

THE House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1961 - 66

THE

House of Assembly Debates

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

Tuesday, 30th November, 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; Mr. E. St. A. HIOLDER; J.P.; Hon. J. C. Tudor, M.A., (Minister of Education); Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries); Mr. W. R. COWARD; Mr. W. R. LOWE; Mr. G. V. BATSON, (Chairman of Committees); Hon. N. W. BOXILL, (Minister of Communications and Works); Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD and Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (Minister of Trade and Labour).

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER:

It is with regret that I have to inform this Hon. Chamber that there are no Minutes yet ready for confirmation.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. and Learned Premier and Minister of Finance, I am com-manded to lay the following-

The Customs Duties (Pianos, Piano Playing Mechanisms and Organs) Order, 1965.

The Customs Duties (Computing Devices) (Equipment) Order, 1965.

On behalf of the Hon. Minister of Health, Housing Local Government and Community Development, I am commanded to lay The Public Health (Yellow Fever) Regulations, 1965.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. and Learned Premier and Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice of A Resolution to place the sum of \$29,400 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1965-66, Part II- Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1965-66 No. 31, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution;

Also, a Resolution to place the sum of \$15,462 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1965-66, Part I -- Current as shown in the Supplementary

Estimate, 1965-66 No. 32, which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

REPLIES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg to give notice that Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions No. 70. asked by the hon. senior member for St. James; No. 67, asked by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition; No. 87, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James; No. 63, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Philip and question No. 88, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James; are ready.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to deal with the Money Resolutions of which notice has just been given.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the suspension of Standing Orders. Nos. 5, 14, 16, 18, 40 and 45 for the remainder of the day's sitting.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:

I beg to second that.

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

RULING BY MR. SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER:

My Ruling has been requested at the meeting of the House held on 16th instant as to whether there may be a debate on a motion for the suspension of a Sitting. I would point out that unless Standing Orders are suspended, suspension is automatic at certain times. (Standing Order 5 (3). Standing Orders of this House are silent as to a motion for suspension, as indeed are the Standing Orders of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom.

In the absence of any precedent --or other guide - as to any special procedure governing a motion for suspension, it follows that there may be debate upon same, such debate being, however, rigidly confined to the matter of the motion.

Inasmuch as the necessity for a motion for suspension may unexpectedly, or suddenly, arise, it is pertinent to observe that it may well defeat the whole purpose of such motion for it not to be put with the minimum of delay. My ruling is that, under existing Standing Orders, debate (which must be strictly confined to the subject matter of suspension of the sitting) cannot be precluded, however unfortunate may be any delay arising there from.

QUESTION TIME

HON. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg to move that Question Time be now taken.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON:

I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SPEAKER:

It is now Question Time, and I am advised that answers are ready to certain questions. No. 67, standing in the name of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

HILTON HOTEL PROJECT Mr. MOTTLE Y:

To enquire of the appropriate Minister

1. Will the Minister state what moneys have been spent upon the Hilton Hotel Project to date?
- 2.
3. Will the Minister state whether the loan to finance the said project has yet been raised?
- 4.

5. If the answer to No. 2 is in the negative, will the Minister state from what source of revenue the project has been financed up to now?

6.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The Replies are as follows -

(a) The amount spent as at 30th September, 1965, on the Hilton Hotel Project was \$2,263,663.93.

(b)

(c) Provision of \$4,900,000 is made under Part II -- Capital Estimates 1965-66 (Page 170) Head 6 - Office of the Premier (1) Development and Industry, Item 3, Hilton Hotel, for continuation of the project. The amount so provided will be met from loan funds to be raised for financing the capital projects so indicated in the Approval Estimates.

(d)

(e) The project has been financed from General Revenue Balances pending the raising of loans. 12.25 p.m.

(f)

Mr. MOTTLEY:

Will the Hon. Minister kindly say whether any attempt has yet been made to raise a loan to cover this large expenditure?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

That question has been covered by paragraph (c) of the Reply which I gave to the hon. member's question. That paragraph says this "The project has been financed from General Revenue Balances pending the raising of loans.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

Do you not think that this is a rather large sum to take from General Revenue Balances for the repayment of loans?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The answer which I have given does not indicate that the whole of the General Revenue Balance is being expended on this Project. The Reply merely says that the project has been financed so far from General Revenue Balances pending the raising of loans.

Mr. GODDARD:

Does the Government intend raising this loan locally or in the foreign market?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I would have to be given notice of that question so as to inform the appropriate Minister about it. I really could not answer that question

Mr. SMITH:

Can the Minister tell me what is the over-all estimated cost of the project?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

In answer to the hon. member, I would say that the amount is what has been put in the Estimates; that is, \$4,900,000.00. If there is anything to be added to that amount, doubtless the House will be informed about it in due course.

Mr. LYNCH:

Will the Minister be good enough to say who has been awarded the contract for the erection of this hotel and how it has been awarded?

Mr. SPEAKER:

Will the hon. member repeat that question? I do not think that the Hon. Minister has heard it.

Mr. LYNCH:

Mr. Speaker, I am enquiring whether the Hon. Minister will be good enough to inform us who has been awarded the contract for the erection of this Hotel and how was the contract awarded in view of the moneys which have already been spent.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I will decline to answer that question. It is a rather difficult question and it does not arise out of the original question.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

To answer that question.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I should like to inform the hon. member that a Minister may never answer any question at all. I am inclined to agree with the Minister that it would be more appropriate to have another question tabled more directly concerned with the matter.

Mr. GODDARD:

Does the Hon. Minister not consider that in view of the fact that this building is not to be erected departmentally, and that large sums of money have been spent presumably by outside interests - should a contract not have been included for the completion of this large development?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, that is a argumentative question. In the first place, it is precluded by the Standing Orders of this House and, secondly, it is nothing to do with the original question which has been asked and the two supplementary questions which arose from the answers. I cannot answer that question.

Mr. LYNCH:

Mr. Speaker, my question was a direct question. I asked who has the contract for the erection of the hotel and in what way was it awarded?

Mr. SPEAKER:

Standing Order 14 (5) states this

"(5) Supplementary questions may be put for the purpose of elucidating an oral answer, but the Speaker may refuse any such question which in his opinion introduces matter not related to the original question, or which infringes the provisions of Standing Order No. 12 (Contents of Questions)."

Mr. MOTTLEY:

Mr. Speaker, if you would read the original question, you would see that the Supplementary Question is a matter of elucidating the original question.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The original question asked the Minister to state what moneys have been spent upon the Hilton Hotel project to date and whether the loan to finance the said project has yet been raised. And if the answer to the second question is in the negative, would the Minister state from what source of revenue the project has been financed up to now. 12.35 p.m.

The three questions have been answered, and in my submission it would not be a supplementary question to ask who is the contractor or the terms and conditions of the contract.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

I did not ask for the terms and conditions of the contract. Since the answers have been given to Nos. 1, and 2, would it not be a supplementary to ask if this is being done by contract, and if so, who has been awarded the contract. Is that not a matter of elucidation for the benefit of the public?

Mr. SPEAKER:

That would be to provide additional information, but not to elucidate the answers given to the three questions.

Question No. 70 stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. James.

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware that the accommodation for legal practitioners at District "D" Court in the parish of Saint Thomas is very unsatisfactory and causes great inconvenience both to the said practitioners and to the officers of the Court?

2. Will the Government remedy this state of affairs as soon as possible?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows-

"The Court at District 'D' only sits once a week, and the lack of space and shortage of furniture in the Court does cause inconvenience to legal practitioners and to the officers of the Court when more than two barristers attend.

Government will give consideration to remedying this state of affairs."

Mr. SPEAKER:

Oral Reply has also, I am instructed, been laid to Question No. 87 which also stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. James.

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows-

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

1. Is it the intention of Government to make Christmas advances this year to Civil Servants?

If the answer is in the affirmative

(a) Is the Minister aware that persons availing themselves of these loans would find it more helpful if such advances were made during the first week in December?

(b) Will the Minister therefore direct that Christmas loans for Government employees be made available to them not later than the first week in December this year?

If the answer is in the negative

(c) Would the Minister urge on Cabinet to reconsider such a decision?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows -

"1. Yes Sir.

1 (a) Yes, Sir.

1 (b) Does not arise.

1 (c) Does not arise."

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

As a supplementary question, is the Minister aware that the answer requesting the Cabinet to take this

action is late?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Technically yes, but when the question was asked the Cabinet had already made its decision and in the following week we brought it to this House, His Excellency has assented to it, and the matter is being processed right now. So, if the answer was late, the question was also late if I may say so, and of course, as Your Hon-our well knows, it is based on the regular practice of Government.

Mr. SPEAKER:

Question No. 88 also stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. James.

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

Mr. Speaker, with regard to this question, in as much as the grievances complained of have been remedied, I am asking leave to withdraw this question.

Mr. SPEAKER:

If there is no objection, leave will be granted the hon. member to withdraw the question for oral answer.

There is no objection to the hon. member being granted leave to withdraw the question, and I hereby declare that question is deemed to have been withdrawn and automatically disappears from the Order Paper.

Question No. 63 stands in the name of the hon. Junior member for St. Philip, whom I observe not instantly to be in his place. I will allow that question to remain on the Order Paper and be given at the next meeting of this House.

