

THE House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1961 - 66

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(OFFICIAL REPORT) SECOND SESSION OF 1961-66 HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 6th July, 1965

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12 o'clock (noon) today.

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., (Speaker); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. F. C. GODDARD; Hon. C. E. TALMA, (Minister of Communications and Works); Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (Minister of Agriculture and fish-eries); Mr. W. R. LOWE, Mr. G. V. BATSON, (Chairman of Committees); Mr. N. N. W. BOXILL and Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD. Prayers were read.

Mr. MOTTLEY entered the House and took his seat. MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER:

I regret to inform hon. members that the Minutes of the last nine meetings of this Chamber are yet in the hands of the Printers; consequently there are no Minutes available for confirmation today,

CABLEGRAM

Mr. SPEAKER:

I also have the honour to inform this House that in a cablegram which was addressed by me to His Honour the Deputy Speaker, there occurred an omission in that telegram which has since been rectified by the London Cable Office communicating with the Bridgetown Branch of Cable and Wireless Limited.

The omission was the word "greetings" with which this cable commenced and the corrected Cable which has now reached this Chamber is as follows :-

**GREETINGS PRAY ASSURE HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF RECEIPT BY MR SPEAKER
COMMONS OF ADDRESS FROM BARBADOS LEGISLATURE AND HIS HONOURS
FORMAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT THEREOF IN HOUSE TODAY.**

BRANCKER LETTER FROM Mr. HUTCHINSON

Mr. SPEAKER:

I have the honour to inform the House that I have received the following letter, dated 5th July, from the Librarian and Secretary of this House. It reads as follows-

His Honour the Speaker,

And Members of the House of Assembly,

Bridgetown,

Gentlemen,

Having had your permission to proceed to the United Kingdom until the 29th June, 1965, on six months' leave, I was unable to return to Barbados until the 3rd July, Be-cause of the difficulties in getting a passage by sea. Finally I was forced to return by air.

I would like therefore to apologise for being unable to resume duties on the 29th June.

I am,

Gentlemen, Your obedient Servant,

LIONEL HUTCHINSON, Librarian and Secretary.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

I am wondering Sir, from this state of affairs what should be done. I do not understand it Here is a letter from an officer of the House who, I presume, Mr. Speaker, is indirectly under Your Honour control, except where extraordinary leave is granted, or leave on compassionate grounds. Is it necessary to come to the House with this? I do not understand writing letters to the House on these matters, although Your Honour on another occasion to which I do not prefer to refer read a passage of May's on the particular subject.

As far as I see, this letter concerns a question of just saying that 'I apologise for failing to return to work on a certain date,' No one wants to make something of every little 'i' and 't' not being dotted and crossed. I quite frankly see no reason why this should come before the House. If it goes on in this way, you will find every little thing coming before members of the House. This is entirely within Your Honour's powers to deal with the matter.

Mr. SPEAKER:

Is the hon. member making a point of order or personally addressing the House?

Mr. MOTTLEY:

This is my view.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I will just say that this Honourable Chamber gave leave to one of its officers up to the 29th June and as he overstayed his leave, he has notified the same source.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Honourable and Learned Premier and Minister of Finance, I am commanded to lay the following-

The Customs (Amendment) Regulations, 1965,

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

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the rental of the ground floor of the building formerly used as the Police Post at Speights -town, St. Peter, to the Barbados Marketing Corporation.

QUESTIONS

Mr. G. V. BATSON:

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister

Is Government aware of the unnecessary noise made by some motorists in tooting their horns in the City areas where the bulk of business is being carried on?

Will Government initiate legislation allowing the blowing of horns only in cases where an accident might have occurred?

Mr. G. V. BATSON:

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister

Is Government aware of the embarrassment that the residents in the areas of Shop Hill and Porey Spring in the Parish of St. Thomas are subjected to by not having public toilets and baths erected in the said areas?

Will Government make provision for facilitating the people in the areas complained of, by erecting Toilets and Baths in the above mentioned areas? 12.25 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER:

Question standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Michael.

Mr. SEALEY:

Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Appropriate Minister -

Will Government investigate the possibility of acquiring Radcliffe Pasture, Brittons Hill, in the parish of St. Michael, to serve the purposes of a playing field and Community Centre for the residents of that entire area?

Mr. SPEAKER:

Question standing in the name of the same hon. member,

Mr. SEALEY:

Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister -

Is Government aware that Warner's Gap, Brittons Hill, is in a very bad state of disrepair?

2. Will Government place this road high on its priority list for repairs during this financial year?

Mr. SPEAKER:

The first Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Education- To move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the island.

MR. SPEAKER WELCOMED BACK

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, before I make that motion, may I say, on behalf of us all, how very pleased we are to have you back here and to note that you look in extremely good health!

Mr. SPEAKER:

I thank the Hon. Acting Leader of the House very much for welcoming me back.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1965 - 66 No. 8
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (5) SCHOOLS APPROVED INDEPENDENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The first Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is a Resolution to place the sum of \$145,000 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1965-66, Part 1 - Current, as shown in the supplementary Estimate 1965-66 No. 8 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution. Mr. Chairman, this Resolution arises out of the statement of policy which was laid in this House last Thursday. It is a statement of Policy which contains the Government's proposals for assistance to Independent Approved Secondary Schools. The statement of Policy itself is a comprehensive document; it sets out firstly the Government's basic objectives with respect to secondary education in this island. It then goes on to give some details of what the Government itself is doing and its current expenditure on its own schools. Then after that at paragraph 9 and from there onwards to the end, it deals with the Approved Independent Schools.

I would like to draw the attention of honourable members to paragraphs 10, 11, 12 and 13 as well as to the paragraphs which embody the actual provisions from paragraph 16 until the end. The Resolution therefore asks for the provision of a sum of money, \$145,000, to meet the commitments arising out of this new Policy. These commitments are 1,500 Exhibitions at the value of \$25,00 each or \$25,00 per term, the provision of salaries for 22 teachers at \$290.00 each per month and additions in the Civil Establishment of one Education Officer, clerical assistance and other costs selection examinations which will cost \$4,000, subventions for special duties which will cost \$15,000. These examinations are those from which one thousand of the fifteen hundred selectees would be taken and Government would finance in part whatever specialist activities the schools are undertaking on their own.

That, in brief, as hon. members will see, is a breakdown of the expenditure and, as the figures go, I think the Committee will agree that it is a large expenditure. What we are asking for, of course, in this year is two-thirds of the estimated annual expenditure and we are asking for two-thirds of this expenditure because we are covering the period from September, 1965 to March, 1966, which period includes two terms of the school year. To cover the three terms of a school year the expenditure is likely to be \$213,000 according to our estimates. This means that in five-year period before this scheme is reviewed, the Treasury will have committed itself to an expenditure on schools of \$1 million on this project of assistance to approved Independent Secondary Schools.

Mr. Chairman, there are several things which I want to make clear and it is as well that they should be set out now, so that there can be no shadow of doubt as to what the policy of the Ministry actually is as approved by the Government. Let me deal, first of all, with the question of why we have selected only the approved schools. Obviously, Mr. Chairman, it is a matter of common and general knowledge that

there must be easily over 70 private schools in this island. There may be more than 70, there may be a few less, but I think that there are about 70 of these schools and they range differently in quality and in the experience of the people who manage them. There is a difference in the quality which the school possesses, the length of establishment -- and there may be a difference in a lot of other things.

12.35 p.m.

Even if the Ministry of Education had not already devised a policy which called for the approval of certain schools, taking the Private Schools as a whole, some of them would be bound to be different from others and some would be bound to show characteristics which others did

not have; but the Ministry of Education long before it embarked on this policy, even before I was Minister of Education, had decided to give recognition for certain general and certain specific purposes to those schools which in its view approximated in standards to the Government Schools, Consequently over the years from the time this policy first started until now, sixteen on the total number of seventy or over have won the approval of the Ministry.

Now at paragraph 10. I was careful to set out what the Ministry's policy is with respect of approval, and I have set it out in firm and clear language, not meaning to give offence to anyone. I set it out embodying the principles and the facts as they are known not only to the Ministry, but to everybody else concerned. Paragraph 10 says:-

"Before the Ministry gives clearance of approval to an Independent School, it must be fully satisfied, after an Inspection, that the school is approvable upon all of the following grounds:

(a) that the school premises and all parts thereof are suitable for a school;

(b)

(c) that the accommodation provided on the school premises is adequate and suitable having regard to the number, ages and sex of the pupils attending the school;

(d)

(c) that efficient and competent instruction is being provided at the school to a standard calculated to ensure a reasonable percentage of success in public examinations recognised by the Ministry,

It means, therefore, that you must have school buildings which are suitable, the accommodation inside these buildings must be adequate with respect to the number of children, their ages and the differentiation of sex, and thirdly, the standard of teaching and instruction must be efficient and competent - and this is to be, Mr. Chairman, not only as a mere flash in the pan; it must be consistently so. One year's success is just not enough to gauge; two years is not enough for you to gauge, but you gauge competence and efficiency in instruction given over a period which enables you to say with definiteness that the school has reached a standard which you will expect to see in a Government school,

and if the truth must be told, Mr. Chairman, to a large extent inevitably higher standards are exacted and are shown by some of these Independent Schools, because they have more difficulties to struggle under,

I wish to say that I have recently given approval to two Independent Schools in addition to the fourteen which I had found. Those two are the Christ Church High School and Industry High School of St. Philip, The Industry High School in St. Philip has been going for nearly forty years. I am told that it started in 1926. This is a great achievement for any one person, and it is a compliment to the lady who runs this school that at long last she has seen the reward of her labour, because she has satisfied all the conditions which I have named. The Christ Church High School has also satisfied these conditions. No other schools have so far satisfied these rather exacting conditions, and until other schools satisfy these conditions, I do not propose to award approval to them, I cannot undertake to depart from the policy which I have laid down and which I have set out because I think it is only fair - and more so, now that public funds are going to be expended - \$1 million in five years - that the schools who asked to be approved do in fact satisfy those really exacting but still high standards,

I do not mean to saying this to give offence, Mr. Chair-man; I only mean to say that the Ministry has a policy and it has to stick to it, and I do not intend to be pressurised or pushed into departing from this policy, no matter what the consequences may be. I have explained to my colleagues already and they have accepted the grounds and reasons which I have recommended for this policy, and having their approval. I want none other.

Now, Sir, to go into the details somewhat of the proposals, we are going to award, as hon. members know, approximately 1,500 exhibitions I say, \"aproximately\" - and here I want to make myself dear - and not \"absolute-

ly\" for this reason: 1,000 of these exhibitions will be based on a competitive examination. In competitive scholarship examinations certain standards mutually agreed upon by the Ministry and the schools involved will have to be first worked out and then adhered to. If therefore when the scholarship Examination results are out we find that 970 people have qualified and not 1,000, I do not wish to be held responsible for that. The examination results will show the quality, performances and abilities of the several students, and therefore, I cannot say to the last pupil that exactly one thousand will be awarded. This will depend upon performance in the examination.

Similar too with the exhibition scholarship, this is even more interesting. What we have done in this respect is this: we have taken and given opportunities to all the 11 year olds who have reached a certain standard in the exhibition examination, and who would therefore not have a second chance. The Government Grammar Schools have taken in several hundred pupils - I do not know the exact figure yet and will not until everything has been completely finalised -all those pupils who have got between 205 marks and 190 marks. Now all between 190 marks and 173 marks we have taken into fill the 500 or approximately 500 places, and in allocating these 500 as I have said, I have not considered the ten-year olds who have a second chance. All the eleven-year olds who have come between the 173 marks and 190 marks have been offered these places. I could not think of a clearer way to do it than this. As a matter of fact, the preliminary statistics show that of the 500 exhibitions awarded to the Independent Schools 88 would come from Christ Church, 26 will come from St. Andrew. This is on merit; so if anybody asks why a parish got less than the other parish, they are based on merit. Forty second will come from St. George, 38 from St. James, 17 from St. John, 86 from St. Michael, 14 from St. Joseph, 37

from St. Peter, and 40 from St. Philip. I do not know the numbers for St. Thomas and St. Lucy yet, but that is a rough idea of how it is.

Now let me say a word about paucity of numbers from St. John and St. Joseph, because as I said we have awarded 17 from St. John and 14 from St. Joseph. The paucity of these numbers is due to the fact that we have taken all the 11+ and have awarded places to them either in this category or to the Government Grammar Schools. 12.45 p.m.

The people left over have been the people who have been ten years old; therefore they have a second chance. We have made an almost clean sweep in this respect. One of the things which I want to draw to the House's attention because of the attitude of some people toward secondary Education in this island is that the figures show this year that nearly 85% of the population admitted into Government Grammar Schools comes from Government Primary Schools.

Mr. Chairman, you should have heard a lot of loose political talk that has come from the political \"Washie Kongs\" of the Barbados Labour Party that we are providing free secondary education for the rich, and the children of the poor do not get a look into it. Even as close as last Sunday some one, writing in one of the daily newspapers, tried to take the Ministry of Education to task on its policy by trying to prove that a certain Private School was able to get 28 out of 29 of its pupils gaining acceptance at Government Common Entrance Examination to Secondary Schools, If you have a small school of 45 pupils and you have nothing else to do with those forty-five pupils but to prepare them for an examination, and if you do not have the responsibility of administering a school of six hundred or seven hundred children - some with a lot of ability and some with little ability - and you have not got to struggle through with staff, some of which is not fully trained; if you have not got any of these things to contend with, why, certainly you have the time and opportunity to produce that sort of percentage of passes.

But that is not the whole picture. Take a school like Holy Innocents' which is an overcrowded school and which sent in 43 children for the General Examinations. Twenty were boys and twenty-three were girls. It so happened that of the 20 boys who sat the Common Entrance Examination, 13 of them have either gone to Combermere or Harrison

College. Three have been given Private School Exhibitions; therefore, that is 16 out of 20. The reason why the other four have not got places is because they are just 10 years old and they have another chance.

Of the 23 girls, the results are even better. Twelve girls have got places either at St. Michael's Girls' or at Queen's College, nine under Common Entrance exhibitions to the Private Schools and there are two left because their average age is 10 years. So, of the 23, 21 have got places at Government Secondary Schools and at Private Secondary Schools,

Now that is at Holy Innocents' School with over 720. That is a school which has been struggling against all the difficulties of overcrowding and staff shortage and so on. It sent up 43 boys and girls for Common Entrance and 37 of them have been placed. We did not have to do anything extra to get that result. That is the ordinary average.

Let us take another school - St. Bernard's, Twenty boys sat the Common Entrance of which 14 boys got Government places either at the Alleyne School or Combermere. Two got Exhibitions at the Private Schools, and the four others who have not been awarded places are of the average age of 10 years 1 month. That is to say they are still young and they have another chance. Of the 14 girls at that school who took the Common Entrance Examination one girl has gone to Queen's College, seven have got places in Private Secondary Schools and six are ten-year-olds, Therefore, of 34 pupils at that school 25 have got places either at Government or Private Secondary Schools, and ten who are not awarded are ten-year-olds,

What in the name of Heaven do you want Government to do? This high percentage can be matched, so far as I can say, in forty other Primary Schools, The overall percentage of children gaining Secondary places either to Government Aided Secondary Schools or private Exhibitions was 84% or 85%. If you take these other exercises and make a combined total of Primary School places, it would of course be something like 92% or 93%.

They say that we are only providing for the rich. This is a competitive examination and the rich also pay taxes; and if their children show promise and ability, they take their chance, and if, when put on the same level, some of the children of the rich have shown good results, then they are entitled to the same places at the Secondary Schools as the children of the poor.

What this Ministry has done is to even the score. There is a tremendous re-organization which we have been carrying on in the last four years in our Primary Schools, I can face any criticism, any day, any hour of the day on this Government's Secondary Schools policy. I know from my own personal knowledge the quality of children who have gained admission to these schools, I can tell you that the Private Secondary Schools are getting a quality nearly as good as Government Secondary Schools, In order to award places to children sitting this Common Entrance Examination, we have not got to go too far because from marks of 190 to 173 which is a difference of 17, you can fit in 500 children. In order to be fair to 11-year-olds we have given them preference against the 10-year-olds because the 10-year-olds have another chance.

In order to qualify for participation in this scheme, a private school must be prepared to take at least 10 pupils at Common Entrance level. I have had no difficulty from any of the schools in accepting this policy. All have agreed; but it will happen that there are some private schools - I am not differentiating one from the other - who have had pupils young enough to have attempted the Common Entrance Examination for entrance into the Government Secondary Schools, Some of these children have succeeded in gaining admission, but those who have not succeeded are, for the most part, those who will never have expenses to pay at the Private Secondary Schools because they have reached the point where the schools have said that they are willing to take thirty, but it has been discovered that they have already six or seven who have

done so well in the Common Entrance examination that they have qualified for places; therefore that school will only have to take twenty-four or so of the others who have passed,

12.55 p.m.

This applies to all. It is true also of the Washington High School, the Community School and three or

four other schools, all of which had entered pupils for the Common Entrance Examination. There are those who have succeeded and mere are those who have not succeeded. As regards those who have not succeeded, a number of them have however, done well enough to qualify for awards of Exhibitions, It is inevitable that some of the larger pri-vate schools will take more pupils than the others. Ob-viously I would expect that the largest intake would necessarily go to the Modern, the Federal, the Washington the Community and one or two others. That is inevitable because of their organization. All the schools will take some children; the minimum which each will take will be ten. They will take ten or more so that we will have no difficulty on that score, I would also like to draw to the attention of the Committee, the conditions which the Ministry has laid down for the scheme. This is a most important matter. I have caused a survey to be prepared and to be distributed for the pupils and their parents to see. When we have finalised the list of awards at Common Entrance, each parent will get a letter which will read as follows:-

\\"Dear Sir /Madam,

Your son/daughter at present attending such-and-such a school has been considered for a Government Exhibition at an Approved Independent School. This Exhibition provides the sum of \$25,00 per term towards the cost of your child's education. If the fees of the school to which your child is admitted is more than \$25.00 per term, you would be responsible for providing the difference.

Failure to do that will result in the withdrawal of the Exhibition.\"

Attached to this letter is a form which will also go to the parent and to each of the Independent Approved schools.. That form is set out at the bottom of the circular with the fees charged by the schools so that when the parents decide at which school they would like the children to enjoy the awards, they will also see the fees which the school charges per term. If the school charges \$30.00 per term, then the parent will know that he will have to pay \$5.00. If the parent sends the child to a school which charges \$80.00, like Codrington High School or at St, Winifred's where the fees are \$70.00 per term, the same thing will hold good. On the other hand, there are one or two schools where the fees are less than the value of the award. In that case, the Ministry awards the full value of the Exhibition.

We have not raised the question of standardizing fees. This Government does not undertake any responsibility for making any decision where a school raises its fees in the light of its policy. We have no comments to make on that. In addition to that, there are some general conditions regarding the financial end of the matter. It is inevitable that if money is coming out of the Treasury, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Education must be certain that money which is disbursed to these schools from the Treasury is well spent. I look across at the hon. senior member for the City, and I say that the Public Accounts Committee will be one of the bodies which will see about this matter. That is why we have put it down as a condition that full audited accounts of these schools must be presented. That is a 'must', because I must say, in fair-ness to the schools, that we have said in our Manifesto that whatever we do for the private schools, must be done under proper supervision, and the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Education, will have quite a lot to say in this matter.

