
THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1961 – 66

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 30th August, 1966

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

PRESENT

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

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that there are three sets of Minutes which are available for confirmation. They are of the meetings of Tuesday, 19th and 26th July, and 2nd August, and unless there is any objection, each of those three sets of Minutes will be confirmed.

There being no objection, I declare duly confirmed the Minutes of the meetings of this Chamber of the 19th and 26th July, and 2nd August this year.

I have the honour to inform the House that the Accountant General has presented to this Chamber the Accounts and Statements for the month of March, 1966, as prepared by him.

I also have the honour to inform the House that I have received a Statement from the Barbados Government Savings Bank in respect of Revenue and Expenditure for the half year ended 30th June, 1965.

Mr. HOLDER, Mr. SMITH and Mr. HUSBANDS entered the Chamber and took their seats.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:-

Statement showing the sums advanced to the Post-master General for the payment of Money Orders, the amounts repaid to the Accountant General, and the amounts due by the various Post Offices to 30th April, 1966.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On behalf of the Hon. and Learned Premier and Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Resolution to place the sum of \$1,125,330 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1966-67, Part 11 – Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1966-67, No. 21 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

I also beg to give notice that it is my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to deal with the money Resolution of which notice has just been given.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 80 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is ready.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 116 asked by the hon. senior member for St. James is ready.

QUESTIONS

Mr. BATSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Question:—

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:

Will Government consider the advisability of constructing a secondary school in the parish of St. Thomas to relieve the residents of the said parish of the inconvenience of sending their children to secondary schools in the city of Bridgetown?

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Question:—

“To enquire of the Appropriate Minister.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid I have on my Notice Paper for today no other question save that of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. CORBIN: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: If this question was given in at the appropriate time, I will, as soon as Mr. Clerk, is here, enquire and if it has been duly vetted, I will ask the House to give leave for the question to be put today.

Mr. CORBIN: Thank you, Sir.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS entered the Chamber and took his seat.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

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

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

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

Mr. LYNCH entered the Chamber and took his seat.
2.55 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a letter from Mr. Charles Harbutt a letter relative to the unauthorised taking of a photograph of the

House during prayers on the 23rd August, 1966. It reads as follows:—

Dear Sir,

I write setting out the facts which led up to the unfortunate incident of Tuesday last, 23rd August in your Hon. Chamber. On Monday, 22nd August, I attended at the office of the Assembly with my colleague and requested permission to take photographs of the chamber and of the members on the following day.

Your Honour kindly referred us to the Clerk of the House so that he could follow the usual formalities and ascertain whether any hon. members had any objections to our taking photographs. We went to the room pointed out by Your Honour and there was a gentleman whom we noted — despite earlier apprehension — to be the Clerk. We sought certain technical assistance and on our return the necessary technical assistance had been made. We presumed that every thing was in order. I took up the appropriate station. The consequences, no doubt, are known to Your Honour and to the Hon. House and I trust that this explanation will satisfy you and the Hon. House.

In view of that letter may I assure hon. members that I propose to regard this matter as now closed.

QUESTIONS

Mr. SMITH: To enquire of the appropriate Minister: Is the Minister aware that when, under the law relating to Soil Conservation, certain areas in the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Joseph are proclaimed prohibited areas, many poor people who raise livestock as a principal means of livelihood, are forced to sell their animals before they wish to because of the new loss of grazing facilities in the same areas?

Will the Minister consider advising Government to provide some sort of financial compensation for the people handicapped by prohibited areas?

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:—

1. No, Sir. Although grazing may be restricted it is still possible for landowners to obtain fodder for their livestock.
2. In view of the overall benefits which will accrue to landowners as a result of the measures

taken it is not proposed to provide any financial compensation for those persons whose grazing privileges may for the time being be interrupted.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, this is a Supplementary Question. Has any petition been made by people who claimed that they have suffered a loss of grazing facilities?

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: A petition signed by 53 persons was submitted to the Minister. Of the 53 petitioners 16 owned absolutely no land in the area, and 25% of the names were signed by one family some of them of the age of under four years.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister read out the names and addresses of those signatories who he has just said had no land?

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, another question. Will the Minister explain to this House if it is fair not to disclose these names?

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: With all due respect I think it would be very embarrassing to them and to their other representative in the same area. I do not think it will be fair. There is evidence that trouble was being created in this particular area for this same reason.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next question, Question No. 116 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James who, incidentally, I do not observe to be in his place. I will let this question remain on the Order Paper until next Tuesday.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Government Business be now taken.

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

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES — CURRENT — No. 20

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this sum is required to supplement the various items listed in the Schedule to the Resolution. Hon. members will see that in almost every case money is requested to cover the payment of Bills which ought to have come in before the 31st March but which were not actually submitted until after the end of the financial year and therefore could not be met.

In the case of Item 33 the sum involved is \$2,256, in the case of Item 34 it is \$1,155. Item 35 calls for \$5,130 and Item 37 for \$3,947.
3.05 p.m.

All of this as you will see has to do with the direction — all fixtures and fittings at Seawell Airport in connection with the Air Traffic Control as well as with the Hurricane warning equipment.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: 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 of Supply.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The Chairman, has reported to me the passing in Committee of Supply of one Resolution.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Resolution be now read a first time.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Resolution be now read a second time.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to move that this Resolution be now agreed to.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: Accordingly I declare this Resolution duly to have been agreed to. The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the hon. Senior member for St. John.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, as that hon. member is not now in his place, I beg to ask leave of the House to take charge of this Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is asking leave to take charge of the order in the name of the hon. senior member for St. John. If there is no objection, leave will be granted. There being no objection leave is granted. Let the Hon. Leader of the House proceed.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, if hon. members will recall from their Capital Estimates the sum of over \$350,000 — I think it is \$356,000 to be exact — is provided to finance expenditure by the Development Board, on the industrial estate development and factory construction in this island. The Board estimates that it will receive \$100,000 in revenue from rents this year, however with the projects expanding so rapidly it is anticipated that its commitments as far as industrial estate development is concerned will run into some \$778,000 broken down as follows:—

Grazettes Industrial Estate (2 factories and estate and factory maintenance)	\$183,000
Harbour Industrial Park (2 factories)	\$210,000
Pelican Village (Industrial workshops and maintenance)	\$110,000
Newton Industrial Park (land acquisition and estate development)	\$85,000
Seawell Industrial Park (1 factory and estate development)	\$190,000

It is anticipated that additional requests will be made to the Board for factory space during the coming months.