That concludes the questions to Which, I am instructed, replies have been laid.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Government Business be now taken.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SPEAKER:

The first Order of the Day under Government Business stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House; to move the House into Committee of Supply to consider a grant of sums of money for the service of the Island.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1965-66 No. 30 Head 7 - Registration - was called

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, under Head 7 Supplementary provision is being requested for Items 17 and 24, Incidentals, and Equipment and Furniture respectively.

The Staff of the Registration Office has been increased by a Civil Establishment Order which passed the House this year, and in order to meet the cost of additional furniture and equipment, \$1,273 is required to supplement the items as originally voted.

I beg to move that Head 7 - Registration - stand part.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

12.45 p.m.

HEAD 32 - HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT Head 32 - Highways and Transport - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairinan, supplementary pro-vision of \$765 has been requested to meet the cost of erecting Traffic Signs at certain road junctions throughout the Island to enable Barbadians and visitors to the Island to reach the Welchman Hall Gully, St. Thomas, without experiencing any difficulty.

I beg to move that Head 32-- Highways and Transport -stand part.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. GODDARD:

Mr. Chairman, I am very happy to see this sum included because so often not only visitors but Barbadians find great difficulty in finding their way to the Welchman Hall Gully. Many people even in this country do not know where is Welchman Hall Gully.

I should also like the authorities who are putting up these Traffic Signs to know that not only should they be put up from the City, but they should also be put up from across the country, that is to say, from the West Coast leading to the Gully. There are many persons and visitors coming from the St. James coast who may want to go to the Welchman Hall Gully, and I will also say visitors from Sam Lord's Castle.

I therefore hope that these Traffic Signs will not only be erected from Bridgetown to the Welchman Hall Gully but from the West Coast and the East Coast, As I have said, I am very happy to see this amount included in these Estimates, and I do hope that the erection of these signs will not only help visitors but many Barbadians who have not been to see this place of great interest.

The question that Head 32 stand part and resolved in the affirmative without division.

**HEAD 37 -- MINISTRY OF HEALTH, HOUSING,
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT**

Head 37 -- Ministry of Health, Housing, Local Government and Community Development was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, supplementary provision is required under three items -- Item 124, Pan American Health Organisation; Item 156, Furniture and Equipment; and Item 184, Furniture and Equipment.

The Government has been asked to donate a work of art to the Pan American Health Organization to adorn its new headquarters in Mexico. It is requested that this work of art should reflect the inhabitants of this Island, and the Government has accepted this request and intends to throw this matter open to public competition. The sum of \$350 is required to meet the cost of this sculpture.

The next sum provided in the current Estimates was intended to meet the cost of certain additional office equipment for the Ministry of Health and Community Development. Of this sum, \$1,509 will provide for the purchase of office furniture and equipment for new posts of Administrative Assistant, Accountant and Clerical Assistants, and for equipment made necessary by the transfer of the Ministry to the Old Hospital Buildings, The remaining \$700 will meet the cost of equipment and furniture for the office of a Secretary assigned in the General Nursing Council.

The Committee would remember that last week, or two weeks ago, we assigned an officer to the Secretary of the General Nursing Council and it is therefore necessary that equipment and furniture be placed at that officer's disposal.

I beg to move that Head. 37 stand part. Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

I. ANNEXED ESTIMATES - POST OFFICE

I. Annexed Estimates - Post Office - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, supplementary provision of \$69,454 is required under Annexed Estimates - Post Office, for the current financial year as follows-

Expenditure on overtime has been heavier than anticipated due to - .

(a) increased overtime duty consequent upon the taking over of the receipt and despatch of mail alongside ships; and

(b)

(c) increase in overtime rates.

(d)

The sum of \$16,473 is therefore required.

The allowance payable for extra deliveries was in-creased from \$1.50 to \$2.40 per extra delivery with effect from 1st April, 1965. The provision in the current estimates was calculated at the previous rate of \$1.50.

The volume of mail for overseas despatch has in-creased, and provision under this Item is therefore insufficient to meet expenditure to the end of the financial year. Expenditure under this item is offset by the revenue from the sale of stamps affixed to packets.

The amount of \$49.00 is required to meet the payment of allowances to postmen for the upkeep of scooters and motor cycles.

I beg to move that I, Annexed Estimates - Post Office -stand part.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

Mr. Chairman, I may be late now, but I would like to say something about the question of Auxiliary Postmen for the St. James Post Office. I think during the time when the present Hon. Minister for Agriculture had this portfolio, the number of postmen at the St. James Post Office was increased from

six to eight. That was long overdue. There is also provision for two Auxiliary Post-men; therefore, for the present season the provision of two Auxiliary Postmen with the permanent staff of eight post-men would make ten.

I would like to see the staff at that Post Office increased to that number, and I hope that my suggestion will be implemented next year for this reason. Let us believe and hope that the people of this country will prosper more and more and I foresee that next year, even by next Christmas, the duties and the work of Postmen will certainly not be able to be carried out by the present number. Even although at present there are eight Postmen and two Auxiliary Postmen, at least you would need another auxiliary postman to relieve a lot of the inconvenience there.

Many people may not know that the St. James district has developed very much. There is quite a number of big homes and the Postmen have long distances to travel. Some time ago I suggested certain sites where there should be post boxes. Right now, the districts to which Postmen have to go are put in such a way that each would not have an unreasonable amount of travelling to do.

Postmen at that post office are performing their work in a very good manner. I would therefore ask the Hon. Minister concerned to go into the matter. I believe that there should be an increase in the staff of Postmen.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, the hon. senior member for St. James can be assured that his proposals are being looked into at this moment and that the Minister is cognizant of the fact. 12.55 p.m.

He will even realize, when he thinks back, that the Government has just given the postmen the option of purchasing motor cycles or powered vehicles, and he should know that we are doing all that is within our power to alleviate.

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I do not like the hon. member saying that I should know this. I was not in any way criticising the policy of the Government with regard to the postal service. I said that during the Minister's regime two more Postmen were added to the staff. I was trying to explain to the Cabinet that every day

the number of homes are increasing, and I said that I believe that the Minister will give the matter his consideration. I was not making any attack on the Minister: when the Minister says that the hon. member should know this, it is what everybody should know.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I am sorry that the hon. member has taken what I said in that way. I did not mean it in that way at all. The hon. member should know and, as a matter of fact, he knows me well enough to know that I would not have said anything which would cause him to take umbrage. What I meant is that it can be seen that we are aware of the fact that the Postmen have a hard job to perform and we are doing all that is in our power to alleviate the suffering of the Postmen and of the general public,

Mr. Chairman, there is only one thing which the hon. member said and about which I am not clear,

that is, his mention about the post-boxes. However, Sir, I will discuss the matter personally with the hon. member.

The question that 1. Annexed Estimates - Post Office - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that a Resolution for the sum of \$74,301 do now pass.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that you do now report the passing of one Resolution in Committee.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER who took the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

agreed to.

ORDER POSTPONED

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

The next Order of the Day stands in me name of the Honourable and Learned Premier To move the passing of the following Resolution -

A Resolution to approve the lease to the Barbados Light Aeroplane Club by the Minister charged with the responsibility for Lands of a parcel of land situate at Sea-well Airport on the terms and conditions as are set out in the Schedule to the Resolution.

Notice of this Resolution was given on the 25th November this year.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am sorry, I should have warned you before that we are not taking this Order at this stage.

RESOLUTION TO SANCTION SHOPS ORDER

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

The motion was put and carried.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Trade mod La-bour- To move the passing of the following Resolution A Resolution to sanction the Order entitled \"The Shops Order, 1965.\"

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, on the 28th February, 1963, a Committee was appointed with the following terms of reference- To review the present-day working of the Shops Act, 1945, and Orders made under the Bank Holidays Act, 1905, with respect to the closing of shops and to make recommendations thereunder. This Committee reported early last year, and ever since then quite a lot of work has been done on the recommendations of that Committee. Hon. members will recall that last year around this time, a Resolution was brought before this House asking the House to approve of an Order which gave permission for certain shops to be closed at certain times. 1.05 p.m.

Actually this is to facilitate the purchasing public and to make sure that they get what they want around Christmas time. It really increases the shopping hours in the month of December. This happens to be paragraph 25 of the recommendations of this Committee. Hon. members will recall that about two or three weeks ago I referred to the Shops Legislation which the Ministry and the Crown Law Office had been working on. When the legislation did reach me a week ago, I discovered that the Chamber of Commerce and other interested bodies were not yet consulted, and I thought they should have been consulted before this comprehensive piece of Shops Legislation was brought to the Hon. Chamber, it is laid down in the I.L.O. that this bit of legislation should receive comments from the Barbados Workers' Union, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Employers Federation, and this necessitated its delay in coming to this Chamber, They could not go through the pro-posed Bill and make their recommendations to the Ministry in time for December; so therefore what I am asking the Chamber to do today is to give approval to the Shops Order which we introduced last December to give effect to the late closing of shops as hon. member will notice here, and these shops are of certain categories. These are not all the dry goods stores, but the stores where necessitous things can be bought - provision shops, bakers, butchers, fish-mongers and druggists.