The Committee will realise that we have offered the main provision to assist specialised subjects in these schools. I am afraid that only the financial consideration has prevented me from recommending some more money.

I have given six hundred dollars a year to schools which are doing General Science, four hundred dollars a year for Commercial subjects, three hundred dollars a year for Domestic Science, and if they do Handicrafts, I have given three hundred dollars a year; but no school can collect any more than a thousand dollars a year. There is a wide discretion if they qualify for a thousand dollars a year and how they should spend it. I feel that a school ought to exercise its discretion. If in one year it needs more than the equivalent for Science for its Commercial department, it should have a discretion to spend it in that way, provided that it is entitled to have its full one thousand dollars and its accounts are publicly audited and properly attested. I would not be too rigid in policy in this respect, because I think a school should exercise a good discretion. In any case, if they have to receive one thousand dollars, they have to receive it.

Mr. Chairman, I do not think I need say anything more now. Perhaps hon. members will emerge with questions and I will do my best to answer them, I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman, in seconding the motion for the passing of this Resolution, I should like to strengthen the point which was made by the Hon. Minister of Education when he spoke about the percentage of pupils coming from Primary Schools who benefit from free Secondary education, I remember that in 1962 when this matter was introduced, there were about 500 pupils who gained entrance to the Government-maintained Secondary Schools in the parish of St. Michael. There were at least 150 who were not only pupils of the Primary Schools, but there were pupils whose parents were unable to provide the uniform, the clothing, the lunch or even the bus fare to send their children to these schools. 1.05 p.m.

When the Minister spoke of those political fledgelings of the Barbados Labour Party who are going around saying that by implementing free secondary education to Government-maintained schools, we are helping the rich and not the poor, I should like to say that the majority of those who gained entrance in St. Michael in 1962 into the Government-maintained schools could not pay for the education, and could not find the clothing and books; and when the Mayor of Bridgetown called on the Premier at the time to do something about it, the Premier in the absence of the Minister of Education who was out of the Island called on me as I was acting Minister of Education to go to the City Council and see what could be done for these children, I had to instruct that the \$8,000 which were used formerly by Government for Vestry Exhibitions be used in providing uniforms, books, lunch and bus fares in necessitous cases for those same 150 people who could not have formerly benefitted from a secondary education. The next two years some of these pupils will be out with School Certificates, perhaps some will have Higher Certificates, and the next five years some of the same pupils will come back to this country as doctors, and some as lawyers; yet you find the political touts of the Barbados Labour Party going around saying that the Government has introduced free secondary education for the rich,

I want to make this point clear now because this is the first opportunity I have had to mention it. At the time when the tillis system was introduced, I was in the Ministry of Education, and the then Chief Education Officer came to me and said "Do you know that the Government has made a big mistake to have introduced free secondary education for all who can qualify for it in this country?" He asked whether I know that the elite of this country were taking their children away from Harrison College, I said that if

they wanted to take their children away from Harrison College, it would leave more room for the under-privileged people of this country, and that is what we are interested in seeing. There are certain schools where today you find a certain class of persons. At places like Harrison College and Queens College you now have fewer of the people who are considered the elite. The places formerly held by children of upper class are now predominantly taken by children of parents in the lower and middle class income

groups; so when people go around talking nonsense about Government providing free secondary education for the rich, that is not the case, We feel that education should be like water. If you want to pay for it, you should pay for it; but if you cannot pay for it, you should not be denied the opportunity of having it. We have made education available not only to the child of the man who can pay, but to the child of the parent who cannot pay for it and who should not be denied the privilege of having it.

Now on the question of assistance to private schools, there are children in private schools today who have the necessary ability, but who because of the financial embarrassment of their parents would probably not have been higher than the Third Form, They come every day to the Ministry, they go to the City Council and to every Work Department saying that their mother or father had them at school and could no longer pay for them, or that the father was ill or lost his job and they could only go to Third Form, but they would like to get a job doing nursing at the Hospital. The standard for nursing at the Hospital is that you should have at least two subjects at "O" level in the G.C.E. You find many cases where a child goes to Secondary School, but because of economic reasons the parents can no longer keep him at school and he has to leave school when he is only fourteen years. He knocks around until he is eighteen and then goes looking for a job. I had a case only this morning of a girl who was going to St. Leonards. She left when she reached the Third Form. This is a girl with ability; but the fact was that the parents did not have what to send her to a Private Secondary School with, and she had to leave school. She is a girl with a tremendous amount of ability and wants to do nursing, but the requirements are that she should have English and another subject at "O" Level in the G.C.E., if she is to do nursing in Barbados, I saw that she had the ability, and I instructed that she be permitted to write the examination.

I have been connected with private schools all my life, I was educated at a private school, and I taught in a private school until I went into the Ministry, and my experience has been that the children who have the ability in these schools are those whose parents cannot pay. The private schools offer Scholarships, and the people who get the best results in the private schools are those who are given free scholarships; but in order to help children with the necessary academic ability in these schools, they have to offer free Scholarships and pay bus fares and for lunch in necessitous cases, as well as give books and have a reduction in school fees or no fees at all if they are to have a secondary education; so when you see the results appear in the newspapers for these private schools, those are the children who get the results. But 90% of the children who pay in private schools do not do well.

I must compliment the Ministry of Education, Mr. Chairman, for the action it has taken in bringing assistance not necessarily to the private schools, but to the parents of those children in the private schools. Only yesterday morning a lady came to my home with a girl who was attending a private Secondary School, but had to leave because the mother was ill. The girl is 18 years and was in the Fourth Form, which meant that she had one more year. Do you see what one more year at school could have done for her? Because of the economic circumstances of the parent, she had to leave school and walk about the streets because she could not get a job; and soon from now will have to have a School Certificate to reap sugar cane, "There was a time when you could get into the Police Force after a Fifth

Standard education, but today boys with Higher Certificates are going into the Police Force, That is why it is necessary that every child in this country, so long as he has the necessary academic ability, should not be denied the privilege of having a secondary education. The Government cannot provide all in the Government-maintained schools, because it cost an average of three hundred dollars to educate one of the boys or girls in the Government-maintained schools. It cost them \$75 for school fees, and with the other assistance given to the private schools, will cost approximately \$100 per child at the Independent schools, 1.15 p.m.

This is giving one thousand five hundred children in this country a free secondary education. It is giving them the assurance that because of the economic conditions of the children's parents that they will not have to leave the school when they are in the Third Form, That is what is happening; If you were to check those teenagers who are now termed as "Limers", you will see that they are children who have not been given the opportunity to stay in a secondary school after two or three years. They come out and they feel that because they have gone to a secondary school that they should have a white-collared job, I have nothing against a person striving to get a white-collared job: but the fact is that these people are not qualified for the job which they want to do by their having left school before they got the school Certificate, These are the children who are now roaming the streets and who have become a sort of problem for this country. A little education is a dangerous thing.

Sir, we now have plans to set up a Youth Town. The Minister of Education, . the Minister of Agriculture and myself have been discussing the question of a Youth Town; and the people whom we want in this Youth Camp - most of them - are children who have had part of their education at a private school and because of that, they do not want to use a hoe. They feel it is infra dig to use a hoe although they cannot find a job to do. Hence they roam the streets.

If the Government did not do something to provide the necessary education, both academic and technical, for these children, you will have a very serious state of affairs within the next few years.

Well, Sir, I must compliment the Hon. Minister of Education for the stand which he has taken, and I strongly support him in the arguments which he has put forward. There is one other question which I would like to bring to the attention of this Committee, and it is the question of providing Polytechnic teachers in these schools. The only qualified teachers that these private schools have are the teachers who teach in the upper part of the school because they must produce results, The teachers who are really paid are those who teach in the Fifth or Sixth Forms. These schools cannot afford to pay qualified teachers in the First, Second or Third Forms what they are really worth; therefore, they cannot afford to employ qualified teachers in those Forms, It means that the teachers who work in the Fifth and Sixth Forms have to work hard, and the pupils in those Forms have to work overtime. I know of cases where children who are preparing for their School Certificate have to go to school on Sunday mornings. This is because those schools could not afford to employ qualified teachers in the Lower Forms to give the children the necessary basic foundation which they wanted; therefore, it meant more hard work for the children when they got into the higher Forms, Some of them have had mental breakdowns as a result of the pressure of work put on them in the Fifth Form, What they should have done in four years, they have to do in one year in the Fifth Form,

I am bold to say that in two or three years' time the Government may have trouble in competing with the children in Private Schools because of the better foundation and the assistance of qualified teachers

which you are now giving to the Private Secondary Schools, I hope that the principle of providing these Private Secondary Schools with qualified teachers would be for these schools to allocate them to the Lower and Middle Forms. If this is done, the Government-maintained schools would have great competition in the next two or three years, I am making a prophesy now. The Government-maintained schools will have great competition because if the Private Schools can produce the results which they are producing now, when they have the worst of the pupils coming to them, when no qualified teachers are employed to teach the pupils until they reach the Fifth and Sixth Forms, you can imagine what the results would be like when they can afford qualified staff to teach in the Lower and Middle Classes.

This is one of the biggest shots in the arm that we have done as regards education. Say what you like, you

cannot stop the private schools; you must have private schools because the education in the Government-maintained schools is too expensive for the Government to have all the children. Do you know what it is to educate 40,000 odd to 50,000 children when you have to spend at least \$300 on one child?

This is the secondary age. This is the time when every parent is saying: "I do not want my child to do the same thing which I am doing," "I am a cane putter and I do not want my child to do that." "Do you know what it would mean to the Government and what strain it would place on the Government if it had to provide education to meet the demand of today? Hence, Mr. Chairman, I strongly support the Minister for having taken this step, and this is only the beginning of better things to come.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, this is a matter on which I can commend members of the Government, and I know that not one of them would attempt to deny the Party to which I belong the right of saying that long before the Government took steps in this direction, our Party for years and years has been pressing for assistance to Private Secondary Schools, I do not think the Hon. Minister of Education would even attempt to suggest denying us that right. We have heard the Minister of Health who is an ex-school teacher and Headmaster. I think he would remember that on political platforms throughout this island we have advocated assistance to these schools, and our reason for doing that is because I have been brought into contact day after day with the conditions under which they work.

Sir, to begin with, if any one thinks that because I am Leader of the Opposition and that I am getting money as Leader of the Opposition, therefore I should oppose this measure, they are wrong in their thinking. This is something which we of my Party advocated, and we advocated it as far back as 1946. I challenge now the Hon. Minister of Health who has listened to many of our speeches and you, Mr. Chairman, to say otherwise than that we advocated this policy years and years ago. 1.25 p.m.

I am very happy therefore to support it from the depth of my heart, I think I know as much or more about this matter than possibly some of the Ministers. The one point which I would like to make is this; I am supporting this Resolution and somebody will ask in the newspaper "What are you paying the Leader of the Opposition for? Are you paying him to say that you have no right supporting children in private schools?" I would like to have the opportunity to tell these persons what I think about them. I have noticed that a Mr. Nigel Barrow - I do not know who this gentleman is - has been pontificating in the Press on Saturday, I want to say that my back is broad and I am accustomed to this sort of thing; but

nothing like that can prevent me from supporting something which was near and dear to my heart since 1946. We, of this Party, are happy to support this belated Resolution. We think that it should have been brought down here earlier. On the other hand, when the Hon. Minister of Health and Social Services got up and said what he said, it struck me - I would say that I have been watching him very carefully as the youngest member of this House and the youngest Minister as well, and I have been listening to his pronouncements from the floor of this House, I have been watching his pronouncements not only in connection with this matter, but on several other matters, and it has caused me to feel that he has exhibited that integrity which should be consistent with his holding a Ministry. How often within his own Party have members got up and said that I had been making people believe that I have been giving them something belonging to me. I say today that I appreciate the hon. member's honesty and integrity. When I invited him to see the change in the system of free education, it was clear that the number of persons within the Municipality at least who were receiving these places in the school, were drawn from the walks of life who could not afford to provide the lunch, the clothing and in many cases the bus

fare for the children. Some children of this parish and some in St. Peter and so on will be awarded places,

I am one of those who say that it is not only the rich who are getting scholarships; that is not true. If ninety per cent of the people are paying some of the taxes and the other ten per cent are paying the remainder of the taxes, what is wrong if ten per cent get scholarships and the other ninety per cent also get scholarships - or at least they are given the opportunity to get them?

Yesterday a child came to me; and she is in Upper Four "A" at the Modern High School taking Science, and she is fifteen years of age. Her father is dead and her mother has five children. She could not go back to school. I was terribly busy and I walked off, but the thing worried me a bit. I had to go back and find out something about this child. If a child is fifteen years of age and she is in the Fourth Form doing Science, she is no ordinary child. Her father had died and she must leave school. She said that the Headmaster of the School had already cut the fees in half. This is all to show that these teachers must wake up and do some teaching, I could also mention the case of another girl who was attending a Government-aided school. When I went to see where this girl lives, she was of a very good family but of a poor family.

There is a case where one who had been teaching for one year is asking for time to go out to study, I say "No", Within a month or two the Headmaster of the Modern High School will be the proudest man in Barbados to have one of his pupils who have come from St. Mary's and who is in a Hospital doing well. That is a tribute to a private school in this country. I am saying Sir, that it is not true to say that it is only those who get on at these schools who come from rich families. The members of the hon. member's party will say that I make myself popular by doing such-and-such things; but, Mr. Chairman, do you think I am able to do all these things for these children? I have a report from Combermere School that a census was taken and that it is the only place where you have a canteen. That census showed that less than 150 children took lunch. All the other children just take the time. 1.35 p.m.

The canteen at Combermere School is being run by the City Council. Doctors were called to boys who were at School there and it was found that they had had nothing to eat; so it is absolutely untrue to say

that these places are only for the children of rich parents. If the letter which I read says that twenty-nine out of thirty-two were going to a private school pass and get into Harrison College. I am a member of the Governing Body of that school and I am going to ask questions and call names, and if it is true I will bring it out publicly, I have never asked any favours of any Headmaster for anyone of my children.

You will realise how proud I am when I think of the contribution I have made. When you ask if anything good can come out of Nazareth, the answer can only be yes, in that a child from Chapman Lane won a scholarship and went into a school to compete against people of all walks of life. Her mother is a domestic. Those of you who have read the history of this island will know Mr. H. A. M. Beckles. I speak of him not in derogatory terms or on account of his background, but as a man who pulled himself up and had ability in those days when few of the children from the ordinary walks of life could enter places like Harrison College, because not only did they not have the ability, but they did not have the wherewithal. The Hon. junior member for St. Peter knows of a Professor who lives at Carlton, St. James whom he taught in St. Peter and who went to Harrison College. He won the Island Scholarship, the Barbados Scholarship and the Hawkins Prize and today he is a Professor at Ghana University,

Mr. Chairman, we could do nothing else today but support the passing of this Resolution for \$145,000. We could not come in here and make ourselves into one of those intolerable asses by getting up on the floor of this House and opposing this because we did not get a chance to bring

it here. Only those people who have bitten sour grapes and whose teeth have begun to edge will say these things. Ability had never been measured by a person's skin or a look at his face; otherwise you know what the hon. junior member for St. Thomas would be. This is no reflection. Ability is never measured by any of these things; but we do know that if there is anything to raise the cultural standard of people, it is education, I have heard on the floor of this House that when you emancipate people from the point of view of giving them the vote, you free them. I disagree with that and would say that when you educate people you free them, because when you educate them they demand everything else. This is a great thing because of the 14 or 16 private schools in this island, and Government had been wise enough to acknowledge the fact that it could not cope with a problem of this nature,

I believe, Sir, that the Hon. Minister of Education will agree that not only in Barbados but in the United Kingdom, the United States of America and Canada immediately after the first World War, the demand for education became so great that no nation has been able to cope with it, and private schools had to be established. The Minister of Education knows the controversy which went on between Eleanor Roosevelt and the President of the United States about parochial schools getting aid. Immediately after every war in this age of radio, television and jet planes people are desirous of learning, and there is a search for more and more wisdom. The Government therefore could not cope with the 8,000 children outside the Government Secondary Schools, I have often had to tell people that they are wasting money, I think it is better for a child to go to rich-mond School, and when it comes out and the Headmaster feels it is inclined to do well at the Technical Institute, it should be sent there rather than waste money sending it to an academic school.

As the Minister has said, it is the feeling of every decent-minded parent in this country that his children should have some form of education; but little do they know that when they have reached the Third Form in a Private Secondary School they have done nothing for them, and could have allowed

them to remain in the Government Modern Secondary School and, if possible, send them to the Technical Institute, It is a tremendous problem we are facing in this country, and we must come to grips in this technological age that whatever you say to a mother or father, you are not going to get them to change. Which of us can go about the country and find anybody cutting manure pens ten feet square or four feet square? A boy came to me and said he was from Mount Stepney in St. Peter and mentioned the school he was attending. He seemed to be a very bright boy. I got on to the Headmaster who confirmed this and I found out that he had a brother who was a mason, his mother was a domestic, and his father was a cane cutter, and when I got on to the man he said that he did not want his son to be a cane cutter. That is one of the reasons why you are providing these 1,500 places and spending this \$145,000. This is a matter which we strenuously support and to which we give our blessing, 1.45 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, you too can remember well that just before the ex-Prime Minister left here, we passed legislation in this House saying that it would be illegal to bar people from going into hotels and other public places because of what some people describe as limited pigmentation or - what is locally known - because they are not white.

Strange as it may seem, I think this is really the first beginning of your trying to appreciate people. This is really the foundation of removing even the slightest amount of prejudice. Every one must be represented by this. Therefore, I am absolutely certain - and I speak now for the hon. junior member for Christ Church - that by your doing this, this whole system of prejudice would be wiped out. By the bringing in of this Resolution to carry out this policy of yours as regards Private Secondary Education, you would be wiping out some thing which other people actually tried to do but failed.

I understand that two of these schools are prepared to take Exhibitioners which will be sent to them by Government, This is a good sign. We all are born here; therefore we must have tolerance for each other. Fundamentally, we have some differences; fundamentally, we feel that we have a certain amount of pride and I consider this, as it stands, a very good asset.

