THE

# House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSON OF 1961 – 66

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

*Tuesday 9th 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. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS; Mr. F. C. GODDARD; Hon. J. C. TUDOR; Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON; Mr. W. R. COWARD; Mr. R. St.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; His Honour E. L. CARMICHAEL, J.P., (Deputy Speaker); Mr. G. V. BATSON (Chairman of Committees); Hon. N. W. BOXILL; and Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD.

*Prayers were read.*

*The Minutes of the meeting of 16th March, 1966 were taken as read and confirmed.*

*Mr. Holder entered the House and took his seat.*

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. and Learned senior member for St. John I am commanded to lay the following Papers:-

The Customs Duties (The Pathfinder Association) Order, 1966.

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Police of Barbados for the year 1964.

Report of the Commission appointed to enquire into the Administration and Conditions of Service of the Barbados Police Force.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. and Learned senior member for St. John I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Resolution to approve of the sale to Messrs. DaCosta & Musson Ltd. of a certain piece or parcel of land situate at the wharf in the city of Bridgetown.

A Resolution to approve of the lease to the Barbados National Trust of the two signal stations known as Cotton Tower and Grenade Hall situated in the parishes of Saint Joseph and Saint Peter respectively.

I also beg to give notice that the Replies to Oral Questions Nos. 110 and 111 are now ready.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Resolution to place the sum of $143,493 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1966–67, Part II – Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1966–67 No. 16 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to approve of the transfer of a parcel of land of approximately 816 square feet in area by the Minister charged with the responsibility for the subject of Lands to Miss McCaskie, and the transfer of a parcel of land of approximately 816 square feet in the area by the said Miss McCaskie to the Minister charged with the responsibility for the subject of Lands, at Bridge Road, St. Michael for the purpose of Highway improvement at Fairfield-Welches junction.

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 with the money Resolution of which notice has just been given by the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works.

STATEMENT

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a statement in connection with a

Resolution passed by the House on the 3rd November, 1964, requesting the Government to increase the number of posts of Inspector, Department of Highways and Transport.

The additional post of Inspector, Grade 1 was provided for in a Civil Establishment Order passed by the House of Assembly and concurred by the Senate. Steps are being taken by the Chief Personnel Officer to fill this post. In the meantime an Officer has been appointed to act. 2.55 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I rise to move the following Resolution:

"RESOLVED that this House place on record the profound sympathy to the Honourable Junior Member for Christ Church on the occasion of the recent death of his brother, Dr. A. Lawrence Goddard, and that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to his widow and other relatives."

Mr. Speaker, despite the clash and strife of Party politics, there are occasions when inside and outside of this House much agreement is demonstrated. Unfortunately, this demonstration comes to us in sheer sorrow and in common bereavement, and several members of this House can testify to this feeling of sympathy which has been raised on occasions like this. One could wish that this kind of motion had never to be moved in this House at all. One could wish that the occasions would always be occasions of congratulations of joy instead of sorrow, but several Honourable Members in this House, and certainly in this section, have had close family bereavements, and the whole House, irrespective of Party division, would always express sympathy in the sincerest possible terms. The brother of the Honourable Junior Member for Christ Church was greatly loved in this island, both as a physician and as a gentleman. He came from a family which has distinguished itself in the fields of commerce, of medicine, and of sport, and which bears an honourable name in this community. Mr. Lawrence Goddard was the kind of man who made the best possible kind of doctor, because of the man he was. He had a wide knowledge of man and an interest which made him alert and kind in everything he did. What made him such a good Doctor was the fact that more than anything else he loved people for what they were and made no distinction either of status or of wealth, colour or creed. In his early years he gave service to one of the public institutions in this island and to this day the many skills which he used when at the Mental Hospital are still a by-word and still fashionable for practitioners there. I suppose that it was more as a family doctor and latterly as a diagnostician that he surpassed even the best of his contemporaries and he brought healing to a lot of people whose lives were given up as loss and hope and comfort to many others. His passing after several months of agonising and sometimes painful illness will of course be a great grief to his family and his wide circle of friends and to the many hundreds of people whom he had cured during his days as a physician. I realise how fruitless must be any words of mine which beguile his relatives on the loss which they must feel but I hope that they, like the rest of us, may take comfort and solace from the excellent reputation which he left among his fellow citizens. I hope that all those who loved him, those he cared about and those who had reason to comfort him will remember him for what he has done and the contribution which he has made to this community. I would like to say to the hon. member opposite that we sincerely sympathise with him in his bereavement and we would like him to think from all sides of the House that we appreciate the measure of his loss and if my words of consolation may do any thing to assuage the grief he must feel he must accept them as sincere. I now have the honour to move the passing of this Resolution.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the passing of this Resolution I do so with mixed feelings. I do so, Mr. Speaker, with profound knowledge of the pain and agony which it has caused my colleague. I suppose, Sir, it is not only because of my association with my colleague but my long association with the entire family, and I knew Dr. Goddard very well. As you are aware, Sir, Dr. Goddard belonged to a family that has made a tremendous contribution to our community. The Doctor in his charming manner came back to this country having been born here, received his early education here, came back at the time when the medical profession was not looked upon as very lucrative. Indeed it was considered one of the professions which one had to give and give. As has already been said his contribution to Government institutions in this country is a very outstanding one. Like his entire family his love for Barbados came first and he came back from the big metro-politan countries and made another great contribution when he joined up with his brother-in-law and worked at the Diagnostic Clinic the first of its kind in Barbados when there was great need for such an institution. I am in the fortunate position to say and I can testify to the fact that this institution in itself did not operate for the purpose of making money and indeed, it does not make money. But that was not Dr. Goddard's greatest contribution. It is indeed a great tribute to the entire family that Dr. Goddard could produce two sons one at a University and through his

influence bring them back to Barbados to continue in the practice of this very high and noble profession for the people of this country. I refer to his two sons who now carry on the Diagnostic Clinic and those who are aware about what is happening about the shortage of doctors in other countries, would know what a great privilege we have in having this Diagnostic Clinic here.
3.05 p.m.

Those of us who are aware of this situation with regard to the scarcity of doctors in other countries are very conscious of the fact that as a young man he would not have settled here, but would have sought occupation in the Metropolitan countries where people of his profession were much in need. I could never get accustomed to the doctor's passing and indeed it was a shock, because he was one of a family which set an example which can be taken by many as an example of what pulling together and living in unity means. This family for the first time loses one of its members, the third child of eleven children. I have always watched and taken as a guide and encouragement the way this family got on together. Whenever one met Doctor Goddard, there was always that smile and kind word.

I can well recall seventeen years ago when I was outstretched on a bed in the hospital and it was recommended that I should go abroad for treatment, that Dr. Lawrence Goddard with his hand on my head said "have faith in God!" I left this country with that in mind. Today we mourn the passing, and I second the motion of the Hon. Leader of this House that we express our sympathy to his relatives. I am sure that whatever might be our political philosophy or belief, every member of this House will agree with me that the Goddard family in Barbados is one which all of us can take as an example of what pulling together and living in unity mean.

Mr. Speaker, we have in the last few weeks been passing Resolutions to the relatives directly or indirectly of members of this Chamber, and today as Leader of the Opposition, it is to me more than merely seconding this Resolution because of not only my close association with him, but with the entire Goddard family.

I therefore beg to second the Resolution which has been moved by the Hon. Leader of the House.

Mr. MILLER: With your kind permission, Mr. Speaker, I should like to join in saying a few words by way of contribution on the passing of the late Dr. Lawrence Goddard. Like the last speaker, I had very much to do with him personally, and it was over the years in the Ministry of Health where I knew him best. He was always deemed and classified as a great professional, and to know him, he was rather modest and to some extent shy and retiring. His innocent and penetrating smile would cause one to stop and wonder why such would ooze from a man who had such a large contribution to make. I think of him most in his service at the Mental Institution where I had an opportunity to study his work on the files of the Ministry of Health, and Mr. Speaker, I would be in trouble to find words that could adequately express my real feelings about his greatness as measured by his profession and in his service to humanity. Dr. Lawrence Goddard felt at that Institution that it was his sole responsibility to retrieve the lives of those who were pushed aside. I think you can well imagine that, Mr. Speaker, although I have a feeling that you would in no way understand what it is to be pushed behind the bars of that Institution. I remember his correspondence with the late Colonial Secretary in the interest of new medicine in spite of its cost. I also remember when we were moving into the new hospital and we were in trouble for medical men at the Institution. He was tied to his contemporary, another great, Dr. Bayley, and may I with your permission and pleasure add Specialist Jack Leacock, all forming the top, the cream of the medical profession and working side by side.

I think of Dr. Lawrence Goddard as a family man. I remember him giving a number of discussions on family planning, family control and population control, and how it was best to settle on a small island of 166 square miles. I remember the sincerity in his smile when he said "Freddie", whatever I can do, feel free to call on me." Although a very busy man and very tired, he was always ready to make a contribution through his profession to the people of the country. Now we have to say *au revoir* and goodbye, but it is difficult for those who had to do with this great soul, Dr. Lawrence Goddard, to say goodbye. My unchanging prayer, Mr. Speaker, is that the passing of this Resolution will help to relieve the shock which has been sustained by his relatives. Finally I say "goodbye" to one of the greatest. It is indeed a pleasure to say this for a man who has dedicated his entire life to bringing relief to the masses of a country. To him I say "goodbye Dr. Goddard!"

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, I think it my duty to add my support to this Resolution. As the Hon. Mover has said, this is one of the occasions in Parliament when we all have to come

together to share and share alike in the sincerity of our speeches as we hope to cushion the shock of the bereavement whish has come to one of our colleagues in this Chamber. The late Dr. Lawrence Goddard was known to me from the time he and I were boys. We happened to have met at school many years ago and I had been impressed by the gentle manner of the young man. No doubt this can be said by those who met him in later life and had seen him in practice as a medical practitioner. I personally have not had the privilege of talking to Dr. Goddard since he was a schoolboy because our paths had diverted. I remember him as a boy of fine temperament, quiet disposition and quite an athlete.

I too share the sentiments as expressed by members on all sides of this House, and I do hope that what has been said today on this motion, when it reaches his nearest of kin will do something to assuage them in this the hour of their grief.

3.15 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I want to lend my support to this Resolution. I hope that what has been said today will in some measure assuage the grief of his relatives.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, although the leader of our party has done his part to the hon. junior member for Christ Church and his family, I think that I would be doing a great injustice to Dr. Lawrence Goddard, although he has departed, if I did not let this House know what a humane doctor and man Dr. Goddard was.

I can remember when I was a boy that Dr. Goddard acted in St. Joseph for some time and I would never forget one day when he had to visit a neighbour of ours. When he asked for his fee the old lady said, "doctor, I do not have it". He patted her on the shoulder and said, "mother, do not let that make you feel any worse". He put his hand in his pocket and gave her something. So not only did he attend to her for nothing but gave her something to buy the medicine.

We can nearly call him a saint because I know that there are some doctors who would have to see the fee before they started examining. With Dr. Goddard it was not so. In the days which I am referring to, money was scarce among certain classes. I believe that in those days it was scarce even with the Goddard family. But rapid changes have come about. However, Dr. Goddard during the little time that he was in St. Joseph was a friend and doctor of all. He was a doctor of doctors both medical and otherwise. I say that Dr. Goddard was a man with a soul. May he rest in peace.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, I could not sit here without contributing something to the memory of the late Dr. Goddard. I knew him for some time and I found him a very generous man. We know that at some time our vital organs will cease to function. That is something that we all will have to look forward to.

Although Dr. Goddard tried to save many lives the time came when he himself had to go. I always remember these words: "If a man believes in the Lord Jesus Christ, though he were dead yet shall he live." Dr. Goddard's good work will follow him and his works will be kept in remembrance for the day of reckoning when all men shall have to stand before the just God and give an account for the deeds committed in this natural body. "The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh, blessed be the name of the Lord." May Dr. Goddard rest in peace.

Mr. SPEAKER: Before I formally put this Resolution to the House I would like to associate myself with the various tributes so eloquently expressed by members from all sides of the table. Like other hon. members I also held the late Dr. Goddard in very high esteem as a medical practitioner and as a gentleman.

I hope that what we have said today will in whatever measure offer a slight balm of relief and reduce some of the grief with which that distinguished Barbadian family has so very recently been afflicted.

I now invite hon. members to join with me in standing in their places for two minutes silence to give assent to the passage of this Resolution.

*The Resolution was passed, honourable members standing in their places for two minutes.*

3.25 p.m.

Mr. GODDARD: I beg to thank the House for the expression of sympathy to the family of the bereaved.

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

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 Question Time be now taken.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Question Time. I have been advised that the Reply to Question No. 110 to be found in the left hand corner of page five and which stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter is now ready.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, sir.

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:–

Is Government aware of the sad plight of owners and users of property situated on the west coast of the island in the parish of Saint Peter, due to the inroads of the sea along the coastal area stretching from Road View, St. Peter to Six Men's, St. Peter and including stretches of land along the Queen Street, Orange Street and Sand Street beaches?

If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister seek to remedy the plight of the owners and users of such land?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows: Yes, Sir. Protective measures have been taken during the past year by the construction of groynes at Road View, Haywoods and Shermans. Particular attention is being given to the resiting of houses of Sand Street, Speightstown. After this operation is completed, sea defence and reclamation work will be carried out by the Department of Highways and Transport.