This Order, Mr. Deputy Speaker, will extend the closing hour on Fridays between now and Christmas to 7.30 p.m with the exception of Christmas Eve which will be a normal closing day, when shops will close at 4.00 p.m. This is really for urban shops. I think that hon. members would have read the Addendum to the Resolution, and I am sure that they will all be in agreement with me that this is a necessary bit of legislation, and I promise mat as soon as I shall have received the comments from the

Barbados Workers' Union, the Employers Federation and the Chamber of Commerce, the Comprehensive Shops Act will be introduced in the Legislature. Inasmuch as we could not get that here, I am asking approval for the bit of legislation we had last year.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass. Hon. G. G. FERGUSON:

I beg to second that

Mr. GODDARD:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are in agreement with this Order, but I think it could have been improved in this respect. This is a temporary measure, but this will portray what is to come. In the month of December there is heavy shopping, and if we are looking to satisfy the public, we must extend the shopping hours in the afternoon and especially on Fridays until 7.30p.m. which most of the shops do now. That has been readily accepted by the shopping public not only in Barbados but throughout the world. People shop heavily in the food line at the week-end and carry forward their shopping to Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; so for that reason late shopping on Fridays is the trend, and I am glad to see that Government has allowed this.

Now the decision is to close shops at 1 o'clock on Saturdays, and the Chamber of Commerce and the business community have accepted that; but I do feel that at this stage in the month of December there should be an exception. It is not every family that can come out on Friday nights; there are many clerks in Bridgetown who will work until midday and then go to the food stores to buy things to carry

home. and I think that 4 o'clock on Saturdays for food stores would have been much better especially in December, though it can remain at 1 o'clock for the other months. We in the business world will have a long weekend like anyone else when the shops close on Saturdays at 1 o'clock, but I think that in December it could be extended for heavy shopping.

I would also point out that if you have a bank-holiday on Mondays, there is great difficulty in getting customers out of the stores on Saturdays at 1 o'clock; so in making your permanent regulations for the coming year, I would like to draw to your attention that when a bank-holiday falls on a Monday, Saturday should be a full day, because it is not only the employees but the shopping public that this Bill is designed for, and any overtime that the employees are called on to work, they are paid for. It is not too much to ask, and I think the Shops Act should be so designed and tailored to meet the demands of the shopping public. We accept this, but I regret that this year you are asking businesses to close at 1 o'clock on Saturdays, because it is very sudden and the public is not ready for it. It is true you are extending the shopping hours on Friday nights which they have gratefully accepted, but I speak for the Bridgetown clerks, who when they leave Broad Street and Swan Street at 12 o'clock send their way to shops to do last minute purchases of bread, meat and vegetables, and who are going to find great difficulty in getting them in December.

Mr. WALCOTT:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not want to say much on this matter, but the Barbados Public seems to be a very difficult public to satisfy. When it comes to Saturday, some people like the day off, but the hon. member says that when a bank-holiday falls on a Monday, he would like the preceding Saturday to be a full day. In England and other parts of the world, if you have a bank-holiday, it is not to deprive a person of something he is going to get, because if a bank-holiday is going to deprive him of half-day on

the Saturday and you are going to pay overtime for it, then you are back where you started. The idea of a bank-holiday is to give you something in addition, not to deprive you, and I have lived long enough to know that people even went to work on bank-holidays, and it was not until you passed a law making it compulsory for people to get holidays with pay that they enjoy this facility; and nobody has gone out of business. 1.15 p.m.

I would say to the hon. member that I do not subscribe to this shopping public business. Some people do their business of shopping and go around it in such a way that they have much wastage of time because they do not have so much shopping to do. They cannot have so much shopping to do because they do not have the spending power. I would like to see the spending power of the people increased so that we would have to open the shops on Saturday. There is so much talk in the community that the people are working for more, therefore, there is a lot of spending power among them. I do not do my own shopping. My wife does most of it. Those who do not have any wife must make application for one because wives are available.

Sir, I feel the BOIL Minister should give serious consideration to this. I do not like the idea of working on Friday night because it looks as if you are going back. I was a member of that Committee and I think the Committee took all sorts of opinions on this question. There was the question of what could be done to accommodate the shopping public. Some people said that the habits of people have changed. This was more dealing with the people who have food-stuffs to buy and I am afraid that what the hon. junior member for Christ Church introduced to the Hon. Minister is something which I would find it difficult to agree with because it seems that the hon. member is more in sympathy with the shopping public than the employees working late on Saturday. The hon. member is in that type of business in which I know that they have their problems.

Mr. GODDARD:

Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. When I said late, I meant 4 o'clock. I consider that to be a reasonable time.

Mr. WALCOTT:

At one stage, I was led to believe that this evening on Fridays late was due to some extent that

some of the people who have supermarkets preferred a late opening that time to ease the rush on Saturdays and if they got that, they would be satisfied with shopping at that time instead of opening late on Saturdays. You come now and say that you want a late opening on Friday and on Saturdays too.

Mr. GODDARD:

Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I said in December alone.

Mr. WALCOTT:

The hon. member must understand that the report of the Committee dealt not only with December, but it dealt with the opening on Fridays late all through the year. It was stated that people found themselves rushing on Saturdays to do their shopping and it was felt that the extension of shopping on Friday evenings would help to assist the people. That is why I said that as regards the question of a Bank Holiday at Christmas time, they were giving you a six o'clock closing time.

You are trying to help the public to shop more easily, but we also would like to think of those people who work in the stores and who are not yet fully emancipated to the rights of trade unionism; therefore, they do not have the Union to deal with them. This is an attempt to satisfy the shopping public and I hope the shopping public would appreciate it. Some of the workers, I am sure, will feel that this is an extension of their hours of work.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman, while the hon. junior member for Christ Church is thinking of the shopping public, I have to think of the fact that the employees of these shops have to work during these extended hours, and this is an extension occurring during the week before Christmas when these employees have their household chores to perform and their families to look after as well.

You will notice, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that during the week before Christmas these people are asked to work from seven o'clock in the morning until six o'clock in the evening from Monday to Thursday. It is unreasonable to ask them to work until six o'clock on Friday which is Christmas Eve, and then they do not have any time to look after their own personal affairs. I can sympathise with the hon. member who would like to see that the shopping public gets what they want; but while you are looking after the shopping public you should also look after the employees.

Sir, you will notice that on Friday which is the 24th December, (Christmas, Eve) the shopping hour is not extended to 7.30 p.m., and it is because the Government thinks that the people who are employed in these shops have to go home and prepare for Christmas just as anybody else. Therefore, we did not ask them to work late on Friday. As a matter of fact, I wanted shops to close half day on Friday so that the workers could go home and look after their business. While we are thinking in terms of the purchasing public, we have to think of the slaves behind the counters and the people who have to work extra hours during the week before Christmas; you have to give them some time for themselves. Therefore, I do not necessarily agree with the hon. junior member for Christ Church when he asked to have the closing time for shopping on Saturdays extended too. I think, if you extend your shopping hours until 7.30 p.m., on Fridays, that one o'clock on Saturdays is a reasonable time for stores to be opened.

I Agree entirely with the hon. senior member for St. Peter that a bank holiday is given to the people to enjoy themselves and they should not take that time from them.

I should also like to point out that the employees will not suffer any loss because of the extended hours owing to the fact that they are to be paid time and a half for working the extended hours. They are not at a disadvantage financially, but there is something which you would have to take into consideration and it is that their domestic affairs at home will be set back when you take them away from home more than a reasonable amount of time. Their families are denied the assistance which they should give them at home.

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

OFFENCES AGAINST THE PERSON (AMENDMENT) BOX

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 5 be taken as the next Order of the Day inter 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 now stands in the name of the Honourable and Learned Premier To move the First Reading of a Bill to amend the Offences Against the Person Act, 1868,

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am asking leave to take charge of this Bill in the absence of the Honourable and Learned Premier.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

The Hon. Minister of Education is asking the leave of the House to take charge of this Bill which stands in the name of the Honourable and Learned Premier, and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted. (Alter a pause). There being no objection, leave is granted. The Hon. Minister may proceed.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I take it that that Order is a Bill which has Just been circulated, I have not had the opportunity even to open it. In that case, Sir, would I be doing justice to myself to say \"yes\" or \"No\" when dealing with this Bill now? I WAS paying attention to the other business which was going on, and therefore I did not have the opportunity even to open this Bill. I do not think it is fair to hon. members to ask them to deal with this Bill now.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, on a point of order. I am not now taking the point which the hon. member is taking. We are now to take the First Reading of this Bill because we did not take it last week. The First Reading of a Bill is purely formal; when we proceed to the Second Read-ing of the Bill then the hon. member may make his protest if he still feels like doing that. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a first time.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, that is all right, but it appeared to me that the hon. member was going on with the Second Reading of this Bill.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Let me assure the hon. member that it did not appear so to me.

Mr. SMITH:

All right, Sir.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time. In doing so, Sir, I should like first of all to draw the attention of the House to this matter. This is a Bill to amend the Offences against the Person Act, 1868. We are not therefore creating any new offences and that is to be made absolutely clear. Lest it be said when this Bill comes into force that the Government is doing something which it should not do, I want to make it absolutely clear that no new offences are being created; but we are giving the Judges the power to exercise their discretion and to apply flogging by the "cat" and when in their judgment that is necessary. May I continue by saying that if you were to look at page 2 of the "Objects and Reasons" of the Bill you will see that this is what it says

"Consequent upon the increase in crime in recent years and with a view to discouraging crimes of violence it is considered desirable --

(1) to remove the present restrictions on the imposition of whipping in certain cases so as to include all males, not only those above the age of 16.