Some people may say that this is merely trying to assist some Headmaster, As a matter of fact, may I be permitted to say that I know of a pupil who was educated at a Private Secondary School, and when the Government advertised for a Spanish Mistress, this girl who had subjects at Advanced Level applied for the post. She is now, I believe, on a University Scholarship, When she applied, one mistress who interviewed her asked her if she had got her training at Queen's College, and she replied as follows: "Had I gone to Queen's College, I would not have come to apply for this job now," She is now teaching at one of our Secondary Schools and she has just got a Scholarship, She came from one of these Private Secondary Schools, but she did so well there that she was accepted as a qualified person to teach at Queen's College, Finally, this Government gave her a Scholarship and she has gone into another school teaching. You find so many like her who have only had the opportunity of going to a Private Secondary School,

What I would like to know from the Hon. Minister is if St. Cyprian's is only a kindergarten school? I notice that the Christ Church High School has been set down as an approved school. What about St. Cyprian's?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

If the hon. member would give way, I would just tell him that St. Cyprian's is really a Primary

Preparatory school. It is not a Secondary school,

Mr. MOTTLEY:

I thank the Hon. Minister very much, There is another one which I have not seen on the list, I believe they have qualified teachers at that school. It is Paragon,

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

That is not yet an approved school,

Mr. MOTTLEY:

I agree with the Government that if you wish to become qualified, you have to spend money; you must have audited accounts and you must have control. You must have your school up to the necessary standards of public health; you must have a certain amount of public conveniences, I feel that despite what might be said, we on this side of the Table can do nothing else but support this Resolution.

Mr. Chairman, you will recall that we have argued time and time again on the question of the Government paying the fees of those children who take the G.C.E. Ex-aminations or whatever examinations there may be to qualify for school leaving certificates. And this is where the Hon. Minister of Education would be able to give fur-ther enlightenment. Will the Hon. Minister enlighten me on this matter? Just as the pupils who go to Harrison College or Combermere have their fees paid for sitting examinations and if they fail for the first time, sometimes the Government pays if they are allowed to sit the second time, can the Hon. Minister tell me if similar treatment would be given in similar circumstances to children in Private Secondary Schools if they are up to the standard? Would those fees be paid in full? Now, that they have decided to give these schools proper masters and all the other facilities? I want to know if they have settled that question of paying fees to those who are taking the London Certificate or the G.C.E. Examinations,

It is very important because quite a number of people who send their children to these schools whose children may not have exhibitions or have not got into a Govern-ment-aided school would have children with good promise and ability to get any four or five subjects but their parents would not have the money to pay for them. I know of se-veral headmasters who have to pay these fees for some of their pupils out of their own pockets.

What I am worried about, Mr. Chairman, is this: I know that at some of these schools the boys are allowed to take certain subjects for certificates and they fail and they are allowed to take them again. We pay for them. Some of their brothers who did not get into Harrison Col-lege are pupils at other schools like the Washington, and because this fellow at the Washington fails he is given the opportunity to take it again. I think that you can work out something in that matter. 1.55 p.m.

It is my duty, now that I am in the Opposition, to give this matter my support and not to be a hypocrite and say that I am in the Opposition and that I will oppose this. I support this Resolution wholeheartedly and I think it is one of the finest steps taken in order to be able to tackle this problem of assistance for these private secondary schools, I do appreciate the frankness and the integrity of the Hon. Minister of Health when he made the broad statement which he made in here. It is not true to say that only the rich children get into these schools, I am in a position, more than anybody else, to say that the number of children who must have clothing, lunch and bus fare has increased tremendously since there has been

the introduction of free secondary education.

The Hon. Minister said that when he was the Acting Minister of Education, I asked him to speak to these parents and I suggested that the money which we used to pay in secondary schools for these children should be granted to pay for the clothing and other things for these children. The most important thing I omitted to mention is that while it is true that you are giving free secondary education, you will agree with me that in my experience I have known that quite a number of children have to be supplied with books costing from \$39.00 to \$60.00. Fortunately for us, we have the books; we keep them as our property for the schools and they are passed down. I am no educationalist at all, but I feel that this sort of racket should not be going on. Why is it that books have to be changed so often? You purchase books in one Form this term and in the next term the whole lot of books are changed and you have to buy more books. I would like the Hon. Minister to look into this case because it creates a hardship on the parents who must supply their children with books.

Mr. Chairman, I hope that the Hon. Minister will realise that the children who obtain places in these Approved Secondary Schools will also have to be considered in our plans for giving books and the like to these children I have much pleasure in supporting this Resolution for the sum of \$145,000.

At this stage, it now being 2.00 p.m. of the clock, MR. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER:

It now being 2.00 p.m. of the clock, automatically this sitting now stands suspended until 2.30 p.m. of the clock,

On re-assembling

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, there is no quorum present and I ask that the Bell be rung.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I thank the Hon. Minister for drawing that to my attention. Let the Bell be rung.

On the Bell being rung, a quorum was obtained.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am informed that no Replies to Questions have been laid and the House may therefore proceed to the consideration of Private Members' Business.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

RESOLUTION re THE HOSPITAL (FEES) REGULATIONS

Mr. SPEAKER:

The first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business stands in the name of the Hon.

Leader of the Opposition:- To resume debate on a Resolution relating to the surgical fees, accommodation and treatment charges as set out in the Schedule to "The Hospital (Fees) Regulations, 1965," When the debate on this matter was adjourned on the last occasion, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph was addressing the Chair. If the hon. member has not yet completed his address, now is his opportunity to resume his address.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Speaker, on the last occasion I was trying to make the point that the fees must be paid before hand in some cases. Before going on with that, however, I would like to say that since the last occasion it has been reported to me that at the Hospital there are beds which are allocated to certain doctors, and if any other person goes to the Hospital and wants to pay for a bed he cannot get any of these beds which are allocated to these certain doctors. The Hon. Minister can reply to that when the time comes, I do not know if that is so, but if it is so I cannot see why the Hospital should be called a public Hospital where beds can be allocated to a particular doctor, and if another doctor sends a patient there

Mr. SPEAKER:

I do not think that there is any Hospital in Barbados called the public Hospital

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Speaker, I say it is a public Hospital because it is run with the funds of the people, and any institution or Hospital which is run with public funds I call a public Hospital. This is a Hospital which is run by public funds although there are some people who believe that because they may have something to do with the Hospital they may treat it as a private Hospital. Nevertheless, I am saying that this is a public Hospital. It would not be fair to inform a patient when beds are available and can be paid for, that he will have to go into the public ward while there are beds available for a particular doctor to send in his patients. That particular doctor must pay for his beds. I understand that that sort of thing used to take place at the Hospital before; you could not get in the Hospital at all unless you are sent by a doctor who is attached to the Hospital. 2.35 p.m.

I know a person whose family doctor had to send her to another doctor so as to gain admission into the Hospital I do not think it is fair that these circumstances should obtain at the Hospital because the taxes which are paid by people assist in running the Hospital, and they should not be told by any individual that certain things cannot be done for them unless A or B has a say in it.

While I am on this I will deal with paragraph 10 (1) which says:-

"All fees payable under these Regulations, shall, unless the Hospital Director otherwise permits, be paid in advance."

This means that you are in the hands of the Hospital Director, and if he cares to say O.K., it will be O.K. as far as paying is concerned. Sickness is such a thing, Sir, that no one knows when it is going to occur, and in 90 out of 100 cases it occurs when you are broke. You might find yourself with a few dollar bills or a few hundred dollar bills knocking around

Mr. SPEAKER:

May I assure the hon. member that I have never found myself in such a situation.

Mr. SMITH:

Do you mean being broke?

Mr. SPEAKER:

I mean with the hundred dollar bills knocking around.

Mr. SMITH:

Well Sir, there is a time when hundred dollar bills will be knocking around, and another time when there is not a cent. It is a question of how you pay your bills and how demands arrive. If sickness occurs, whether it be your wife, daughter, son or yourself, it is left to the Hospital director to decide whether you will have to look for money before you are admitted into the particular Ward. I should prefer it if time was given for the person to pay after the operation, because knowing human nature as I do, there may be a time when the spirit is not always working right in man, and a person may be left at home to die or to suffer unbear-

able pains, only because we are passing this afternoon or at some other time that \"all the fees payable under these Regulations shall, unless the Hospital Director otherwise permits, be paid in advance.\" I feel, Sir, that too much authority is being vested in the Hospital Director at this time. Further on in Section 10, it says that where these fees are not paid in advance, then if the fees are not paid within 90 days of the date of the discharge from the Hospital of the patient by whom they are payable, there shall be added to the amount of the fees remaining unpaid at that date a surcharge equal to six per cent of the amount of such fees. Here, Mr. Speaker, you still have a chance to pay within 90 days - though it depends on the financial position of the person and his commitments, because you might find a man with about three or four children going to school, a wife not enjoying the best of health, and he is the only bread winner and may also have to pay a servant to make a message, and his salary might not exceed \$240 per month. Then he has house rent, water, light and other things. During the period of illness, the man may have to spend more money in buying milk and other items, and he may have to draw his last penny to acquire at least four suits of pyjamas to change regularly while at the institution, when normally two suits might last him for five years.

I feel, Mr. Speaker, that we have to examine these things because that person is contributing to the upkeep of the institution even through the buying of more pyjamas or alcohol with which to rub. There are some things from which you can escape, but not from sickness because it can come at any time; therefore, we should be more considerate in a paragraph of this kind. You should not leave it to one man to decide whether you will be admitted and be allowed to pay the Hospital bill afterwards because sometimes the bill can be very high. 2.50 p.m.

Sometimes the amount of one dollar fights you to get. At another time it is easy to come. When we take all that into consideration I hope the Minister would see to it and try to do something along this line. I am not asking anything for myself; I dare suppose if I ask the Hon. Minister to consider it, I will be the first person to get the first chance, but I hope not.

I know that there are people much poorer than I am who may be able in some cases to make a payment by way of instalments, but they are not in a position to pay a cash payment. As you know, Sir, people pay more by buying a motor car under the higher - purchase system: but if they were called upon to pay down cash, you will see very few with cars on the road. Here it is, you have a chance to buy a car and every month to pay an instalment on it, but they are calling on you at the Hospital to pay cash. I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that this applies to you or any lawyer or even the hon. junior member for Christ Church; but when it comes to certain people like myself we will never be able to own a new car if the facilities were not there to pay a part by instalments. In this case, I hope the Hon. Minister for Health will see to it so that some people would be able to pay by instalments.

We have to think about these people because the new Hospital is a public institution. If it were a private institution run by private funds or by a company where the Director would have to pay up all the expenses and all the bad debts, you will really have to be in sympathy with them if such a rule was made. As a matter of fact, there are some private firms who are not so hard on you. When you go to them and tell them that you cannot pay this week, or this month, they will see with you and give you a chance. But in this case, of course, the Director of the Hospital is not supposed to give you a chance. If he does not give you a

chance and you even apply to the Minister in charge, he cannot give you a chance either. The most that the Minister can do is to put his hands in his pocket and give you the money. That is the point which I have to make as far as this Hospital is concerned.

Everybody knows that the fees there are too high, especially when you consider that this is a Government-

run institution. It is run by the people for the benefit of the people, and when you are making increases to the fees - I do not know what business we are doing now - and you are making such heavy increases on your spare parts, surely the Government has to step in and take some control.

Why did you have Price Control Orders? There was a time when Government thought that the business people in the island were charging their customers too much and Government stepped in and made a Price Control Order. In order that the public might not be fleeced Government brought in a Price Control Order. All that we can say now is that these fees are too high. We cannot make a charge against the Government for fleecing the people. However, that is not a good example which this Government is setting for business people. Whether or not the price per day has increased, as we all expected it to increase, do not try to do it as the Hon. Premier did it in his first year of taxation when he tried to get out of the hole in a year or two.

The expenses up there, at the Hospital would have to go down into posterity. My children's children would have to pay for it. That is what I think it is. Imagine that there was a time when the fees for a Pay Ward was only \$1.20 per day at the old Hospital. I will agree that the Pay Wards at the new Hospital may be better and more spacious, but that is not the reason why you should increase the fees from \$1.20 to \$7.50. What you were paying at the old Hospital in one week, this Government is calling upon you to pay in one day. That is why I say that the fees are too exorbitant. From \$7.20 per week it has gone to \$45.00 per week.

We expected that you would have made a new order, but why from \$7.20 to \$45.00? Who go into the Hospital now from those who went before?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

I rise on a point of order. The hon. member is speaking a deliberate untruth,

Mr. SPEAKER:

I will ask the hon. member to with-draw that remark,

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

I withdraw it. The hon. mem-ber is deliberately misleading the House on this question. He says that the fees have been increased from \$7.20 to \$45.00 per week. That is not true. What have we done? We have completely separate rooms for the people in paying wards. The cost of one of these rooms is \$15.00 per day. If the room has two beds in it the price is divided into two, each patient paying \$7.50 per day. Along with that we have made provision for the people who cannot pay \$15.00 or \$7.50 per day to pay \$3.00. It is not true to say that you have increased the fees from \$7.20 per week to \$45.00 per week.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The Hon. Minister has made the point of order, and has directed his point to the attention of the House, 3.00 p.m.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Speaker, you can quite clearly see what is operating in the mind of the hon. Minister by his utterances. This is what I see in front of me under the Head "Accommodation and Treatment" -

Grade B Room:

Two-bed - if occupied by one person \$15.00 per day.

Grade B Room:

Two-bed - if occupied by two persons \$7.50 per day.

What is it that the Hon. Minister wants me to under-stand? To begirt with, if one is so rich or has the feeling that he should be going into a room with two beds and only one person can take it, he will have to pay \$15.00? on the other hand, if he goes into a room with two beds and only one person can occupy it, he will have to pay \$7.50 per day, which is the same thing. In other words if the rooms were \$1.20 per day and there were two beds in them they would charge \$2.40 per day. Now this is a room which is

large enough to carry two beds and instead of being \$7.50 per day, it is \$15.00 per day. They have made the rooms so elaborate that they cannot make a smaller one, and you can therefore see what has happened. The Hon. Minister rose to explain

Mr. SPEAKER:

The Hon. Minister rose on a point of order. In due course he will reply.

Mr. SMITH:

He had to try to explain himself. He did so as soon as he started to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER:

That might appear to be so; it might appear that he intended to contravene the Standing Orders.

Mr. SMITH:

But he still broke the Standing Orders of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER:

That is a matter of my opinion.

Mr. SMITH:

If I do not break the Standing Orders of the House and I was not offensive in my language, nobody could make me withdraw anything. If you were to call upon me to withdraw what I said about the \$7.50 per day room I would not do it because that is here,

Mr. SPEAKER:

I would not be in such error to do so.

Mr. SMITH:

I thank you, Sir. That means that the Minister was in error. I hope that the Minister will explain the conditions of this room, how it is fixed and so forth. I would not expect the conditions in this room to be so elaborate and to have the same conveniences in it as you would find in the room for which you have to pay \$15.00 per day. As to the \$3.00 per day room, I hope that it does not mean that they will put a screen around the bed and charge \$3.00 per day for the room. In that case, I would say that it is highclass robbery or trying to dig as much money out of people as possible. I hope the Minister will explain if this room will have a lavatory, wash-hand basin, ear phones and everything installed for this \$3.00 per day; otherwise he will not be doing anything. As far as the Grade A room is concerned where the charge is \$15.00 per day, that would have all of these conveniences. It would be all right for members of this House to call for this sort of room. When you are a member of the House of Assembly you are regarded as a Big Shot and therefore you are called upon to pay Big Shot fees. I would not be expected to take a \$3.00 a day room in the Hospital because I am a big man; but further than that, I am not so big because I may go into the public ward among my friends. I would do that in the same way as I would go into the houses of my friends at Election time,

Mr. SPEAKER:

I hope that the hon. member will be able to do that again,

Mr. SMITH:

I may be able to go and tell the people whom they should vote for, too. In this room for \$3.00 per day, I hope that they will not put up a little screen on two pieces of stick. It would not be expected that I would put my wife in there, because I would have to think of putting her in another ward. It is not that she would mind that; but when her friends go in to see her, they would say \"Look where he has put her.\"

Mr. Speaker, to get back to the question of the administration, I want to say that they have a lovely building up there now and we do not want them to be disunited up there: otherwise we are still nowhere.

From what I have been hearing and reading too, it does not appear to me that all is well up there with the staff or with some of the staff. Before going further, let me say that I have always said on the floor of this House that there are two people for whom I have great respect and a soft spot in my heart. Those two people are my doctor and my cook. I will always maintain that. 3.10 p.m.

Some time ago there was an exchange of differences of opinion between the doctors and the Minister which did

not sound good, I do not know who was lying, whether the doctors or the Minister because I am not up there; but if you do not get harmony existing at the Hospital, it is liable that the people who go there for attention might suffer, I would not for one moment say that a doctor should handle the Minister out of place, neither would I say that it is right for the Minister to disrespect a doctor, because if the Minister disrespects the doctor, that is one thing; but if the doctor disrespects the Minister, nobody is going to suffer except the Minister - and not even him, because words are wind. If the Minister does anything to hurt a doctor's feelings, it is possible that all the doctors, being professional men and being a fraternity to themselves, might feel the same way, and the people lying in pain at the Hospital are likely to suffer, Although a doctor or a nurse cannot save their lives, when one of them appears in the Ward, the patients have a different feeling.

I feel, Mr. Speaker, that an investigation should be made into the causes of disharmony at the Hospital and an attempt made to fix it right. Not long ago I heard about doctors and nurses leaving a place not very far from here, and at that rate we will soon only have the buildings and a few dead people. I went to Captain Parris' funeral a few Sundays ago and while coming out of the Church I heard a voice behind me saying "If anything happens with me, do not tend me to the Hospital, because more people seem to come out dead than alive." When Hooked back, it was a woman I knew saying that to her husband. Those things do not sound good for an institution with such lovely buildings. I believe that if the Queen hears about this she might send and direct you to take down her name, because she would not want her name associated with something like that. It has just started to operate as a hospital, and so many things have been happening already.

Mr. SPEAKER:

May I remind the hon. member that "Rules of Debate" 26(8) state that Her Majesty's or the Governor's name shall not be used to influence the House? Of course, I am assuming that the hon. member is not using the name of Her Majesty to influence the House,

Mr. SMITH:

No, Sir. I am speaking about the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. That is the name of the Hospital; so I will have to call it by its name, because the Resolution refers to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. I cannot merely say Hospital or public Hospital, because you drew to my attention that I have not seen 'public Hospital' anywhere in the Resolution,

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am afraid that this Resolution stand-ing in the name of the Leader of the Opposition nowhere mentions either Queen Elizabeth the Second or any other Royalty. Let the hon. member for St. Joseph proceed,

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Speaker, are these fees for the Bar-bados General Hospital?

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am merely saying that the Resolu-tion does not mention the name of Queen Elizabeth nor does it contain that phrase anywhere in it,

Mr. SMITH:

The Regulations may contain the name and I am speaking from the Regulations which embody the fees. I am saying, Sir, that the Minister should do something about the conditions at the Hospital because I do not feel happy about them, nor do I think you do, I do not feel happy about what is going on inside such a lovely struc-ture which at night is so pretty and reminds me of the Hilton Hotel. If I brought in a Resolution asking for an en-quiry to be made, I do not think the Government would ac-cept it; You should have an enquiry when conditions become such that doctors and nurses become dissatisfied and leave, I know a nurse who says she cannot stay there. (Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS Why?) The Hon. Minister should know. That shows that he does not know what is happening up there, and that is why he should have an enquiry, in fair-ness to the people of this country, to let them know that he is not at fault. If he does nothing about it, we will have to

lay the blame on his shoulders, I know he is from St. Joseph, and no one from that parish has any fear in him. Any time you meet a sharp dog, it is from St. Joseph. He should clear himself and let people understand that he has sense and ability, 3,20 p.m.