The Board is currently repaying a loan of \$500,000 borrowed from Barclays Bank D.C.O. to finance the Board's hotel and industrial loans. This loan was negotiated in 1961 though it was only taken up in full on 31st March, 1964. The loan is being repaid by the Board in monthly instalments of \$8,333.33 and is due to be liquidated by 31st March, 1969. This loan is not serviced out of current rental income, but out of capital repayments and interest charges arising out of the loans by the Board to its clients.

The Board has therefore been granted permission to borrow \$500,000 from Barclays Bank D.C.O. The rate of interest payable on the loan would be the Government prime interest rate existing at the time when the loan is made and interest and capital would be repaid over a period of ten years. The loan would be serviced out of an estimated annual rental income of \$86,000 net.

Subject to the approval of the Legislature, the Cabinet proposes to guarantee the payment of the principal and of interest of this loan.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, in supporting this Resolution I would like to draw to the hon. introducer one or two matters which I consider should be drawn to the Government's attention. In the breakdown of the work here it is shown that at the Harbour Industrial Park there are two factories estimated at \$210,000.
3.15 p.m.

It is well known, Mr. Speaker, that the construction of the Bridgetown Harbour was against a background of a lot of hard thinking and delays, and after many years it was decided that we should construct a Harbour. I think it is well notwithstanding what some people say, that the construction of the Harbour and its operation have made a conspicuous contribution to the economy of the country by its attraction of industries and by having a Port where the exporting of industries can take place, as well as the matter of shipment, notwithstanding the value that has accrued through transshipment; but I would like to draw to the Government's attention that a sacrifice was made by workers,

and those who remain, though enjoying better remuneration than their colleagues in the past, have to look to the future when they have to leave the docks. With the revenue that is coming into the Government, I am suggesting to the Minister that consideration should be given to making a contribution to the funds which have already been contributed by the workers and the employers in order that the past services of those who are now there can be met without undue difficulty.

About 90 acres of land were made available for these industrial parks from which future generations are going to benefit. This generation is benefitting from it and from the modest proposals we have put forward employers now make a contribution of 7% and the workers make a contribution of 5%, but that has been made since 1961, and I hope that the Minister would see that something is done about making a contribution so that some of the past services which have been rendered by some of these dockers can be rewarded when they retire. We have put the figure at about 1/70th which would mean 35 years to give a person half of his last three years' wages to be paid as a pension when he goes on retirement.

I would also like to draw to the Minister's attention that I am not very happy about the broad propaganda which has been given to some of the Development Board's activities. I remember on one occasion that I drew to the Chairman's attention an advertisement which appeared in the "Globe" or "Star", one of the Canadian papers, and it advertised the Development Board and Barbados as if it were a place where cheap labour was available in the context that one could utilise cheap labour and that was all. I say that because if investors and entrepreneurs are going to invest with the Development Board and their sole intention is the utilisation of cheap labour, and not the utilisation of labour which is likely to be cheaper than maybe in northern countries, then we will have to seriously write into some of these contracts something that will give to them certain basic undertakings. Now I would not be pleading for anything to be written in specifically for workers to get any added advantage other than what is theirs by right, but it seems to me that we have no guarantee as to how long all the industries which enjoy the Development Board's facilities are likely to last, and when they collapse, there are difficult problems to face. Then even politicians are likely when occasions occur to utter statements that are untrue for political purposes only. There was the Moffett Industry, a

lumber industry which, I believe had the blessings of the Development Board, and when this collapsed all of the wiseacres in Barbados rose up, because we have plenty of people who are very wise after the event, but before the event they cannot find an answer. Some seem to be even allergic to the truth, and for that reason it is essential for us to make sure not to scare anyone, but that from the conditions we offer investors, they will give a compensating reward to the workers concerned.

As you are aware, Mr. Speaker, I have already given notice of a minimum wage in this House which has been passed, and the Government is about to do something about it, but I would like to see the Minister of Labour and the Government as a whole making it as one of the conditions of people entering these fields, to give the workers their right and encouragement for the workers to have their organisation well protected. The investors require protection, and the workers require protection. I had the unpleasant task of going to one of these factories earlier this year and getting some of the workers to go back to work after quick action by the workers themselves, but we are not here to create industrial dislocation for the sake of publicity. We cannot allow people to operate in Barbados on the basis that this is an island so in need of investors that paying to a worker good wages is regarded as an imposition on investment. I am aware that we have some politicians who practise it themselves, and one of the debilitating things about the workers is that we have people shouting for the workers when an election is coming around, but when you make an examination of some of the people who employ the workers, they are worse paid by some of them than by some of the employers they criticise. For that reason maybe some of these entrepreneurs feel they are not doing too badly; but I am asking the Minister to see to it that if these contracts are given and public funds are used, and if we are going to underwrite and guarantee certain things, it is essential that we get a compensating reward from these entrepreneurs.

3.25 p.m.

I am a believer in notifying the public sector by seeing that more money from the Government comes into industry and greater participation by the public sector.

I must also draw to the Hon. Minister's attention that I am not fully satisfied with the industrial and agricultural corporations by their reflection in their directorates. The position is this. We have a labour movement which is progressing and I would like to place on record

again and again that we cannot have an important movement like this excluded in the situation where the Development corporation and the industrial corporations are established. We must see that these corporations bear a reflection on their directorate of a position which is in keeping with a labour movement which is progressing. We train people in every avenue so that they can take direct participation in the total society in which they are living.

I want to make it clear that we train people to take part in every field whether it be banking, insurance or any other field which involves the expenditure of public money. The workers in this area must bear some relation to their rights in this year of grace, 1966.

I do not know if the Government would pay attention to this, but we are saying that in some institutions we have received the Government's support but we are not regarding this as the end. We feel that this should be a continual practice. Already, we have a member on the Development Board and we feel that he has made a contribution.