Mr. HUSBANDS: I thank the Honourable Member for his reply.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 111 is in the name of the Honourable Junior Member for St. Joseph.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:–

Will the Minister state whether it is the intention of the Government to implement the recommendation made for a Playing Field from the Northern District Council, for the parish of St. Joseph?

If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister state if it is a possibility that the Playing Field will be available this year?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Honourable Minister of Community Development, the reply is as follows:

Yes, Sir. The Government has stated its intention in Chapter 15 of the Development Plan 1965–68. Much will depend on the availability of a suitable area of land. This is being investigated.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I did not altogether hear the Minister quite clear, but I am asking if he can assure us that it will be implemented this year.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I have nothing further to add to the reply I gave.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I think it is part of my duty as Leader of the Opposition – you cannot make a Minister answer, it is true – but I am going further. It is quite simple, will the playing field be in operation this year?

Mr. SPEAKER: No comment may be made. 3.35 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I said in my reply that it depends on the availability of land in St. Joseph for a playing field, and I also said that the question of the site for a playing field in St. Joseph is being investigated.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, as another supplementary, I am asking the Minister if he is in receipt of a Resolution from the Northern District Council asking the Government to select the site known as "Retreat", which is a yard and not arable land.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am only deputising for the Minister of Community Development, but I do not see any evidence of this on the file.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Of course, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. junior member for St. Joseph would like to put down a formal question on that, obviously it would be answered in that way.

## GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: 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 Order No. 4 be the first item under Government Business.

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

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

## RESOLUTION RE LEASE OF LAND TO MESSRS CENTRAL FOUNDRY LIMITED

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 4 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, Minister of Communications and Works to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the lease by the Crown to Messrs Central Foundry Limited of a parcel of land known as the Dock Site situated in the parish of Saint Michael.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, Messrs Central Foundry Limited have applied for a renewal of its lease of Government lands on which a dry dock was situated for a period of seven years on the same terms and conditions as the former lease. The former lease expired on 20th June, 1965, and was for a period of five years, the annual rental being $960 plus a royalty of 12 cents per ton on the gross tonnage lifted by the dock.

Messrs Central Foundry Limited were informed on 20th July, 1965, that it was proposed to renew the lease subject to the following changes in the existing terms and conditions:—

"(a) that Royalty be at the rate of 20 cents per ton lifted by the dock;

(b) that the following provisions in "the principal indenture" be amended so as to give Government a clear discretion as to whether or not the site of the dock should be filled in if the lease were terminated:—

That should The Lessors desire or not to purchase the said Dock with its appliances and machinery and the works and buildings erected and built on the lands hereby leased or used for the purpose of the said Dock as hereinbefore is provided —— they shall through their Clerk give to The Lessees their successors or assigns six calendar months notice in writing prior to the expiration of the said term of seven years hereby granted of their intention to purchase or not and in case The Lessors should give such notice of their intention not to purchase it shall be lawful for The Lessees their Successors or assigns either before or after the expiration of the said term to remove the said Dock with its appliances and machinery and the works and buildings thereon erected or built on the lands hereby leased and every part thereof respectively filled in to the satisfaction of the Superintendent of Public Works all excavations and repairing to the like satisfaction all damage done to the said premises hereby leased and the adjoining buildings and restoring the said premises to the satisfaction of the Superintendent of Public Works to their original condition prior to the construction of the said Dock."

Messrs Central Foundry Limited have agreed to accept the renewal of the lease subject to the changes in the conditions set out at paragraph 3 above.

In view of what I have just said, Mr. Speaker, this Resolution seeks in accordance with the provisions of section 5 of the Executive Committee (Vesting of Property and Transfer of Functions) Act, 1964-12, as amended, the approval of the Legislature to lease a parcel of land in the parish of Saint Michael known as the Dock Site to the Central Foundry Limited for a period of five years subject to the following changes in the existing terms and conditions:—

"(a) that Royalty be at the rate of 20 cents per ton on the gross tonnage lifted by the Dock; and

(b) that Government be empowered to exercise a clear discretion as to whether or not the site of the Dock be filled in if the lease were terminated."

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, while the hon. member was speaking, it was very difficult for us to hear from this side because he was holding down from the microphone, but he seemed to have been reading from a file and then he read the Addendum to the Resolution. It is usual in these cases for the hon. member to tell us what they are leasing, whether a lease is being renewed, what is the price, if there is an increase in the price and the area of land. I am not saying that he did not do that, but we did not hear.

I should say that the Government should take into consideration that this Dock had been established for many years by John M. Blackwood, and that brought into this country a tremendous lot of work from the Leewards and Windwards who did not have any docks, but had a number of small steamers and schooners plying trade. Nobody would know that better than the Hon. Minister of Agriculture. While these small steamers and schooners still ply this trade, today, there is not that much work at present, and that is why we should like to know Government's policy with respect to this dock, whether they are charging more and whether it is the same area. The hon. member referred to the right of Government to have the site filled in if the lease is terminated. I did not get that quite clearly, and I am sure the hon. member would explain it. It is customary and it is the right of this House if the Government is leasing land to pass around a plan of the land which it is proposed to lease stating the price and whether it is on an annual or monthly basis. As long as it has to be brought before this Chamber, these are things which we should know, and I wonder if the hon. member could give us the information in respect of what I have asked.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is there any other hon. member desirous of speaking on this matter before the right of final reply is exercised by the Hon. Minister who introduced it?

It does not appear so. Let the Hon. Introducer of the Resolution reply, if he thinks fit.

3.45 p.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, in reply to the Leader of the Opposition, I am looking for the area of land. I read out that the lease which expired on the 20th June, 1965, was for a period of five years at an annual rental of $960 plus a royalty of 12 cents a ton on the gross tonnage lifted by the dock.

I am now asking the House to approve a lease at the same annual rental of $960. The only change is an increase in royalty from 12 cents to 20 cents a ton on the gross tonnage lifted by the dock. The area of land is approximately 33,975 square feet. You will find it in the House Paper. I hope that the hon. member is satisfied with the answers that I have given.

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

*Hon. J. C. Tudor moved, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. Edwards that Order No.1 be taken as the next Order of the Day.*

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry to have misled Your Honour. It appears that I was not looking at my own papers. I did not mean to call Order No. 1. I meant instead to call Order No. 2. I apologise to Your Honour for the inconvenience.

Mr. SPEAKER: The frank apology is unhesitatingly accepted. The hon. member proposes that Order No. 2 be the next Order of the Day. Unless there is any objection that Order will be the next Order of the Day.

There being no objection, I declare Order No. 2 to be the instant Order of the Day. It stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. John.

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

There being no objection leave was granted.

## CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (NO. 5) ORDER, 1966

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this Order has already been laid in the Legislature, and it seeks to provide for staff in various departments of Government, in the Waterworks Department, in the Office of the Premier, in the Statistical Service and in the Archives Department of the Ministry of Education and in the General Service. The Addendum sets out in detail what is required.

In the Waterworks Department the adjustment is an increase from one to two in the office of Chlorination Assistant. In Item 19 under the same Head the adjustment is the increase from one to three in the office of Waste and Service Inspector.

In the Ministry of Home Affairs which comes under the Office of the Premier it is proposed to change the title of the post of Senior Assistant Secretary to that of Government Security Officer.

Hon. members can see in detail what reorganisation is planned for the Statistical Service. The Government Statistical Service is now occupied with expanding the programme of work and an increase staff is necessary.

Where Head 29, Ministry of Education, Item 6, Archives is concerned, members will also know

that we have set up an Archives Department which will be a permanent feature of Government activity; and it is now proposed to increase the staff by the creation of the post of a technical assistant, an Archives Clerk and an Archives Keeper and the duties which the various offices in the department are to perform are set out in the Addendum.

I do not think that there is much more that I can say on the Resolution, Mr. Speaker, and I now 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.*
3.55 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day is No. 3 which also stands in the name of the Honourable Senior Member for St. John.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Again, Mr. Speaker, I am asking the leave of the House to take charge of this Order in the absence of the Honourable and Learned Senior Member for St. John.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Honourable Leader of the House is seeking the indulgence of this Chamber to deal with this matter in the name of the Honourable Senior Member for St. John. If there is no objection, the leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted to the Honourable Leader of the House to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 6) Order, 1966.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution, Sir, like the one which the House has just passed, is in the name of the Honourable Senior Member for St. John, and is an Order which provides for the establishment of a Training Unit as a division of the Ministry of Finance with the following permanent staff –

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Chief Training Officer | .. | $9,480 |
| 1 Senior Training Officer | .. | 5,328 – 7,080 |
| 2 Training Officers | .. | 4,128 – 5,136 |
| 1 Administrative Assistant | .. | 4,128 – 5,136 |
| 1 Long Grade Clerk | .. | 1,200 – 2,832 |
| 1 Stenographer .. | .. | 1,260 – 1,728 |
| | | or |
| | | 1,440 – 2,352 |
| 1 Messenger .. | .. | 1,092 – 1,704 |

The above staff includes the post of Senior Personnel Officer (Training) and one post of Personnel Officer (Training) formerly attached to Services Commissions which have been re-designated Senior Training Officer and Training Officer respectively and transferred to the Training Unit.

The Training Unit will take over the training functions from the Service Commissions Department and will undertake the training of Civil Servants at all levels and it is proposed to set up a Training Committee to advise on all aspects of Civil Service Training.

The Chief Training Officer will be responsible for organising and running this Unit (including actual training) and for the formulation and implementation of training policy. He will be assisted by the Senior Training Officer and the Training Officers.

The point is this, Mr. Speaker, I think everybody realises how important the activities of Government will now become. It is a far cry from the days when people thought that to work in Government all you needed to do was to be a pen pusher. Government will now employ engineers, accountants, economists, doctors, lawyers, computer experts, commercial specialists – the whole range of modern business – commercially, sociably and technologically. These are now to be found within the activities of Government.

In the field in which I am most concerned – that of Education – it would take me the rest of today's sitting to relate in detail what we have done, but I would like to say this: that one of the things of which we are most proud is the fact that we have helped to promote the establishment of the University College here, and the first Graduates who went in in 1963 are now coming out with excellent results, soon to be published by the University. That has more than justified the effort which this Government is making, and I should like to make an appeal here and now for more young Barbadians whether in Government or not to make further and better use of the facilities now provided by the University. In addition to this, we have succeeded in attracting to this island more and more offers of Commonwealth fellowships, bursaries and scholarships. This year alone we have received over two dozen of them in all phases of training. This is what has been going on inside the Government, in all the Ministries, the selection and the preparation of people who show promise and who show that they are prepared to do work for this community inside the Government

Service, and this is what we like to encourage, and we have reached a stage now, Mr. Speaker, where we are determined that as many Civil Servants as possible should be experts in their particular fields, and should receive all the available training possible.

The words have gone out from the Cabinet that this is the new policy, and that there must be an expanded programme that all levels of Government administration, from the highest to the most junior, the most responsible to the least responsible, that everybody must now jump in the ling, so to speak, and do some training, and we have done this, not only because it is to be done in order to make the Government's work more efficient, but in order that the people – those who are doing the work – would have more personal satisfaction in doing their work well.

I go further and I say this; that while it is true that we encourage training so that the people who work for the public of Barbados in the Public Service may do so more efficiently, we also encourage training so that even those who do not remain in the Public Service should carry in the other spheres of activity the expertise that they have gained. Obviously we would like those whom we have trained to remain and give service to the community within the Public Service, but if for some reason or other they do not remain, we still feel justified in offering the training, because it helps them in other spheres of activity, and it helps the community generally. There is therefore now no excuse on the part of any person for not availing themselves of these opportunities which are now being given. It is done in the interest of efficiency of the Service; it is done also in the interest of the persons, because we believe that this community will progress only to the extent that its citizens become more knowledgeable, and more skilled and more efficient, and the more opportunities we can put in their way, we are prepared to do so. So that the establishment of this new training unit as a division of the Ministry of Finance – we are not doing it Mr. Speaker, because it looks well, but because it is the proper thing to do. We are doing it because when we have done it there will be more skill and more expertise spread out in all ranks of the Public Service. I beg to move, Sir, that this Resolution be now passed.

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

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

4.05 p.m.

## RESOLUTION RE CARIBBEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 1, which is to resume debate on a Resolution to ratify the agreement for the establishment of an Association to be called "The Caribbean Free Trade Association", becomes the instant Order of the Day, and it will be recalled that when debate on it was previously adjourned, it was on a motion of the Hon. Leader of the House, seconded by the hon. junior member for Christ Church. Unless the Hon. Leader of the House proposes to speak.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No, Sir. I daresay Your Honour has called the House's attention to the state of the debate when last we met.

Mr. SPEAKER: Then the hon. junior member for Christ Church may now speak.

Mr. GODDARD: Mr. Speaker, we all know very well that if we are to move forward with industrialisation, a subject which we all agree will assist in finding jobs for young people coming out of our schools, we must find a larger market. No industrialist and no investor would establish a business of manufacturing in a small community if he can find similar conditions in a large community. In other words, when he has finished producing his goods, he has to have a market for the sale of them, otherwise the factory closes down, the workers are out of work, and he has his capital tied up in machinery. That is one of the reasons why we talked about a Federation, and that is why back in 1945 just after the War, the idea of a West Indian Federation embracing from Jamaica back down to Guyana was mooted. We would have had then a population of one and a half million persons, but it is about two million persons today. This is only a background to the idea of a free trade area.