There are some people who want us to believe that he does not have any ability or sense, and if he keeps quiet and does not show up his hands, that is his business.

Now, Sir, we have a new Director, We do not know what he can do, but I hope that he is a strong Director, I hope that they will take their places and do not try to put too much politics into it. Do not let politics take too much of a big share. Give the Director a big hand and let us see his proposals and how he can get things working. Let us see if he can change things there. At the present moment, it appears to me that too much is on the Hon. Minister's shoulders, along with things which he has to do otherwise under his portfolio, I feel that it will take a Minister for the Hospital alone, far less tacking on other things to him and getting every little \"1\" dotted and every little \"t\" crossed.

I hope the new Director will fill his place admirably and will be able to rule the unruly, I know how some people look at others, I know how they will look at me if I were the Minister of Health and you had these big shot Directors. They would not want me to say a word. It may be so with the Minister of Health now. They might feel now that they should be dictating to the Minister and he should not be dictating to them. I know that, if their administration is wrong, the Hon. Minister has as much sense and ability to let them know that they are wrong. What I think it is. They want to embarrass him and they do not want to hear him. The same thing may be true of the Minister, He may feel that he is at the top and does not want any one over him. That is why I say that you should have everything investigated,

I do not know, Sir, if the Director has heard anything of what is happening. We hope, if he has heard, that he would be able to do a good job rectifying it,

I say again that the fees at this Hospital are too high and something should be done to relieve the people.

It is written in Paragraph 10 that all fees payable under these Regulations shall, unless the Hospital Director otherwise permits, be paid in advance. In other words, the Director can refuse you, if you cannot pay in advance. It should not be so. That is asking too much of him.

There are other things which I would like to see put right. It is a fact that certain beds are allocated to certain doctors, and to other doctors there are none. All of these things I would like to see put right because it is the people's Hospital and it is run by public funds and you should have no discrimination at all.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, this Resolution has taken four weeks during which hon. members have discussed the matter and it is due to the fact that there have been revised regulations as regards the fees charged. First of all, let me say that as regards the question of the revision of fees in the paying wards, the last time that there was a revision of fees for the paying wards was some time before 1930. I am sure that these Regulations were made before the present Acting Director went to the Hospital and he was there before 1930. The fees at that time were increased to \$1.20 per day. Since then a lot of water has gone under the bridge because all equipment has increased considerably and the cost of living has increased.

However, let me say that you do not have to pay at the Hospital. If you want free treatment, you get it. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph has spoken about the hardship which people are going to bear because of these fees;

but the hon. member and those who oppose this revision of fees have forgotten completely that every person in this country who wants free hospitalisation is entitled to it, I want to get that clear from the outset,

Mr. Speaker, if you want free hospitalisation at the Hospital you can go there this afternoon and get it; you can go there at any time and get it. However, if you choose to pay, if you want privacy, you would have to pay for it. If you want luxury, you pay for it. Do not say that free hospitalisation is denied any one in this country. As long as there is room, you can have free hospitalisation.

We have had cases where certain doctors, in order to bring pressure to bear upon the Government and in order to embarrass the Government, have been keeping people in the wards of the Hospital longer than they should be kept. Cases have been brought to my notice where when junior Medical Officers instructed that patients should be discharged from certain wards, certain Physician Specialists - and I mean a certain doctor - say that those patients who were given their discharge should be kept for seven days longer. Those junior Medical Officers have said that they were satisfied that the patients to whom they had given their discharge needed no further hospitalisation. This is only one of the problems which we have at the new Hospital; but what I am saying is that free hospitalisation is not denied anyone as long as there are rooms in the Hospital. 3.30 p.m.

When they talk about increase fees and that the fees are too high, I do not agree with that,

Mr. MOTTLEY:

On a point of order, I hate to inter-rupt the Hon. Minister, but when he says.....

Mr. SPEAKER:

The Hon. Minister has the right of re-ply.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

I appreciate that the hon. member knows that I would not attempt to interrupt him. On the other hand, Sir, there are so many things to which he has the right of reply that I rose to make the point here, When we were talking about the fees, we did not only mention these particular fees at the Hospital because I made it clear that certain fees should be increased, We were talking about the Physician Specialist's fees.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

I was not referring to the Specialist fees mentioned by the hon. member, I was re-ferring to the remarks of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, the hon. junior member for St. George and others who said that the fees which are charged for these Wards at the Hospital are too high. As I say, Sir, I was dealing with the fees mentioned by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, If in the 1930's you charged a patient five shillings per day for occupying a Ward, look at what the average wages were in 1930 and compare them with the wages which are being paid today. You will see that wages have been increased one hundred fold or more. There has been an increase in wages and the cost of living has increased considerably. In the 1930's the hon. junior member for St. Joseph might have been working for five shillings per week and now he may be working for \$500.00 per week because he fixes it right. (Laughter) Taking that into consideration, you will see that these fees are justified because it takes us no less than \$35.00 a day for the running of each bed at the Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, what is wrong with a charge of \$15.00 per day for a person who wants to be private? If you cannot afford to pay that \$15.00 per day, you can say that you want to pay \$7.50 per day or \$3.00 per day or that you cannot afford to pay at all; but if you can pay, then you should pay. What has not been mentioned in this debate is that there are a lot of insurance companies in this country taking \$1.00 a week from the workers of the country and the agents of these companies are saying that they are providing sickness benefits for the workers. The insurance companies should be paying these sickness benefits. There are thousands of people who go into the Hospital and

the insurance companies are getting away with murder. The reason for making the appointment of an Almoner is to make sure that there is a means test. If it is established at any time that a member of the public, whether he goes into a public ward or a private ward, is paying any pre-mium to an insurance company to take care of him, then the insurance company will have to pay us for such a Pa-tient's hospitalisation, because he is covered by insurance. There are certain insurance companies which make pre-vision for hospitalisation in their plans. The people who lire most hit by this sort of affair are the agricultural workers, You see people going around and collecting this money and the people who take out these policies are ignorant of the law. Lots of representations have been made to me that after people have paid their premiums, they have not got their money for hospitalisation. I repeat that one of the reasons for the establishment of the post of Almoner is for the purpose of going into these matters. Over and above all that, I cannot stress too strongly that free hospitalisation is available for everybody in this country, I say that for the benefit of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and for the benefit of the hon.

junior member for St. George who spoke on this Resolution,

Mr. Speaker, we come now to the controversial point, that is, the question of fees chargeable by Specialists at the Hospital. When representation was made by the Specialists at the Hospital as early as 1963 for an increase in the fees chargeable there, great consideration was given to this matter. The person who was making the greatest appeal for an increase in fees was the Anaesthetist, and we thought that we would have a complete revision of the Hospital fees before we did anything in this matter. The Medical Staff Committee at the Hospital brought in all sorts of plans and all sorts of Fees Schedules from various parts of the Commonwealth, the United Kingdom and other places, and they have put up a case for an increase. They said that this is what is charged in this place, that is what is charged in the other place, and they went on like that, 3.40 p.m.

The fees which the Cabinet and I allow the surgeons at the Hospital have already been cut twice. When they first came into the Ministry to discuss them, the fees were cut by the Ministry; then after they left the proposals with me, I cut the fees again by 15%. What they have been granted, Mr. Speaker, is far less than what they were asking for. As a matter of fact, hon. members may or may not be surprised to hear that after these Regulations were sent to the Medical Staff Committee and they saw that there was a further cut of 13% in the fees, they said they were not interested in working for that and asked for further discussions, and for us to get them to agree even to start work at these rates, we had to promise them that we were going to give the matter further consideration,

Mr. Speaker, I will tell you something that will shock hon. members. Right now the Specialists at the Hospital are contravening the terms of their contract. They are supposed to do consultant practice now, but they are now competing with private practitioners outside. All these things have been drawn to my attention, and some private practitioners have made representation to me saying that if they refer their cases to certain doctors at the Hospital -and there is one doctor who is the chief offender - they do not get the courtesy of a reply from the doctors to say what they found wrong with the patient. They further point out that not only did they not get a reply, but the doctors steal the patients from the private practitioners.

I have written a directive which my Permanent Secretary was instructed to send out, and I think hon. members should hear what is in it. This directive was sent to the Hospital Director re consultant practice by Specialists. It says: \"The Minister has expressed concern that generally the several Specialists employed at the Hospital are not making their services available to as many public patients as is desirable in relation to private patients.\" I will tell you why this had to be done. The hon. senior member for Bridgetown asked a question re the amount of consultations given to public patients as against private patients by the Hospital Specialists. I asked for this information and one

doctor - and I am going to call names - Dr. Forde, went and hauled the Records Officer over the coals, I am not speaking literally, Mr. Speaker; I am speaking figuratively. Imagine an Officer telling a Civil Servant that she should not pass on information to the Minister before consulting him, and then he would have told her what to write. (Mr. MOTTLEY: Shame) Not only that. After I got this information the Medical Staff Committee met. I had asked for the records for the last quarter ending March of the number of private patients seen by the Specialists at the Hospital as against the number of public patients attended. When they heard that I had asked for this information, the Medical Staff Committee met and brought some further information; they thought they could pull cobweb over my eyes by

cooking up a set of records and sending them to me. This is the sort of affair with which I have to deal every day in the Ministry, People criticise me for coming out and saying things, but I want to make it clear that I represent the 240,000 people of this country, and I am not going to join with 1, 2, or 6 Specialists against the 240,000 people in this country, I will read the figures for the last quarter-

Dr. Forde - Chief Physician Specialist, private pa-tients 534 in the three months period January to March, 1965. (A VOICE: Are these private paying patients?)

Mr. SPEAKER:

Under Standing Order 29(6) \"Beha-viour of Members not speaking\", while a member is speaking, all other members shall be silent - SILENT - or shall confer only in undertones - UNDERTONES - and shall not make unseemly interruptions. If the cap fits any hon. member, he will draw the string.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

It did not fit me, but I wanted to get the distinction between private paying and public patients

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, I am referring to private paying patients. The number of public out-patients seen in three months was 330, In this record. Sir, there is no question of the Specialists seeing the private patients assisted by a Medical Officer; it shows the public patients assisted by a Medical Officer; so what I am pointing out is that when I came here a few months ago and said that certain Specialists at the Hospital are only interested in their own personal aggrandisement and are only interested in the amount of fees they can get from patients, I had under stood from good sources that most of these public patients were seen by the Medical Officer and not by the Specialist at all. Are we to take up over \$9,000 a year and pay an Officer to look after public pa-tients when the Officer is only using the facilities of the Hospital to look after private patients? 3.50 p.m.

If this continues, I am going to make recommenda-tions for abolition of the post because the post was created for this particular officer so that he would not suffer as a result of the salary which he receives; and if the officer is taking no interest in the community of Barbados, which interest he should take, and is only interested in the pri-vate patients, I am going to get rid of him. If the Public Service Commission does not get rid of him, I will get rid of him.

Mr. Speaker, something worse happened at the hos-pital. I have a report here. A man by the name of Leo Jones attended the Hospital last week. He went to the Cas-ualty and saw an Officer. He was suffering from rash in his head, face and back. This man had seen six other doc-tors before he had gone to the hospital. He went to the Hospital Casualty and saw Doctor Harris, who referred him immediately to the Chief Physician Specialist for immediate attention and the Physician Specialist refused to see the man. What he told me was that the Sisters who carried the patient over to the Physician Specialist said that the Physician Specialist said that he was not prepared to see more than six new public patients per day. Subse-quently, the man went to Dr. Stoby who referred him to Dr. Forde and Dr. Forde saw the man on Thursday.

This is the sort of thing for which we are criticised in coming out and saying. I have got to use this means of information to the people because the employment of these officers does not rest with me. I am not concerned with personal matters. There is a Personnel Committee which is an independent body;

therefore I do not deal with per-sonnel matters. But when I see an injustice being done to this country, I have a big wide mouth and I am going to open it and talk.

This cannot happen to the people of this country much longer. Mr. Speaker, I am going to tell you further that when I came in here some time ago and made a strong statement, I had also spoken of undermining, and so on, of my Government and today I am going to speak of under-mining again.

We have been experiencing a shortage of junior Medi-cal Officers and this has been organised in order to make sure that the Hospital is closed. What the hon. senior member for the City of Bridgetown said a few weeks ago is true. He said that if something is not done in a short time the Hospital will close down in six months' time. If I did not take it upon myself to call in the junior doctors of the Hospital and have a talk with them, they would have left within a month. I by-passed all the Civil Service pro-cedures and everybody can know this. I did not ask the Chairman of the Staff Committee. I called all of them to me and talked with them and asked them to remain at the Hospital. If I had not done that, at the end of the month, all five of them would have gone out. Fortunately, we saved four and one went back to Jamaica, I believe that you may be able to get one more, but I understand that another has plans to go into private practice.

Why has that been forced upon us? It is because Dr. Forde has been trying to get these junior Medical Officers out of the Hospital. He wanted to see the doors of the Hos-pital closed from the time he was removed from the post of Medical Superintendent, He knows that the Hospital can only be run with junior Medical Officers. They have got to run the Hospital 26 hours on a stretch. They have got to work 26 hours on a stretch, and on top of that they are kicked around by a Senior member of the Hospital. And not only that; he is writing unfair reports about them simply because they curry favour with the Ministry of Health. This same senior Officer is threatening the junior officers. They have to get their papers for registration signed by him, and he is telling them that he is not going to sign their papers.

We have today pre-registration Medical Officers at the Hospital, and they say that they are going because they are not treated in the way that they should be treated -and besides that, they are taught nothing by that same senior Officer. The reason why junior Medical Officers go to the Hospital is because they have aspirations to become Specialists, They stay on at the Hospital because of the experience which they can get. At a hospital they can see various types of cases, and they go to the hospital because they want to be taught something more than what they know. When they cannot get that teaching at Barbados, what is the use of coming to Barbados? We can accommodate more of these Officers here. We once had twenty; now to-day we have five. Can you imagine, Mr. Speaker, that a Medical Officer was recruited last month, and at the end of the month, he was forced to leave because of some ex-pressions which he was forced to use. Some of the Special-ists are gentlemen; others are boar hogs.

After this gentleman - and I underline that - failed to run away all the doctors owing to the fact that I have been able to get their confidence, after he failed to close the doors of the Hospital, he tried with the Nurses, Mr. Speaker, you will remember I came in here with a Reso-lution and pointed out the reason why we were having these courses by the World Health Organization and reno-vating the Prince Albert and Marie Louise Wards. I said that one of the objects was to train Ward Sisters who were

of the old school into the modern techniques of nursing. That senior officer took it upon himself to tell the Ward Sisters that I criticised them. 4.00 p.m.

This Officer took it upon himself to go around the Hos-pital and tell the Ward Sisters that I criticised them. He said \"You see he criticised \"Wannah now?\" He went around stirring up trouble in the Hospital just like a sitting hen. I understand that last Friday the Medical Staff Committee met and he made a recommendation that the state Enrolled Nurses - I will explain that. A lot of girls go to the United Kingdom, They do not have any School Certificate, but they leave here saying that they are going out to do Nursing. They go out to do a two years course called the S.E.N. Course. This madman wanted us to employ State Enrolled Nurses, who have only spent two years in training, and to pay them the same salary as you would pay a quali-fied Nurse who had spent four years in training. Mr. Speaker, if I were so stupid as to accept that, I would have caused all the Nurses at the Hospital to walk out on me. Do you think I would pay a State Enrolled Nurse the same salary as I would pay a qualified Nurse and expect the Nurses to remain at the Hospital? That Officer knows that if the Nurses are dissatisfied they can walk out, and he would have his satisfaction that the doors of the Hospital would be closed. Those Nurses could go out and make enough. That is the sort of thing which that Officer was frying to bring about at the Hospital. I say, Sir, that it is nothing else but sabotage.

I have no control over the personnel side of the Hos-pital or of the Civil Service; otherwise this Officer would not be there. He would have been kicked out long ago. The position now is that if he does not leave I will recommend that the post be abolished, (Hear! Hear!) The people of this country mean more to me than one man. The people expect representation from me. The Health of the community de-pends on me, and when the health of the community fails, then I have failed. I have not failed yet: and if any obstacle is being put in my way, I will see to it that this obstacle is removed.

Now, Sir, I come back to the question of the public and private patients. Would you ask me what is the justification for recommending that this post be abolished? All the doctor is doing at the Hospital is private practice, and in that case he can go out and do his private practice, outside. The people who cannot afford to pay for their treatment cannot gain from this Officer's experience or from his qualifications: and if the people are not benefiting from his services he could very well leave the Hospital.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. senior member for the City asked for this information and I am going to give it, I just went off at a tangent in order to show what is happening. There is this undermining which is going on by this particular Officer at the Hospital. He tried with the Doctors and failed. He tried with the Nurses and they did not fall for it either. This was pointed out to him when he suggested that he should train State Enrolled Nurses. We are trying to get our Hospital as a Teaching Hospital for doctors, and before we can have this Hospital for teaching doctors we must have reciprocity with the General Nursing Council of England and Wales, I will show you how far this thing goes. In order for us to have this reciprocity with the Gen-eral Nursing Council of England and Wales, we cannot train State Enrolled Nurses. The same Officer recom-mended that we should train these State Enrolled Nurses as against other Nurses. When it was pointed out to this Officer that we cannot have this reciprocity with the General Nursing Council of England and Wales if we trained these State Enrolled Nurses, he said \"Close down the Nursing School.\" If we were to close down the Nursing School, do you know what will happen? We would have to depend on the people who come back here with the S.E.N. Certificate, If you

pay these Nurses the same thing as you pay the qualified Nurses, these people will not come back from the United Kingdom; we would have no Nurses, and the Hospi-tal would have to be closed down. This is the sort of un-

dermining which we are getting at the Hospital and then peo-ple tell me that I must not come here and say these things. People tell me that I must not have an enquiry. There is no point in going to the Public Service Commission: so that the only way in which we can deal with this matter is to allow the people of this country to know who is who. This Officer has suggested that we must close down the Nursing School so that we will not be able to train any Nurses. That would happen because of the shortage of Tutors, and also because of the fact that certain other Officers at the Hospital do not treat the Student Nurses in the way in which they should be treated. Mr. Speaker, if you were a teacher and you were to tell a child that it is musty, do you think that that child would notice you? That is the sort of thing which we have going on up there. 4.10 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I have had to instruct that leave be re-fused a certain Officer. The Officer went to the Governor's wife and told her that she must recommend or influence the Governor to see to it that we give her leave. I do not know that the Governor's wife runs this country; but the fact remains that this Officer was denied the right to leave, and just a week before the Student Nurses were to write their finals, by some means or other she applied for two weeks' sick leave. She did not get the leave to go to Eng-land; so she applied for two weeks' sick leave, and on the same day that the two weeks' sick leave was granted, she was at a tea party. This leave was granted from 29th of last month until the 12th of this month, and up to yesterday the Officer could not go to the Hospital to do her job, but could attend a Family Planning Meeting to do a job there; so the Nurses must fail. All this, Sir, is an attempt and a combined effort by these two Officers to close the Nursing School and bring discredit to the Government of this country. She is on sick leave: but all night long she is about enjoying herself,

Mr. Speaker, I have been a teacher and I think I can say I was a good one, and I know that the time a Student needs the attention of the teacher most is a week or two before the Examination when the teacher can put up to the student the type of questions the teacher thinks the student would get, and assist him as to how to answer these questions. The last two weeks play a very important part in the success of a student, and it is no wonder that of the 120 students writing the Final Examination, only three or four a year pass.