(2) to authorise the court to impose whipping for other serious offences against the Act, namely.

(i) administering poison with intent to murder;

(ii) destroying or damaging a building with gunpowder with intent to commit murder;

(iii) attempting to administer poison or shooting or attempting to shoot or drown with intent to murder;

(iv) attempting by any other means to commit murder;

(v) setting fire to a vessel or ship with intent to commit murder;

(vi) wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm;

(vii) maliciously administering poison so as to endanger life;

(viii) maliciously administering poison with intent to injure;

(ix) rape;

(x) indecent assault on a female;

(xi) procuration;

(xii) procuring the defilement of a woman or girl by threats or fraud or administering drugs;

(xiii) carnal knowledge of a girl under the age of thirteen years;

(xiv) carnal knowledge of a girl above the age of thirteen and under the age of sixteen;

(xv) the permitting by a householder of the defilement of a young girl on his premises."

All of those without exception are the offences for which in future, judges may order the application of the "cat" to guilty persons. There are, of course, some other offences for which, under the old Act, the Court may order a whipping and these offences will stand. These offences are:-

(a) attempting to choke, suffocate or strangle another person in order to commit or to assist anyone to commit any indictable offence;

(b)

(c) any offence where it is proved that a knife, razor or any other sharp or pointed instrument made of steel, iron, brass or metal and likely to do grievous bodily harm was used;

(d)

(e) carnal knowledge or attempted carnal knowledge of a girl under the age of ten years;

(f)

1.35 p.m.

(d) sending letters threatening to murder any person;

(e)

(f) detaining a child under the age of fourteen years with intent to deprive the parent or guardian of possession of such child.

(g)

Now I would like to say, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that the whole community will be relieved with this step which we are asking the Legislature to take today. In recent months, all of us, without exception, have been alarmed at the increase in crime and violence which already tends to damage the fair name of this Island. The community must therefore at all times reserve to itself the right to defend itself

against the wrong-doer, and to make sure that those who obey the law are entitled to protection of the law. The Government is therefore introducing this amendment to the Offences Against the Person Act today.

There is no doubt that every right thinking person in this country, members of this Party and members of other Parties and the whole community, will uphold Government in this step, because if there is one thing that all of us on both sides of this House are aware of, it is that the rule of law should be upheld in this Island, and people should be able to walk about this Island without fear of being attacked, should be able even to sleep in their houses at night with-out fear of being robbed and their properties broken into. This is an elementary democratic right which all citizens who live under the rule of law should be entitled to enjoy; therefore it is a community right and privilege and indeed duty, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to protect itself against wrong-doers and those who wish to destroy what others are build-ing up. I am certain that I need not labour the point that it is only those who are found guilty of these offences who need fear the cat; the innocent and those who are not guilty need have no fear, and I wish to make it clear finally that no new offences have been created. These offences already existed in the 1868 Act where the Court may order a flogging or whipping; so we can confidently expect to see a diminution of this kind of crime against the person, indeed of all crimes against the person, and an easing of the tension which now tends to grip large sections of the community, because of this unwarranted lawlessness.

I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time. Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.

Mr. MOTTLEY:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, although this Bill has only been put in our hands today, we on this side of the Table wholeheartedly agree with it and support its introduction, and feel that it is long overdue. I have been wondering for some time now why Judges have not been ordering the cat, and I have not been able to get behind the reason, although this law was here. Bringing this Bill does not mean that the law was not here, but you are now revising it. I do not think that the Minister introducing this Bill was strong enough. We feel that the commission of crime in Barbados today undoubtedly merits the using of the cat under the provisions set out here.

The Hon. Minister says that no new offences have been created, but I should like to say that they should be new offences included here. I do not want to weary this House, but there are two things which in my opinion should be put in, because they can so easily happen, and the Minister will agree with this. The cat can be ordered for a person attempting to destroy a ship, but what about a plane? We read nearly every day of instances where somebody has attempted to destroy a plane, and it should not be argued that it cannot happen here. The second suggestion is that of destroying a car. The Hon. Minister knows that there are people who can rig a bomb to a starting motor right in your garage, and you can be destroyed. I feel that these two pro-visions should be included in the Bill, not that I am attempting to hold this up. I do not know if the Hon. Minister can, with the assistance of the Clerks who are legally trained, insert these two. I do not think that anyody in this country would attempt to say that these two should not be newly created offences under the Offences Against the Person Act. As it stands here, the Court can order a flogging for administering poison with intent to murder, destroying or damaging a building with gunpowder with intent to commit murder, attempting to administer poison or shooting or attempting to shoot or drown with intent to murder, but it would not be easy to convict a person for destroying a plane or a car unless you can prove that A or B was the person who was going to drive. If the son or daughter of a person drove the car and got killed, you would have to prove premeditation against the particular person that was killed.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I believe that more people come here by plane than by ship, and if mis is to be brought up to date, I think that you should include \"a plane\". I do not think the hon. member would object to that. We on this side

would under normal circumstances object to having this Bill read a first and second time and passed, but under the circumstances and with conditions as they are in Barbados, we whole heartedly support the Government and hope that judges will, taking cognisance of the fact that crime is so rampant in Barbados and there is such a lawless element, see that it is administered as a deterrent to people carrying out any of these acts. I therefore put the suggestion to the Minister and would like to hear his comments.

Mr. LYNCH:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I also welcome the introduction of this Bill, having regard to the present wave of lawlessness which has beset this Island. There are certain crimes which are becoming more and more popular which in 1868 when this law was formulated did not have to be considered at all I am wondering. Sir, in all seriousness, why it should be mentioned here \"indecent assault on a female\", and whether knowing our society as we do, and having regard to the cases that from time to time come before our Courts, this should not read \"indecent assault on a male or female\". I say that in all seriousness. Nowa-days those of us who are fathers know that we have to be as careful with boys of tender age as we are with girls under the age of consent. 1.45 p.m.

Any school master knows this and this is not 1868. I am putting it to members of this House in all seriousness that this offence is gaining ground in our society and I am asking that the words \"indecent assault to male or female\" be added to the section.

We are all aware that with the increase of the tourist industry that there are many of the strangers within our gates who have brought crimes against another, and I say that we should not blind our selves to the fact that boys need our attention just as well as girls. It is our duty to protect all of our young people, not only girls, but also boys from assaults of that nature; therefore, in all seriousness I would suggest that the law be amended to include male or female for the reason aforesaid that this is an evil which is becoming very prevalent.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

The question is.....

Mr. MOTTLEY:

No, Mr. Deputy Speaker, you cannot put the question yet; I think the hon. member has made some points which the hon. Minister should answer.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Let me make it clear. After the last hon. member spoke, nobody said anything or expressed any desire to speak and the Chair has the right to put the question. If the Hon. Minister cares to reply, I will use my discretion now

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Sir, I think that the points made by the two hon. members who have spoken are very interesting and

worthy of consideration; but at the same time I must point out that the object of this Bill was not to create new offences but to take offences already listed in the 1868 Act and to provide more stringent punishment in the form of flogging too.

I go further. We are dealing with Offences against the Person and we have, although the Bill is not before us, an-other Bill dealing with offences. I will not undertake to say at this point whether the insertion of \"male\" would be right here, but I am certain that the point is covered by the section which applies to the equivalent of a person administering poison with intent to murder.

Then, thirdly, the hon. members on that side will know that it is not the custom for the Government to accept on-the-spot amendments. This Bill has been very carefully drafted by the Crown Law Officers and they are responsible for guiding Government in matters of this sort. As a matter of fact, you cannot have much manoeuvre of policy; you have to rely on the lawyers to guide you; therefore, I would hesitate to accept an on-the-spot amendment for the reasons I have made. But most certainly the points raised by the hon. Junior member for the City would be given the greatest amount of consideration.

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

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

Clauses 1 to 5 were called separately and passed. Clause 6 was called, it reads as follows :-

\"Section 65 of the principal Act is hereby amended by the deletion of the words \"under the age of sixteen years\".

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg to move that Clause 6 stand part.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

Mr. Chairman, I am supposed to see a little further than other hon. members on this matter and there is one thing which strikes me as regards this Clause. I do not know if the term \"the permitting by a householder of the defilement of a young girl on his premises\", is used.

I want to know if there is any definition of \"young girl\" I do know that the Act was amended. It is not a question of logic and the Hon. Minister for Community Development would know that this may be a paradise for some person.

I would also like to point out at this stage something as regards what the hon. junior member for the City mentioned about males. In 1868, that is in the nineteenth century, the social structure was quite different from what it is now. Since that time many things have happened. I have had com-plaints from young boys--and you have good looking boys just as well as good looking girls --who have been as-

saulted by adults. What I know I say. Today there are many good looking boys who are assaulted as well as good looking girls. 1.55 p.m.