When Jamaica opted out and then Trinidad did the same thing, I think much to her regret now, the other eight territories tried to form a federation of their own, one of the prime reasons being to have a sufficient number of consumers for the goods that would be manufactured within that area. That is recent history, and although it has not come to pass, I feel confident that something will drive us together in the future for the same aims and objects and reasons. This free trade association between Guyana, Antigua and ourselves is aimed at much the same object. We would be bringing together a consumer population of just under one million persons. Many persons have said that the federation might have had a chance of existence had we thought

of carrying it economically first and politically after. They may probably be right, but it was perhaps asking too much of the small islands to give up their markets to the industrialised areas of the Caribbean with no *quid pro quo*. They would have been the consumers and Trinidad would have been the manufacturing area. Trinidad would have gained all the labour and all that goes with it, and the small islands would have been at the receiving end.

A free trade area is nothing new to this world. It has been attempted in Europe, in the Central American States and to some extent in South America. The resources of this Island are so slender that we have to put in a list of items which, although they are imported from outside, would form what we call basic materials on which the manufacture of items from these basic materials would qualify as if they had been produced in the area. Let us take wheat. We could never grow wheat in this Island, but we do need it, and if it is felt at some future date that we can afford a flour mill in this area, the wheat itself would be considered a basic material for the purpose of this free trade area.
4.15 p.m.

If it is felt at some future date that we can afford a flour mill in this area the wheat would be considered as a basic material for the purpose of this free trade area and would be a product that would qualify automatically as a commodity for free movement without let or hindrance between Antigua, Barbados and Guyana. So it goes on with a long list of items, even some items which may not be noted for like pipes and tubes and things which existing industries have taken as socialist of raw materials. This is questionable.

We are dependent on bigger countries for development to a certain point. We can put our labour to work after they have been trained in the assembling and manufacture of the finished product for which we need a market. I do believe that, with one exception which I will go into later, Guyana and ourselves start on an equal basis.

They are no more highly industrialised than we are. They have not got any greater number of industries than we have. I am sure that those that they have are not any more efficient than those we have here; but they have one advantage. They have 600,000 people and we have 240,000.

Any investor, any likely industrialist, making a survey as to whether he should put his factory in Guyana or Barbados or Antigua, dependent of course on the type of goods he wants to produce, will lean presumably to Guyana with a market of 600,000 as against Barbados with a market of 240,000 because the consuming public in Guyana will be greater and it will be easier for him to dispose of his goods in that area.

As I have said, a lot depends on the type of commodity. If it is an item that can be put up in small packages there will be equal advantages in shipping from here to Guyana or from Guyana to here and the advantage we will have will be our labour force. We have a healthy climate for workers and a friendly community which will influence the key men who will be required.

I am dealing frankly with this whole matter because it is something which all of us should know about. People should know about the contribution they have to make towards the success of Barbados in attracting industries into this island. This I welcome because it gives us an opportunity of telling investors that here we can offer in the area a market of almost 1 million people.

On the other hand, I wish all Barbadians to realise that we will have competition from outside. We will have competition from workers in Guyana, and I have said, there will be a bigger market in Guyana than the one we have here. I have no fear that we will be able to convince investors that Barbados is as good a place as any.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to go further. Although we are starting with Antigua, Guyana and Barbados, I would like to ask the Government not only what approaches have been made to other Caribbean islands, but what reaction they have got from them, because this is our natural market.

Although we have not been able to come together in a Federation, for the purpose of free trade, the area is still our natural market and everything should be done to see that the islands come into this Agreement as soon as possible. We should court them. We should even assist them in establishing some of the small industries that will be suitable to them. We cannot expect in a free trade association to have everything, because if eventually any one of the partners finds that it is not working to their advantage they can give twelve months notice and come out.

If Antigua feels after a trial of three or four years that she is only a consumer while Guyana and Barbados are the manufacturers and sellers, as night follows day Antigua will pull out.

I see that the Canadian Government invited us to Ottawa a month ago. She invited us as the

British West Indies not as Barbados alone nor as independent islands alone. Trinidad and Jamaica went up and sat around the conference table with all the others.

Metropolitian countries cannot afford to deal with small units individually. They have repeatedly told us so. They will give us individual help of a small nature and keep us from being hungry, but when we wish real help we have to go forward as a unit with plans which can be tried and approved by economist as being able to ensure a measure of success. Then we will begin to see real money flowing into this area. We have been told so.

If we remain separated one from the other in this area the further away we will be from real and tangible help. That is nothing new. They have repeatedly told us that. They have sent survey missions which have made reports and it is for us to study them and to see what is the correct approach to be made for any assistance that they are going to give us.

As the Canadians have done so the Americans will do. They are prepared to assist us financially and with machinery, but they are asking us to get together with plans, approved plans, before we come to them.

We are the same people, we speak the same language and we have the same cultural ties. Several of the people of the other islands have been educated at the hands of people of this country. Our differences are not so great. We have had our political differences and the reluctance to give up power to a central Federal Government. I feel that eventually we will have to do it but we are taking a long time. For these difficulties we have ourselves to blame.

4.25 p.m.

They hinted and left it to us and we fought among ourselves and we got nowhere. This Free Trade Area is a beginning, but putting it on paper is not enough; that in itself will not make it work. has been put there for the few industrialists we have now to expand and go ahead. It has been drafted in a manner that would protect the existing industries over a period of time. They have been given up to 1971, as for the terms of this, to phase out the existing difficulties of tariffs, by which they mean between now and 1971 the tariff structure will be reduced by these items gradually at the rate of 20% per year. But protection still has to be made in some categories, and all this has been carefully worked out. I think they satisfied Barbadian industrialists today, because they are not fearful of competition with Guyana and Antigua. I think their marketing system could be improved, and that is something that we have not studied very seriously in this country, which is another phase by itself, but in this coming together we, I am sure, will run a measure of stability to the area. Barbadian political life until today still stands out as the most stable feature in the Caribbean. We have seen disturbances of all kinds, and regretfully in Guyana over the last five to ten years, that has been resolved to a measure just now, but if we can lay, through this, a measure of stability to Guyana, it is to our credit, because although we are talking about industrialisation for Barbados, I am convinced that tourism in this island will go further in the next ten years than any industrialisation we can think of. Barbados – and the Little Eight – if it plays its part right, will become the tourist ground of North America. It has the qualities, it has the people of a friendly nature, that will assist the measure of such tourist development. Alongside that, we need a measure of industrialisation because we will have greater markets for some of the things the tourists will be buying; but as far as I can see, it will be quite unlike industries for things that we are now consumers from outside. We can put our people to do more things for ourselves than we now do, but tourism for this island is a natural, and we cannot expect a healthy tourist development in these islands if there is going to be disturbances in the region, because a North American, when he hears of rebellion in Santo Domingo or in Cuba, they are likely to think of the West Indies in general. They decide that these are disturbed waters, so why travel there? Therefore, if we can lay in some stability, for which we are famous, it is to our credit in furthering the tourist trade. At this stage, we have in this island a Committee sitting – the Regional Economic Committee – do not destroy that; that must still go on. There are common services which are to be provided between these islands, and is a must. That is something that is tangible..

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, if the Honourable member would give way, surely he means the Regional Council of Ministers.

Mr. GODDARD: Yes, for which its services are of higher education, currency, and matters of which we cannot go alone. Communications. That is a must; and I am saying this would be a most opportune time for the Government to throw out to these other West Indian islands that are meeting here that the Government is giving them an opportunity to establish a wider Free Trade Area. Thus we would draw from the million people – indeed almost a million and a half –

because something will force us together eventually. That is the pattern on which we should build.

I have studied this Agreement, and as I have said the attempt to give industrialists a wider market for which they ask and demand is to be noted. We have to make a start somewhere, but we do not wish to stop here, we must grow. We must add as many of these items as possible. It would be to their credit, and when we begin to see the benefits of a Free Trade Area, these will be anxious to join. I have confidence in the ability of the Barbadian worker, business men and industrialists to make the maximum of this, and I also would ask that as much encouragement be given to the local people as is often held out to the outsiders. Often I have heard a local business man saying that outsiders can come in and can do everything, and local people when they ask, have all kinds of delays put in their way, and are treated as if they are second class citizens. That is not good enough. I am telling you what I have heard, and it is not good enough. Local people are often turned around in frustration, when they are the ones that are footing the bill for all the incentive plans that we are giving out. Barbadians will take up a portion of their money and go after pioneering industries, but there is still a sense of frustration among many. But let us satisfy ourselves first that these can give Barbadians, Guyanese and Antiguans an opportunity to establish themselves as anybody else can.

4.35 p.m.

Now I will go further and say that in establishing industries we have not got all the know-how or all the capital. Many industrialists will come here, but they prefer to enter business with some local capitalist or investor, because they feel he is living here and would know the people. They wish local people on the directorate to put some of their money to show that they have confidence in their own country. It is a sensible approach, and they also say that they must have a reasonable entry into the area for their technicians. When we ask for immigration permits for people whom we must have here, but who are not available locally, do not say that we must wait three or four months to get them in. No Barbadian employer would bring someone from overseas for a job which a Barbadian could do. If we could find a qualified man here – and I am speaking from personal experience now – we would employ a Barbadian every time because it would be cheaper; we would not have to pay passage, for housing and all sorts of other things which the Government has to do now. But we do not fool ourselves. There are many jobs which I cannot do but for which I am responsible, and I have to find a person, and if I have to go out and bring in one for a period of time on contract, I am asking that my application be not delayed.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, the hon. member is accusing the Government of delaying.....(A VOICE: Oh, no he isn't.) My understanding of what has been said with regard to work permits is that when they have advertised and have got people to fill the necessary posts, they are not given the consideration by the immigration authorities and the Ministry of Home Affairs which they should have. If what I understood is correct, Mr. Speaker, this is not the case. Each case is dealt with according to its merits, and as long as the business community or any industrialist can satisfy the Government that qualified persons are not available in Barbados to fill the necessary vacancies, permission is given to bring in qualified persons for a limited period, during which time Barbadians are to be trained to fill these posts.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I point out, in case there is further interruption of a similar nature, that is not a point of order. I would remind the Hon. Minister that he had reserved the right to speak when he seconded the substantive motion on the previous occasion, and such points he may deal with extensively and not merely briefly on a point of order when he exercises his right to speak.

Mr. GODDARD: If I have given the impression that the Government is doing it, I apologise. I have not had the experience at all, but I do know that it is something that is happening in some of these Islands, and I am saying that these are frustrations that often hold back people who intend to come in here. I have never been refused anyone coming for a job, but these delays should not take place, because it is a matter of recruiting staff, and in the delays that take place the person gets another job. I know it is Government's policy wherever possible to employ Barbadians, but if applications are put up, they should be properly dealt with so that we know where we stand. I know that this has been happening to such an extent in Trinidad that some businesses are moving from Trinidad to Barbados, and it is our opportunity to keep them here. We will be at the receiving end, because they would be moving a few people into Barbados and employing many Barbadians; so do not follow Trinidad blindly.

I am only repeating, Mr. Speaker, what has been mentioned to me from time to time by

persons who wanted to invest here, and these are things they come up against. Regional planning started years ago for these Islands. They worked out a plan and presented it, but the redeeming feature of this agreement is that we can offer to investors locally and potentially from outside a market of approximately one million persons. This has been so drafted and it should be so worked that all three of the territories should benefit, because in Clause 33 it is stated that if any member territory is dissatisfied for any cause which is not remedied, it can give twelve months notice and come out; and just as easily as you have gone into the country, you are out again. Industrialists will question this. We want to know where we are going; we want to augment the area and not put up such restrictions, particularly on the Leeward and Windward Islands that they would not come in.

I do hope Mr. Speaker, that every effort will be made to bring them in. As a matter of fact, if an industrialist comes in and brings in his equipment either to Guyana or here, he should be given some assurance that the consuming market will be established in not more than a year, otherwise by the time he gets his factory up and a member territory opts out, he could be in such a position that he would not open his doors. Of course, that is where you need a political unity, but I suppose we have to go step by step. It is my personal opinion that the greatest thing in its favour is the stability that Barbados has lent to Guyana, and for that we are deserving of great financial help from the metropolitan countries that are so interested in Guyana and less so in us.
4.45 p.m.

Mr. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, like the last hon. member who spoke I would not be long in my speech, I would just like to say that I am one of those persons who were disappointed listening to the Hon. Premier's speech while presenting this matter to Parliament. The disappointing part of it is the real lack of emotion which is customary with speeches of this nature and then the Premier's inability on this occasion to present it as a document. You will remember, Sir, that he read the document and one feels that that can not be regarded as a proper speech. He read the preamble in full which, as you know, any proper Parliamentarian would not do.

Then, there were the other things which the Hon. Premier did. It is regretable that he did not elect to sit in with us today to continue describing the document to us.