However, Sir, I believe that the Hon. Minister will take these things into consideration. We are aware that the employers have made money and when it comes to the docks, the employers there have given the workers more money to the tune of about 50 percent. I should very well point out that we have employers who given more than fifty percent more money to the people than what they gave in 1951 but we do not feel that they have come to the end of the contributions which they are making. We hope that they would give a greater contribution so that the workers when they retire will not retire penniless but would be able to keep themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I have much pleasure in supporting this Resolution.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, I do feel that the time has come when the Development Board should not only think of the big businessman but should also think of the small businessman. There are certain small businessmen who owe certain big firms amounts which they cannot afford to pay but must continue to carry on their business so as to avoid the sale of their business by these big businessmen.

This Government should have this Development Board or some other organisation which should be in a position to pay up these amounts for the small businessmen and allow them to pay the interest on these amounts. After

they have done so, they should also be in a position to help the small businessman with a small loan so that he can purchase any stock he may need.

Sir, this is a very important matter which I am asking the Government to look into and Government should not allow the Development Board to think of the big businessman only but should recommend to the Board or should consider some kind of scheme whereby the small businessman could be helped. After all, the small businessmen contribute in some way to the masses, even by credit, and they put these big businessmen in a better position because they depend on them to carry on their business. The small businessman is forced to continue daily doing business with the big man and as a result he finds himself more and more involved. It is my opinion that the time has come when Government must consider helping the small businessman so as to assist them from losing their properties. It can only be done if a special fund is put up for this particular purpose.

3.35 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I am in complete agreement with the last speaker that Government should take time off and see to it that help should be given to those small business men in the same way that help is given to the large business men. I was talking about this for the longest time and I had asked the Government to consider helping these small businessmen by establishing a small loan fund because there are lots of people in Barbados who have the ability to make a profit out of a small business but they do not have the cash at their disposal to do so. In other words they do not have the security that would help them to go to a Bank or solicitor to borrow money to start a business, just as some other people have done and are still doing. I am told by a small businessman that he made application to the Development Board to establish a pig industry and he was told that he could get his loan from a solicitor and yet at the same time you can grant a loan to a foreigner who when the business falls through will go along and leave the bag to the taxpayers of this country to hold. That is not fair. There should be some ways and means whereby the people of this country who wish to start a business can be helped by the Government through the Development Board and by helping the small businessman his business will eventually become a big business and help to relieve the unemployment that is with us today. A Bank Manager does not know all the businesses that he has to help as far as money is concerned but he can sit in his chair in his office and run any man's business that is using the Bank's

money and that is from experience. All of us will know how useful money is, but there are some people who would not even back a note for others although they are in a position to do so but here we are lending out all sorts of money to help businesses in this country. It is not a bad idea but at the same time there are others who would like help and we should think about them. I would like to know from the Minister in charge how many small people have been granted loans from the time that this board came into operation. I am sure that they are not too many. 3.45 p.m.

There are not too many small businessmen who have got loans, and this particular man told me that he wanted some money, since he is doing business on a small basis with his pigs and cows, to expand. Anyone knows that the bigger the turnover in business, the greater the profits; but this man was told he could get money from a solicitor. He was given no reason although they may have had good reasons for refusing the loan. If he has been referred to a solicitor, it means he must have property or something to mortgage. Some of the people in these offices look at some people as if they are animals and at others as if they are gold, rather than going into the questions and rendering unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's. You should go into the matter and do all that you possibly can to help these people.

I have also been told by a man, — this was not said to him, but said while he was leaving the office — that one chap went to the other and said "he is a D.L.P." The one who said so must have been a B.L.P. I asked him if he were sure the chap had said "D.L.P." or "B.L.P." because I believe that if he were a D.L.P. he would have got through. Politics must be kept out of business of this sort, and so long as you have the qualifications you should be given a loan. It is not fair for these things to take place where taxpayers' money is involved, and I sincerely hope that the Minister in charge of this Board will ask the employees to be more cautious in their deliberations and actions. I know, Sir, that if you belong to a particular party, you cannot get through with this Government as a whole. You have to be very hard right but say you are only slightly left so as to get consideration. It should never happen in a country like ours that a worker is penalised because he cares to disclose his political convictions, because this is a free country and we are going to be freer.

I appeal to the Minister to go into the matter and see that these small business people are helped. There are some people who do not

know that they can make an application. I know of a man who was tired of going, and I had to direct him how to approach the matter and he succeeded. But not everybody will come to me; some may be afraid to come because their conscience may tell them not to, but on the other hand, practices of this sort should never be allowed to exist in any Government Department where the people's money is being spent. I am not saying that the Government should take money and give to every Tom, Dick and Harry without some kind of security, but how would you know if a person would repay you unless you lent him money? As a matter of fact, one might be able to repay you before the time, because things may work out well. You have to take a risk. There are some businessmen who have to take risks, because if every businessman doubted the people who dealt with him, he would not get too far, because it would go around that Mr. "A" is not willing to help and never trusts or lends. You have to take chances, and you should not think about the big shots all the time because you feel they would repay you quickly, and in the long run you still get a lash. Blows of that kind can be very telling, because a small man may only strike you for £50, but with the big man it may be \$3,000 or \$4,000.

3.55 p.m.

There are tailors who can do business if they get help. There are also joiners and shoemakers who can do business if they get help. I am sure there are shoemakers who would be able if there were able to import the leather for themselves to build a cheaper shoe than they can at present. You get some people who go to the places where they sell their furniture and ask the manager for loans to buy material to build the job first. They do that and then carry the piece of furniture to the firm. If they had been able to find the money to do the job first and then sell it they would get a bigger price. As a matter of fact, if they were able to build these pieces of furniture outside on their own, they would be able to stand up for a better price or by importing the material themselves, they would be able to sell at a cheaper price and still make more money. There are some first class tailors outside who can do as good a job as Messrs. C. B. Rice but they do not have the wherewithal to carry on their own business.