Some hon. member talked about an enquiry into the Nursing School. There has been an enquiry already, and hon. members will soon get the Report at which they will be appalled. The Nursing School could have turned out more Nurses already if a correct approach was made to the teaching of the students, and we would not have a shortage of 98 nurses in this country today. I am not criticising anybody, Mr. Speaker; I am answering questions asked by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. I am no hypocrite, and I am not going to come here and represent an Officer when I know he is wrong. I am going to answer the questions as I see them, and I am going to give the facts to this House. I do not intend to cover up for any Officer. One of the reasons why we are faced with this shortage of Nurses is because the Nursing School is not properly run. There is provision to train over 200 students and we have 120 in the school today. Each class consists of no fewer than between 20 and 25, and something must be radically wrong if of these 20 or 25 only three can complete. Barbadians are not so dumb; they are blessed with ability, and if only three can complete in a year out of a class of 20, and if during the first two years the young girls are run out of the Nursing school, what do you expect? Don't you see,

Sir, that we must have a considerable amount of wastage? It costs at least \$7,000 to train a Nurse. If you get a Nurse in the Training School for one year or two years and then she is forced to leave, you will see the loss which is experienced by the taxpayers of this country; and yet they go to England and qualify and come back to us. I have asked questions concerning this, and the deduction I have made is that it is because of mal-administration at the School that these

people are leaving. Why should an Officer get annoyed with me when I say that we must have qualified nurses, that she should not go on leave but remain and do her best to make these people pass the examination? Besides that she has just returned from 131 days' leave and now wants to go back to England, The examination comes up in July; and if she were interested in the job she was doing she would remain and try and push these people because we are short of nurses. She does not care anything about the responsibility which she owes to the people of this country; otherwise She would not ask to leave the Nursing School a month before people are writing the Examination. There are two others who can assist in the instructions, but they are not trained teachers; and the trained Tutor, after returning from gallivanting for 131 days, wants to go off for another two weeks, and because she is not given permission to go to the United Kingdom for that time, she applies for two weeks' sick leave, and every tea party and every extra-curricular activity in this country she attends. Must I uphold this?

I would say, Mr. Speaker, that people like the two I have mentioned are the biggest enemies of the taxpayers of this country who are dependent on the health facilities that are provided at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. I am expected to cloak this up; but I can only say that I owe for where I live, but one of these days, I will pay for it. 4.20 p.m.

I will continue with the information which the hon. senior member for the City asked for. This is as regards the out-patients. The Surgeon Specialist attended 31 private patients and he saw in that same period 182 public patients. Then the particular officer who is his Registrar - but, of course, works under him - saw 239. This is under the Orthopaedic section and this particular officer does not see private patients, but he saw 633 public patients. Under the Gynaecologist and Obstetrics section, there were 185 private patients seen by the Specialist in the last quarter and 643 public patients seen by his Registrar, I have no grouse about that: I am satisfied. Under the Bacteriologist section, there were 416 public patients. Of course, he does not see private patients at the Hospital. Then there were 112 seen by his assistant. The Paediatrician saw 525 private patients in that period at the Hospital and saw 556 public patients in that period. This, Sir, was from January to March 1963.

Well, Sir, from this breakdown you can see the Specialists who do work at the Hospital and who attend to the public patients. You can see that the only time some of them see public patients is when they see them with other Officers, and I was made to understand that no public patient is seen by some doctors at all.

I sent down a directive and instructed them that it has been drawn to my attention that some doctors have not seen a number of public patients and I instructed them that they should spend more time with public patients than with private patients, at least in the General Hospital. I also pointed out to them that they should desist from private practice. This means that they are breaking their terms of appointment. The terms under which they are employed are that they should have private consultations within the Hospital and that they should not be competing with private practitioners. Because of the private practice which some are doing, they cannot find time to do consultative practice. The two Specialists have to

see cases referred to them by the private practitioners or Junior Medical Officers, and these are cases which should be dealt with by the Specialists as against cases going directly to the Specialists. As I have said, I instructed that they should desist from private practice and they should engage in truly consultative practice in the Hospital,

I further drew to their attention the fact that complaints and representations were made by private practitioners that whenever private practitioners send their patients to them, they are not treated with the courtesy of replying to say, "Well, Doctor So-and-so, I have found

such-and-such a thing wrong with your patient." The reason why private practitioners send their patients to the Hospital is to get the opinion of the Specialist on the case so that the private practitioner can deal with the case. This is not what is happening today. That is why there is so much laissez-faire attitude to the public patients at the Hospital today. That is what we pay them \$8,000 per annum to do.

We have had a case where some of them have been trying to drive Junior Medical Officers from the Hospital, as a result of which we have a shortage of doctors. At present we have five doctors doing the job of 20. It means that if a doctor is doing Paediatrics, he has to be doing something else along with that. We have one of the junior doctors who has been allocated to the Paediatrician and it means he has to work in the Paediatrician's block. On Tuesday morning, he had to go around with the T.B. Officer. You are asking him to do a round at the T.B. block along with his work. That doctor reported that on a particular Tuesday morning at the same time that he had to go around the block with Dr. Graham, he was asked to do a round at the T.B. block. He said that he preferred to be in the Paediatrician's block so that he could see the parents of the children because they were the persons from whom he should get his case notes. The particular officer in the T.B. block said to him, "I tell you that you have to go to the T.B. block and you have to be there and wait on me," The junior officer turned to him and said: "Will you tell me what time you will be coming there?" The T.B. Officer said in reply; "Oh no; you have to go there and wait until I come." This particular Officer went to the T.B. block and the Physician did not turn up. This particular Physician has done that for four weeks. The junior Medical Officer went to the T.B. block waiting on the Specialist and he did not turn up as had been pointed out to him.

RESUMPTION IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER:

It is now 4.30 o'clock p.m. and Government Business is resumed.

When Government Business was suspended, the House was in Committee of Supply,

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the Chairman took the chair.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

When the House was in Committee, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition was addressing the Chair.

Mr. MOTTLEY; I had finished.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is for the sum of \$145,000 and the Addendum states that the statement of policy laid in the House of Assembly on 1st July, 1965, setting out Government's proposals for assistance to Independent Secondary Schools calls for the award of exhibitions to Approved Independent Secondary Schools,

Before going any further, I have to do a thing which I do not like to do, but in this case, an honourable member raised the question which I think was uncalled for. I believe he raised it so as to get a reply. One of the hon. members on the Other Side referred to one of the B.L.P. touts going around misleading people. 4.30 p.m.

Now, Sir, I am a member of the Barbados Labour Party and that should have been referred to me too. I do not mind that, because they call me whatever they like. I am saying that the D.L.P. have more touts than the B.L.P. Anyone can stay outside and when hon. members go in to partake of lunch or dinner, he can see. Mr. Chairman, I would not like to say anything more. They have asked for it and I have given it to them. I would like to find out from the Hon. Minister how many schools applied for inspection to be Approved Schools? Did they circularise all of these schools and ask them to reach the minimum standard for

approval by a certain date? In other words, did they allow those who carry on these Private schools to know what they wanted beforehand so that those who run these schools could prepare themselves? Did they set out the regulations, the space per child, the toilet conveniences and all of these things which go to make the school an Approved School? I understand that all of the schools which had applied for this approval were not inspected. The Hon. Minister will be in a position to tell me if that is so or not, but it is not fair to those who run these schools and who have applied for approval that the schools were not inspected, I would like to know what would be the Government's policy or the policy which the Government intends to carry out relative to these schools which have been left out; I would also like to know the reasons why they have been left out. The Minister failed to let me know how many private schools there are. If the policy .

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I think that the Hon. Minister of Education did mention the number of schools there are seventy schools altogether.

Mr. SMITH:

If he said seventy schools I thought he might have said 17 schools. I think that there are 17 approved here. If the Minister said 70 I might have thought he had said 17. If there are 70 schools, then I would like to know how many of them were inspected and how many applied for such inspection. This would be a very bad reflection, in my opinion, on those schools which have not been approved. There is some reason why these schools have not been approved. I would like to know if it is a question of money which resulted in more schools not being placed on the list. If I had a school and I claimed that it is a proper school doing good work, and in this list here my school had been left out, the parents of the children would begin to think and they would say "After all, Smith's school is no school because it does not measure up to the standard or qualifications which the Government has called for," I suppose this will cause other schools to show up. Believe me, Sir, I would not send my child to any school which has not caught the eyes of the judges, I would keep my child at home and teach it myself, because it is something which has caused the Government not to include such schools, And, Sir, it is not a question

of the money, but the qualification for getting this recognition.

Mr. Chairman, you have a school and I am taking it that these schools were the best which they could find; the others are only \"nay nays\". Therefore I will call on the Minister, and I do not think that he had these schools aback of his mind because I would call some of these people robbers and I know that the Minister did not include robbers in this scheme. If that is so, this is one time when I would have to call the names. They are the Modern High School; the Federal High School; Lynch's Secondary School; the Community High School; the Wakefield High School; Washington High School; Mapp's College; Seven Day Adventist Secondary School; Presentation College; St. Gabriel; The Ursuline Convent; St. Winifred's School; Codrington High School and the Barbados Academy.

Mr. Chairman, it looks to me as if they were leaving out these two other schools, but anyhow they seem to have taken second thought and so this is what is stated here in this Statement of Policy:-

\"In addition, Christ Church High School and the Industry High School have recently been approved.\"

Sir, I believe that this is at the last moment. I was told by an individual that these two schools were the last which had sent in their application, I understand that as far as accommodation, toilet facilities and so forth are concerned, some schools measure up to the required standard and some of the Approved Schools have not measured up to that standard, but they are still inserted here.

You will pardon me, Sir, because this is none of your business. I asked the particular person who gave me the information this question: What about a school like the Ar-

lington? He replied: \"They did it behind his back; they sent him away so as to do it.\" That is what the chap reported to me at my office while I was \"fixing-it-right.\" 4.40 p.m.

Now there are schools which are still outside in the wilderness but which have the necessary standards and qualifications. Why are they not approved? The Government or whoever is responsible can only recommend help for 17 out of the 70 Private Secondary Schools, which means that 53 are left out. The Government has committed itself to spend \$145,000 in helping these seventeen Private Secondary schools, and it does not look good to leave out the other 53. If these other schools cannot measure up, or if the buildings are not suitable, the Government should do something about them. I do not know if the fault lies with the building, the staff or the Principal, but I feel that the Minister should let the House know the reasons for such a percentage. If one of the Principals of these schools asked me if I knew why his school was not included, I could not say. It might be that his school is not up to standard, but nothing is mentioned here. He can tell me that the same way \"A\" has been considered, he should be considered also. If it is a question of money, you should state, because if you are asking for \$145,000 for only 17 schools, I can clearly see how much you would have to ask for if you were including the other 53. So long as these schools are not included in this list, it means that they have fallen by the way; so we should see that they are put in order.

I feel, Sir, that the Government will have to take over these schools and run them to protect the children. The Government has started to help some parents, but they have to pay through their noses for the education, because the fees are high, the headmasters cannot pay a proper salary to teachers, and the Government feels it should lend a hand. While the Government has done a good thing in one way, they

have made a mess of it the other way, in my opinion. I should also like to know if the teachers are available, and if the fees at these schools will remain the same or will become cheaper. Although you cannot always believe what you hear, I have heard that in some instances no teacher from the Principal back down, have a bit of paper apart from the one in the exercise book. If that is so these schools should be closed. If these schools have not measured up to expectations, the Government would have to do something about them. You should find out if they would turn over the schools to the management of Government and protect these children and their parents. It is not fair to be spending \$145,000 on 17 schools and leave 53 others doing the same thing that caused you to spend this amount of money. I am sure that the Minister is in a position to let us know, when he is replying why these schools were left out, or why they all failed. He does not have to call the names; he need only give the reasons for their failure to gain approval. I have seen some of these schools with elaborate buildings, and the school space looks all right to me. At a Speech Day at one of these schools, everything seemed all right on the inside. I do not know if they have taken into consideration the brilliance of the principal or the dullness of the Students or what. I must be given this information before I can say "aye" to this Resolution for \$145,000. This is a step in the right direction because you are helping these parents who every term receive letters informing them of increased fees. If you help these 17 schools, and if the other schools have qualified teachers, and they can get a job at these Approved Schools, they are going to leave, and those fifty-three schools will be worse off. I know it is felt they are not getting their money's worth, and you will have to do something about them. 4.50 p.m.

I really cannot go any farther now. The only chance which I have to say something again is when the House goes into Committee. I cannot say what I would like to say until I hear the reasons why so many schools have been left out. I do not know if they applied and the Minister of Education did not accept them or what caused them to be left out.

Mr. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Chairman, we have here a Resolution for the sum of \$145,000, a sum to be voted in connection with the putting into effect of the Policy of Assistance to Approved Independent Secondary Schools.

I think the Policy was laid in the House on Tuesday last, but I only got a copy this morning and I am going to give my assent to it. While that is so, I would like to make a few points on matters concerning this Resolution.

I think the Government is to be commended in being able to come forward with this Resolution for the implementation of its Policy regarding Approved Secondary Schools. One thing which strikes me as regards this policy is to be found on Page 2, In Paragraph 9, I see certain schools mentioned - the Codrington High School and St. Winifred's School.

Now, I am hoping that the Hon. Minister has absolutely no doubt in his mind that the expenditure of Government funds mentioned under the system of pupils in these two particular schools, - Codrington High School and St. Winifred's School - ties in completely with the reservations or restrictions which I see have been made regarding what is to be the basis of this assistance. That is on page 4 of the same Policy, I see here in paragraph 14 paragraph (f) (iii) "a pupil of a school which does not discriminate against any class, colour or creed;" That is to say, for a school to qualify for the fund, the candidate must not be the pupil of a school which discriminates against any class, colour or creed, I want the Hon. Minister to assure me

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

If the hon. member would give way, I would just like to draw his attention to the last para-graph on page 6.

Mr. HUSBANDS:

Thank you. Paragraph 19 sub para-graph (iii) reads \"to qualify for aid under this scheme a school must be prepared in September, 1965, to admit at least ten pupils whose awards are based on the Common Entrance Examination, without distinction of colour, class or creed.\"

I am very thankful to the Hon. Minister for showing me that. If Government funds are to be expended on these schools and there is the slightest doubt that the policy of these schools is to discriminate in any way, either by class, colour or creed, I would vote against the Resolution with all my heart and soul. I mean it I have been in places where discussion on these schools has come up from time to time, and they have not satisfied me, even now, that they do not discriminate. Of course, this re-striction says in September, 1965. I hope by September 1965, these two schools would be willing to accept those who have been recommended to have passed the Common Entrance Examination without colour, class or creed,

Sir, you know what is class, and the hon. member who is talking for me to hear also knows class. I hope that in September, 1965. the Codrington High School for Girls and St. Winifred's Girls' will be prepared to admit children coming from any class, any colour or any creed to their schools. I emphasize, if the Minister discovers that this is not observed to the letter, and I know, I am going to come in this House of Assembly and criticise him most severely.

I do not think people can change their spirit over-night, A little black and white does not change the spirit of people. I know that you will get very little trouble as regards creed, because I think those two schools admit Mohammedans, But when it comes to class and colour, maybe people of colour go to some of these two schools, but one swallow does not make a summer. (A VOICE: Two swallows?) Two swallows do not make a summer. It would take a few twos.

Sir, let us get a little further. This is something which is worrying me. These people do not change over-

night. Remember that these are independent Schools, and if they did not want the taxpayers' money, I would be satisfied with their policy. 5.00 p.m.

If they want the taxpayers' money I must be satisfied with their policy. That is the point which I wanted to make early because I did not want to forget it The Hon. Minister will reply to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph. I understand that this is a White Paper on Education. I really would not have cared if the Minister had written in this Policy the method by which schools were approved. By what method were these schools approved or considered to be approved? We will have to guess at the method by which they were approved. What standards, physical or intellectual, must be the test of approval?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

On a point of order, Mr. Chair-man, I would like to draw the attention of the hon. member to

paragraph 10 at the bottom of page 2 of this Policy of Assistance to these Approved Independent Secondary Schools, and to what continues on the top of page 3. That would answer the questions which the hon. member is now raising,

Mr. HUSBANDS:

I thank the Hon. Minister for that, I only had this Policy in my possession this morning, and so I could not do much with it. However, Sir, this is what it says in the paragraph referred to by the Hon. Minister-

"Before the Ministry gives clearance of approval to an Independent School, it must be fully satisfied, after an inspection, that the school is approvable upon all of the following grounds:

(a) that the school premises and all parts thereof are suitable for a school;

(b)

(c) that the accommodation provided on the school premises is adequate and suitable, having regard to the number, ages and sex of the pupils attending the school;

(d)

(e) that efficient and competent instruction is being provided at the school to a standard calculated to ensure a reasonable percentage of success in public examinations recognised by the Ministry."

(f)

Mr. Chairman, that seems to be a very fair definition of the standards required to be met before approval can be given to these schools. As I have said, Sir, I only saw this booklet this morning, and therefore I could not give it a good inspection, I thank the Hon. Minister for his assistance. If that is herein set out. I do not think that we can have any quarrel with the exclusion of any school. If this is the test which had to be carried out, if the opportunity had been given to all the schools concerned in this common plan to approve these schools, and if these schools have been given a fair inspection - I am not suggesting that they have not all been given a fair inspection - I would have preferred to have a real discussion on the matter before. The proposals for granting assistance to these Independent Secondary Schools include a number of exhibitions, teachers, an Education Officer, Clerical Assistance and other costs, selection examinations and subventions for special studies, I think that these will go a far way in alleviating some of the burdens which have been worrying the Heads of these Independent Schools,

As I said, Sir, Independent schools in Barbados exist for different reasons from which those in the United Kingdom or Great Britain exist. That is so because they are Conservative institutions and because people can afford to send their children to these expensive schools, and it suits the schools. Within the last 20 years or so we have seen a very rapid increase in the growth of independent schools due to many reasons, and one reason is because our school population has increased very rapidly and the school places at the Government-Aided Secondary

Schools have not been increased proportionately. Therefore, as education is the responsibility of the Government, the time would come sooner or later - and we are mindful of the responsibility of the

Government- when some step such as this would have to be taken. We are prepared to vote for this \$145,000.