It is true, Sir, that this Agreement for the creation of a Caribbean Free Trade Association can be no substitute for a Customs Union of the West Indies. It is only just yesterday that Mr. Compton of St. Lucia said that it was a shame. You cannot answer the remarks of that gentleman by bringing in this Free Trade Agreement. This is like a meatless bone. This is no answer to a Customs Union of the whole area and there is no premier of the West Indies who would deny the West Indies of Federation. This is no answer to a federation and you have this folly of forcing something down the throats of people. This is a betrayal of the people to say the least.

Mr. Speaker, the indications by the people of the West Indies are so clear that you can understand them. I will die, so will you and all of us but those who come after who possess a living soul will clamour for a whole Caribbean nation. You cannot think of defeating facts. You cannot think of having a university of Barbados. The first thing which we will be set with is that this is impossible. There are things which you cannot escape.

This is no answer to the thinking people of the territories. You have read "The Agony of the Eight." Are you adding misery to it? Mr. Speaker, I know how you feel on this. The Oils and Facts Agreement started during the war years between these territories. What would have been the position of Barbados were it not for that?

*(Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER took the Chair.)*

Think of the old regional organisation. Think of what Canada has done for these Islands. What was in the hearts of the Canadian taxpayers when they gave the West Indies those two ships? That Government was losing money every voyage by those ships. Did they write it off and say: "no they could not continue with them any more".

Sir, what do you find happening now? The Hon. Premier has written off the Council of Ministers and has said "no" to a federation. It is just a matter of time before we see the end. You have brought the Chief Ministers here to a conference to dismiss them but cannot do without them. What is happening in this year of grace? Only Heaven will explain in time. Now, you have told us that Barbados will go it alone. However, this is something which will have to be shared. It can only be shared by a federation of the West Indies.
4.55 p.m.

The thoughts you would express can find some rest within your hollow and empty souls.

What does this mean? Do you know what position is? Guyana with its resources beyond anything we can describe and put on paper. What does it mean? Guyana is in the leader position to Barbados; leadership in commerce, leadership in economics; these damn fools do not know what they are going after. He could not stand the impact of the Opposition on this; he had to leave. Immediately after he made a few trips to the United States and told us about some meals from the Union. You think the people are fools? Your first concern should be the development of countries, especially the underdeveloped countries. He is always quoting all sorts of figures, and that is why he is always in trouble with the Truth. Figures mean nothing to me.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, on a point of order. It would be difficult for me really to see whether the hon. member is supporting or attacking the Government, because I cannot understand what he is saying. However, I did hear him say that the hon. member is always in trouble with the Truth. This ought to be withdrawn. It is bad, and the Standing Orders do not allow us to do such. I draw it to you so that you can do what you think fit, Sir.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If I may say this, I heard the hon. member speaking, but I myself did not get the sense. I want to make it clear to him that he should not refer to any person in that sense, but I would caution the hon. member if what the Leader of the Government has drawn to my attention is true, do not repeat it.

Mr. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker and the hon. Leader of the House. If I have sinned, I withdraw that remark. If I have caused him any pain, again I withdraw it. I hope that will give him his peace of mind. The 2½ million souls that will assist you in wrapping you in the flag when you take flight,.....

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I can feel there is a restlessness, and I would ask the Marshal to let those outside the Parliamentary Table to understand that they are here and how they are here.

Mr. MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Guyana with a population of over ¾ million souls, and with all the wealth of the natural resources of its country. Do you think they are going to reach down to the little territories? What are you saying? Cheap labour. We have an agricultural community, we have a Trade Union in this island that would see to it that everybody gets a fair share.

5.05 p.m.

We have a Trade Union in this Island that would see to it that everybody gets a fair share of the industry he shares as a right. Are you telling me, Sir, that he is going to implore our brethren in the Leewards and Windwards to join this organisation to be showered with abuse and cruel humiliating language, want them to come through the back door and come in as floor members and accept the rules? All these things are unkind. Where is the charity in our souls? Has it ceased to exist? Is it no longer our duty when it is so cheap that we can lavish it? I am sure, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that you realise that you are bound to do everything to see a West Indian flag flutter again and again. What hope does this agreement offer? Guyana is anxious to take in the negroes of Barbados and Antigua, and the Premier of this country knows about it, and all he would be left with would be the old age pensioners. Barbados stands out against Guyana by leaps in industry, commerce and what have you, the crafts, and – I do not want to cause any feeling of embarrassment – in education. Guyana is less than a little boy in the yard. It is our prayer that they would change in the interest of the creature comforts of its own population, but do not at this stage offer this because you so want to beat Jagan that you want Barbadians in Guyana. If he is thinking of developing his country industrially and wants skill from Barbados, why are we afraid?

Mr. Burham said that they have no desire to share or take any part in a West Indian Federation. I have heard your silent reproach on this and your feelings on the whole matter. I am probably thinking of fifteen years ago, but now she can lavish her wealth and say "come and get it!" It sounds like a song in a barbecue shop. Do you want to tell me that St. Vincent and Antigua for the first time are displaying an interest in a West Indian organisation? It is a lovely thing to be able to say this. Antigua is anxious to join this and the reason is simple. Antigua is constructing or has just completed the construction of an oil refinery in that country, and all the oil refined in that country must come from outside. It is possible that some will come from Barbados; so you can understand the prayer of Bird, a shrewd, sincere and honest politician in the Caribbean. You cannot change him; his years of leadership tell you that. But Antigua was bound to join feeling that she would get his oil for refining cheaper within the area, and as long as the Agreement was made she would be safe. An oil refinery is now being established also in Guyana.

I have no respect for the people who do not want to take part in the formation of a West Indian Federation, because when a country

becomes independent, it becomes self-centred, and you are always at war with the other fellow, even if he is your brother. Tell Jagan and tell our Premier that the great nations to some extent rely on a number of small communities. It is a sort of continental movement. If you say that America is great, it was not the primitive American or the unwanted English or the African slaves sent to the United States by the British Government that made it so. It was not even made great when the United States wrenched itself free from the tyranny of the British Colonial system, but by the movement across that country from the continent of characters in industry, commerce, education, banking and finance. Similarly with the United Kingdom. I could not resist the temptation to ask one of two ladies serving at a table in London to tell me where she came from and she said "from far, far away; Castro's Cuba". You will remember the period when Napoleon Bonaparte in his struggle on the continent referred to the English people as a pack of shop-keepers. You will remember there was a period immediately after the removal of the Roman control of Britain when it was known as Roman Britain, and everyday you saw a headless body going down the Thames river; but there was a change in outlook which brought the country its greatness. They were only shopkeepers; they had no culture, no art, no oils and paintings, or poetry. With the unsatisfiable search for the truth as claimed by Socrates, the man who died through poisoning in prison, they saw the truth of the man's philosophy in democracy, and this movement started. If you go and look at England today, you can see architecture in every street, sculpture and the arts, and the country bubbles with it, and that is not to be claimed by the English. It was when they started to move in from the continent in large numbers. You will remember the last War when the Russians took agriculturists to London.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, this document is no answer to the prayer of three and half million West Indians. This is just as bad as having the Council of Ministers in Barbados, but wherever they are and ready, we will go to them and ask them between ourselves including Barbados to establish a leader and take this country to the greatness and heights of sovereignty dignity it deserves in a Federation. A Federation is nothing you discuss and push aside in the wormed dust of the archives. It breathes of a people; it dwells within your bosom, and whenever it is repeated, it is like the tender petals of a flower, and you crush it to your bosom. You understand what it is to be a citizen of a nation. Do you know what it is when you feel you have a contribution to make?
5.15 p.m.

You can hear that throbbing in the blood. "There will all be an England". That is the spirit which you want to create. Instead you come with the cheap, sick, anaemic thing. You very well know that it cannot work. The only revealing feature for you is to withdraw it. Why deny the Caribbean area of an economic union? Two weeks after independence was given Barbados, the other islands wanted to turn right about; they wanted to join with you.

The Chief Ministers of the Eastern Caribbean are here in Barbados now to see their organisation closed. There are ready to play their part and to stand side and side of you. But we are telling our friends in the West Indies that we would stop and start all over again. You will have to answer for this. I may not be here. This is something which we want to share with the West Indies as a whole. Are you going to deny us this?

I am counselling hon. members on the other side of this House to tell their leader to withdraw this Resolution. We can bring the whole population of this country to protest against this Resolution. We will come in here and protest. Who would want this? Can you not see for yourself what is happening in the other countries? Look at the last elections which were held in Antigua! Mr. Bird captured all seven seats. Look at what has taken place in St. Kitts! Can you say that will happen to you? (A VOICE: Yes) You do not have one constituency in the Island which is for you. You cannot go to St. Philip and get a seat. You cannot go to St. Joseph.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Let the hon. member stop talking of elections and get back to the Resolution before us.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Why not name him?

Mr. MILLER: That is all you can do. All that you are is human dross. Mr. Deputy Speaker, the answer to the problems of the people of the West Indies is federation but you have denied them that.
5.25 p.m.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, the answer of the West Indian as a people in the Nations mean nothing, and they are ruthless in this. As host country in Barbados they were shamelessly turned away from the last conference, which means that at the taxpayers' expense, Barbados is saying goodbye and goodnight because we are going into Independence with Guyana. Mr. Deputy Speaker, there is nothing you can do to save this document, but you will not want to be reminded

of it. All I say is that an election will come. There was no intention whatever that the Government would have elections, but elections are bound to come. The answer to that is that the people of this country will determine whether or not we should ruthlessly dispose of the people. Once you snap the bails, take two paces back and fall out, sit on the fence like the night owl screeching in the dark.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am really not the appropriate Minister to deal with this particular matter, but it may well be that at this stage we may probably have some small deflection. It may well be, Sir, that this type of gesticulation will give us another opportunity in order to face the situation and take full advantage of the points bearing on it.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. minister has not made himself very clear.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. member who has just sat down exercised his rights as one of the Opposition members of a minor party, and probably he did very well too. In so far as this Government is concerned he made some nuisance mistakes, but as you know, he has always entertained us, and he is doing it again this afternoon.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I must correct the hon. minister, because the Chair never comes down. I will not accept that; the Chair always keeps apart. Let the hon. minister proceed; I have just cautioned you.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: We have been entertained again this afternoon, Sir, and we are very grateful to him for expressing his democratic right, and we hope that the country remains democratic in this way. We feel that Barbados is such a small place that we must have the right man in the right place to help people and attain the highest standard of living. This is not the empty worthless Federation which went and fell by the wayside in 1958, this is on a different basis, because we have the Regional Council of Ministers. This is based on economy, and if you do not want to have a better living for the people of Barbados, that is a matter for you and your party. We want to try and raise the living standards everywhere. When he misinterprets what is written here – each and every little island wants to run their country their way. We are no longer pioneers, the pioneering days are over. Come what may, I stand alone, and will go alone. I am not boasting; I am speaking on behalf of all the people who want a better standard of living and who want to improve their educational standards, because we must all work together on an independent basis, because we can build a proper country and form a nation if we all have the very best men in the right and proper places. The question of party may soon die, and we of Barbados must have the very best man in the right place. You said that we are trying to destroy. What are we trying to destroy? We are trying now to reconstruct what you want to destroy. I will not make any tiring speech.

5.35 p.m.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, in the introductory remarks on this Resolution, a comparison was made that it had taken a relatively short space of time to establish this proposed free trade area in comparison with the length of time spent unsuccessfully in trying to establish a political federation. Now I do not think this is a fair comparison at all, Sir, for the simple reason that to establish a free trade area.....

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: If the hon. member would give way for a moment, I would like to say that I think everything that is said in this House is serious. I cannot hear what the hon. member is saying at all, because I am hearing voices from both sides of the House. I am serious, the Reporter has to be serious, and whoever is speaking, I take it, is serious and must be heard.

Let the hon. member proceed with the hope that I may hear him.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I was saying, Sir, that in the introductory remarks to this Resolution, the comparison was drawn between the time taken to establish this proposed free trade area, and the time spent unsuccessfully in trying to establish a political federation of the West Indies, and I said that this was not a fair comparison. To begin with, to establish a free trade area is relatively easy; so long as you create your rules or origin and your deflections of trade, the rest is an easy matter. A comparison like that could however go further, and one might say that the European Economic Community which has been functioning for years has as its basic objective the political unification of Western Europe, and yet for over sixteen years it has been impossible to establish a super national Western European Parliament on the basis of direct Universal suffrage. Even if you make allowance for the fact, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that there is the likelihood of a free trade area and the establishment of a customs union or political union, yet still sixteen years is a long time, and we cannot yet in the foreseeable future envisage

that there will be a political unification of Western Europe, although there has been a European Economic Community for all these years. So the fact that in a relatively short space of time we have a proposed free trade area between two West Indian colonies and Guyana, and the fact that attempts at federation in the last 15, 16 or 18 years have been doomed to failure, does not mean a single thing.

What is important for us to realise, however, is what is really proposed in this free trade pact. It is important that we should know where we are going. A free trade area is the thin edge of the wedge of the creation of an economic community. The Prime Minister of Guyana who was the author of this proposal has said point blank on several occasions that the establishment of this free trade area is the beginning of economic integration. The Premier of Barbados himself has publicly said that he is in favour of the amalgamation of Barbados with Guyana.