There is one other point which I would like to mention. In the case of wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm, this is something which may arise. Sometimes a man may be convicted of wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm, and it may be a case where he has been acting purely in self-defence, but his retaliation might have been too much. One wonders if, in circumstances like this, especially when the act is not done with a knife or any other sharp-edged weapon, where a man has a piece of wood in his hands and he is attacked and he retaliates out of proportion and he is convicted of the offence of wounding with anything - I am wondering if the penalty is justifiable.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, it is left to the discretion of the judges as to whether or not the whipping shall be applied as a part of the penalty. We have been very care-ful not to make this whipping mandatory. In any particular case, assuming that the case is well defended, the Judge will take into account the circumstances arising out of the evidence as has been put before him, and I think that any Barbadian judge will know whether or not to inflict the severest penalty. The Judges have a discretion.

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

Mr. Chairman, this is a very good Bill and it is a necessary one too, but I may be forgiven If I ask some necessary things. In the case of some of these offences, I think that the whipping should be mandatory,

(ASIDES).

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I am appealing to hon. members on my left to control their asides. The Reporter cannot hear well.

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

Mr. Chairman, I am not speaking in a derogatory manner of any Judge. Far from it There is

absolutely no intention of speaking in any derogatory manner of any judge, but you will know that, in relation to some of the offences which are set out here, the judges have the same discretion as regards whipping and still it is not exercised. That may be for some reason. I feel that the whip-ping should be mandatory and not optional.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Here again if that were so, we would be curring across a very vital principle. You cannot order the judges to do anything. The judges are in charge of the Courts.

Mr. CARMICHAEL:

You cannot order the judges; if a thing is law, it is law. We are not at loggerheads now, al-though we may be academic. Legislation cannot order a judge. If an Act says that if anyone is found guilty of committing perjury, the punishment must be two years' imprisonment, what is the difference between that and saying that a person who is found guilty of committing rape should be given five years along

with a whipping?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

We are talking at cross purposes. The hon. member said that for some of these offences whipping should be made mandatory. If you make whipping mandatory, then you leave the position with no manoeuvre for the hard cases which the hon. member has mentioned; whereas if you make it discretionary, you leave the Judges with a discretion which they can exercise I think it is much better to give the judges a wide discretion in this matter. I think you should let them know that this is the area in which they can operate where these offences are concerned. Obviously, if the judge finds that in a particular case there are degrees of guilt, then that judge will know what to do. As I have said. Sir, I think it is better to give the Judges a discretion to be exercised and let the judges apply the law rather than compel them to do something and not give them any freedom in certain cases.

The question that Clause 6 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 7 and 8 were called and passed;

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report the passing of this Bill in Committee.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:

I beg to second that.

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

The CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER who took the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON in each case, the Bill was end a third time and passed.

2.05p.m.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Sitting be now suspended until 2.45 p.m.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:

I beg to second that

The question was put and resolved in the / affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the Sitting accordingly.

2.06p.m.

Mr. LOWE:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I observe that there is no quorum, and ask that you direct the Clark to ring the bell.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

I think the hon. member. Let the bell be ring.

The bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.

THE RACING SERVICE BUSINESS (REGISTRATION OF PREMISES) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1965

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Order No. 4 stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. John; to move the first reading of a Bill to amend the Racing Service Business (Registration of Premises) Act, 1964,

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am asking leave for the Minister of Trade to take charge of this Order in the absence of the Hon. Premier.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

The Hon. Minister is asking leave for the Minister of Trade to take charge of this Order. In the absence of any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a first time.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, in moving the second reading of this Bill, I should like to inform the House that according to an understanding which the Racing Service had with the Government and the Barbados Turf Club, they were not supposed to open their Racing Booths after mid-day during the time we are having races locally, nor are they supposed to accept bets on Barbados races; but one of the Racing Services has not honoured the agreement between itself and the Turf Club. Now this acts as a disadvantage to the other Racing Services because they tend to lose their clientele. After all if one Racing Service commits a breach of faith and opens, the betting public obviously would tend to go to this Racing Service, and if this is done once or twice, they would remain there and the other Racing Services would suffer as a result. The licence as you know for one and all is \$12,000 a year, and some of

them have been losing their clientele.

On the other hand the Turf Club has been at a great disadvantage. One can note the prizes paid today. During the last races the highest prize money for a Field Sweep was \$307 as against \$1,000 paid years ago, and last year it reached as high as \$700. Now this is as a direct result of some of the Racing Services keeping their doors open during races. I do not think that this alone accounts for the reduction in the turnover at the Turf Club, as Bingo plays a very important part also. As a matter of fact, if Bingo continues, I predict that the Turf Club will have to close down; but no taxes are paid on Bingo, while the Government used to collect over \$120,000 a year from the Barbados Turf Club as taxes. We are not getting that today because of the reduction in the Field Sweep. For the last meeting the first prize was \$14,000 as against \$28,000 which was formerly paid, the operation of Bingo and the opening of the betting shops during the time that the Barbados Turf Club is holding a race meeting are responsible. This is the first step to assist the Barbados Turf Club. Over the years this club has assisted the Government by way of taxation to the tune of \$120,000 a year. In addition, the Turf Club directly employs about 500 people and there are several other hundreds of people indirectly employed by the Turf Club, There are the breeders of the race horses, the people who employ others at the shops where horse owners buy their feeds, the drug stores; all these people play an important part in our community, and the Barbados Turf Club is a very important service in this community by way of employment; and if something is not done to assist the Barbados Turf Club, it means that 500 people would have to be looking for work directly, besides the others who are indirectly employed on account of the Barbados Turf Club.

There are about eighty horses in Barbados around the Turf Club itself, and each of these horses has a groom;

then there is a trainer, and local jockeys. There are people employed to keep the track in proper condition and so on; so if the Barbados Turf Club is closed, it means that all these people will have to look for work. This bit of legislation, therefore, is our first step in seeing that the Turf Club keeps its doors open, the people who are employed will not be out of work, and more people will be provided with work by assisting the Turf Club.

Our next step will be to deal with Bingo which we will do when the licence for Bingo expires, I think, at the end of December, As a matter of fact, I can foresee the time when Government will have to take control of gambling on a whole. When we build our Sports Stadium, we are planning to have a Gambling Committee, and all forms of gambling will have to be under the control and supervision of that Gambling Committee that forms part of the Committee of Management, so to speak, of the Sports Stadium. 2.44 p.m.

This is a provision which my colleague would soon be bringing down to this Chamber. We are not satisfied now that we know where all the money in Bingo is going, We are not satisfied that the public is getting its value of Bingo, and that all the money which is supposed to be going into charity is going, I do not want to say any more at this stage. If it is something else which the Hon. Minister for Community Development wishes to let the cat out of the bag, he would do so. We are not satisfied that everything is on all fours where Bingo in Barbados is concerned and that the money is spend in the right direction. Some of the avenues in which this money finds itself are not charitable avenues. We are considering what can be done - not that we want to stop it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is an amendment to the Racing Service Business (Registration of Premises) Act, 1964, and I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, in seconding this Bill, I should like to say that I compliment the Hon. Minister who has just moved the second reading of the Bill. He has not overstated the case because, in so far as the Barbados Turf Club is concerned, I would like to make it clear that it provides one of the few healthy types of sport in this community and we all know what is happening to that type of sport. I think the Barbados Turf Club does more in that respect to provide healthy out-of-door sport than the other such clubs and racing services. I therefore would not like to see it suffer any inconveniences or loss. Bingo today without being obligated to anything, without being charged a tax or being charged a fee, attracts a large crowd; years go and years come and it is played, and charity seems to benefit on the sideline. But how far?

The day has come when the Barbados Turf Club must either run a Bingo or be granted certain concessions to sell their tickets abroad or be given some form of assistance. The people who carry on Bingo should be charged a levy or we should impose a levy on Bingo to go to the Barbados Turf Club.

The Hon. Minister has not gone as far as that point, but he said that it should be subjected to the Barbados Turf Club; but the question is how can it be done. Anyhow, Barbados is not far from the day when it should have a National Lottery and part of the proceeds from the National Lottery would go to the Barbados Turf Club, that is to say, a certain percentage of the profits would go to that club. If the Barbados Turf Club must carry on, it must be assisted to some extent.

Mr. HUSBANDS:

Sir, this Bill is very simple and I do not understand why should the hon. member get up and give praise to the Barbados Turf Club. If it has been discovered that certain shops which are carrying on a racing service are interrupting the business of the Barbados Turf Club, the law should take steps to intervene, and if you think it is necessary, restrict those businesses which tend to make the Barbados Turf Club lose money and thus take away money from the pockets of the Barbados Treasury.

This is purely a business move. There is nothing to laud about in a matter of this sort -- absolutely nothing. No hon. member in this House would vote against this measure; he would not be a good businessman if he did so.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The hon. member who is speaking does not seem to have read the Objects and Reasons of this Bill. This is a measure to assist the Barbados Turf Club.

Mr. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Hon. Minister is accusing me, or attempting to do so, of not reading the Objects and Reasons of the Bill. As a matter of fact, I have read the Bill more than once. What is the Government seeking to do by this Bill? The Government is seeking to stop some side shops from attracting people who would otherwise do their betting at the Garrison in the Field Sweep when the

Barbados Turf Club is holding their race meeting. That is the object and reason of the Bill. There is nothing philosophic about the Bill. Why praise the existence of the Barbados Turf Club? I would not set up and say that, because if the Barbados Turf Club had not been bringing money into the Treasury, we would not be bringing this Bill. All that is involved in this is in the drafting of the Bill. This is a matter for the lawyers. There is nothing in this to say that you are praising the Barbados Turf Club, As a matter of fact, racing is the sport of kings, and people like me do not go very often to races because I have very little money with which to play about. I may buy a Sweepstake ticket now and then. It is the majority of people who feel that they can get something for little who gamble.