Mr. Chairman, I had one particular reservation which I have already mentioned, and I am glad to see that it is included in the requirements to be met by these schools which have applied for approval. I quite appreciate what I would call the saving Clauses in this Policy on Assistance to the Approved Independent Secondary Schools set out in paragraph 20. By and large, I think that this document sets out a very good beginning. We read in paragraph 12 where some schools have had to institute their own enabling Bur-saries because the children who attend these schools are not from the homes of the wealthy people, and therefore most of them who have to come to Bridgetown, have to pay their bus fare and obtain separate lunches at these schools. There are no fees being paid in the Government-maintained schools nowadays, but when these fees were paid, the fees paid at the Independent Schools were in excess of those paid at the Government-Aided Schools. 5.10 p.m.

The assistance that is offered here is going to be very welcome indeed, The refund of school fees is a very good thing. I hope that nothing will go wrong with this Scheme and that in process of time more schools will be able to gain approval by the Ministry. What I have said, Mr. Chair-man, is covered in the Addendum to the Resolution: there-fore I do not think that the Minister has to make any further reply to me, I am not really happy about it, but I shall wait to see how things will go, I hope he does not get into any difficulties whatever with those schools I have mentioned, and if he does, all he has to do is to withdraw, Knowing Barbados as I do, I do not think it is going to mean much to certain children attending these schools. However, I welcome this Resolution; it is a very solid be-ginning, I do not think the Government will have any trouble in getting members of the Committee to give it their assent,

Mr. CORBIN:

Mr. Chairman, I am happy to see this Resolution for \$145,000 to give aid to Independent Second-ary Schools, It has been my desire from the time I came into this House in December 1961 to see a Resolution of this kind before this Chamber. I am glad, Sir, to see that this Government has taken it upon themselves to provide help for these Secondary Schools in educating these children, because the Government is not in a position at this time to educate all the children, because other things would have to be neglected. I must first of all congratulate and highly recommend those teachers and masters of the various Independent Schools of assisting in the education of the people of this island. Had it not been for these Private Secondary Schools, there would be thousands of uneducat-ed children in this island, because only lately has pro-vision been made to educate the masses. The Conservative Government did their job, and then the Labour Party took over and did their job, and now the Democratic Labour Party has taken over and is doing their job, and I hope they will do it satisfactorily.

Now, Mr. Chairman, the Addendum to this Resolution reads as follows :-

\\"That statement of policy laid in the House of Assem-bly on 1st July, 1965, setting out Government\\s proposals for assistance to Approved Independent Secondary Schools calls for the award of exhibitions to Approved Independent Secondary Schools, the payment of teachers at these schools and the availability of training opportunities for teachers and the award of subventions for special activities under-taken by these schools.\"

As far as I can see, Mr. Chairman, the schools of to-day do not have adequate facilities for the pupils

they have, and they cannot give the adequate education because of lack of financial assistance. They appeal to the various

Governments from time to time for assistance, but it has pleased this Government to take the responsibility of aiding these schools with teachers, exhibitions to help poor children and other facilities, and parents have gone all out in trying to help their children to gain a secondary education. You, Sir, are a schoolmaster and would know how hard it is for parents to meet the term's fees. I can assure you that parents go all out to get the school fees to educate their children, because without education you cannot find skilled people, and without skilled people we would not be able to develop as fast as we would like. The more skilled people we have, the better it would be; so the Government is now assisting these Private Secondary Schools, The Government could take over all the schools at one time; so they have made a survey of the schools and have given approval to 17 as a beginning.

If Government had to take over these 17 schools, it would cost over \$3 million; therefore I must congratulate the Government for taking this step, I am sure that all the Members around this Table will support this Resolution, because it is for the benefit of poor people, There are teachers who have left these Private Schools and gone to England because the Schoolmasters were not able to pay them.. Sometimes you would hear people saying that they owed three terms' fees and that they thanked God for the patience He had given to these Schoolmasters who abided by the consequences. This is one of the best moves in the history of Barbados in the education of poor people, and by doing this we hope to get a little further in the years to come. 5.20 p.m.

This is only the beginning and we are sure if this Government is in existence - which, I am sure, will be the case because their term of office has not yet expired -more will yet be done for the people. I know that they have a long way to go. Their work shall follow them. A man is known by his work, and with these Resolutions and Bills which are now coming to this House for approval, they must strengthen the leaders of this House. God looks at a man's work and gives to every man according to his means. We know that it is good work which this Government is doing. We know that it is good work which the Hon. Minister of Education is doing.

Many poor children have to leave school because their parents cannot meet the term's fees. As a result of this Resolution, they can go on studying in these private schools. The work which this Government is doing must convince the people of this country, and we must keep on doing this because it is something very important.

As I have said, the Conservatives had their days; the Barbados Labour Party had their days and these are the Democratic Labour Party's days, and they have to hold on until such time as their works have been finished.

Mr. Speaker, the works which we are doing today have never ever been done before. We have never taken money from the taxpayers and invested it in foreign countries: we have invested it here, I am sure that the time has come when the Government is going to spend the money of the taxpayers in even a better way. What we are doing is something to see and to last. By this Resolution, teachers can go in for training. The time is coming when all the education that takes place in this Island will be taken over by the Government. This is only the beginning. All Governments are responsible for the education of the people, and any nation which neglects the education of the people will always have confusion and riots.

When you educate a child, it will be able to take care of itself; but if you have an un-educated child you cannot expect that child to take care of himself.

Sir, I hope that, in the process of time, Government will deem it fit and proper to approve of more of the pri-vate schools - those that will be able to obtain a certifi-cate - in order to continue to help this Government

continue to teach more of these children. We owe all these schoolmasters who belong to the Private Secondary Schools a great debt for the responsibility which they took upon themselves by opening their schools. It is a great job which they have done. That is the reason why you see so many children educated today.

In St. Lucia, you see many children running around in the hills. It is because they did not have the opportunity of going to school to learn something. The parents would have to pay a tax for these children if inspectors come around and find them home; so the parents send them up in the bushes to hide. It is the greatest thing that can happen when a child can write its name; but for a man who cannot read or write, he is worse than the beasts that perish.

I am glad that this Resolution has come to pass and I trust that, in the future, greater help will be given to these Private Secondary Schools.

Mr. LOWE:

In supporting this Resolution, it speaks for itself when you consider that 1,500 places in a com-munity like Barbados are going to be taken up by Ap-proved Independent Secondary Schools, You will realise that this Government is thinking in terms of the unfortu-nate because if you look around carefully in the island of Barbados at all of the Private Secondary Schools, you will see the type of mentality and the type of people coming from them are from the lowest rung.

When we implemented free secondary education with-in the Government Secondary Schools, that was one step whereby the under-privileged within this island had the opportunity at last to secure a proper education. When you hear certain political parties using certain terms within this island relative to the educational policy of this Government, it just makes water run down my spine be-cause can you imagine in an island of 240 odd thousand people, when the pigmentation of the majority of them is of a certain colour, that you are going to decide that you are only catering to the rich? Now, Mr. Chairman, with all fairness to the people, I think those parliamentarians who have sat in this Chamber for a number of years and have the interest of the unfortunate people at heart, should desist from making public utterances relative to the life-blood of the community. They should never condescend to go to the grass of the earth in saying things which they know are not the truth.

What has the Barbados Labour Party done for educa-tion? I say nothing, and I can prove it The first thing is that perhaps they have said something about free secondary education for school children, I remember it. The Prime Minister of the defunct West Indies Federation said at a political meeting that If you have the opportunity to have free secondary education, you don't know how many doc-tors and lawyers would be amongst them. But after seven-teen years, what was the alternative? They brought in age grouping instead of compulsory education. They instituted the five-pound bond instead of allowing children to remain at Combermere and Harrison College.

But today, I am glad that I can compliment this Gov-ernment. I can ask any place within the West Indies or any part of the world to come and see the progressive thinking Government of this country which realises that when they spend the taxpayers' money on education, we will get better citizens, I am well aware that some of these half-baked politicians would not be able any longer to walk around and fool people because through this Gov-ernment, educating the masses, they know the pros and cons and ins and outs for the betterment of their uplift-ment, and in the future they would be able to stand up and say, \"Well done, thou good and faithful servant.\" 5.30 p.m.

I can argue that and I am saying it daily throughout this whole island. The Electorate and the thinking people in this community are looking away from the nonsense

which certain people who are walking around this island talking and trying to disturb the peace of the community, Mr. Chairman, as a consequence of the work of the South-ern District Council and as a member of the Board of Guardians. I can say that there are children who have the honour to be at Harrison College now but who would not be in Bridgetown if it were not for this Government, I have had to take it upon myself to advise the parents as to what channels they had to go through in order that they might be able to raise some funds so that these children might be able to go to and from school, obtain lunch, books and such things, Mr. Chairman, it is most disheartening when politicians of my pigmentation stand up on any platform in any part of this island and state that this Government is only catering to the people who can pay for the education of their children, I know that deep down in their hearts they are affected when they say that, and when they look around the rural districts and see who is benefiting from free secondary education, they should bow their heads in shame. They should not stand up on any platform and tell the people or anybody in this island anything relative to this matter of education,

Mr. Chairman, I give this Resolution my blessing, and I only hope that this Government might remain in power in order that they may be able to take account of the other Private Secondary Schools which will come up to the stan-dards required by this Government, I am looking forward to that time when, instead of our awarding 1,500 exhibi-tions we will be awarding 25,000 exhibitions. Sir, I whole-heartedly support this Resolution,

Mr. HOLDER; Mr. Chairman, taking this Resolution into consideration and listening to what other hon. mem-bers have said, I do feel that it is my duty as a member of the Opposition to ask a few questions. I know, Sir, that when hon. members ask questions you always get a reply to the effect that they are opposed to something. However, Sir, in asking questions it does not mean that you are op-posing anything? you could not expect hon. members on this side of the House to sit here and not ask any questions. This is an educational matter. It is a matter of \$145,000 which we are being asked to vote in this Resolution. Per-serially, I will support anything in respect of education, and any sane person would do that. I think that the Hon. Minister of Education when he was making his opening re-marks - if I am wrong the Hon. Minister can correct me - was referring to something which happened since 1949 when there was a change in the running of these schools. The past Government was always thinking of the future of the masses where education was concerned.

With regard to these schools which have been selected - I think there are 17 which came up to the required standards and they were approved. On the other hand, there were those schools which did not

comply with the requirements and it would be a question as to what would be done with these schools. I am not worried over the names of these schools such as Codrington High School, St. Winifred's High School and these other schools because if you read paragraph 10 on page two of this Policy on Assistance to these Approved Independent Secondary Schools, this is what it says:-

"Before the Ministry gives clearance of approval to an independent School, it must be fully satisfied, after an inspection, that the school is approvable upon all of the following grounds:

- (a) that the school premises and all parts thereof are suitable for a school;
- (b)
- (c) that the accommodation provided on the school premises is adequate and suitable, having regard to the number, ages and sex of the pupils attending the school;
- (d)
- (e) that efficient and competent instruction is being provided at the school to a standard calculated to ensure a reasonable percentage of success in public examinations recognised by the Ministry."
- (f)

That covers the point why other schools have been left out; it is because they do not come up to the required standard, I do not know the fees which are charged at the Codrington High School or the St. Winifred's School but I think that this is an eye-opener. This is found in para-graph 20 where it says this:-

"The Cabinet have also approved that the following general provisions in respect of the scheme should be enforced:

- (a) where the pupil's tuition fee is more than the value of the Exhibition" and the value of the exhibition is \$25.00. If the fee is more than the value of the exhibition, the paragraph goes on to tell you that "the parent/ guardian will be responsible for providing the difference. Failure to observe this condition, if reported to the Ministry, will result in withdrawal of the exhibition."

Mr. Chairman, I did hear something like \$80.00 per term mentioned in relation to the fees charged at a school, so that if you send your child to that school where the fee is \$80.00 per term and you cannot pay the balance of the fee, what would happen if you applied for assistance in travelling to get the child to that school and things of that sort? It all means that if the parent of a child can pay the balance of the money, the child will go to that school; on the other hand, if the parent cannot do that, there will be a direction that the child be sent to another school. Those are the parts of this Resolution which I think we should make most certain about. In fact, those are the parts of the Resolution which I would like to make myself certain about. Then the teachers would be paid their salaries, and I think I have read where these schools have to send in an audited report annually. This is what it says:

\"(d) full audited accounts of the school receiving the subvention must be submitted annually. Failure to render such accounts in a manner prescribed by the Ministry of Finance will result in the discontinuance of the subvention. The need for a statement of accounts is emphasised be-cause Government considers that substantial subsidies should be paid from public funds only if full audited accounts of the school are submitted annually;\

5.40 p.m.

It has always been said that proper salaries are not paid at these Private Secondary Schools, but I do hope that when these audited reports come back in, they will show how the money has been spent. For years you have been hearing that one of the troubles of these Private Secondary Schools was the salaries paid to the teachers; sometimes they got it and sometimes they did not get it; but this will be Government's money, and I hope that the audited reports which must go back to the Ministry will be carefully scrutinized. It is my greatest pleasure to give support to this Resolution for education.

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

Mr. Chairman, it was not my in-tention to speak on this Resolution, because no doubt it will meet with full approval, but either the Minister of Educa-tion or the Minister of Social Services can answer my question. My colleague from St. James made a passing remark which is not directly pertinent to the Resolution with respect to the school at Trents, St. James, With the surrounding schools at St. Albans and St. John the Baptist, it would seem better for that particular site to be used as a site for a secondary school rather than for the purpose it is serving. I am not saying that it is not serving a good purpose, but the absence of a Secondary School from Eagle Hall to St. Peter is creating a hardship in that so many children have to journey from the North to the South to attend a Secondary School. It is unfortunate that there is no Private Secondary School in the area which might have had the blessing of this Government. I believe that the Minister is aware of the difficulty, and in the Development Plan for education, it may be before him to stop the in-convenience by having some form of Secondary School in the Northern area between St. Peter and the City. Even the buses cannot accommodate the number of children who journey from the North to the South to attend Secondary Schools.

Mr. YEARWOOD:

Mr. Chairman, what impressed me most about the Policy of Assistance to the number of Pri-vate Secondary Schools can be found in the first paragraph of the White Paper on Education, and it reads as follows

\\"It is considered that all children should attend second-ary schools on completion of their primary school training.\

This is something I had in mind from the time I was a child. I have always said that every child should be given an equal opportunity to see what it would make itself; but as you know, the finances of this country have prevented many a good child from obtaining the heights that he would reach if he had had the same opportunity as another child, The next thing that impressed me is paragraph 11 which mentions that although these schools are approved now by the Ministry, it does not give them the perpetual right of approval, and at any time their standards drop, that ap-proval can be withdrawn, Since it has become the policy of the Government to help the Independent Schools, I have already heard little children from one of the Independent Secondary Schools saying that they have been told that if they sit their examination in August and were successful, they would be refunded that amount which would be a

term's fee; so right at the start you can see that the children themselves are eager to obtain that high standard to make sure that their parents do not have to pay that amount of money. There will now be competition between the Independent Schools, and I am sure that the competition will cause the secondary Grammar Schools to do their best.

I might refer here, Sir, to 1835 when the British Government donated £30,000 to the entire West Indies for education. That grant was stopped in 1845, and the Barbados Government started with a grant of about £700, in 1846, This Resolution does not need very much discussion, and since the Minister of Education has outlined it fully, I shall just end on this note by saying that in 1874 Bishop Mitchinson said that "after all, the efficiency of any school must to a great extent depend on the general morale and efficiency of the teacher", and that is what we hope the teacher will bear in mind. It is not only the grant that the Government will give them, but it depends on the amount of work and efficiency they put into their job.

Mr. GODDARD:

Mr. Chairman, from what is set out in the White Paper, it costs the Government now \$310 per pupil at the ten Secondary Schools, and this does not include the \$19,000 odd capital expenditure this year, and, I pre-sume, the pension fund that they would have to provide for the teachers, and leave passages; so you can see that it might be in the vicinity of \$400 per year for a pupil. They are now expanding by helping 1,500 pupils at \$75 a year. If the Government by its supervision of these private schools can get three-quarters per cent of the returns on the pupils, they are in good business, because we cannot without finances in Barbados and what we have to depend on, provide every eligible child with free secondary education, Our finances just do not permit it. 5.50 p.m.

Now this has exercised the minds of the Government when they were in the Opposition and we of the Party to which I belong agreed with it because we have worked it out. We felt the need of the Private Secondary Schools and we felt that they would do a better job if they had some financial backing. When you study this scheme, it is well planned by Government and I commend them for this. I wholeheartedly support it.

I would just mention something brought up by the hon. junior member for St. Peter as regards his fear that the St. Winifred's and Codrington High School being included in the Approved Schools might cause some trouble. I do not see that. As a matter of fact, the Governing Body of these two schools have already agreed in principle to this and the details are just to be worked out.

To get back to the Codrington High School and St. Winifred's Girls', they have abolished some four or five years ago discrimination against colour, and they have been admitting children of colour. They are not the 100% white schools as when they started out.

How did private schools begin in this community? They began because we were getting difficulty in getting our children into Government-aided schools. It had become a greater problem than ever, and because of that, you found parents and children getting together and holding dances and such things in order to raise funds, and then they tried to obtain a building and asked some business people to help them obtain it for a school. Do you know how many people came to me and asked me to help them

provide a private school? It is not because they wanted to keep their children from others, but it was because of the great difficulty of getting their children into Government Secondary Schools at the age of eleven. They knew that if their children failed in that 11+ examination, they could not find suitable education facilities for them. It is as simple as that.

This Policy on Assistance has been accepted in principle by the Governing Body of these two schools and I see no difficulty in their carrying out the terms of it, I commend the Government for this. By this grant-in-aid, these schools would be able to do a better job.

I am looking forward in the near future to the time when other Private Secondary Schools will qualify for similar aid, because it would be a cheaper business for the Government if they can be assured that a certain standard was maintained in these schools. The Headmasters in these schools will have to work hard. They cannot go on leave every three or four years. They have to show that good results are maintained in order to attract more people. These Private Secondary Schools are in competition with the Government-aided schools for the first time now. The Government-maintained schools will have to look out to see that the pupils whom they are teaching are not left behind.

I commend the Government for this, and I see no fear of its implementation on the grounds of colour. The school will remain private, and the control is still in the hands of the Governing Body. As regards these two schools mentioned, if they did not live up to the qualifications and principles laid down by the Government, they would have been left out. This is for a period of five years in the first instance, and I am sure that when the other schools see the benefits derived from this policy, they would put their house in order. Therefore, in another year or so, you are, going to find another four or five schools qualifying for the aid given to these Approved Independent Schools.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

The question is

Mr. SMITH:

I do not think it would make the Hon. Minister answer me, but I have asked him a few questions,

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

We cannot compel him to answer.

Mr. SMITH:

I have said so, but you should give him a chance to see if he is going to answer, If he is not going to answer, I can carry on because, after all, I do not think it is fair that an Hon. Minister introducing a Resolution asking this Committee to vote \$145,000, when he is asked a question, should refuse to answer.

I know that we cannot make him answer but out of sheer courtesy, he should remember that we are the people's representatives and it is not the particular member to whom he is replying. When the Minister thinks by not replying or not answering my question that he would be doing something to me personally, I think he is wrong. He would be doing something wrong to the people whom I represent. It is sheer discourtesy not to answer, especially when I know that he can answer.