Now a lot of play was made last week about the fact that in this proposed pact there is no provision for freedom of movement of persons, but if we begin to realise that this is the thin edge of the wedge, and that this is the first step towards the creation of an economic community for all the participants, well then you must admit and realise that the next step will be the creation of your economic community in which there is bound to be freedom of movement of persons, similar policies with regard to foreign policy, defence, wages, labour and all kinds of things. This is the basis of the establishment of an economic community. If he can say what we are doing tends in the foreseeable future to create the closest political integration with Guyana, well then we know where we are heading.

I do not know whether Barbadians want to become involved directly in the racial and religious and other problems of Guyana, but to my mind, Mr. Deputy Speaker, the people of this Island should not be confused or be led into believing that because of the absence of freedom of movement of persons and what not in the free trade pact, that the next step will not involve this. This is the first step towards the integration of an economic community. In the same manner as the European Economic Community envisages complete political unification between all its participants, likewise it should be realised that in the future the establishment of this preliminary step will take us into the closest possible political association with all the participants in the present agreement. What are we to get out of this?

The hon. junior member for Christ Church made considerable play of the fact that the enlarged market of Guyana, Barbados and Antigua would be an attraction to investors, but he should not have stopped there. Guyana has considerably more economic potential than Barbados. It has a population of 600,000; ours is 250,000. It is quite true that the political and industrial climate here is more stable than in Guyana, but we have no divine dispensation that this will always remain as it is.

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

Mr. CRAWFORD: And the moment, Mr. Speaker, that affairs in Guyana settle down and that country acquires some degree of political and other stability, one can confidently expect that the important industries which arise out of the establishment of this area will tend to drift towards Guyana.
5.45 p.m.

The moment, Mr. Speaker, that things in Guyana settle down and that country acquires some degree of political and industrial stability, one can confidently expect industries would be drawn towards that country. Industries would tend to turn towards Guyana. The reason why that is so is that it has a large domestic market, cheap power, some natural mineral resources and, as a matter of fact, some of the basic requirements that are needed for the establishment of industry. Industrialists would take more readily to Guyana than to Barbados.

Even now, Guyana is contemplating erecting a plant to convert the aluminium into alumina and, basically, you can readily understand that most heavy industries of this sort would flock to that country. By no stretch of the imagination can we hope to attract them here.

Furthermore, there is a market there now of 600,000. It would be more economical for an investor to site his industry in that country than Barbados because of the larger market. He is not going to establish his plant in Barbados to serve 250,000 people. There is nothing to stop him putting his plant in Guyana for the simple reason that he can stay there and provide for the 250,000 people here. There must be the feeling of the potential industrialist coming to Barbados that establishing the industry in Guyana he could produce commodities cheaper there. Therefore, all things normal, one will find for a variety of reasons that industrialists will want to go to Guyana instead of Barbados.

Therefore, if for the first year or two of the operation of the Trade Agreement it appears that

Barbados will have the advantage over Guyana in the establishment of industries, in the long run, industrialists would find it more economically feasible to establish their factories in Guyana.

Really, when this pact was first proposed, we were told that the industrial position with the joining together of Guyana and Barbados would improve in several directions. We were told that it would assist in the expansion of the oil refineries in Barbados and Antigua, and it would also assist us with the proposal to manufacture cement in Barbados. We were trying to establish a cement plant here. The position is that the local consumption of 25,000 tons per annum is not enough to make a local plant an economically viable operation. The minimum amount required to make it economically viable was about 60,000 tons. So long as the possibility of the creation of the political union between Barbados, the Leeward and Windward Islands remained, this proposal remained possible. The moment the federation of the Eastern Caribbean collapsed, this proposal collapsed. The hope was held out that if we went in a Trade Pact with Guyana, that country would buy the cement it required from us. That appeared feasible. Since then Guyana announced that it will take 75% of its grey cement from Jamaica in return for that Island buying a greater quantity of rice from Guyana. That agreement meant that the trade pact between Guyana and us assisting us in the establishment of our cement plant went by the board. Both Barbados and Antigua expected that under the new proposal, oil for our requirements would not come from areas outside the trade pact area. Recently, Mr. Kendal, Guyana's Minister of Trade, announced that his country intends to establish its own oil refinery.

If you were to quote the exports from this country to Guyana, you will find that we do not send them half million dollars a year. Our imports annually are in the vicinity of three million dollars from that country. I am yet to find out how much we stand to gain from this proposed trade pact with them. Personally, I have always contended that the breakup of the old federation was an economic blessing in disguise for Barbados. It provided us with the opportunity of a breakthrough. After the breakup of the old federation and the impending possibility of a federation between the Windwards and Leewards and Barbados, there was a rush of industrialists to this Island.

As I was saying, Guyana takes less than half million dollars a year from us whereas we send four million dollars in goods to the Windwards and Leewards. What this Island really wants is an economic agreement with the Windward and Leewards.

5.55 p.m.

What this island wants is an economic agreement with the Windwards and Leewards arranged on the basis of significant *quid pro quos*, and when they have developed the area as an entity, then you can seek wider economic union if you like with other countries in the area. Guyana, Trinidad, Jamaica and elsewhere, but at least five years for the operation of a worthwhile economic agreement between Barbados and our industrial contemporaries, the Windwards and Leewards. Under the proposed Agreement, our position will be the same as it would have been if we had remained in the wider Federation, and I speak of course, economically. I cannot, for the life of me, envisage any large scale industrial breakthrough arising out of this trade pact. Do not let anybody fool you, Sir, that it is possible to run a Free Trade pact between a number of participating territories unless there is a certain amount of agreement and similarity in a number of basic policies. The Secretary–General of the European Free Trade Association had this to say on that, Sir. He said that you cannot hope today to move towards affecting free trade without some institutional control of the behaviour unless we are taking part in the exercise. In other words, Sir, free trade itself involves such close unity between the participants in fields other than trade, that merely by itself – especially you are really marketing on what will eventually turn out to be a political union. That is why, Mr. Speaker, the Labour Party in Great Britain and the Trade Unions have always opposed Britain's entry into the European Common Market, because they feared that with the national Parliament for Western Europe envisaged by the European Common Market, France and Italy would have the final say in the groove of policies under which it is calculated. So, Sir, that joining the European Economic Community would put Britain in the position in which the country would be in the majority controlled by the reactionary Western European countries. I am not at all convinced in my mind that the average Barbadian wants to be integrated politically with Guyana; this is where we are heading. This is what Mr. Burnham says, this is what the Premier of Barbados says. I do not think the Barbadian wants that any more than he wants to have a Guyanese representing us in London or Washington. No Barbadian wants finally to see this country involved, as I said earlier, in all the complicated problems which beset Guyana. While the proposed pact makes provision – I think it is under Section 33 – while it makes provision for any member territory to withdraw from

participation, provided that the Government thereby gives 12 months' notice in writing to the Government of Antigua, which shall inform the other member territories, I would not like to see it becoming necessary for this provision to have to be used by any of the three regional members of the proposed pact. I would like any other attempt at Caribbean unity to be successful, but what I want to point out is that economically we have not very much to gain; I do not share the high hopes of the hon. junior member for Christ Church that we can compete successfully in attracting more than Guyana. There are a few industrialists in this country now I know who believe that this trade pact means a lot to them; they believe that they can send all their manufactured goods to Guyana, but there is not one that within less than two years will not find that what he is manufacturing here is being manufactured in Guyana. We have no basic raw material to make the bulk of any particular industry more economically well than Guyana has; the boot is on the other foot. Any industry that we can import the raw materials and send to Guyana, they can do it for themselves, perhaps cheaper than we can do it, too, and unless there was some well defined agreement with regard to the location of industries there is nothing to prevent elusion.

6.05 p.m.

If we can extrude plastics here, they can; if we can import aluminium and make chairs and tables, they can do it. If we can extrude granules and make plastic bags, they can do it, and they can do a lot more than we can do. It would have been an entirely different thing if we started this agreement with the Leeward and Windward Islands from the point of view of industrial expansion in Barbados. It is quite true, Sir, that they have certain suspicions and inhibitions against industrial expansion in Barbados, but this might have been overcome, because I know on authority that in a number of these Islands the Governments were themselves working on plans for the establishment of a lot of industries, and on certain industries in some cases which their raw materials made feasible, and all we had to do was to get around a table with them and allow them to enter into certain fields in which we would not enter and vice versa, and we would have had no problem. We would not compete with their industries, and they would not compete with ours. But you watch for the competition in this area between Barbados and Guyana within the very near future with similar manufacture in the two places, and watch the trend of investors going to Guyana instead of coming here. What have we got to offer? A few beaches and at the moment a little more stable climate. Guyana has its cheap land areas, resources of one form or another, cheap hydro-electric power. Power is an important item. We have nothing to compare with the cheap hydro–electric power available in Guyana to any industrialist; so in the final analysis, how can you hope to compete?

In so far as the people from Barbados going to Guyana is concerned, the Introducer of the Resolution said that the Prime Minister of Guyana mentioned several times that while he wanted Barbadians and Antiguans to settle in Guyana, he was not anxious that Guyanese should leave that territory. To begin with, Sir, if Barbadians and Antiguans start flocking to Guyana, if they did go, you could not block Guyanese who wanted to come here; but it would be a long time before Barbadians could go to Guyana, because at the moment there is tremendous unemployment in that country. I am at a loss therefore to find out precisely the advantages which are going to accrue to this country from our participating in this exercise.

I noted that one of the Opposition Leaders in Trinidad, Mr. Jamadhar stated a few days ago that this Association is bound to fail, because it is rooted not in mutual co-operation, but was a political necessity of Guyana's ruling Party to buy survival, and the actual mechanism under this agreement by which Guyana's ruling Party hopes to buy survival may be quite clear to some of us now, but I am sure it is not quite clear to the public of this Island. Time alone will prove or will disclose it. But in some respects even the prime Minister of Guyana and the Premier of Barbados are not *ad idem* in this exercise at all. If we are to take the Finance Minister of Guyana, Mr. D'Aguiar, as speaking for the Guyana Government, they want Trinidad in the pact, but from the public expressions of the Barbados Premier from time to time, he does not want Trinidad in the pact.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order Mr. Speaker, it is not true to say that the Premier of Barbados does not want Trinidad in the pact. Trinidad and all the other West Indian territories were invited from the beginning of these talks. We would welcome any of the territories of the Caribean area.

Mr. SPEAKER: The point is duly made. I am advised by my colleague, His Honour the Deputy Speaker, that the Hon. Minister of Trade has not yet spoken, and therefore.....

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I only wanted to get the records straight, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: The only trouble is that it was by way of a point of order.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I do not think I will reply to the interruption by the hon. junior member for St. Andrew. When the Premier himself denies this statement, I have his remarks in this connection here in black and white in a newspaper report to quote.

Mr. SPEAKER: Apropos of quoting a newspaper report, I would not have to remind the hon. senior member for St. Philip of Standing Order No. 26 where one is permitted to read extracts from books or papers other than newspapers.

Mr. CRAWFORD: By then I would have had it nicely copied for your Honour.

Mr. SPEAKER: It might be memorised.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I am not as optimistic as Your Honour. I was establishing the point that the Prime Minister of Guyana and the Premier of Barbados are not apparently *ad idem* on the number of issues arising out of this exercise. I quoted the first one with regard to Trinidad.
6.15 p.m.

The Prime Minister of Guyana is at pains every time he gets the chance to get on a platform to expatiate on the necessity for a close Caribbean Union. Apparently, from what Mr. Burnham said here, left to him, he would work wholly for the closest political association with all these territories. For myself, I see the best hope for the economic advancement of this Island stands from a close association between the Leewards and the Windwards and Barbados. I regard it as a mistake to be associated with the territories of Guyana and Antigua without being associated with those in the Leewards and the Windwards. We have still the long way to go before we reach saturation point. Our best hope lies in an association with our neighbours and we should do our best to exploit these avenues first.

As I was saying, Sir, as soon as Guyana gets more stable we are going to remain as we are now, with an unfavourable trade balance with Guyana and as time goes on it will become more unfair. As the hon. junior member for St. George said, this is no answer to the federation of the Eastern Caribbean. This is no answer to a Customs Union with the Leewards and Windwards. I think that even although for reasons which we all know too well, the possibility of a political union at the present time does not seem practicable, yet it does not necessarily mean that the Leewards and Windwards would not be interested in the establishment of a Free Trade Area. It is quite true to say that the creation of the Free Trade area can be of assistance to under developed countries but hon. members are fully aware of the dissatisfaction in Latin America over the establishment of the Latin Free Trade area because it has redounded to the advantage of mainly two Latin countries to the disadvantage of the others and there is a move on foot, or there is some suggestion, that some of the economic advantages accruing to those two countries should be shared between the other countries. It was the same thing happening when Jamaica and Trinidad were in the West Indies federation. If they had remained in the federation, they would have become the masters and there was the suggestion that they be prepared to give annually a subvention to the other units. While it is quite true to say that the average industrialist is going to pick out the place where he wants to establish his industry yet at the same time I believe that Barbados has a part to play in the development of this area and the manner in which it should be played. There is, of course, a difference of opinion in the way how it should be played between members on that side and those on this side.
6.25 p.m.