As I have said. Sir, I have read this Bill more than once, and it does seem as if the side shops are affecting the intake or taxation which the Government gets from the Barbados Turf Club and the Government has a right to do something about it; but that is nothing to raise a hue or cry about. I say that if the Barbados Turf Club puts money into the Barbados Treasury, I am interested in that: and if the Government in its wisdom has seen that because some side shops are taking away some of the business of the Barbados Turf Club, therefore, it sees fit that it should enact a law that they should cease to exist or to operate on such days as are known to be race days by the Barbados Turf Club, well, that is a sensible move on the part of the Government and I believe that any set of people calling themselves a Government ought to know that It is absolutely and perfectly elementary and nothing to pat yourself on the shoulder for at all. It is not worth anybody wasting any time and saying anything more about. 3.05 p.m.

Mr. GODDARD:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is quite obvious that the last speaker did not have to tell us what he told us. He likes dollars and cents going into the Treasury and that is all he is interested in. I go along with the Government that horse racing in Barbados is an attraction not only for local people but for visitors. We have had horse racing being conducted here for as long as I can remember, and all of us who attend the races enjoy them, I know that there are people who attend every race meeting and they do not get any money; they just enjoy attending the races. People would hate to see horse racing fall through in Barbados because of the lack of Government support. If the Government finds that competition from other forms of gambling is having an adverse effect on horse racing in Barbados, then I commend the Government for taking steps to correct that.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is only a beginning and I am wondering if it will increase the prices by very much. Horse racing in Barbados employs quite a few hundred people all the year round, and it is something which we have always enjoyed. You remove horse racing in Barbados for a year and you will see how glum Barbados will become. Let us take Bingo; you have people who play it, but there is nothing in it. I think that the Government should go further in this matter and take steps to see that horse racing is put back on the pinnacle where it has been in the past. What we are doing here will not be sufficient to bring back horse racing to where it was in the past.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I think that there was a Gambling Committee supervising the playing of Bingo, I am really shocked to hear that the Government is not satisfied that charities are benefiting to the extent which it was expected they would benefit. There is a Gambling Committee, and that Committee should see to it that charities are benefiting to a proper extent. I am not defending anything in any way. I am not a member of the Committee in relation to Bingo, but I felt that the Government had things in hand when it issued permits to these organizations to carry on their operations. I do hope that the fears which are

expressed are not as great as they appear) to be. A Gambling Committee was set up two years ago and that Committee reported to the Government. That information is somewhere in the files in the Ministry. A recommendation was made by the Committee to the Government that all forms of Gambling should be under the control of the Government. There was the question of the sale of premium bonds whereby a person could purchase them from the Post Office and other authorised places; you had these \$5 bonds. People never lost their money, but they did not get any interest on it. What happened was that the interest formed a prize on the money invested. We recommended that the money should be used for development purposes and the interest on that money should be placed into the Treasury, and the individuals who held the bonds could reimburse themselves with these funds. A worker could put in his four \$5 bills a week and have a chance of winning \$85,000; no interest would be paid on it, but it would be held by the Government and utilised in Capital Expenditure or in other ways during the year.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Report of that Committee is up there in the Ministry; it followed a meeting held by the then Leader at the Government at Harrison College. That was just one filing; but we went further and tried to encourage children in the habit of thrift. We want to get going a sump scheme such as that in operation in England whereby \$5, \$10 and \$15 stamps were secured for certain purposes. In schools today they form cooperative clubs and they collect these funds.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, there is a certain amount of gambling with all of us. It is of no use saying that it is otherwise, but what we want to do is to control the gambling. We do not want to make gamblers of people in such wise that they do not want to do any work. We must cater to certain characteristics which are in people. I am sure that the Government will have to come down here soon with some proposal for rendering further assistance to the Barbados Turf Club. As the Hon. Minister of Health, Housing, Local Government and Community Government, has said, even if you have to give the Turf Club a grant or subsidy out of the projects which you will be running in future, the Barbados Turf Club will have to be assisted. 3.15 p.m.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not know much about gambling, I would gamble if I am sure I am going to win all the time, but I hear that your chances are one in a thousand, and if I cannot get a berry once out of a thousand times, I do not think I will worry with it. Now the Hon. Minister said that if these racing services are allowed to remain, the Turf Club will have to fold up, but I am wondering if that is really true. We have only heard about these racing services yesterday, comparatively speaking, while the Turf Club was operating before I was born. Do you mean to say that these little shops which have just come along can run the Turf Club out of existence so quickly? I wonder if the Minister is overstating the case for the Turf Club. The Turf Club must make up its mind to face this competition, and should be strong enough to withstand these racing services and not threaten the Government with closing down and putting the workers out of work. By all means the Government can safeguard them when they are convinced that they need it, but not because these people have now established themselves. Whatever the Turf Club is losing, the Government should be able to get through taxing these services to suit, and then somebody will have to run out; but do not tell me that because they have just come that the Turf Club is going to fold up.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, on A point of order, I would like to draw to the hon. member's attention that this has been brought down because of certain representations which have been made to Government within the last three weeks.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER; Let me make this clear. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph was giving his point of view. That is therefore not a point of order. The Hon. Ministers who spoke will in their reply be able to deal with the points raised by the hon. member.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

The hon. member intimated that there is no necessity to bring this now because nothing has happened yet, and I am pointing out that the time has come for this.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Let the hon. junior member for St. Joseph proceed.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Ministers will get up and make points and say whatever they like, and do not like other members to make theirs, I did not misrepresent either one of them. They want me to believe that if something is not done now, the Turf Club will have to fold up, and I am saying that it is not true. (A VOICE He does not know.) I hear a voice saying I do not know, but they do not know either. Look and see who are the owners of the Turf Club and who are gambling. I am not able to buy a horseshoe, furthermore a horse foot. I will say that if the Turf Club is losing money, you should tax these other people to suit, and it will right itself. I am not against the Turf Club and will do everything to protect it; but at the same time, because the Government has a big stick in the corner, they should not take it up and use it. I believe these other side places must be employing people too, though the numbers might not be as great. What is the reason for issuing licences to people? If the Government sees it is going to be unfair, they should stop it. The Government should have some proviso so that the Turf Club is not interfered with, but it cannot protect one and not the other.

It is a fact, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that the Supermarkets are killing the small shopkeepers, but no protection is being offered to them, but in this case they can see. There are poor hungry people with their homes and land at stake peeping into Glendairy, but there is nobody to say anything for them.

The Minister also says that the Government is going to tighten up on Bingo. If the Government feels that these people who are running Bingo are getting away with murder, they should see that they do not, If it is not being run for charity, the organizations should be taxed and the taxes put to charity. I am not going to say why you are going to tighten up on them yet, because it will prevent the Government from acting. When they have acted, I will let the cat out of the bag. 3.25 p.m.

The Government can do everything as far as I understand. I have heard it said many times that the only thing which a Government cannot do is to turn a man into a woman and a woman into a man. The Government, therefore can say that if the Bingo people are not contributing to charity, they can stop it. They can do that if they are satisfied that the Bingo people are not doing the right thing.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS; Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I have heard a lot of misrepresentations from the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to the effect that I said that I cannot see

what the Bingo people are doing with the money. What I did say was that the Government was not satisfied that all the money supposed to be going into charity from Bingo was going into it. Let the hon. member say what I said and not what he thinks. If he was sleeping, he should have been awake.

Mr. SMITH:

There again, that is not a point of order.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

I say, the point of order is made. Let the hon. member proceed.

Mr. SMITH:

The Hon. Minister in charge of this Bill has the right to reply. He can make his notes and then get up and reply. It is not fair for him to be getting up every now and then on a point of order.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

I have said that the point of order is made; therefore I would not expect the hon. member who should know better to comment on that any further. Let the hon. member continue with the debate.

Mr. SMITH:

I cannot carry on because something down there is keeping noise.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

I am listening to the hon. member very carefully. I have heard no noise.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I was making the point that now the opportunity has come for the poor, little hungry fellow with his 25 cents to spend it and get a little \$500, the Government is now trying to stop Bingo.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

I rise on a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker. No one on this side has said that the Government is going to stop the hungry fellow from investing his 25 cents and getting his little \$500. I do not think it is fair for the hon. member to accuse the Government of this. What I did say was that we were not satisfied that the money was going to charity and we were going to have some control over it. I did not say that the Government was going to close down Bingo, but what the Government intends to do is to stop the racket which is going on in Bingo.

Mr. SMITH:

Now, Sir, gambling should be competition. It should not be any airtight thing. If we are gambling, we are gambling. You get a type of man who draws his week's pay and then goes and sits down in a ring and gambles every cent away, forgetting that he has a wife and children at home. I do not see why you should be protecting any gambling organisation at all. The gamblers should protect themselves. If the Bingo people are reducing the amount of prizes or the amount of money that goes into the Barbados Turf Club, what the Barbados Turf Club has to do is to reduce their sweepstake tickets to 25 cents and let it be a competition among them, I am sure the Government would not lose if it goes about it in the right way. The strongest will win. An old established firm should not allow a little pettifogging people to run

it out of business. The Barbados Turf Club should be there to stay.