I am not telling you for a moment if a man gets involved or is involved already that you should lend him money so as to get himself out of trouble. You should not go too far with him. Let us say that you lend him a hundred pounds for a start. If he does not make good you will

have a better chance to get that bit of money back. Even let us say that he goes away, in all probability, he would have left something which you can sell so as to get your money back. We must do something in order to help the small man.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, —

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member seconded the motion and I understand he did not reserve the right to speak.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, if any other hon. member wants to speak, I reserve my right to reply.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave of the House for the Honourable Minister of Trade to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is asking the leave of the House for the hon. senior member for St. Andrew, the Minister of Trade, to speak on this Resolution and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted the Hon. Minister for Trade to speak.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I have listened carefully to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and the allegation made by him. We have reputable members giving of their services to these Boards as well as other public officers who have to deal with these boards. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph pointed out that people experience difficulty in obtaining loans from the Development Board. I do not know where the hon. member got his information from. Of course, this is election year and various parties are holding election campaigns, except the Government Party, but this is not the place for the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to make political platform speeches.

As far as Government is aware, there is no difficulty experienced by people where loans are concerned from the Development Board. If one can qualify for a loan, he is given that loan. There are certain qualifications laid down for a person to qualify for a loan. A loan is not given to every Tom, Dick and Harry. After application have been submitted to the Development Board before the applicant can be given a loan the Chairman of the Board before deciding on the merits of the application consults with the Economic Planning Unit. Barbados only heard of an Economic Planning Unit after the present

Government came into power. The Economic Planning Unit advises the Development Board as to the feasibility of the project and if it is felt that this project is a worthwhile thing, then the applicant is granted a loan.

Sir, we are asked to guarantee a loan for \$500,000 for the Development Board.

4.05 p.m.

We are supposed to be the watch dogs of the fund of the people of this country. Therefore we have got to have the necessary expertise to see that the funds of the people of this country are not thrown down the drain. If we are thinking of the interest of the people and of the taxpayers of this country we cannot give a loan to a man who does not have the security. If a man applies to the Development Board for a loan without security how can he expect to be granted a loan? If his project does not conform with the requirements of the Board by no means will he get a loan from the Development Board. The hon. Junior member for St. Joseph mentioned the question of tailors. I wonder if the hon. member knows that about three years ago a man who was a very good tailor had been granted a substantial loan from the Development Board and was granted pioneer status, a young man who had initiative and the drive and qualified for the loan from the Development Board because he had a little security and his business is expanding and expanding every day. Any tailor as long as he can qualify for a loan from the Development Board will be granted a loan if Fix-it-Right can qualify for a loan Fix-it-Right will get a loan as long as the director or whoever the persons responsible for Fix-it-Right can satisfy the Development Board that what it is doing is in the interest of this country, and that there is necessary security for a loan. As long as the money is available the loan will be granted. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph also raised the question of a pig industry. The Development Board deals with industrial development and there is provision for farming. Only two Saturdays ago I attended a meeting under the Chairmanship of the Soil Conservation Officer and the Chief Agricultural Officer pointed out the various things which are given to farmers in this country. The pig industry is not an industrial development and does not come under Development Board as such. There is provision for assistance for any person in this country who has a small farm. He is not only provided with a loan from the Government through the Ministry of Agriculture but if he has developed his farm and the Ministry of Agriculture is satisfied that what he is doing is in the interest of the agricultural development of

this country he is not only given a loan but he is given a grant. These are provided by this Government and as such were not provided by any other Government before this and for any one to suggest that the Government is withholding loans from anybody who can qualify as long as the money is there it is downright dishonesty. We are satisfied that the Development Board has increased the standard of industry in this country by leaps and bounds because more people are employed in the industries and more money is being circulated in the island. Only one year the Government was forced to increase taxation and this was due to the demands of the Civil Service. But when we took over our recurrent expenditure was in the vicinity of \$25 (million) to \$26 (million) today it is in the vicinity of \$40 million without any undue taxation. This happened because of the economic ability of the Government and because of the foresight of the Government to push industrial development. I just want to point out Mr. Speaker in closing that because of the vision and because of the sort of dynamic approach to the economic problems in this country, this Government only had increased taxation one year to meet the demands of the last Government where the increase of salaries for the Civil Servants was concerned. If this Government had been running the country for the previous five years there would never have been the need for increased taxation, because the planning would be such that it would not have been necessary to give the hon. member for St. Joseph anything to say about a 4 cents on a snap of rum. What worries me is the fact that the hon. member will come in here and ask to have things done, ask to take up taxpayers money and give the people with security — unreasonable things in many instances — and when you have got to employ the conditions on which you can get money to do these things, you are criticised for putting on 4 cents on a snap of rum. Mr. Speaker, the Government is satisfied that the Development Board is doing a fine job, that it has done all it could to improve and increase the standard of industrial development in this country, and this is responsible for raising the economy of this country.

4.15 p.m.

We are very pleased with the Development Board, and we are not aware of any discrimination whatsoever where the loans from this Board are concerned.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think that the Government's case has been very well put by my colleague, and I do not need to enter this debate to any great length. I just rise,

however, to give the assurance to the hon. senior member for St. Peter with respect to the three questions which he raised that we regard them as being of considerable importance, and that I will pass on the suggestions to the appropriate Minister.

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

RESOLUTION RE ACQUISITION OF LAND AT COLERIDGE STREET

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the day stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned senior member for St. John, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve of the compulsory acquisition by the Crown of a parcel of land together with the buildings and erections thereon situated at Coleridge Street in the parish of Saint Michael.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the hon. senior member for St. John is not now in his place, and I am asking leave to take charge of this Resolution in his absence.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is seeking the leave of the House to take charge of order No. 3 standing in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. John, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, hon. members will remember from the Capital Estimates that we propose in this current phase of the Development Plan to carry out some extensions to the Public Library, and if possible to provide some accommodation for Government Offices in that area in Coleridge Street. To do this, we have to acquire a parcel of land belonging to Messrs. A. E. Taylor Limited in Coleridge Street and we are resorting to land acquisition in this regard in order that we might have a good and marketable title. There is no dispute about the price, and there is no contention otherwise except that it is necessary to get a good title to the parcel of land, and we therefore have to seek this means under the provisions of Section 5 of the Land Acquisition Act.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