What we must be concerned with is not the immediate political or other advantage, neither immediate nor future. What we should be concerned with, Sir, is what is best for the future of this country. Whichever Party is in office, we have to live here, and we have to share the burdens of lack of proper development, unemployment, economic suffering of any kind, and therefore in the formulation of policies calculated to uplift the condition of the people in this island, Sir, the main consideration should be not what is best for any particular head of a Government or any particular Party, but what is best in the long run for the maximum number of people in the island, and what is most calculated to ensure their future well-being. I know from practical experience what the proposal for unity between Barbados and the Leewards and Windwards mean to Barbados. I am sure, Sir, that these advantages cannot be duplicated on the proposal we are now discussing for this year or next year, but we must look beyond that and appreciate, Sir, what is likely to happen after that, because these things are based not on sentiment, not even always, Sir, on people's personal preferences, but on the hard cold facts of reality, and the hard cold facts of economics, and on the hard cold facts of deriving the maximum gain from the investment, and it is on these grounds that I feel that in the long run

Barbados stands to gain less from this exercise than it would from the proposal for unification between ourselves and the Leewards and Windwards.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Andrew, the hon. minister of Trade.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would not be long, but I would like to make a contribution to this debate, as I am due in my Constituency at 7 o'clock. I should like to take up the hon. members that spoke, two of them in particular, on statements which were made, and I would like to deal with the last speaker first. He mentioned – this is the hon. senior member for St. Philip – he mentioned the cement plant in Barbados doing trade in Guyana, and he pointed out that Guyana has now entered into some agreement with Jamaica to take 75 percent of their cement for exchange for rice – an increased quantity of rice – to Jamaica. It is all well and good to say this. If Jamaica is not a member of the Free Trade Area Agreement, there are certain considerations that must be borne in mind. Cement, if it is manufactured in Barbados, has the added advantage of Guyana on the Guyanese market at a lower price than that coming from Jamaica, because there would be no question of .....

Mr. SMITH: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I notice here on the Resolution that the hon. minister is in charge of the Resolution. Well, then, is this the end of the debate? I take it that the hon. minister would reply last, or do you mean that my right to speak has gone now, Sir?

Mr. SPEAKER: Not at all. The opening speech was made, the passing of the Resolution was moved by the hon. and learned member for St. John. It was seconded by the hon. junior member for St. Andrew, who at the time of seconding – as he was entitled to do under the Standing Orders – reserved the right to speak. That right he is now exercising. As a matter of fact, I think the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is the next speaker.

Mr. SMITH: I am going by what is printed here. Notice of this Resolution was given by the Hon. E. W. Barrow on the 2nd August, 1966. Hon. A. DaC. Edwards seconded the motion and reserved his right to speak. I take it that he is in charge of this Resolution. He is minister of Trade.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry, but the hon. member for St. Joseph is going far beyond a point of order. He has the right to speak next. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph may now recall that leave was given to the hon. and learned member for St. John to take charge of this Resolution. The House gave the leave. This House. Do I hear that which was not presumably intended for my ears?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Sir, I am making the point that the question of the tariff that will have to be paid on Jamaica cement for Guyana if there is a cement factory in Barbados. The only person whom I have heard mention that is the hon. senior member for St. Philip, but I am trying to point out that if there is ever a cement factory in Barbados, with this Free Trade Area Agreement in operation, cement will be sold in these territories free of duty, and without barrier to any manufactured commodity from Barbados in any of the other territories, so the point I am trying to make is, .....

Mr. CRAWFORD: On a point of order, what I said was this. I said that Guyana had publicly announced entry into an Agreement with Jamaica long before the Free Trade Area Agreement was finalised.

Mr. SPEAKER: This is not a point of order, but I deem it to be a point of explanation under Standing Order No. 26(16).

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: What I am saying is that Barbados cement or any Barbadian product can compete more easily with a product manufactured in the area reaching out of this Association, because there will be no tariff barrier to the manufactured commodity from Barbados, but a commodity coming from another territory has to pay duty. There is no duty placed on manufactured goods being sold in any area that is signatory to this Agreement if it is manufactured within the area.
6.35 p.m.

What I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is that this could not stop cement manufactured in Barbados from being sold in Guyana as the hon. senior member for St. Philip mentioned.

Mr. CRAWFORD: On a point of order, I cannot allow this nonsense.

Mr. SPEAKER: If the hon. member is making a point of explanation, he should not make any comment about "allowing this nonsense", or anything else.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I stated that under this agreement, it could not happen. I presume the hon. member has read the agreement. Article 3

says that the provisions of this agreement shall not affect the rights and obligations of any agreements entered into by any of the Parties to this Agreement before it is signed. In other words, it is so dammed childish.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I can hardly believe my ears.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I am sorry, Sir, but it is clear that if any agreement is made before this trade agreement is signed, nothing in the agreement can make it null and void.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The point I am making is that there would be no tariff barrier on the manufacture of cement sold in Guyana, and hence it can compete with any other cement brought to the island.

Mr. CRAWFORD: On a point of explanation, I would like to repeat that it cannot come in under the agreement.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The hon. senior member for St. Philip spoke about industrialists choosing to go to Guyana if there is a loss of stability in Barbados or if there is more stability in Guyana politically and otherwise.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I never said that at all. On a point of explanation, what I said was this: I said that granted that there is at the moment more apparent political and industrial stability in Barbados, industrialists would be inclined to come here, but the moment the degree of industrial and political stability improves in Guyana, they would be more inclined to go there, and I explained the reason why. They have a larger domestic market and more raw materials to put forward and that kind of thing.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: That is nothing different from what I was saying, but the hon. member did not allow me to finish the point I was making. Let us take it that what the hon. member has said is factual, or let us take it that there is this stability in Guyana and that industrialists would be inclined because of industrial stability and impetus to go there. When an industrialist goes to a country, he looks not only for the stability of the country, but for the incentives given through its industrial legislation, and for a market. What I would like to point out is that even before this free trade area agreement is in operation, we have found that more and more people are interested in industrialising in Barbados in order to capture the Guyana market. More people are coming to Barbados to industrialise because of the attempt at an association with Guyana, because when they come here they know there is no trade barrier on products sent to Guyana and their products can reach 600,000 people there. Another thing is that the industrial incentives offered in Barbados are far superior to those offered in Guyana, and that is why industrialists come here, because they have a longer tax-free holiday and more incentives than are available to them in Guyana. But we are not fighting Guyana for industries. We are coming together as a unit economically. We saw that the question of coming together politically is far fetched and the answer to out economic problems in the area is to come together economically. Hon. members on the other side are trying to flog a dead horse when they talk about a federation.

Mr. CRAWFORD: On a point of order, did I understand the hon. member to say that industrialists would be attracted here on the grounds of superior incentives?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that is not a point of order. What an hon. member understands can not be the subject of a point of order. No one is more aware of the acoustics of this place than I am, but I am afraid I can do nothing about it.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: If I may proceed without interruption, Mr. Speaker, hon. members on the other side instead of talking about the free trade area agreement have been trying to flog a dead horse as I said before. They have been trying to resuscitate a federation which is dead, and many of them have contributed to the death of a political federation. What we are interested in is the economic viability of the area, and that is why we have this exercise before us. This will be the answer to our present problems and not a political association as such.

The hon. senior member for St. Philip said that a political association between Barbados and the Leewards and Windwards would be more advantageous to Barbados than an association between Antigua, Guyana and Barbados as it stands now.

Mr. CRAWFORD: I never said political association.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: We are interested not only in a political association; we are interested in the economics of the area. Now I cannot see for the life of me how an economic association between Barbados and the Windwards and Leewards would be more advantageous to Barbados than an association with the Windwards and Leewards, Guyana and the Independent Jamaica and Trinidad; and this is what this whole exercise is about. Invitations have been issued to the other territories of the Caribbean area. We

have gone to Canada as an economic group looking for economic help. We did not go to Canada as a political body, because as such we would never get there; but as a body looking for economic stability and viability in the area, we went to Canada and it was a successful tour.

As I said before, invitations have been issued to the other territories, some of whom have expressed interest in the association and some have actually sent observers to our conferences. At the first conference in Guyana, observers from St. Vincent were present. It is true that to date they have been non-committal but unofficially, privately, they have expressed their willingness to come into the free trade area, and when we had the Heads of Governments Conference here at the Drill Hall before we went to Canada, the Leaders of the other territories expressed an interest in the free trade area association.
6.45 p.m.

When we had the conference in Canada, even before and when we had the conference here at the Drill Hall, the leaders of the Governments of the other areas expressed interest in the Free Trade area. They were thinking of a Free Trade area not only of the Caribbean but even a Free Trade area associated with Canada. Therefore, the whole area is interested in this agreement. It is not only just here that they are speaking about co-operation, they are speaking about economic association of the West Indies with Canada.

In one breath they say that there should be a federation of the West Indies. A federation would mean the inclusion of economic co-operation of the area. Every one can very well see that political federation is dead. What we are doing here is making provision for economic co-operation within the area. As a matter of fact, when the first federation was functioning, there were talking about including an economic federation. They were thinking of a Customs Union within the federation. Yet you find the hon. senior member for St. Philip and the hon. junior member for St. George coming in here today and criticising a project like this, when they were even going up and down this country talking of federation.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of explanation. The hon. member seems to have misunderstood what is said.

Mr. SPEAKER: I doubt whether that is a point of explanation.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: No one can deny that greater consultation can only be in the interest of the people of the area, therefore, for anyone to attempt to discourage an attempt to bring the people of the area together economically can only be traitors to the people in the island. When I say so, I mean anyone without exception.

The hon. senior member for St. Philip spoke of an alumina plant which is going to be established in Guyana. This association with Guyana would mean that we would get employment for the people of Barbados. This is something which we are fighting hard to achieve. We are thinking of the greatest benefit to every one. Any commodity manufactured within these territories of the Free Trade area would redound to the credit of everybody in Barbados. Let us be honest. Lots of things which the people are buying now at a great price, they would be able to acquire at a reduced price. What the woman or housewife in Martindales Road, Jemmotts Lane, Boscobelle or Six Cross Roads is buying today at a great price, by the establishment of this Free Trade area, any commodity that is bought from Guyana or Antigua or any of the countries within the Free Trade area, these housewives would be able to buy at a cheaper price. These hon. members are speaking against this Resolution, yet they say that they have the poor at heart.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. You were in the Chamber when I made my speech. The reference which I made to aluminum and bauxite was made in the context that since there were all these industrial benefits in Guyana, that country would be more regarded as suitable for trade and industrial development than Barbados. No one was criticising any industry or saying that it would not be for the benefit of the people.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not think any reference was made to the hon. senior member for St. Philip.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Whom the cap fits let him draw the string. We sat here and listened to some hon. members and as far as some of them talked, you just could not understand what they were saying because nothing was said. There are people who do not like to tell people the truth and who go to political meetings and tell the people of this country that by this trade agreement they will not get commodities cheaper. The hon. member said that he is interested in seeing that work is provided for the people of this country. How much interested is he in the people? So long as he can get a good breakfast for himself he does not care about the people. If they were interested

in the people of this country they would never criticise an issue like this because it has nothing in it for one to criticise.

*(Loud Asides:)*

Mr. SPEAKER: I hear other voices than the member who is addressing the Chair. May I call attention to Standing Order No. 29 (6) "While a Member is speaking, all other Members shall be silent or shall confer only in undertones, and shall not make unseemly interruptions."

The hon. junior member for St. Andrew is addressing the Chair and I must confess that other hon. members are not silent, nor are they conversing in undertones.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: When a person is hurt, he would do anything. Now, Mr. Speaker, I was saying that the Free Trade Area Agreement can only be a help to the people of this country and the people in the area. It will ensure that more people would come to our country and establish industries as is being done today. People come here today to set up industries and they are planning the extension of their industries to provide for the market they will get in Guyana. However, the fact is that we are in this agreement with Guyana and as the hon. junior member for Christ Church has honestly pointed out – he is different from some of us – this agreement would mean an increased improvement in our development programme.
6.55 p.m.