We can only say that we are in favour of the Barbados Turf Club and do everything possible to keep it going, but at the same time we should not penalise others. I cannot tell the Government how to run their business: but if the Government goes about it in the right way, everybody would live. If they want the berry to go around just as they distribute it in their ranks, it would not go around; but let them shake the tree so that the berry would drop into everybody's hand.

Imagine you are going to ask these side shops to shut on all the days that the Barbados Turf Club is running races! I do not know, but these people must do their business. If it is that these people who run the side shops carry on betting on race horses belonging to the Barbados Turf Club, see to it that they do not carry on any side betting on the horses belonging to the Barbados Turf Club. Allow the side shops to carry on as they were carrying on, but do not call on them to shutdown. When you call on them to close down, they would be closing their business to the Turf Club and all the other places with which they may be doing business. The Hon. Minister has not told me how these people run their business; but I would say to him: 'see to it that they do not sell any tickets as regards the horses belonging to the Barbados Turf Club.' In the Objects and Reasons to this Bill, you are asking them to shut their business on the same day that the Barbados Turf Club is running their races.

I would be glad if the Hon. Minister would see it in that light, see if something cannot be done to prevent item from taking part in the Turf Club, but let them open as usual

Mr. CORBIN:

Mr. Deputy Speaker. I did not intend to speak on this Bill but as I have heard so many things said by other hon. members, I rise to my feet to make this point.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, in the Objects and Reasons it is stated:-

Consequent upon the decline in sales of tickets by the Barbados Turf Club due to competition by racing service shops on days on which races are held by the Barbados Turf Club, it has been considered desirable that such shops should not accept or negotiate bets on races held by that Club, and that such shops should be closed for business at twelve o'clock noon on any day on which races are held by the Barbados Turf Club.

2. This Bill therefore seeks to amend the Racing Service Business (Registration of Premises) Act, 1964. accordingly.

3.

4. The Bill makes it an offence for the proprietor or any person employed at registered premises to accept bets on races held by the Barbados Turf Club, It is further provided that the proprietor will be guilty of an offence for failing to close such premises at twelve o'clock noon on any day on which such races are held. Where a person is convicted of either of the offences created by the Bill the Comptroller of Customs will be empowered to cancel or refuse to renew a certificate of registration in respect of the said premises.

5.

3.35 p.m.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, as far as I have seen, the Government is not trying to stop other people's activities such as TV Bingo or whatever it is. The Government is only stipulating that on such days when races of the Barbados Turf Club are taking place, these people who are side betters must stop their activities at a particular hour on those particular days when the Barbados Turf Club are carrying on their races. These other people have the privilege of carrying on their betting on the other days. This side betting is what is preventing money from going into the till of the Barbados Turf Club for the benefit of the Government as was the case before. The Barbados Turf Club has been a great necessity to this Government from the time that races were being conducted. It is a help to the economy of this island, and the Government has now seen some ways and means to cause the Barbados Turf Club to continue their operations as before.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, if we were to look back a few years ago, we would find that the Barbados Turf Club used to pay out as much as \$52,000 odd for the first prize and now they are only paying out \$14,000 odd. Therefore, Sir, that shows that the operations of the Club are on the decline. That is so because of the various pools which are allowed to operate at the same time that the Barbados Turf Club are conducting their races. What I would advise the Government to do is this: The Government should tax every one of these betting places and allow the money which is going in the way of charity to be controlled by the Government; in that way the institutions which dispense charity would have to get money from the Government. I am sure, Sir, that as soon as you begin to tax these places, that will relieve the Turf Club. I repeat, Sir, that the Turf Club is a necessity to this country. What would we experience when the season comes around and we do not have any horse racing in Barbados? Horse racing is something which we all like and I think it should be carried on in the best way. We would not like any of these things to stop horse racing in Barbados; we know that thousands of dollars are derived from the operation of the Barbados Turf Club. You will find that all kinds of liquor are being sold and a lot of money is circulated as a result of horse racing. I do not see that there is any reason whatsoever for criticising a Bill of this sort I am saying. Sir, that we should allow the horse racing to be carried on and stop all the other side betters when horse racing is being conducted on a particular day. These other people have their chance to carry on. Mr. Speaker, I compliment the Government for taking a step such as this at this time.

Mr. LYNCH:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, whatever might be the fate of the Barbados Turf Club, is more or less immaterial to me. I am not here to defend the Barbados Turf Club which may carry itself to destruction because of the lack of imagination. What I am here to do is to correct any wrong impression which might have been conveyed by the Hon. Minister when he made reference to the Service Clubs. I would like to have the name of the one Club with which I have some kind of connection, dissociated from some of the remarks made by the Hon. Minister. With this particular Club, we see that a quarterly Balance Sheet is published in the island; we cannot make any charitable donations unless we make application to the Gambling Committee. We have several applications - as a matter of fact, I can think of several people who will benefit from the operations of this Club, and I have no doubt that the Gambling Committee will pass these sums. We see that the people of this island are given hundreds of dollars by way of Christmas cheer. The Lions Club, if I may call the name, does not take any percentage for travel abroad for any of

our members. Anyone who travels abroad does so at his own expense and, as I have said, the quarterly Balance Sheet is published in the newspaper. Frequent returns have to be made to the Gambling Committee as to how the money which we collect is disbursed.

On the last occasion there was an injury caused to a woman as a result of the shaft of a cart puncturing her face and dislocating various organs; that caused us over \$9,000 in hospitalisation fees alone. We are now actively engaged, as one of the Ministers is aware, in donating to the Government of Barbados a Library which costs something like \$51,000. That is the way in which the money is collected and disbursed at the Lions Club's expense. We have already erected -- and it is good for hon. members to know -- a school for the Blind which cost over \$23,000. These things must be known by the public. I really would not like all the Service Clubs to be lumped together into one and the finger of suspicion being pointed at them all. One of them must be exempt. If the Minister can deny tills I would like to hear him do it. I could not, in fairness, hear of the disintegration of the Service Clubs without seeking to have an exception made of the one with which I have tenuous connections. We collect money through Bingo, but none of the money which we collect is given for the administration of our club. None of the money is spent on trips for executive members of our club. This club is conducted for charity and these necessary details are submitted to the Gambling Committee which in-variably will consent to such distribution; it is in that way that we start on several major projects. We have several major projects in hand which will enhance the society in which this Service Club happens to operate. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would be glad if anybody who is making any strictures or any hint of certain suspicions which may attach to certain Service Clubs in this island - I would be glad if the Hon. Minister could find it possible to dissociate the Lions Club from the blanketing suspicions which have been mooted.

Mr. COWARD:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I wish to add my voice to those of hon. members who have already spoken in support of this Bill. 3.45 p.m.

I feel Mr. Deputy Speaker, that this Bill is one step in the right direction. I am not a turfite; I do not even go to races, neither am I here to defend the Turf Club; but what I am concerned about is the revenue which the Turf Club brings in from year to year, and if there is any barrier which will prevent the Government Treasury from receiving the amount of money it should get, I feel that that barrier should be removed. We have got to consider that the Turf Club is a profitable business to this Island; it employs quite a number of workers and we are concerned with the amount of revenue which it brings in from year to year to help us carry through our development projects and so on in this Island. I do not subscribe to the view of hon. members who feel that we should not in any way prevent side shops from making a living, neither am I here to prevent them from making a living but I will go further than the Minister and say that on the days when we have racing in Barbados, these side shops should not be allowed to open at all.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Deputy Speaker, from what I have heard from hon. members, there are some I can appreciate and some which I cannot appreciate, I can appreciate the points made by the hon. junior member for Bridgetown, because that hon. member knows only too well that I am not referring to the Lions Club. He knows that the Lions run their Bingo reasonably well and I have nothing against them; so he can

wipe out any fear which he may have as to the Lions Bingo. I am not supposed to come and say what information I have as to where some of the Bingo money is going. As I have said, the Government is not satisfied that all of the Bingo money which should be going into charity is really going into charity. The hon. member knows too well that the Government is aware of what the Lions are doing with their Bingo money. We know of the Blind School and of contributions which they make to other charitable organisations; we know of the lady we have had to send to Canada for plastic surgery and that they have spend \$9,000 Can. This is the sort of service we can appreciate. But what I am saying is that the Government is not satisfied about the manner in which the money that should be spent is spent by some of these Service Clubs. Every week you can see something being done by the Lions; so the hon. member should be satisfied with the points I have made.