THE WILLS (AMENDMENT)
ACT, 1966

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned senior member for St. John, and it is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the law relating to Wills.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, in as much as the Hon. and Learned member is not now in his place, I am again asking leave to take charge of this item in his absence.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is seeking its leave to take charge in the absence of the Hon. and Learned member for St. John a Bill which stands in the name of the latter hon. member, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think that Your Honour will remember that some time towards the end of 1961 there was an International Conference of the Hague, and this conference was held to make decisions on certain aspects of Private International Law. Certain conventions on the conflict of laws relating to the making of Wills were adopted at this conference in 1961, and these conventions recommended to various Governments with the suggestion that if the Governments thought fit, they might like to bring their own law with respect to testamentary dispositions in line with the new international conventions. The United Kingdom accepted this suggestion, and so did a number of countries in the Commonwealth. I think I have the list which I will draw to Your Honour's attention. Almost all the countries in the Commonwealth and other countries in the world to the number of some sixty or seventy have already adopted the conventions; so it becomes necessary in each country to amend its own statutory provisions to bring those provisions relating to Wills in line with the provisions of the convention which were adopted at the Hague Conference on Private International Law. The Secretary of State has asked us to do this. Our own Crown Law Officers as well as the Attorney General have said that it is in order to do it. As a matter of fact, almost all the countries of the Commonwealth, as I have said, have already adopted it, and it is proposed that we bring our own legislation into line in this respect.

Now this Bill itself deals with certain points. For instance, with respect to the Interpretation in section 2, you will see that a definition is given to the words "internal law" which means a law which would apply in a case where no question of the law in force in any other territory or state arose. A definition of the word "state" is also given, and it is defined as a territory or group of territories having its own law of nationality.

Of course, Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, as from 30th November we shall have to have our own Nationality Act, and will be a territory in this sense having its own law of nationality.

I should also like to draw to the attention of the House Section 7 of the Bill which reads as follows:-

"In determining for the purposes of this Act whether or not the execution of a Bill conformed to a particular law, regard shall be had to the formal requirements of the law at the time of execution, but this shall not prevent account being taken of an alteration of law affecting wills executed at that time if the alteration enables the will to be treated as properly executed."

4.25 p.m.

In other words, I can give the assurance that this will in no way invalidate any current law which we have in force in whatever way now obtains whereby people may dispose of their property. This brings our law into line with the conventions brought into force in 1961. This is just a formality which we are engaged upon and requires no basic change in our law.

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

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

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

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

The Preamble was postponed.

Clauses 1 to 8 were called separately and passed.

The Preamble was called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee.

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

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS CONCLUDED

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this concludes Government Business for today.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY RE THE LATE MR. CHARLES NIGEL REECE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, before I move the adjournment, I am asking leave of the House to move a Resolution of sympathy in respect of the late Mr. Charles Nigel Reece, a former member of this House.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the Resolution is as follows:—

Resolved that this House place on record its profound sympathy on the passing of the late Mr. Charles Nigel Reece who was a member of this House for the years 1942–44 for the parish of St. John;

And Resolved that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to his relatives."

Mr. Speaker, I think with the passing of Mr. Charles Nigel Reece, the planting community and public life as far as the parish of St. John is concerned, are bereft of a respected figure. As the records of this Chamber show, Mr. Charles Nigel Reece served in this Chamber for the parish of St. John for the years 1942–44 but most of his public life was spent in parochial politics, he being a member of the Vestry of St. John from 1932–39 and some years later from some time in the early 40's until the Vestry system of this Island was abolished. He served on all of the public boards, he being a member of the Highways Commissioners, the Public Health Committee and the Poor Law Board.

However, I think of all things he would be chiefly missed from the services which he gave to

the planting community. He was manager of the Mount Wilton Factory from 1927–29 and from that year onwards until ill health, he served as manager of Society Plantation. In that last respect he was deeply interested as well in the Codrington Estates of which he was a trustee. 4.35 p.m.

I think that at this point what one reflects more than anything else is that there has been a type of Barbadian citizen who has not been particularly involved in the forward movement of our people, but who at the same time in their own limited way and in their own narrow sphere has given great public service in this Island. I think that Nigel Reece would have liked to have it known that he was a man of order and decency and was in favour of the constitutional progress of the island; he was not involved in anything revolutionary. If, because of his background he was not deeply committed as the rest of us are with the emancipation of our people, this ought not to stand against him, because this was a very difficult thing to accomplish in his day. Having regard to what he represented and the interest which he showed, he has left a reputation for decency which cannot easily be erased by death. Mr. Speaker, death is, of course, first and foremost a present sorrow, and it is therefore we particularly must extend our condolences to his son and his daughters — all of whom are left — and I am sure that the whole House will join me in seeing that whatever solution will be gained from the fact that Mr. Reece was a person who was greatly respected and loved by those whom he served and by those who happened to work with him in the parish of St. John, I therefore beg to move that this Resolution of condolence not only be passed, but it be communicated to his relatives as promptly as possible.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the passing of this Resolution. Resolutions of this nature always make one feel quite different from when they first arrive in the Chamber. I can remember Mr. Reece, when I was a boy taking up the management of Mt. Wilton, and I can remember only too well the rapid change he made there which caused some uneasiness with the workers, but eventually they got to understand him and everything went along very well. As a politician I can say very little, if anything, of him because after he left Mt. Wilton I didn't follow up his career politically, but when he was there he was always willing and ready to lend a hand to anyone who needed help on the plantation and outside of the plantation. Some of the workers used to call him "Pa Reece", and when you reached that stage when people would

give you the name of father, although you are not their father, you would understand what a great person he was, and I sincerely hope, Sir, that other people would try to take a leaf out of Mr. Reece's book and try to get on with the workers as he did at Mt. Wilton.

Mr. SPEAKER: Before I put this Resolution I would like to associate myself with the tributes that have been paid to the late Charles Nigel Reece, whom I first knew, and whom I still recall, as a member of this Chamber between 1922 and 1944. He was pleasant, agreeable, an alert legislator, and one who displayed view liberal indeed for a Barbadian planter, and for any planter in those particular times in which he was a member of this Chamber. As a matter of fact, I put him as one of the most liberal-minded Barbadian planters whom I have met during my comparatively long sojourn in this Chamber, and I would rank the late Charles Nigel Reece with the late Tyrol Mahon and indeed the present President of the Senate, Mr. E. Stanley Robinson, and would ask hon. members to signify their assent to the passing of this Resolution by standing for two minutes in their places.
4.45 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Resolution has been unanimously passed, and the Clerk at the Table is hereby instructed, with a minimum of delay, to have the Resolution and letter forwarded to the relatives of the late Charles Nigel Reece.