Any honest minded person would share those views, but any dishonest minded person could not share those views. He would have to oppose an Agreement like this. The hon. junior member for St. George said nothing about the Agreement, he talked about a Federation, I thought that was closed. I do not see the necessity for making mention of the Federation here at all because that is gone by the breeze, and we are doing something which is of more benefit to the area, and it is this Free Trade Area Agreement. This Association must inevitably, Mr. Speaker, lead to an obtaining of domestic markets, and elimination of barriers and an accelerated and sustained economic development in the area. You see, some of us only think of of benefit to ourselves, but we do not think of what is of benefit to the people that we happen to represent, the people in the entire area. That is what is wrong with some of us. What I am saying here is that the proposals we have heard today can only be of benefit to the people in the area. I tried to make the point earlier that this Free Trade Area Agreement will be, or is considered, as a sort of forerunner to a Customs Union. Take Sir Grantley Adams, in the day when he is losing his mental faculties he is still saying that the Free Trade Area Agreement is something which is good for the area. The Leader of the Barbados Labour Party, who carries out the policy of the Labour Party – I mean the comedian of the Party – came in here today criticising this Agreement, and the Chairman of his Party says it is one of the best things in the area. In Canada we made joint representation economically for the entire area, perhaps for political reasons, perhaps because elections are near at hand in some of the areas, or perhaps for other reasons, they have not yet efficiently expressed their willingness to come in. When I say expressed efficiently, I mean by sending in their application to the place where they should send it, that is in Antigua. However, they will come in because it is the only answer to economic stability in the area, hence they will come into the Free Trade Area Agreement, so the question of – for example, some hon. member on the other side is worried as to whether these people were invited, as to whether they would come into the Agreement. The hon. junior member for Christ Church, the hon. senior member for St. Philip, they were remembering Federation, but the hon. junior member for Christ Church is a bit more farsighted. He has a bit more vision than some of the other members on the other side, and he sees that this answering a need in the area. Unfortunately, some of the other members on the other side cannot see it because of the lack of vision, and the hon. member supports the Agreement. Federation has failed; you have got a solution to the problem in the area. Some of them have seen the light and have supported the proposal; others have not yet come out of darkness. I suppose it is because of the hurricane season. There were certain questions raised by the hon. junior member for Christ Church which I intended answering, but the hon. member is not now in his place and I do not think that I should speak any longer on this, because my time is up for my appointment, Mr. Speaker, and that is the contribution I have to make.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Joseph, if he is disposed to speak, he may proceed now.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, honourable members on this side of the table have made their contributions, and I will make mine now at this very late hour. Now, Sir, the Resolution reads as follows:

*Whereas* an Agreement for the establishment of an Association to be called the Caribbean Free Trade Association was signed on behalf of the

Governments of Antigua, Barbados and British Guiana (now called Guyana) on the 15th day of December, 1965, at Dickenson Bay, Antigua.

*And Whereas* a copy of the said Agreement was laid in the House of Assembly on the 26th day of April, 1966, and in the Senate on the 19th day of May, 1966:

*And Whereas* paragraph 1 of Article 21 of the said Agreement provides that the Agreement shall be subject to ratification by the Legislatures of all the Signatory Territories:

*Be now Resolved* that the said Agreement now ratified and that the Senate be invited to concur herein and, if concurred in,

*Resolved* that His Excellency the Governor be asked to assent and take the necessary steps to give effect to this Resolution.

Now Sir, the Government has seen a reason to think about trade. Trade, Sir, is a country: a country depends upon the trade that is being done. In other words, no one can get away from the fact that if a Government is trying to build up a trade or establish a Free Trade Area or things of that sort relative to trade they are doing their duty. I wonder why we are only dealing now with three territories, Barbados, Guyana and Antigua!

7.05 p.m.

Now, Sir, there are at present only three territories in this association, Barbados, Guyana and Antigua, but there are a lot more territories which any honest-minded person would feel should be in this association. Now the hon. member who has just left his seat said that others have expressed privately their willingness to join this free trade agreement. This agreement was arrived at since 15th December, 1965, at Dickenson Bay in Antigua, and if there are any who are willing to come in, don't you think it would be time for them to do so, especially since they have arrived in Barbados to wind up the Regional Council of Ministers? One of these Ministers has said that this is the last occasion he will have the opportunity of coming to Sherbourne to discuss matters of a regional nature. Another has said that he is sorry and it is a shame that he had to come for such a matter. I am wondering, Sir, whether the leader of these territories were approached in the right manner and the meaning of the free trade area explained to them, or whether the manner in which Guyana and Barbados started off is responsible for the others keeping off. Whenever a painter is working anywhere where the public passes freely, you see a sign marked "Wet Paint", which means to keep off; so I am wondering if the attitude of the Leaders of Guyana and Barbados might have caused the others to keep off.

I read in the newspapers some time ago that the Prime Minister of Guyana flew into Seawell to have a private talk with the Premier of Barbados, and the next few days I read that it was something about a trade agreement. We only knew about this when it appeared in the Press, and this document was circulated to us on the 10th May, while the decision was made at Dickenson Bay on 15th December.

As I have said, trade is the backbone of a country, but if the Premiers, Prime Ministers or the Lords of a particular country feel to take it upon themselves to go ahead in their way, let them do so. We wish them luck, because it is trade. I am wondering, Sir, if the Chamber of Commerce really know their duties. I wonder if they do not know that they are as much as a Government in any country when it comes to trade. They seem to be afraid and are sitting back, when they should call on the Government to do something, because the Government has to rely on the trade of any country to run the country. They should demand certain things of the Government, and the Government cannot fight them. If the businessmen do not sprain their brains and run their businesses successfully so that the Government can tax them on their returns, what would become of the Government? So the servant should not be greater than the master. The industrialists should call on the Government to do something, and not allow Trinidad to get all the trade and industries. If all the smaller islands come together, everything will go right, although the Hon. Minister of Trade said that Federation is dead. To me it is not dead.

7.15 p.m.

Although the Hon. Minister who has just left has said that federation is dead, I am saying that it is not dead. I am saying that maybe some politicians are dead but federation is not dead. Everyone who can think and see around a corner will say that federation is the only safe thing for these smaller territories.

Sir, the Prime Minister of Guyana is telling the people in these islands now that unless we come together we will perish. Do you think he means only in a trade agreement? I do not think so. I think he means that we should come together as a whole. He has seen the writing on the wall because if you want to spend money, you first of all have got to make the necessary provisions to replace it. How are you going to replace it otherwise? Are you going to sit down

and let your trade go to the wind? Trade is the only thing to bring in money to run the country.

You will notice that in Barbados some businessmen are having things their own way but the time has come when everyone should talk their mind and let the people of this country know that the Hon. Premier is not the only one that has the say. He may have the say politically but not economically. Let us say that you have the say politically but you do not have the necessary economics to follow it. What can you do? Therefore, you can very well see that politics is one thing but economics is another. Which would you choose between them? I am sure the answer which I would get is economics. Some people go into politics to get economics, therefore economics is the best.

Here it is, I still believe that the other Ministers from the other territories still have something at heart in our getting together. They still mean well because if they did not they would not put themselves to the trouble of coming here, especially when you remember the treatment which was meted out to some of them at Sherbourne. I am sure they mean well and they want to see a Caribbean unity, otherwise, the majority would not wast time and money to come to Barbados. They want to come together and I am sure, if you ask them one by one privately, they will tell you that they are quite willing but – and it is a big "but" – there is a stumbling block and that stumbling block must be removed otherwise we have to agree with the hon. senior member for St. Andrew that federation is a dead dog. The majority wants to come together to spend their money with you. However, it appears that you only want my money and my bread but you do not want my company. I would be ashamed to call on a person to spend money with me when I had already let that person know that he is no company for me. I would not know which mouth should I talk with them, whether it should be the top or the bottom.

Let us come together and iron out these differences. Let us come together and solve these problems. There are problems to be solved and the only way that they can be solved is by sitting down around a table together and finding out how everyone thinks. Let us reason together. If I do so and so, would you do so and so? You have to reason together but if you are unreasonable and only because you are little bit stronger than I, you do not want to take me on, well then we will get nowhere. We will find ourselves going different ways.

I would tell the other Governments that I would like them to join with me in this Trade Agreement, – that is to say, the Trade Agreement between the three Governments of Guyana, Barbados and Antigua. I would tell them that we want to raise the standard of living and this is something for the good of the people of the area. This money is not going into their pockets individually, this money would be going into the Treasury, therefore the money will be spent on the country. Go about it in the right way. Try and bring in the others with you. Here it is you are joining with Guyana which is as big Barbados and Antigua put together and you are not trying to get some support from the others. (A VOICE: Guyana is very much bigger than Barbados and Antigua put together). You want support from the others because at some time or the other the Prime Minister of Guyana may feel that he is the biggest and therefore he will want to do funny things but if you have some of the other territories joining with you he would not be able to do it so easily.

You are not asking them at the moment to join with you in a federation, you are asking them to come into a Trade Agreement with you and I believe that you should be able to convince them that if they join with you, they would stand to benefit. They may be unwilling to do it if approached by one side but they may be able to see the benefits which will accrue to them if they are approached by the three Governments together. If the three of you get together you would be able to convince them.

7.25 p.m.

They have the standard of living in their territory to raise, too, only yesterday a friend of mine who has just returned from St. Vincent told me about the appalling living conditions down there, and by joining this Agreement or Association, there is the possibility that their standard of living will be raised. But there is such a thing as elections, and those boys are keeping off to see how the tide is going to break, that is what is keeping them off. If elections should come now or next week, and whatever be the results, Federation will not be dead; you would not have to go into a trade agreement with only three territories. As far as I can see, the territories are suffering from want of leaders, and I hope that leaders will come forth and put the case to the people and try to convince them that they are being kept back, because I may be good, in one direction, but in another direction I may prove to be bad, and the people of the country must be taught how, when and where. It is no sense trying to do any more fooling, come to the people with the truth and let us get on with the

business. No sense in a minister getting up here and saying that who should oppose this Agreement are traitors and are dishonest and things of that sort. I do not think it would be opposed until it comes to the vote – if it is a vote – and then a particular member or members may vote against it. Then you can talk about opposing, but if one should get up and speak his mind openly, whether right or wrong, it is not right then for the minister to accuse them of being against the poor people; they are trying to raise the standard of living for the people and if you oppose this you are dishonest and you are a traitor, or yet in the dark. If you only include Barbados, Antigua and Guyana, how high can the standard of living be raised? Try to get the others to enter the Agreement and then you can talk about raising the standard of living. Now, we have to be very careful where we are talking about industrialists. Be very careful about what type of industries there are, because if you have to bring in the majority of your raw material from outside, you have to be very careful that you do not find yourself paying more for an item that is being made in the same territory than if you had to import it from outside. It is alright to talk about industries and establishing them, but if the other countries feel that you are going to compete against them, you will have to pay for it, and in the process there is the possibility that instead of helping the housewife, as the hon. minister said, you will be pulling the few dollar bills out of her purse much quicker, so you have got to be very careful. I think it was the hon. senior member for St. Philip who said that we should have had a cement factory long ago, but it is the question of the output. We could not guarantee a market for it, and if you cannot make a turnover to offset your overhead and make a profit, you will have to shut your doors. Remember, the other territories will not be too happy if they should come in and Guyana should pull out, so you would be doing very little because you are trying to attract hard-headed businessmen into your area, and these people know business backwards. Well, Sir, I can tell you this; I do not think that there is any businessman who could run your business for you better than a Bank Manager, he can sit there at his desk and run your business, and he has never seen it. He doesn't even know where it is, but he can tell you if you are going up or coming down. Well, there it is, you are dealing with businessmen, and these industrialists – do not think that they are going to put their worse foot in any more than they are going to put their best. If they read this Agreement – paragraph 33 I think it is – they are going to stay away, because it is money being invested. Never mind how much is tax free.

7.35 p.m.

Chapter 33 should never be written into this agreement if you want to encourage industrialists, or if you put it in, it should be for twenty-five years. And besides you have to write to Antigua. I was wondering why Antigua, because she is the smallest; but you probably want to make her feel like a little fish in a big pond. This is probably the only way to catch the bird, but the bird will fly. Barbados and Guyana will be the big two, but the big two will have to apply to the small three, though the bird can also come out in twelve months. If I catch a bird and put it in a cage and leave the door open, I am no wiser.

I hope, Sir, that hon. members on the other side will not misunderstand me, because I am only raising my points on how I feel about this agreement. I hope that the Government will do as much pressing as possible to get in a few more islands before 30th November. I do not feel that these three Islands are strong enough to do what we are aiming at, and that is raising the standard of living, but we cannot do it without money. It would be a first class idea now that the Leaders are here to try and get something out of them. The Hon. Minister of Trade said that some disclosed their willingness to join in private, but I want to hear it in public. They are probably waiting until after the elections in Barbados. If that is so, they are probably afraid of the present set-up, and they have the feeling that an election might change it; so I do not blame them. The treatment that was meted out to them would cause them to be a little afraid.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, the hon. member who is on the floor now is trying to presume that our Government should be carrying the responsibility of financing all the other territories; but let it be said here that Barbados can balance her budget, but without financial backing Barbados cannot carry the weight alone.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that is not a point of order, but I had to listen in order to determine whether it was or not.

Mr. SMITH: I understand the hon. member to say that without financial backing, Barbados cannot go independent alone. That is how I take it.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I never said that. Barbados cannot carry the other Islands which are given subventions and grants. Let the British Government, Canada and the United States of America help those that receive these grants.

Mr. SPEAKER: The point of explanation has been duly made.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I would be very glad if the hon. member would keep quiet, because I think he has spoken already.

Mr. SPEAKER: According to my record, the hon. senior member for Christ Church has already spoken, but of course, he has the right as any other member to rise on any of three points of interruption, if it is a point of order, explanation or elucidation. And only when the alleged point is made, do I know whether it is a valid or invalid point.

Let the hon. junior member for St. Joseph proceed with the Free Trade Agreement.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member should see that the others are behaving as they should, and he should not try to appear ridiculous.

Mr. SPEAKER: In so far as other members are concerned, it is the duty of the Chair to ensure that all hon. members are conducting themselves with decorum, and that the speaker who is on his feet is keeping to the point.

Mr. SMITH: I do not think he understands what I am saying.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is immaterial. Let the hon. member proceed.

Mr. SMITH: And let the hon. member sit down.

Mr. SPEAKER: Every other hon. member is seated except the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, unless my eyes deceive me.