I wanted to know from the Hon. Minister how many schools had applied for inspection, how many were in-spected and the reason for 53 schools being left out, I can only say now (that the other 53 schools have not measured up to the requirements by Government.

The Hon. Minister should not leave the parents of these children who attend these other schools in mid air. It is the parents who send these children to school and they have to pay the full fees, although we promised free secondary education to all. Although this sum of \$145,000 will be voted to be spent on 17 private schools, the chil-dren in 53 other Private Secondary Schools will have to hold on without receiving any aid whatsoever although their parents are contributing to the other 17 schools and the other Government-aided schools through taxation. Therefore, it is these parents whom the Minister has ig-nored - not me.

I do not know what the children going to these other schools are going to say now, I can only say that the pa-rents of these children would have to think that the school premises and all the other parts thereof were not suitable in the Government\'s view, as well as that the accommo-da-tion provided on the school\'s premises was inadequate and unsuitable having regard to the number, ages and sex of children going there and also as regards the success of the pupils attending those schools. 6.00 p.m.

The next qualification is that \"efficient and competent instruction is being provided at the school to a standard calculated to ensure a reasonable percentage of success in public examinations recognised by the Ministry.\"

That is to say that they do not now have efficient and competent instruction provided at the school of a standard which is calculated to ensure; a reasonable percentage of success in public examinations recognised by the Minis-try. In other words, these 53 schools are nothing at all. Well, Sir, they should be burnt down or blown down now. The Government has not approved of them because they are not up to standard. We can only think so now, but, in my opinion, I do not think so. Now the Minister has re-fused to reply, it is true, and it is not fair either to the Principals of these schools, to the children or to the pa-rents. Really and truly, Sir, you will pardon me for calling names. Let us take a school like yours; nobody could think that your school premises do not measure up.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would rather that the hon. member refer to schools other than mine.

Mr. SMITH:

I can call any Secondary School; there-fore you should not try to or think that you can shut me down. You may feel rather awkward because they have put you in a rather embarrassing position and the other 53 schools are also in an embarrassing position tonight, I put it in that way.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would not like the hon. member to get the impression that there is any embarrassing posi-tion. The Government is assisting the Private Secondary Schools and the Hon. Minister mentioned the specifications,

Mr. SMITH:

You are making the position appear worse than what it is, I am not talking about you; you can remain

by the way. I am speaking about the Principals of other schools, I say that they are in an embarrassing position, and it is not fair to them, I do not believe that all of them are in this particular category as set out here in para-graph 10 and subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this Policy on Assistance to the Approved Secondary Schools. One Minister mentioned today that there are parents who are not in a position to send their children to school, to clothe them or do anything of the sort. The Government is will-ing to help and that particular Minister, when he says that he was a Principal for all of these years, should know about the conditions relating to the children. His Govern-ment is the Government which made promises to the pa-rents of these children; the members of that Government told the parents of the children that they are going to see to it that the children get free secondary education. Now that they have tried to start off, I am wondering if the Minister will draw it to the attention of the Cabinet that some provision should be made for those parents who can-

not afford to give clothing or bus fare to their children, although the children are very bright. It is possible that some of these children may become doctors; these chil-dren should not be debarred from the opportunity of getting a secondary education on account of their parents not being in a financial position to provide them with their lunch. In that case, these children will not be able to get the edu-cation which they need. The ability is there, but some of these children have to leave the schools before the time' when they are to leave; they are bright children and in most cases the children who have the ability to learn are those whose parents are unable to help them. You may not get seventy out of a hundred; you may get six or seven out of a hundred, but I say that some provision should be made for helping these children.

One of the Principals of these schools is a man; he is no boy in the yard, He does not care what the Government says or does. He says that there is a lot more to be done than offering 1,500 exhibitions, approving 17 schools, and so on, and he hopes that this is not for the purpose of catching votes, When you get a Principal like that and his school is one of the Approved Schools, then he is a Prin-cipal to be reckoned with. You are telling me that you are going to help me with a mouthful of food; you are putting it in my mouth and then putting your fingers in my throat preventing me from swallowing it That is what is hap-pening here, I am taking the Minister\'s word for it: he knows how many more things he has to do, The Principal of a Secondary School and a shopkeeper in the country are per-sons who are in a position to be able to tell you about the financial position of people. 6.10 p.m.

No lawyer, doctor or saga boy can tell you the finances of the people in a country, but the Headmaster would know when the child goes to his school, because he has to offer a free place to some, and some he has to give money out of his pocket. So long as Government is going to give as-sistance to these private schools, I feel that free meals should at least follow. It is nothing I am asking for myself, You have said free education and free hot meals.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. member is straying from the Resolution. This does not mention hot meals at all.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Chairman, this is a Resolution for \$145,000 for school places, and hot meals are existing in some of these schools.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

But not in this Resolution.

Mr. SMITH:

Again, Sir, I do not want it to appear as if I am teaching you what you have to do,

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I do not think I would listen,

Mr. SMITH:

That is what will happen to you, because you will not listen. I was a Chairman of Committees, too and if you care to ask the Clerk, he will tell you that on a money Resolution you cannot pin a member down as if he were speaking on a Bill with clauses. This is as clear as a, b, c.

Hon. E. W. BARROW; Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, the hon. member is attempting to question the ruling of the Chair, and therefore he is out of order. He mentioned he was a Chairman, but he could only be Chairman of a Sunday School or something like that. He was the worst possible Chairman in the history of Parliamentary democracy; so do not let him talk about being a Chairman or lecture to the Chair, because we had to stand in here and hear him giving rulings which he himself is incapable of carrying out when unfortunately we had to suffer under his jurisdiction. He was the most corrupt person in the history of the legislature in this island.

Mr. SMITH- The hon. member said I was corrupt.

Hon. E. W. BARROW:

On a point of order, when I was on my feet at 6.30 in the morning, contrary to the Rules of this House

Mr. SMITH:

On what is the hon. member speaking? I have not said he was on his feet.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Will both hon. members sit? (Both members sat.)

Mr. SMITH:

What is the point of order? Mr. CHAIRMAN I am listening to it now.

Hon. E. W. BARROW:

On a point of order, I said that the hon. member was corrupt as a Chairman, because it is on record in this House that when I was on my feet debating the West Indies Federation Bill, the hon. member put the question because Sir Grantley Adams went across there and told him to put the question when I was on my feet, and I hope, if he says that you must take the time from him, when he gets up to speak again you will put the question when he is on his feet, and we will back you up, (Mr. SMITH rose.) He cannot get on his feet while I am speaking.

Mr. SMITH:

He is not on a point of order,

Hon. E. W. BARROW; You must put this man in his place. He is the most vicious, corrupt person that has ever been in this House, I am not going to sit here as Leader of the Government and allow a person who has exercised his office corruptly to lecture the Chair on the exercise of Chairmanship, and you must not stand for it.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member said that I was the worst Chairman, hit he is worse than anything I have heard about. He is not even Premier B.A. feed. We can go for each other now; I am ready.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I am appealing to the hon. junior mem-ber for St. Joseph to let us get on with the Resolution and save unnecessary time and embarrassment,

Mr. SMITH:

I think you should tell the hon. member so too, I am speaking on this Resolution, and when he comes in here trying to bullrush somebody, he cannot do it with

me.

This is a Resolution for \$145,000, and I am saying that there are parents who are not able to send their children to school for lack of clothes, lunch, bus fares and things of that sort. The present Government promised the people free secondary education, and I take it that the Minister must have drawn it to the attention of his Government that as soon as you make education free, you are going to call on people who are not financially strong enough to measure up to the requirements set out for the schools. There are children with the ability and desire to learn, but the parents do not have the wherewithal and the children have to stop when they reach the Second Form and run about the streets idly and lawlessly through no fault of their own. I have had a complaint in another place about a child stealing another child's lunch. You cannot say that the child did it because it could; but when you are hungry, you are hungry.

The point I am making is that you should provide something for these children, because if the 70 schools had measured up to the requirements, the Government would have to look for the required amount of money to subsidise these 70 schools and it would cost a lot more than we have here. You would not therefore be doing any-thing wrong if you brought down a Resolution to provide something for these children. It seems as if some mem-bers do not want me to say anything in here, but that cannot happen. The electorate sent me here. (Hon. E. W. BARROW: You won't be here long,) I heard a voice saying I would not be here long, but that same voice will not be here either. If he thinks he is cemented there, he is wrong. There is a passage in the Bible which says \"You have done the things that you ought not to have done and left out those things which you ought to have done.\"

Hon. E. W. BARROW:

I would like to ask the hon. member in which version of the Bible he would find that

passage. There are several editions, but it shows he has not read the Bible, because what he warned to say does not constitute any part of the King James Version, That shows his abysmal ignorance. 6.20 p.m.

Mr. SMITH:

What is the hon. member speaking on? He is asking for a noise, but he cannot make me sit down tonight. The Hon. Premier said that I put up with him. That would show that I am more man than he is.

Mr. Chairman, I am saying once and for all that the Hon. Minister has refused to answer the question which I put to him as regards the private schools that are left out, Well, Sir, he can refuse to answer in here; but wheresoever he may present himself as a candidate, there are private schools and he would be there to face it. He would be there to answer the questions.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman. I rise on a point of order. When the Hon. member said that the Hon. Minister refused to answer questions that is not true. He is misleading the House.

Mr. SMITH:

To whom was I referring? Is it he*?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Let the hon. junior member for St. Andrew make his point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

When the hon. member said that the Minister refused to answer the questions, he was misleading the House because the same questions which he is asking are answered in the White Paper. Therefore, it means either that he is not attending or he has not read the White Paper. All the questions which he has asked are answered in the White Paper; therefore, he is only playing politics. If all are not answered in the White Paper, they were answered in the introductory speech by the Minister,

Mr. SMITH:

I ask the question, \"How many of these approved schools were inspected?\" The Hon. Minister just now said that I did not read the White Paper. I cannot read that because I went to school at his school,

Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. These are things which you are asked to put up with in this House, The hon. junior member for St. Joseph should not be allowed to waste the time of the House with frivolous things. He said that he asked how many of these schools were inspected. The White Paper has stated that before a school was approved, it was inspected, If he had read the White Paper he would have seen that that question is answered. All were inspected.

The boa member is only rehearsing in here for outside speeches. We are only sitting and listening to him because we have the work of the people to do. All that he is doing is to obstruct the work of the House. Then he is saying that he is representing constituents, I will deal with him.

Mr, SMITH:

You were to deal with me so long, I do not know.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I am appealing to the hon. member to stick to the Resolution.

Mr. SMITH:

I do not go that way; therefore, you cannot deal with me, Sir, I also asked how many of the schools had applied for inspection. Now, there is the possibility that some may not have known, I have been told by the Principal of a school that he applied and his school was not inspected, I do not know how many more were in that same position. The Hon. Premier said that all were inspected. So long as it is so, all were inspected, I was told by that Principal that he applied and his school was not inspected. He mentioned the number of children at his school how many toilets are provided at the school and he said that according to the rule, his school measured up to the requirements. There was another school which

was approved which had eight times as many children as his and it only had three toilets, It is not going to stop there; you will hear more about it and you will find out if the Inspectors did their jobs correctly. Do not think that the Principals of these other schools are going to take it sitting down,

Mr, Chairman, I will not go any further because this would be decided on the wayside; it would be decided on the platform.

The. question that the sum of \$145,000 do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative Without division.

On motion of Hon. J. C TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Jr. chairman reported the passing of one Resolution in Committee.

Jr. DEPUTY SPEAKER assumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

MORTGAGE INSURANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL POSTPONED

Mr, DEPUTY SPEAKER:

The next Order of the Day -Order No, 2 - stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Premier Second reading of a Bill entitled \"The Mortgage Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 1965.\" 6.30 p.m.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS (EXEMPTION FROM DIPLOMATIC OR CONSULAR LEGISLATION) BILL

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 3 be taken as the next Order of the Day under Government Business.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Premier- To move the second reading of a Bill to abolish the requirement of diplomatic or consular legislation for certain foreign public documents.

Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the object of this Bill is merely to bring local legislation into line with the provisions of the Convention on the abolition of legislation for foreign public documents. This is a Convention which has been entered into between the Government of the United Kingdom and Governments of other States and it has been extended to this island. Certain documents have to be approved formally, and other documents have to be authenticated before a Consular Officer or a Notary Public before they are permissible for certain purposes. Therefore this Bill brings Barbados into line with the other contributing signatories to the Convention, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time,

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg to second that

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that you do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on this Bill.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

In another sense, it does not reduce the original cost of the title and all I can say on that aspect of the matter is that the hon. member on the 2nd June, 1964, gave notice of the following question: -

"To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware that the cost of obtaining a good and marketable title to land in this island is well nigh prohibitive, especially to owners of land not exceeding in value the sum of £500?

2. Will Government ensure, by legislation or otherwise, that a graded scale of fees and expenses with respect thereto, be drawn up so as to alleviate this hardship?"

To that question I replied as follows:-

"No, Sir but the Government is aware that since the abolition of the Assistant Court of Appeal the cost of obtaining title to land has increased; and where the value does not exceed \$2,400 the increase is

approximately 100%.

The cost of obtaining title to land is mainly fixed by Rules of the Supreme Court, 1958, Part of the increase is due to the fact that whereas in an action in the Assistant Court of Appeal advertisements could appear in any newspaper, under the Rules of the Supreme Court, 1958, advertisement must appear in a daily newspaper and in an issue of the Official Gazette.

The question of the increase in cost of obtaining title to land is engaging the attention of the Judicial Advisory Council, which is the body responsible for making the Rules of the Supreme Court,

A new system of Registration of Title which should reduce the cost of acquisition and of transfer of title is part of the Government's programme."

It is the last part of the Reply to which I should like to draw the hon. member's attention. It is on the Government's programme that there should be a new system which should reduce the cost of the acquisition of a title to land. One of the difficulties which we have experienced is in the recruitment of the staff which is necessary to get this Registration Office properly organized. It will call for an expensive survey of the island, and we are in the process of recruiting surveyors. There has been some difficulty in finding staff. When we get the system instituted, the cost of acquiring titles to land should be cheaper than it is at present under the Assistant Court of Appeal Act, 1900. Every one should be entitled to a certificate of title and this will be guaranteed by the Government, We will cut out all of these advertisements and other costs which are now endured by people who would like to get a straight title to land.

The hon. member says that he knows persons who are willing to pay the existing cost of obtaining marketable titles, and they experience a lot of frustration and delay. I have investigated the matter and what the hon. member says is quite true. There are over 200 title suits in the Registry right now. As the person who is responsible for the Legal Departments, I may say that I am completely frustrated and disgusted, I had no idea that people could be so indifferent as some of the practitioners in the junior branch of the profession are, and that applies to people who are working in the Registry and places like that as well. The Registration Office in this island has been taking too much for granted and it needs an entire investigation, overhaul and reorganization, but I cannot do everything myself, I am absolutely shocked to think that the period of waiting is sometimes five years. I would not be surprised if there are people who had been waiting for ten, fifteen or twenty years in order to get titles to land. Over 250 persons have been waiting to get titles to land and we cannot get anything done in the matter. I am not saying that the Judicial Council or the Public Accounts Committee should hand over their work to me to do, neither can I undertake to do it I am not at all satisfied with the workings of the Registry. It seems to me that the more inefficient the Registration

Office is, the quicker persons there become promoted to high offices in this country and outside, I do not regard that as satisfactory; I do not think that it is fair to this island that persons should be using an office merely as a stepping stone and the public of Barbados are being held up to ransom.

Mr. Speaker, I regret very much this question of money involved, I have reported the matter to the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee and I hope that he is getting ready for the enquiry. I agree with the hon. junior member for St. John that it is absolutely disgraceful that people should have to wait

for a period of three or four years before they can get things done. The whole office needs to be overhauled, but we cannot perform miracles overnight, I am not at all satisfied with this matter, and something will have to be done about it. The normal citizen does not have to use this particular office, and people would not be aware of what is happening, The whole state of affairs slows down the whole working of machinery when we cannot have things working with the smoothness which should be the normal procedure.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division. 7.55 p.m.

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR seconded by Hon.

C. E. TALMA, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House

went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. BATSON in the Chair,

Clause 1 was called and passed. Clause 2 was called,

2. The Supreme Court of Judicature Act, 1956, is hereby amended by the insertion of the following section immediately after section 28 -

"Power of 28 A, Whenever on the sale by order of the Court to give Supreme Court of any land or any estate or possession interest therein the purchaser shall become of land sold, entitled to the immediate possession of such land, then if any other person shall be found to be in possession or occupation of such land and shall neglect or refuse to deliver up possession thereof to the said purchaser, the Supreme Court shall have power, on the application of the purchaser, to issue a warrant under the hand of a judge thereof directed to any one or more writ officer or officers commanding them within a period to be therein named not less than three nor more than ten clear days from the date of such warrant to enter (by force if necessary) into the said land and give possession of the same to such purchaser:

Provided always that entry under such warrant shall not be made on Sunday, Good Friday or Christmas Day, or any public holiday made so by proclamation, or at any time except between the hours of eight in the morning and five in the after-noon."

Mr. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I am glad that the Premier has explained the situation in his reply, because I myself was under some misunderstanding, although the Objects and Reasons are clearly set out, that this was creating a new procedure, or giving an opportunity of bringing about the perfection of titles under a cheaper rate,

and I am glad I have oat gone twty with that opinion, though I usually keep these* Acts separately until I get the Official Gazette and the actual copy. For property worth up to £50 we formerly used the Provost Marshal Act, for property up to £500 we used the Court of Appeal Act, and from £500 up we went to the Supreme Court. I venture to make these pronouncements not being a legally trained man, but because of my vocation I had to keep constantly in touch with these. The Act most frequently used was the Provost Marshal's Act under which smallholders got titles. I remember the days when land transactions in the Solicitors' offices were 90 per cent in the £50 brackets and for effecting titles people went to the Court of Appeal, This is what the hon. Junior member for St. John said he would like to see in due course and I agree with him.

With regard to what the hon. member has said about the Registration Office, it has been noted what the Auditor General has said about it, and I would like to say to the Hon. Premier, when he refers to the Leader of the Opposition as Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, that it is not an easy job to start I can see that in the Registration Office there is a lack of room where people go to apply for certificates or other documents and evidence to send abroad, and sometimes they have to wait from one to five months to get certificates for the purpose of getting social security from the United States in connection with a husband or wife. I have known of cases where people waited for as long as a year, and I agree that some greater speed should be made in this office, because people do really suffer a great deal I have made enquiries there myself and have been told that there is a lack of staff and lack of space, and I win assure the hon. member that if there is anything I can do from the Public Accounts Committee's point of view, it will certainly be done. The general public has been complaining about the time they have to waste, and Solicitors' firms also make complaints, but the answer seems to be lack of staff and lack of room. This will take not only the Public Accounts Committee, but some person knowledgeable in the handling of registration of deeds and so on to lay out a system in our Registry which would eventually be more perfect and, at least, better than it is at present.