QUESTION TIME RESUMED

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Question Time be now resumed.

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

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

QUESTION RE HOLETOWN BRIDGE

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a question to which the Reply was duly laid earlier today, and it is No. 116 which stands in the name of the Hon. Learned member for St. James.

Mr. CARMICHAEL: Mr. Speaker, the Question reads as follows:-

Is Government aware that the Holetown bridge in the parish of Saint James is becoming more and more a danger to the travelling public due to the increasing amount of traffic on that bridge?

2. Is it still the Government's intention to include this bridge in its Development Plan of 1966-67?

3. Will Government consider the advisability of installing two temporary traffic lights to the said bridge - one at each end, and thus reduce the likelihood of accidents occurring on that bridge?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:

"1. Yes Sir.

2. Funds have been provided in the 1966-67 Estimates for the reconstruction of the Holetown Bridge and it is expected that work on the bridge will begin in the near future.

3. It is not considered necessary to install temporary traffic lights at the Holetown Bridge at the present time, but it is expected that such lights will be installed during the period of construction."

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, before I move the Adjournment, I should just like perhaps to suggest that you consider, not necessarily today, the appointment of a small Committee of this House to decide on whatever is appropriate and what will be appropriate for the State Opening of Parliament on 30th November, Independence Day. There are a lot of arrangements to be taken in hand, and Your Honour may not only wish to consider the appointment of a small Committee of this House, but may wish also to consult the President of the Other Chamber so that it can be a Joint Committee meeting. I think Your Honour is best suited to initiate this kind of exercise, because the Government would wish to have suggestions rather than to be in a position to give instructions.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am happy to comply with the suggestions made by the Hon. Leader of the House, and I shall proceed to take action without delay along the lines proposed.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 6th September, at 2.30 p.m.

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

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

6, 20, 27, 18, 54, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION OF 1966-71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 17th November, 1966

The 1966-71 Legislative Session was inaugurated at 3 o'clock p.m. today in the Senate Chamber by His Excellency, Sir John Montague Stow, K.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Island of Barbados and its Dependencies.

Pursuant to the issuing of Writs, the Hon. Members elected to constitute the General Assembly for the Session assembled in the Assembly Chamber as follows:-

Messrs. J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., F.Z.S., (Senior member for St. Lucy); L. E. SMITH, J.P., (Senior member for St. Joseph); E. D. MOTTLEY, C.B.E., J.P., (Senior member for the City of Bridgetown); K. N. R. HUSBANDS, (Senior member for St. Peter); E. St. A. HOLDER, J.P., (Junior member for St. James); C. E. TALMA, (Junior member for Christ Church); J. C. TUDOR, M.A., (Junior member for St. Lucy); F. W. BARROW, B.Sc., LL.D., (Hon.), (Senior member for St. John); J. W. CORBIN, (Junior member for St. Andrew); G. G. FERGUSON, (Junior member for St. Michael); R. St. C. WEEKES, J.P., (Senior member for St. Philip); W. R. LOWE, (Senior member for St. George); L. A. LYNCH, J.P., (Junior member for the City of Bridgetown); N. W. BOXILL, (Junior member for St. Thomas); J. B. YEARWOOD, (Junior member for St. John); A. DaC. EDWARDS, (Senior member for St. Andrew); Sir G. H. ADAMS, C.M.G., Q.C., B.A., D.C.L., (Hon.), (Junior member for St. Joseph); W. C. B. HINDS, (Junior member for St. Peter); G. E. SARGEANT, (Junior member for St. Philip); C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P., (Junior member for St. George); L. S. CRAIG, (Senior member for St. James); J. B. SPRINGER, (Senior member for St. Michael); H. B. St. JOHN, LL.B., (Senior member for Christ Church); and J. M. G. M. ADAMS, M.A., (Senior member for St. Thomas).

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

On receipt of a Message by the Sergeant-at-arms that His Excellency the Governor desire the Elected Members of the General Assembly to elect a Speaker to be presented for His Excellency's approval, Mr. Clerk replied: "As His Excellency pleases."

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Clerk, I beg to move that the hon. senior member for St. Lucy do now take the Chair of this House and in doing so, I reflect on the long service which the hon. senior member for St. Lucy has given this House of Assembly. Within the next two weeks we will be called upon to celebrate the 30th Anniversary of his membership of the House.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Clerk, I am really very pleased to second the nomination of the hon. senior member

for St. Lucy to be Speaker of this Assembly, and I congratulate the hon. member for the excellent service which he has given in the past. It is hardly possible to find anyone who is more fitting to be Speaker of this Assembly.

I have much pleasure in seconding his nomination.

Mr. CLERK: There being no other nominee, I now declare the hon. senior member for St. Lucy duly elected Speaker of this Honourable House.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR and Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS then robed the Speaker/Elect and then directed him to the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER-ELECT: I am profoundly grateful to hon. members that for the second time you have seen fit to nominate me as your Speaker.

I shall again try to do my best even if at all times I appreciate that my Rulings may not meet with universal approval. However, any such mistakes will be of the head and not of the heart. The perfect Speaker has not arisen in this world, even if I may say in the Commonwealth of Nations.

Again, I am deeply grateful to hon. members that you have seen fit to give me a second trial. (Cheers)

I have the honour to request that my proposer and seconder -- the hon. junior member for St. Lucy and the hon. junior member for St. Joseph -- be so kind to proceed to the Other Place and inform His Excellency the Governor that this House of Assembly has chosen me as their Speaker and is now ready to present me for Your Excellency's approbation.

The hon. junior member for St. Lucy and the hon. junior member for St. Joseph proceeded to the Senate Chamber and returned.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker-Elect, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and I waited on His Excellency in the Senate Chamber and informed him that the House had made choice of its Speaker and desired to present him for His Excellency's approval. His Excellency expressed his readiness to receive the House.

Mr. SPEAKER/ELECT, preceded by the Marshal bearing the Mace and the other hon. members following him according to seniority proceeded to the Senate Chamber.

