Dr. Forde, say that it is Dr. Forde. You came in here by the vote of the ordinary man in St. Andrew and in representing them, you are doing a service to the people who sent you here. Be fair to the doctors up there; but if they want criticising, criticise them.

8.20 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, before you put the question, there is Just one point I would like to answer. The Specialist at the Hospital is responsible not only for the Outpatients and the Wards, but for anything which happens in his Department. It is the duty of the Specialist to go into the Outpatients Department and in the private and public Wards. If he has omitted to go into the Outpatients Clinic - well, the majority of the people who go to the Hospital are seeking the services which are rendered in this clinic. We have about 13,000 per month attending the Outpatients Department. That is where most of the people go and if a doctor is not scan there, then he is not doing his duty.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1964-65 No. 54 COMMUNICATIONS- OTHER ROADS

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the last Resolution is a Resolution for the sum of $29,762 to be granted from the Public Treasury to be defrayed from loan funds and placed at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1964-65 Pan II - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1964-65, No. 54. which form the Schedule to this Resolution. The purpose of this Resolution is to provide for the construction of \"other roads\" which is Item 4 of Head 8 \"Communications\", in the Capital Estimates.

The Addendum to this Resolution reads as follows;-

The sum of $29,762 is required to supplement the provision of $60,000 under Capital Estimates for the construction of subsidiary roads. There is a heavy demand for the construction of these roads and it is proposed to complete as many as possible during the current financial year.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

The question that this Resolution do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative uith out division.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report the passing of six Resolutions in Committee.

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

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

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

On motions of Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA in each case, the Resolutions passed in Committee were read a first and second time and agreed to.

ORDER POSTPONED

Hon. W. A. CRAW FORD: I am sure that hon. members would like to deal with Order No. 7 which is a Resolution to approve the Draft Order entitled the Boundaries Commission Order, 1964. (Laughiter).

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the hon. member seeking permission to deal with Order No. 7.

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: I was merely enquiring about that, Sir. The consideration of the Money Resolutions brings Government Business to an end for the day.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. W. A. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do not adjourn until Tuesday next, 16th February, 1965, at 12 o\'clock Noon.

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

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 16th February, 1965, at 12 o\'clock noon, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

8.30 p.m.