The hon. member, Mr. Chairman, referred to the Registration of Deeds Department I have read what I have been able to get from that Department, and I understand from the Land and Surveys Department, that you will be able to have the registration of titles. As far as titles are concerned, the only guarantee one had of a title was that if a reputable firm of solicitors gave you a wrong title, it remained with them to make that title right if you discovered that the title was bad, or they would be called before the judge. In such cases the solicitors had to pay the cost of perfecting such titles. I am glad that the Hon. Premier has explained that this is not the son of Bill that the hon. junior member for St. John and myself anticipated at first when he made his opening remarks.

The question that Clause 2 stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division .

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

On the separate motions, of Mr. BOXILL, seconded in each case by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill was read a third time and passed, and the title read and agreed to.

8.05 p.m.

THE POLICE (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1965.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Order No. 5 stands in the name of the Hon. Premier; Second reading of a Bill to amend the Police Act, 1961.

Hon. E. W. BARROW:

At the last meeting of the House, we brought in a Bill to repeal the Bridgetown, Speights-town and Holetown Act and certain other obsolete enact-ments; but despite the fact that the Bridgetown, Speights-town and Holetown Act has become obsolescent, there are certain provisions which are necessary for law and order in this community.

This Bill not only modifies certain provisions consequent on the establishment of the office of Assistant Commissioner of Police and repeals section 10 which is out of date, there being no longer a Staff Officer of the Local Forces, but it imposes on members of the Force the duty of dispersing mobs in public places. This provision existed in the Bridgetown, Speightstown and Holetown Act which has been repealed.

It also amends the present Act so as to enable the Commissioner with the approval of the Cabinet, to make rules for the regulation of traffic on the occasion of any function at any place in the Island, and provides for the payment by the owners of lost property of remuneration to the finders of such property on the property being claimed from Police Custody.

Finally, it seeks to amend section 80 of the Act 1961-50 so as to enable the Commissioner, with the approval of the Cabinet, to make regulations with respect to the fixing of fees to be charged for services rendered by members of the Force and of the Police Band and the collection and disposal of such fees. This is merely widening the authority for the various reasons given.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg to second that.

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

On motion of Hon. J. C. Tudor, seconded by Hon. C. E. Talma, Mr. Speaker left the Choir and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. Batson in the Chair.

Clause I was called and passed. Clause 2 was called.

Mr. BOXILL:

I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr, MOTTLEY:

This section says \"Every member of the Force is hereby required to disperse all mobs in public places,,,,,\"

Mr. BOXILL:

That is not in Clause 2. Mr, MOTTLEY I am sorry.

The question that clause 2 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 3, 4, 5 and 6 were called and passed. Clause 7 was called. It reads as follows.

7. Section 23 of the principal Act is amended by the in-sertion of the following subsection immediately after sub-section (1) -

\"(1A) Every member of the Force is hereby required to disperse all mobs in public places and it shall be lawful for any member of the Force to arrest without

a warrant any person being in any such mob who shall refuse to disperse on being required so to do and any such person shall be liable on conviction by a court of summary jurisdiction to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars and in default of payment thereof to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one month.\"

Mr. BOXILL:

I beg to move that Clause 7 stand part Hon. C. E. TALMA I beg to second that,

Mr. MOTTLEY:

This is the only section with which I do not agree. It says \"Section 23 of the principal Act is amended by the insertion of the following subsection immediately after subsection (1) - (1A) Every member of the Force is hereby required to disperse all mobs in public places.\"

When I was reading this I looked to see if there was any definition as regards \"mobs\", I do not want anyone to think that I am playing lawyer, but I believe that the law should be enacted so that the average citizen should be able to understand,

I see no definition for \"mobs\" or \"public places\", I remember that when I was quite a youngster, there was a journalist by the name of Joe Waithe, and right after a famous case was heard in the Courts we were standing near the Courts discussing the question of the merits of the law-yers. A retired Judge referring to the case said that one of the lawyers was quoting cow pen law. Well, we were discussing this case and there was an over zealous policeman who decided that we should move on. He said, disperse this mob and neither one of us decided to move. Unfortunately, he arrested both of us and charged us. The magistrate who tried the case was not a layman, and he did not see how two could form a mob and both of us were discharged. Since then, I have always been enquiring of what constitutes a mob, 8.15 p.m.

I have always since then been very cautious as to what constitutes a mob, because the ruling of that judge at the time may not be the ruling of some lay-minded person or persons not so qualified to

dispense justice, I am worried about this sentence that "every member of the Force is hereby required to disperse all mobs in public places." I believe the Premier would be able to explain those two things. This is an amendment to Section 23 of the Principal Act by inserting this subsection, which means that this is a new section, I have heard it argued that where three or more persons are standing together, the police can come and say "move off", but surely if two persons are discussing something, that could not be considered as a mob. There is no definition as to what is a mob or what is a public place. A public place might be a licensed place of entertainment, a liquor place or any such place where any member of the public would have a right to go, and therefore if a policeman sees persons in such places and considers that they constitute a mob, he could disperse them. Every member of the Force is not a person who might use his discretion in a matter of this sort, and you can very well understand what might happen with a youngster, an over-zealous policeman, as happened in my debut in politics when he told us to move off and we refused, and he carried us before a magistrate; People are entitled to stand up and talk so long as they are not creating a nuisance or blocking traffic, but this says that "every member of the Force is hereby required to disperse all mobs in public places and it shall be lawful for any member of the Force to arrest without a warrant any person being in any such mob who shall refuse to disperse on being re-quired so to do and any such person shall be liable on conviction" I would like the Hon. Premier who is a

lawyer or the hon. senior member for Christ Church to enlighten me as a layman on this section and how it would be operated. There is no definition of a mob or of a public place.

Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, it is now 74 years that we had this provision on the laws of Barbados,

and the hon. member is very fortunate to have met a magistrate who could interpret the law correctly, and I should only like to say that I hope he is as lucky again if the occasion arises. But it is no part of the duty of anybody introducing legislation to give interpretations of law; that is properly the function of the Law Courts, and anything we may say here would only be a matter of opinion, I therefore do not intend to interpret legal terms or any ordinary words from the English language. When the occasion arises he can be fortified by the presence of legal advisers in his family. I really cannot give him any different answer. This provision was in the law for 74 years, and because we are repealing the Bridgetown, Speightstown and Holetown Act, it is desirable that we should retain the right to disperse mobs as the occasion arises.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

Maybe, I should not have asked the question in the way I did, Mr. Chairman, but the hon. member said it was in force for 74 years. In other words, the Hon. Premier is telling me not to expect him to be acquainted with the laws of Barbados. I am not asking him to give me a legal opinion as a lawyer; I think I can get that other-wise. The Objects and Reasons state that this Bill seeks to amend the Police Act, 1961, 1961-50, to modify certain provisions consequent on the establishment of the office of Assistant Commissioner of Police, to repeal section 10 which is out of date, there being no longer a staff Officer of the Local Forces; to impose on members of the Force the duty of dispersing mobs in public places- a like provision exists at present in respect of the Bridgetown, Speightstown and Holetown Act, 1891, 1891-16 (Section 16, 22 and 24 of the said Act are in point) but Government proposes, in connection with the Law Revision, that the said Act should be repealed; to amend section 24 (2) of Act, 1961-50 so as to enable the Commissioner, with the approval of the Cabinet, to make rules for the

regulation of traffic on the occasion of any function at any place in the Island; to provide for the payment by the owners of lost property or remuneration to the finders of such property on the property being claimed from Police custody. Such provision existed in section 103 of the Police Act, 1908, 1908-2 but was not included in Act 1961-50 and it is considered desirable that provision should be made therefor.

The Premier has said that the Judge rightly interpreted the definition at the time when I was involved, that two persons could not form a mob. I have also sat and listened to Judges who felt that three did not form a mob, but that the police can still say to them "Move on." I should certainly like to get more information upon this although the hon. member said this was existing for 74 years. As soon as he qualified, his duty was to become acquainted with the laws of this island in the light of making a living. I happen to know the Public Health Act of the country by dealing with real estate; but I would like to know what is a public place and what is a mob.

I will vote for this with some reservations, because "public place" might mean anything. If the hon. junior member for St. Thomas and myself found ourselves at a

place for which you have issued a license as a Club

(Mr. BOXILL:

Why me?) Because you are short.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

The Chairman is not short.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

You are short, but not in stature. I am sure you will take that remark in good faith. People may think I like to waste time, but I am interested in knowing what this "public place" means. 8.25 p.m.

I am a layman; I am only expressing my view as a layman and I make no apologies for not being able to define the fine technicalities of the law. The law must be so enacted that the common man should be able to understand it. Suppose two or three people are in a shop. That is a public place. How often have we heard that when anyone carrying on a liquor business, that place of business is a public place. Of course it is a public place. You open your doors people walk in and go out.

I do not know what constitutes a mob or what is a public place. But this encroaches upon the freedom of the citizen, especially if you say that a mob can be three persons. If you by chance go in a shop and have a drink, that is a public place just as any Government Department is a public place. I feel very strongly on this matter, I find it very difficult to understand. If I drop in at the licensed premises of the hon. senior member for St. George and because we are politicians, we begin to argue about politics and something happens, (Mr. LOWE: I would throw you out.) The hon. member said he would not need the police because he is big enough to throw me out.

(Mr. CHAIRMAN left the Chair and Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair.)

Mr. SPEAKER:

The Chairman has reported progress in the consideration of the Bill to amend the Police Act, 1961. Is this matter controversial?

Mr. MOTTLEY:

This matter is not controversial, Hon. J. C. TUDOR This matter is not controversial,

Mr. SPEAKER:

If the matter is not controversial __ and I gather it is not - the Chairman may resume the Chair, but under no circumstances later than 9.00 o'clock,

Mr. SMITH:

The hon. senior member for the City says it is not controversial. The hon. junior member for St. Lucy says it is not controversial, but the hon. senior member for the City and the hon. introducer of the Bill cannot agree as to what constitutes a mob; so I would say that it is controversial.

Mr. SPEAKER:

May I ask the Leader of the Opposition? Mr. MOTTLEY I am not saying so, Sir,

Mr. SPEAKER:

I cannot remain here indefinitely. Is it controversial?

Mr.. MOTTLEY:

I am not clear as to the definition of a mob.

Mr, SPEAKER:

I am not having this either. I want to know if it is controversial.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

What do you want me to do?

Mr, SPEAKER:

To obey the Standing Orders of this House,

Mr. MOTTLEY:

I am obeying, but I am not allowing any person to bully me,

Mr. SPEAKER:

The hon. member is shouting at me.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

I shout as I like. You cannot put me out of in here, I am entitled to look at this book, I am not one of the idiots to pretend that I know something when I do not know.

Mr. SPEAKER; The principle of this Bill has been accepted. It has passed its second reading. According to the Standing Orders, I have no alternative but to resume the Chair at 8.30 o'clock. There has been no intimation that the Bill is controversial and I am therefore prepared to let the Chairman of

Committees resume his seat

Mr. MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I see that section 16 of the Bridgetown, Speightstown and Hometown Act reads as follows-

••Every police or parish constable is hereby required to disperse all mobs in the streets, squares or other places in the said Town; and if any person being in such mob shall refuse to disperse on being required so to do, or shall use any threatening or insulting language to any police or parish constable when required to disperse, it shall be lawful for every such police or parish constable

to apprehend every such person and bring him before the Police Magistrate, who is hereby required to impose a penalty not exceeding five pounds on every such offender.\" 8.45 p.m.

The only difference between this and the one we have is the question of a public place, and it is not a matter for controversy, I have read the Bill and I have this point circled, because this says a \"public place\" while the other says \"a street or town\". You have amended the Bridgetown, Speightstown and Hometown Act and have inserted a \"public place\" and \"a mob\" but there is no definition in the Act as to what mobs are, and there is some doubt as to what may be considered a public place, I can quite understand the original act which refers to people in a street or land, but I am worried about this \"public place\". I suppose I will have to let it go through and then find out what is a public place, I really could not explain to anyone who asked me what a \"public place\" means now that you have amended the Act, and I would like it de-fined for the benefit of the general public.

Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Again, Sir, I should like to say that the hon. member has been a member for a long time, and he should understand the constitutional position of Parliament, Words are used in their common and ordinary sense if there is no definition, but interpretation is a matter for the judges. The reason why the term \"public place\" has been used instead of streets and lanes and so on is because the Bridgetown, Speightstown and Hometown Act has been repealed. It was repealed last Tuesday in here and has now gone to the Other Place, To ask me what a public place means is to ask what the Other Place means, or what \"shall\", \"may\", or \"Will\" means. The Court has to define the specific meaning of the words within the particular context. Simple words like \"shall be\", \"without\", \"be\" and \"for\" and even prepositions have been the subject of legal dispute. It is not for the Legislature or anybody on the Government side to say that the meaning of \"public place\" is so-and-so. If there is no definition clause, then you follow the normal channels of interpretations. There are rules laid down from time immemorial which in legal history is 1157, judicial decisions both within the island and Commonwealth countries like Australia, and there are Words and Phrases used in Statutes. The first is by Sir Roland Burrowes, and I do not remember the second. The House possesses a copy of Sir Roland Burrowes' \"Words and Phrases Judicially Defined\". The definition of a \"public place\" is not found in the Highways Act, 1900, and all it says is that in this Act \"highways\" shall include any public road in this island, and any streets, lanes, alleys, bridges, water courses, wharves, embankments, tunnels, drains, gutters and sewers in any of the towns of this island except such portions of the wharves as shall be constructed of masonry; so even in the Highways Act you do not find any definition,

I am not giving any definition, Mr. Chairman, but if the hon. member wants to know what judges are

generally guided by, I will quote from Volume 4 of Sir Roland Burrowes' "Words and phrases Judicially Defined" which belongs to this House, I do not know if this is what the hon. member was waiting for, but I will quote this example:

"The prisoner indecently exposed himself on the roof of a house in view of the windows of several other houses, but could not be seen from any public highway. Surely, if the people in twenty or thirty houses round could see it, - I do not know what "it" refers to --it is a sufficiently public place."

Then Chief Justice Erie in the same case said that "Public Place" does not mean a public highway. But our Highways Act says that "highways" include a public road, but "public places" are not restricted to a highway. Then they say:-

(A bye-law made by a local authority provided that no person should in any "public place" use any profane, ob-

scene or indecent language to the annoyance of passengers,) Mr. Justice Martin said that in that case:-

"I express no opinion as to whether the appellant's language was indecent, but I am clearly of the opinion that it was not used in a public place to the annoyance of passengers within this by-law. It may be that a public house is a public place for some purposes and under some statutes, but it is impossible to say that it is a public place within this by-law, having regard to the words "to the annoyance of passengers." The words "public place" are not defined in these by-laws, but in later by-laws made by the same council they are defined as including "any common, park, pleasure ground, or roadside waste to which the public have access. I think that the words "public place" are used in the same sense in these by-laws."

And they say that in Canada "public place" is a fluctuating term and the meaning varies with the context, but as a general thing the words of Grove, in Regina V. Wei-lard (1884) are suggestive: "A public place is one where the public go, no matter whether they have a right to go or not! 8.45 p.m.

And this is in the Road Traffic Act, "The appellant was tried and convicted under the Road Traffic Act, 1930, s. 15 (1), of driving a motor car in a "public place" when under the influence of drink. "He (counsel) urges that the field where the car was being driven was not a public place within the meaning of the Road Traffic Act, 1930, It was ordinarily an open field, but at the point to point race meeting pedestrians entered by the gate and paid nothing, and there is evidence that a crowd of about 2,000 were there It was open to the learned judge to decide as a matter of law that this was a public place within the meaning of the section. Instead he left it to the jury and they found it was a public place."

The hon. member would appreciate the difficulty because there are a long series of cases which show that the meaning is flexible within certain context. That is all I can say about that.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

What I would like to say is this. When I asked a question, I thought the hon. member would appreciate this. There are actually no lawyers over on this side of the Table and when I ask a question. I want the hon. member to understand that if I did not appreciate and paid some respect to his views, I would not attempt to ask this question, I would just stay here and keep the House back. When I put a question

to the hon. member, I feel I can get an honest reply.

What the Hon. Premier did at the last instance he could have done in the first instance, I have had experience as to what can happen. I know as a fact that there are some definitions left to the Court,. Where there is no definition it is left to the Court to decide.

Nobody asked the Hon. Premier for a legal opinion. It was not a question of trying to force people in a corner. I have been in this House for some time, and when I do not understand a thing, you have to make me understand.

The question that Clause 7 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 8 to 12 were called separately and passed.

On motion of Mr. BOXILL, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. CHAIRNAM reported the passing of one Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Mr. BOXILL, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA in each case, the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

THE CINEMATOGRAPH FILM CENSORSHIP BILL, 1965

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to deal with Order No. 7 which stands in my name.

Mr, SPEAKER:

This is the second reading of a Bill to amend the Cinematograph Film Censorship Act, 1940,

The hon. member is asking leave to deal with this Bill. If there is no objection, leave will be granted the hon.

member, (4 PAUSE)

Hearing no objection, leave is granted the hon. mem-ber.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I think hon. members are aware that every year we put in a certain amount of money in the Estimates for fees for Cinematograph Film Censorship, and we always are told that this is recoverable because of the revenue which we receive from the cinemas them-selves. This is in accordance with the Cinematograph Film Censorship Act, of 1940, but under the provisions of that Act the person who acts as Secretary to the Cinematograph Film Censorship Board operates on a catch-as-catch-can basis from his or her position.

It has been thought proper to change that System be-cause of the volume of work involved; therefore, we are asking for an amendment to the law to enable a salary to be paid to whoever is doing the work as Secretary of the Cinematograph Film Censorship Board.

This Bill therefore amends the Cinematograph Film Censorship Act, 1940, in order to make it clear that reg-ulations made thereunder may provide for a salary to be paid to the Secretary of the Board.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

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

Clauses 1 to 3 were called separately and passed. 8.55 p.m.

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

On the separate motions of Mr. BOXILL, seconded in each case by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to,

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, that concludes Government Business.

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 13th July, at 2.30 p.m.

In fixing the Order Paper, we have no Committee of Supply for next week; so the items under Government Business will follow seriatim.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to sty that I intimated to the Hon. Leader of the House that it is our intention to discuss the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals on Tuesday next, and I am asking that Order No. 8 under Private Members\ Business be Order No. 1 at the next Sitting.

I should like to say that the Official Opposition would like to be given the same privilege and right of broadcast as the Hon. Premier had,

Mr. SPEAKER:

Is the Hon. Leader of the Opposition asking that Order No. 8 under Private Members' Business standing in the name of the hon. junior member for Christ Church be the first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business?

Mr. MOTTLEY:

Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The Hon. Leader of the Opposition is asking leave that Order No. 8 be the first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, in order to accommodate the hon. member, I am prepared to amend my motion so that the House will meet at 2 p.m. instead of 2.30 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The Hon. Leader of the House has asked that his motion read 2 p.m. instead of 2.30 p.m., and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

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

I have noted the request of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, and inasmuch as there is precedent for it, I have no objection.

Before I adjourn the House, I will mention that we have just received the very sad news of the death of the father of the senior Reporter of this Chamber.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 13th July, 1965, at 2 p.m. o'clock, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

9.00 p.m.