Mr. SPEAKER-ELECT: Your Excellency, the House of Assembly have chosen me as their Speaker and I now present myself for Your Excellency's approval.

HIS EXCELLENCY: I have much pleasure in approving of the choice made by the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Your Excellency, in the name and on behalf of the General Assembly, I lay claim to their ancient

and undoubted rights and privileges, especially to freedom from arrest and molestation of their persons and servants, to freedom of speech in debate, to free access to Your Excellency whenever occasion may require it, and that the most favourable construction may be placed upon all their proceedings.

HIS EXCELLENCY: Mr. Speaker, I give and grant to the House of Assembly, so far as it is consistent with the Royal Prerogative and with the laws and constitution of this

Island, every privilege and liberty which have been enjoyed by any former Assembly as fully and freely as ever.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH

His Excellency then delivered a Speech to the Houses of the Legislature, at the conclusion of which he presented a copy to Mr. SPEAKER.

The Speech was as follows:

HIS EXCELLENCY'S ADDRESS FOR THE OPENING OF THE LEGISLATURE ON THURSDAY, 17TH NOVEMBER, 1966

Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly:

The formalities required for the opening of a new session of the Legislature after a dissolution have all been observed but without, and on this particular occasion, the full pomp and ceremony to which we have been accustomed. This omission is in no way intended to minimise the importance of this present occasion but in order to highlight the forthcoming event on Wednesday, 30th November, when your Honourable Houses will participate fully in the historic State Opening of Parliament under the Constitution of an independent Barbados it is proposed to prorogue this session on 23rd November before the ceremonial opening.

2. Today's ceremony is a unique one. It marks the opening of a session of the Legislature which, so far as can be traced, will be the first one of so short a duration. Although it will be the shortest session as yet, it will be a very important one. My speech will also follow this pattern and will be brief.

3. In this connection, you should know that invitations have been issued to eighty-eight countries to send official representatives to the Independence Celebrations, and that naval units from five countries will be represented here. Puerto Rican units of the United States Air Force and supersonic aircraft of the Royal Air Force will also be saluting this new nation in a flypast on Independence Day. All sections of the community are expected to ensure that throughout the whole period of celebrations, the reputation of Barbados for hospitality and courtesy is equalled, and surpassed on this very special occasion.

4. To all the new members of both Houses, I extend a warm welcome.

5. I am happy to be able to announce that on the 11th of November, 1966, Her Majesty in Council made an amendment to the Barbados (Letters Patent Consolidation) Order, 1964, whereby, with effect from tomorrow, 18th November, the designation of "Premier" will be changed to that of "Prime Minister". This amending Order is being laid before the United Kingdom Parliament today. I should like to take this opportunity of warmly congratulating the Honourable E. W. Barrow on being the first Prime Minister of Barbados.

6. There has been only one change in the composition of the Cabinet by the addition of another Minister without Portfolio. The Honourable Errol Walton Barrow will continue to hold the office of Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

7. The other Ministers, drawn from the General Assembly, will continue to hold their former offices as follows:—

The Honourable James Cameron Tudor;
Minister of Education.

The Honourable Cuthbert Edwy Talma;
Minister of Health and Community Development.

The Honourable George Granville Fergusson;
Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The Honourable Arlington DaCosta Edwards;
Minister of Trade, Labour, National
Insurance and Tourism.

The Honourable Neville Wilfred Boxill;
Minister of Communications and Works.

8. Senator the Honourable Hilton Augustus Vaughan O.B.E., Q.C., and Senator the Honourable Philip Marlowe Greaves will continue to hold the offices of Attorney General, and Minister without Portfolio, respectively. Senator Frederick Gladstone Smith has been appointed to be a Minister without Portfolio.

9. There has been no change in the appointment of Parliamentary Secretaries. Senator Odessa Gittens will continue to be Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministries of Education and of Health and Community Development. Mr. W. R. Lowe, M.P., will continue to be Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Communications and Works.

10. My Government proposes that this session of the Legislature should be concerned with dealing with such measures as are essential to be presented to you and considered before the Island attains its independence on 30th November, 1966. It is also proposed during this session to lay on the Table of both Houses the national flag and the manuscript of the words and music officially chosen as the Barbados national anthem.

11. My Government's future plans for the development and well being of all sectors of the community will be outlined to you in the Speech from the Throne to be delivered by His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent on Her Majesty's behalf on the occasion of the State Opening of Parliament on the 30th of November, 1966.

Mr. President and Members of the Senate:

Mr. Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly:

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

HOUSE RETURN TO ASSEMBLY CHAMBER

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

Prayers were read.

MR. SPEAKER REPORTS HIS EXCELLENCY'S SPEECH

Mr. SPEAKER: When this Hon. House attended the Senate Chamber a short while ago, His Excellency the Governor graciously was pleased to deliver a Speech with which I have been furnished a copy.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that His Excellency's Speech be taken as read.

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

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

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. junior member for St. Philip be elected as Deputy Speaker of this Hon. House for this session.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the hon. junior member for St. Philip be elected as Deputy Speaker of this Hon. House for this session. Hon. members in favour of that will please say "Aye", those against will please say "No". I think the "Ayes" have it. I now declare the hon. junior member for St. Philip Deputy Speaker of this Hon. House for this session. *(Cheers)*

SETTLEMENT OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Standing Orders of this House for the last session be the Standing Orders of the House for this session.

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

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

APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. junior member for St. John be appointed as Chairman of Committees of this House for this session.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I beg to second that.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the hon. junior member for St. John be Chairman of Committees of this House for this session. Hon. members in favour of that will please say "Aye", those against will please say "No". I think the "Ayes" have it. I now declare the hon. junior member for St. John Chairman of Committees of this House for this session. *(Cheers)*

PRINTING COMMITTEE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Printing Committee for this Session be comprised of the following hon. members: -- Mr. Speaker; the hon. junior member for St. Michael (Hon. G. G. Fergusson); the hon. junior member for St. Lucy (Hon. J. C. Tudor); the hon. junior member for St. James (Mr. Holder); the hon. junior member for St. George (Mr. Hoppin); the hon. junior member for Bridgetown (Mr. Lynch) and the hon. senior member for St. Peter (Mr. Husbands).