Mr. LYNCH:

On a point of order, I was not, unfortunately, in my place when the Hon. Minister made what strictures he did; so I felt it incumbent upon me to see that the name of Lions is dissociated from any finger of suspicion.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

As far as this is concerned, the Hon. Minister and the hon. junior member for Bridgetown can say they are on all fours.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Now I can compliment other hon. members for what they have said, and I think my colleague, the hon. senior member for St. Andrew, has made one of the best speeches he has made when he spoke on this Bill today; but I cannot associate myself with the absolute nonsense uttered by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph who reminds me of a passage of Scripture which says \"Forgive them, O my Father, for they know not what they do.\" I have to forgive him, because he knows not what he says.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

Where is that found?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

In the first chapter of the Edwards' gospel. Now the hon. member talked about stopping these little shops from making a \"berry\". He does not know that it is the racing services that recommended this bit of legislation today, because they made an agreement with the Turf Club and the Government not to open on the days when we were having local races. But one shop insisted on opening and committed a breach of the agreement which was made with the Turf Club. Some of them are responsible people and know that if the Turf Club dies they will suffer, because the people who own horses and race them at the Turf Club in Barbados go down to Trinidad, and the pools here are allowed to accept bets on the Trinidad races; so if you do not have Barbadian horses going to Trinidad and Trinidadian horses coming to Barbados, you would have a lack of interest in the races in a particular territory. When Charca went to Trinidad and won the Gold Cup, many people came down to the pools and betted simply because Charca was running; so if they kill the Turf Club in Barbados, they are killing their own business. Just as you should not have certain people who are among us talking garbled nonsense, you have people who are undesirables among the racing services. You always find a black sheep in any flock; we have them in here, I am speaking figuratively, Mr. Deputy Speaker, if I am permitted to use figurative language.

Now the hon. member does not know (that the Turf Club lost \$40,000 last year. Perhaps he does not read the newspaper. When the stake money is reduced and tickets are not sold, and when betting on the pasture is reduced

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

I was saying, Mr. Speaker, that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is not aware of the fact that when the

racetrack services are open in Bridgetown to betting during race days, the money which is spent at the track, and as the hon. senior member for St. Andrew pointed out, even the money spent in rum brings back indirect taxation to Government and every ticket which is sold at the Garrison brings back revenue to the Government, and because of that we are able to give a more efficient social service in this community. 3.55 p.m.

But there again, every thing which is sold by the Barbados Turf Club is taxed and because of the taxation which we get from the Barbados Turf Club, we are able to give more efficient social services to the people. This year, the Barbados Turf Club is only able to give \$120,000 to the Treasury because of reduction in the tickets sold.

Some times, I cannot agree with the hon. junior member for St. Peter, but today I agree with what he said. It is a question of benefit to the greater number of people and we have to represent the Barbados Turf Club because it is of great benefit to the people of Barbados. When the hon. junior member for St. Joseph goes up at the Hospital and see two in a bed, he will go on a public platform and say this and that. Hon. members criticise me for my speaking where the Government is concerned as regards what was happening at the Hospital a few months ago, but I am proud to say that as a result of my frankness, we have been able to get 16 junior doctors at the Hospital, and it is because I have the courage of my convictions. I will ask the hon. member to sit if he does not know or does not have anything to say.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be read a second time.

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

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

Clauses 1 and 2 were called separately and passed. Clause 3 was called.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

I beg to move that Clause 3 stand part.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. SMITH:

Clause 3 A. (1) reads as follows-

"3 A. (1) The proprietor of, or any person employed at any registered premises shall not accept or negotiate any bet on any horse race held under the auspices of the Barbados Turf Club."

That is the point which I tried to make just now. The Clause is telling you that the proprietor of, or any person employed at any registered premises shall not accept or negotiate any bet on any horse race held under the auspices of the Barbados Turf Club. That should end the matter: but you are still telling the same people that they must shut their business at 12 o'clock. That should not be, because there is a possibility that these people operate from overseas. When you ask them to shut at 12 o'clock, you are telling them to close the business which they are carrying on overseas. It may be that they are running their business on racing somewhere else; well then, they would not be able to accept anything from the Barbados Turf Club nor would they be able to carry on their business from overseas.

You say in Clause 3B, (1) No registered premises shall be open for business after twelve o'clock noon on any day on which any horse race is held under the auspices of the Barbados Turf Club.

I do not think that is fair to them. I am not saying anything against the Barbados Turf Club.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman, I have repeatedly said that this closing time at twelve o'clock on the day which the Barbados Turf Club is holding their meeting was agreed upon before, and it is still an agreement between the racing service and the Barbados Turf Club; but, as I stated, this agreement has been observed in the breach, especially by one member of this racing service. The fact remains that they open their doors after twelve o'clock. Who knows what bets they are accepting and what business they are carrying on? If you are investing on overseas racing, there is no direct benefit coming to the people of this country. If you have a dollar and there is a race meeting going on at the Garrison, go up there and spend it where part of it would be a benefit to the people of this country,

I want the hon. Junior member for St. Joseph to understand that we are not doing anything to the Racing Service. We say that they can go on to operate; but on the days which the Barbados Turf Club is holding their race meeting, they must not open their doors after twelve o'clock because when they open their doors after that time, we do not know what business they are doing. We cannot have an inspector at any of these businesses standing up to see what they are doing. If you agree to accept bets during the morning on racing in England or in Trinidad, well, that is all good. This can finish by eleven o'clock. What right have you to open after twelve o'clock? If you bet on horses which are running in Trinidad, there are cases where bets on those races are closed in advance. However, Barbados racing is of benefit to the Barbadian public and we do not see why you should invest on anything but that. If the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is not patriotic, there are hundreds who are patriotic. He may be thinking more of St. Lucia because they are talking about a federation. They are talking about patriotism to those territories and they are not thinking of patriotism to their homeland. We see it in a different light; we see patriotism to Barbados. We think of Barbados first and anybody else after - St. Lucia or any other place.

Mr. SMITH:

Now, Sir, the Hon. Minister said that it is only one particular shop which is not observing this agreement between these people and there is only one shop which is giving trouble. I believe that can be true. If it is only one which has failed to honour the agreement, rather than bringing this Bill, could not the Government warn this particular organisation?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

I rise on a point of order. The Government cannot 'take' action against anybody. 4.05 p.m.

The Government has no authority to ask any Inspector to do anything of that sort.

Mr. SMITH:

Now, Sir, if there are two or three of them and one failed to honour the agreement which has been made, I think that the Government, rather than bring down this Bill, would only have to warn this particular organization or the Gambling Committee. The Government could issue this warning "You have entered into an agreement and you are failing to honour your agreement. If you persist in doing so, we will not be granting you another licence when this one expires." That is all that the Government would have to do. The Government could refuse to issue a licence when the present one expires. If three or four persons were to sign an agreement to do something and one of them is a black sheep, according to what the Hon. Minister has said -well, he knows all about the black sheep - you will only have to rule out the black sheep and that is the end of it. I am submitting that you are not bound to take up the time of the House with a Bill which is just dealing with one organization. The Gambling Committee could fix-it-right. I am quite sure that that particular organization would have to honour the agreement.

The question that Clause 3 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 4 was called and passed.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report the passing of one Bill in Committee.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

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

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

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE TO
THE BARBADOS LIGHT AEROPLANE
CLUB OF A PARCEL OF LAND
SITUATE AT SEAWELL**

AIRPORT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 2 be 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.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I am asking the leave of the House to take charge of this Order in the absence of the Honourable and Learned Premier in whose name it stands.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The Hon. Minister of Education is seeking the leave of the House to take charge of this Order which stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. John, and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted. (After a pause). There being no objection, leave is granted.

The next Order of the Day is to move the passing of the following Resolution:-

A Resolution to approve the lease to the Barbados Light Aeroplane Club by the Minister charged with the responsibility for Lands of a parcel of land situate at Seawell Airport on the terms and conditions as are set out in the Schedule to the Resolution.

The Hon. Minister of Education may proceed.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I think that hon. members are aware of the fact that certain extensions are now being carried out at Seawell Airport, notably extensions to the parking apron and to the Terminal Building. These extensions make it necessary for the Barbados Light Aeroplane Club to resite somewhere else the hangar which they formerly occupied. They have been selecting an alternative site -- a site on the northern side of the runway which is about two acres - and it is proposed to lease this area of land to this Club for a period of five years at a peppercorn rental with the option of renewal. The House is being asked to approve the lease to the Barbados Light Aeroplane Club of the parcel of land which is described in the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. members will also remember that quite recently we passed in this House the Executive Committee (Vesting of Property and Transfer of Functions) Bill 1965, which gives the authority to the Minister charged with the responsibility for Lands without reference to the Legislature, to rent or let small parcels of land. In this case, the position is rather different. This is a lease and because it is a lease, the approval of the Legislature must be sought by way of this Resolution. In other cases he would render to the House a statement at the end of every financial year of the transactions which he has made by way of rental, but

in this particular case, the House retains to itself the power to approve of these leases. It is in this connection that the approval of the House is being sought for the lease of this land to the Barbados Light Aeroplane Club. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

4.15 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, except for one slight matter, we have come to the end of Government Business. The matter referred to is Order No. 6, and I propose merely to move the first reading of the Bill to amend the Larceny Act, 1868. I now formally do so.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, this concludes Government Business for today's Sitting.

Before moving the adjournment, I would just like to tell hon. members that I would like the House to be able to conclude its business next Tuesday fairly early, because there is something coming up to which all hon. members will be invited on that evening, and I should like them to be free from about 6 o'clock on Tuesday evening next week; so that if when we meet at 2.30 p.m. we could conclude what business there is to be done about 5.30 p.m., I would be very happy. I hope it will be convenient to everybody.

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 7th December, 1965, at 2.30 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

4.20 p.m.