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

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

DEBATES COMMITTEE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, with respect to the Debates Committee, that Committee is constituted of the members of the Printing Committee, which has been already elected, with the addition of a member of the Other Place.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am grateful to the Hon. Leader of the House for reminding, in some cases, and in other cases informing, hon. members that that is the constitutional procedure.

VICTORIA EMIGRATION SOCIETY

Mr. SPEAKER: The members of the Victoria Emigration Society are appointed by me. I have the honour to appoint the hon. junior member for St. James, the hon. senior member for St. Philip and the hon. junior member for Bridgetown, as members of the Victoria Emigration Society for this Session.

SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. junior member for St. John (Mr. Yearwood); the hon. junior member for St. Andrew (Mr. Corbin); the hon. senior member for St. Philip, (Mr. Weekes) and Mr. R. C. Chapman be the members of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank for this Session.

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

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

3.35 p.m.

SUGAR PRODUCTION AND EXPORT CONTROL BOARD

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to propose that the hon. senior member for St. George, the hon. junior member for St. Andrew, Mr. R. L. Greene and Mr. E. L. Bannister be members of the Sugar Production and Export Control Board.

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

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

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, the hon. junior member for St. James and the hon. junior member for St. John, the hon. junior member for St. Philip, the hon. senior member for St. George, the hon. senior member for St. Michael and the hon. senior member for Bridgetown be members of the Public Accounts Committee.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I have the honour to inform the House that I have appointed the hon. junior member for St. Lucy to take charge of Government Business for this session.

MR. J. MILLIKEN APPOINTED AUDITOR OF SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a letter dated the 10th November, 1966, from Mr. J. Milliken of Messrs. FitzPatrick, Graham and Co. Chartered Accountants. It reads as follows:-

The Speaker,
The House of Assembly.

Sir,

SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK

I wish to offer myself for re-appointment as Auditor of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank for the year commencing 1st July, 1966, under Section 4, Sub-section 7 (i) of the Act of 1943 - 15 at a remuneration of £125.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient servant,
J. MILLIKEN.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR TO SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Mr. J. Milliken be re-appointed as Auditor of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank for the year commencing 1st July, 1966 at a remuneration of £125 per annum.

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

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

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay Message No. 4/1966 regarding the recognition of Sir Grantley Adams, C.M.G., Q.C., M.P., as Leader of the Opposition.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:

Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for six months ended 30th September, 1966.

Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for seven months ended 31st October, 1966.

Statement of sums of money paid over to the Accountant General by the Commissioner of Police during Quarter ended 30th June, 1966.

Statement showing the amounts advanced by the Government of Barbados and the amounts received from Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom under the provisions of the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts, for the period ended 31st December, 1965, in respect of schemes sanctioned by the Legislature.

Statement showing the amounts advanced by the Government of Barbados and the amounts received from Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom under the provisions of the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, for the period ended 31st March, 1966, in respect of schemes sanctioned by the Legislature.

An account of the transactions in Rum in the several districts of the Island for the Quarter ended 30th September, 1966.

The Customs Duties (Net and Netting of Cotton, Synthetic Fibres and Spun Glass for use in the protection of Fruit and vegetable Crops) Order, 1966.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:

The Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Order, 1966.

The Fishing Industry (Safety) Regulations, 1966.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:

Statement showing sums advanced to the Postmaster General for the payment of Money Orders, the amounts repaid to the Accountant General and the amounts due by the various Post Offices to 31st May, 1966.

Statement showing sums advanced to the Postmaster General for the payment of Money Orders, the amounts repaid to the Accountant General and the amount due by the various Post Offices to 30th June, 1966.

Statement showing sums advanced to the Postmaster General for the payment of Money Orders, the amounts repaid to the Accountant General and the amount due by the various Post Offices to 31st July, 1966.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following:

A Resolution to place the sum of \$932,750 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1966-67, Part I -- Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1966-67, No. 35 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$357,527 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1966-67, Part I -- Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1966-67, No. 36 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$460,204 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1966-67, Part II -- Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1966-67, No. 37 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following:

A Resolution to approve the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Order, 1966.

A Resolution to approve the guarantee by the Government of the repayment of certain loans which the Barbados Marketing Corporation has been authorised to raise for the purpose of discharging its functions and obligations.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Bills:

A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to securities created or issued in the United Kingdom on behalf of the Government of Barbados.

A Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to Securities created or issued in the United Kingdom on behalf of the Government of Barbados, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. C. E. Talma, a Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937, was read a first time.

NOTICE OF RESOLUTION

Mr. SPRINGER: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to give notice of an address in reply to His Excellency the Governor's Speech.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is customary for that to be done at the beginning of each session of the House. I give the hon. member such leave therefore, and I direct that the hon. member hand a copy of such Address to the Clerk of the House.
4.05 p.m.

Mr. SPRINGER: Mr. Speaker, I beg leave to give notice of a Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: Leave has been granted. Let the hon. member proceed with the Resolution.

Mr. SPRINGER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to move the passing of an Address in reply to His Excellency the Governor's Speech delivered on the occasion of the opening of the Legislature on the 17th November, 1966.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this brings to an end Government Business for today's Sitting.

I beg to move that this House do now stand adjourn until tomorrow, Friday, 18th November, 1966, at 3 p.m.

I will also like to tell hon. members that we propose to do all the business of which we gave notice at today's Sitting. It includes Committee of Supply as well as the other business.

I should also tell members that I think it may be impracticable to print an Order Paper for tomorrow's session,

but we have provided against that by circulating the hon. members with copies of the various Resolutions and Bills which we have given notice of today.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I should like to remind the Government that it is customary, when Committees are appointed which includes members of the House from both sides, at least to ask the Opposition beforehand of their willingness to serve. I cannot refer to what has happened already today as regards the appointment of the Committee, but I do make the suggestion now.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, of course, the hon. member has been away from this House for some time and he is not accustomed to the practice of this House now. In the first place, it is completely out of order for the hon. member to challenge transactions of this House and, in the second place, the hon. member is reflecting on a previous vote of this House.

For some time now it has been the practice of this House to reply to the Speech from the Throne by a Resolution moved by the junior member of the House, not by a Select Committee.

The hon. member, apparently, did not know this.

The question that the House adjourn until tomorrow, Friday, 18th November, 1966, at 3 p.m., was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.