Mr. SMITH: The hon. member said that Barbados is not financially strong enough to carry the other Islands. When you hear such remarks coming from a member of the Government, and these people hear them, can you ever get them to even think about the present Government again? 7.45 p.m.

People have feelings and they have sense. This is a Minister of Government and he is saying that Barbados is not able to carry these small islands, let them go here and there. It sounds insulting and very bad to the various territories.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order. Our people pay their taxes. We pay taxes for Barbadians to have a better standard of living, not for the other territories. I said that they should go to the British Government and elsewhere.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is not a point of order, although it might be one of elucidation or clarification. I wonder whether members are feeling the strain of carrying on.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, I see that the hon. member seems to be put out –

Mr. SPEAKER: Let us proceed with the debate, please.

Mr. SMITH: Now, Sir, I think it is time that we have a suspension. I feel that you are feeling the strain of sitting there so long. I beg to move that this sitting be suspended for three-quarters of an hour.

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

*The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division at 7.50 p.m.*

*On resumption:*

Mr. SPEAKER: When the sitting was suspended the hon. junior member for St. Joseph was addressing the Chair. He may, if he sees fit, continue.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, it would appear to certain hon. members on this side of the table that the Government believes that they are saying that the Government should spend money on the people of the other territories. After listening to the hon. senior member for Christ Church I am of that opinion; but I do not want that hon. member to misunderstand me. None of us would agree to take Barbadians' money and spend it on the people of the other territories.

We are dealing with trade and we would like the leaders of these territories to come into the same trade agreement as Antigua, Guyana and Barbados. That does not mean to say that we want to maintain those countries. That is entirely outside of what we are dealing with today. We are not dealing with maintaining territories. We are dealing with a trade agreement and we are saying that Guyana, Antigua and Barbados alone are not sufficient. I as a business man know that the bigger the business turnover is the more the profits are. I can remember a time when the shopkeepers of this country had to go to Bridgetown on their own and take home goods to their shops. A time came when one merchant

started to carry goods to the shopkeepers, and in order that merchants should maintain their turnover everyone had to do the same thing.

I have said that with Chapter 33 of this Agreement you are not safe. This Agreement may mean nothing after a time because if Guyana agrees to pull out the other two territories would be nowhere; or if Antigua or Barbados agree to pull out the other territories will be nowhere. They have the option of pulling out as at early a time as within twelve months.

I do not see this Agreement binding on the territories. This is only a tryout to see what would happen. When you get a Minister of Government saying that these people are so poverty stricken and that we are not going to maintain them, let them get money elsewhere, even if those people would like to come into the Agreement they are not going to come in. You cannot be using such words to people and expect to gain or keep their friendship.
8.45 p.m.

I am sure that if we could possibly manage to get the Leewards and Windwards to come in with us, we could get more by way of trade, by way of profits from these people, than we would get from Guyana. I am sure about that because people are dealing with us; there is nowhere else for them to deal. I see certain things are being shipped down the islands; they are not going to Canada nor Guyana, and if industrialists get to know that these islands are in association with us – I am not talking about Federation now, I am talking from a trade or business point of view – they would be only too willing and only too glad to come and set up the necessary industries in Barbados. They would prefer to come here and set them up, if these people are associated with us, than to go and set them up in the other islands. That is what I would like to see happen. As I said, I do not want any of them to think that I am against them or against the Agreement; I am not against the Agreement at all, but we all want representation of the people.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of elucidation, the hon. member seems not be aware of what is being accomplished by our Government in so far as our negotiations are concerned. The Free Trade Area is not only as far as Guyana, Antigua and Barbados; it is with Canada also.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for Christ Church did not say it was a point of order. The hon. senior member for Christ Church said "a point of elucidation". Such a point is in relation to a matter raised by the same member in the course of his speech. Is the hon. senior member for Christ Church elucidating some matter raised in the course of his speech?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Sir, I wanted to clarify for the hon. junior member for St. Joseph what seems to be a misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the Agreement.

Mr. SPEAKER: On a point of elucidation, an hon. member can only seek to clarify something made by himself in the course of his own speech.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to withdraw it, Sir, on Your Honour's ruling. On a point of elucidation, also as far as my speech is concerned, in so far as a Free Trade Area is concerned, it is not only Antigua, Barbados and Guyana, but Canada is also included, and it is hoped to include Trinidad & Tobago and all the other islands in the Caribbean area.

Mr. SPEAKER: I did not have the advantage of hearing the hon. member's speech, but I take it the hon. senior member for Christ Church has illustrated a point which he made during the course of that speech.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I am not talking now about Canada, I am talking about the West Indies. If he includes Canada, does that mean that goods coming from Canada will be duty free? If that is so, I will take my hat off to the hon. member. Why bring in Canada when you have to show the ball that shot Nelson before you can get in Canada. I would be glad if the hon. member would interrupt now and tell us that we won't have to pay exchange on the Canadian currency.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would not relish such an interruption because it would not be a point of order, a point of elucidation or a point of explanation.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: But if the hon. member wishes, I can give him.

Mr. SPEAKER: Please adhere to the Standing Orders. I will appeal once more to the hon. senior member for St. Philip to avoid any further breaches of (6) of 29 "Behaviour of members not speaking". While a member is speaking, all other members shall be silent or shall confer only in undertones, and shall not make unseemly interruptions. Conferring cannot be made to mean prompting. Let the hon. member for St. Joseph please proceed on the Free Trade Area.

Mr. SMITH: I wish you would create history by naming the Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the hon. junior member for St. Joseph nothing more to add to the Free Trade Area discussion?

Mr. SMITH: The hon. minister is interrupting me, Sir. The hon. junior member for St. Thomas is also interrupting. I can hear his voice; if you cannot hear him, I can.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have not even seen that Minister for some time.

Mr. SMITH: I was making the point, Sir, that the servant should never be greater than his master, and we have a Chamber of Commerce here who could get up and use their authority and not allow any one man to try and harm the economy of this country. If they do that they will get the support from all four corners of the island. They are responsible to a certain extent for the economy of this country; they are representing the business people in this country. While we are representing the people of this country politically, they are representing the business people economically.
8.55 p.m.

Why should they muzzle themselves and not come out in public and let the people of the country know that it is not the Government alone. As soon as one becomes Chief Minister or Premier, he feels that he owns the territory and does not want to listen to anybody at all. If a Minister of religion does not see a congregation in Church on a Sunday morning, he would not see anyting in the collection plate either. If they are no taxes, therefore, there can be no Government. The Government is just like a housewife. She stays home and waits until her husband goes out and work to bring in money for her to spend. You would not know anything about that, Mr. Speaker, because you do not have a wife; but the ones who have a wife would know that. I have a wife and children; so I know that. And they are going to make sure that you do not sleep too late any one morning fearing you would be sent back home. It is her duty to see that you get to work on time to bring in money to run the home. How can the Government get on the high horse, therefore and want to ignore the people's representatives and the business people of this country? The business people's representatives, which is the Chamber of Commerce, are cowards, and afraid to talk. I do not know if they feel the Government would take advantage of them if they talk, but if they close down business, what would happen? (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: They would starve.) The particular businessmen would be the last to starve, and there would be a lot more to starve before them.

There are some electors who believe that their representatives are their saviour, but it is not so. Any representative of the people is a servant of the people; so the people must tell them when they are right and when they are wrong, and not wait until election day comes to ease their grievances. Speaking under correction, I think the hon. junior member for St. Joseph mentioned that there are some Leaders who are going to enter the Agreement after the elections in their particular territory. If a Chief Minister is saying that in private, he should not be a Chief Minister, because he is a traitor to the people. Why should he have to wait until after the elections to enter a trade agreement? If he is honest enough and has the courage of his convictions to tell the people that in as much as we are not federated, we stand to gain more from the trade agreement, do you think he would have to be afraid of his people?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of elucidation and explanation.

Mr. SPEAKER: On which is the hon. member speaking? Elucidation or explanation?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Both.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member proceed, because neither is out of order, if it happens to be either.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I will deal with one point and then the other after.

Mr. SPEAKER: I gather it is a point of elucidation in respect of something said by the hon. member in the course of his speech earlier today.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I will deal with both – elucidation and explanation.

Mr. SPEAKER: On something said by the hon. member in the course of his speech today?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I speak on behalf of what I said and what he is trying to say.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member may not speak on behalf of what the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is trying to say. Let the hon. member do his best for himself. Let the hon. senior member for Christ Church elucidate the point which he made in his speech.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am very grateful to you for your lucid expression and your grateful accommodation. I want to say here and now that as far as the free trade is concerned, it was promulgated by Dr. Eric Williams many long years ago, and what we are doing here is merely to promulgate a Caribbean free trade area. We are starting on a small basis with Antigua, Barbados and Guyana, but the whole area will be willing to come in along with Canada in order to have a better area. We can no longer look to Britain, because she has forsaken us.

Mr. SPEAKER: In what respect is the hon. member elucidating and/or explaining some matter raised in his speech? I did not have the inestimable advantage of hearing that speech; hence I am at a disadvantage.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: With all due respect, Sir, Canada is willing to take up where Britain left off, because they left us dry.

Mr. SPEAKER: I take it the hon. senior member for Christ Church has fully elucidated or explained the matter in his speech.
9.05 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I would be as glad as you or any other member to see this debate come to an end; but the hon. senior member for Christ Church is lengthening the debate because he has now raised a point that will make me take it up with him. I was coming to a close; but the point that he has made will make me reply to him.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for Christ Church was at pains to say that he raised a point of explanation or elucidation which can only be on something that he said in his speech. Therefore you may only deal with that if you are saying that the hon. member did not make the point in his speech.

Mr. SMITH: The hon. member for Christ Church said that the Agreement will start off with Barbados, Guyana and Antigua and the others who are willing to come in can come in and that Canada is there hungry for us.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I point out that the hon. member for Christ Church did not say that as the subject matter of his speech. He merely raised a point of explanation. That cannot be dealt with as if it were a point made by him as the subject matter of the debate. It cannot be treated as if it were a second speech made by him. Surely I have made myself clear.

Mr. SMITH: Yes, Sir, but it is something relative to what is before us. I refer to the Trade Agreement. That is what I am speaking on. The Agreement is between Barbados, Guyana and Antigua and there is the question of Canada coming in.

Since the hon. member is so sure that the other territories are willing to come in, why have they not come in yet? He lost the other territories. *(Aside)*

Mr. SPEAKER: If members continue like this they can look forward to meeting on Tuesday next week at 12 noon. That is if disorder comes from either side. I would ask the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to proceed and ignore everyone except the Chair.

Mr. SMITH: I would not take any asides seriously. The only thing I am surprised at is to hear a big headed idiot calling an hon. member an idiot.

Mr. SPEAKER: I hope that the hon. member is not calling my attention to visitors.

Mr. SMITH: Regardless of who it is, I will say it again – a big headed idiot calling a member an idiot. Here it is I am saying that these territories – I was making my comments about the Chamber of Commerce – *(Aside)* I will have to sit down until he is finished.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member for St. Joseph proceed.

Mr. SMITH: I cannot. I am being interrupted all the time by the hon. junior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. SPEAKER: Even if I did hear it, unless he was on his feet I would ignore it. Let us continue with the debate.

Mr. SMITH: Tell it to the hon. members on the other side. I am exercising my democratic rights. The people sent me here. I was not pushed inside here. I came here by the votes of the people like anyone else. I do not interrupt the hon. member when he is speaking. Poor thing, I feel for him when he is speaking.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the hon. member concluded his speech on the subject matter of the debate?

Mr. SMITH: It is not because the Minister may be named Minister of Trade that he really knows anything about trade. Although, Sir, the

House gave the O.K. for the Hon. Premier to take charge of this Resolution are we right in supporting this Resolution which is in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Andrew?

Mr. SPEAKER: May I point out to the hon. member that he must have respect for a vote of the House. It was with the concurrence of the House that the Hon. and Learned member for St. John took charge of this Resolution which appeared under the name of the hon. junior member for St. Andrew.
9.15 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is also out of order in this respect, that having sat in his place for all that was done, he heard me as Leader of the House say that I was asking leave of the House to take charge of this on behalf of the hon. senior member for St. John.

Mr. SMITH: I am saying that the hon. senior member for St. John was not in his place and this House had to adjourn for half an hour.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On a point of order, the hon. member is not giving an accurate statement of the facts. When the time came for this particular item to be debated, the hon. senior member for St. John was in his place.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the hon. Leader of the House said on the floor of this House that the hon. senior member for St. John was not in his place, and he would suspend the House for half an hour until he comes. Mr. Speaker, he asked that it be suspended and it was suspended.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On a point of order, the hon. member cannot be allowed to get away with this. He is casting a reflection on the hon. junior member for St. Andrew. I pointed out that it was I who asked the leave of the House for the hon. senior member for St. John to deal with the motion, and that both hon. members were present when the House gave leave for the hon. senior member for St. John to move the motion.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member, the Leader of the House, said that the hon. senior member for St. John will be taking charge of this particular Resolution, and he was not in his place. Therefore, he would ask leave for the suspension of the House for half an hour and it was done.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On point of order, this is becoming sillier and sillier. Would I get up and ask for the permission of the House to move the suspension of the House when this is what I have to do? I do not have to ask the House leave to move the suspension.

Mr. SMITH: The hon. member moved the suspension for half an hour until the senior member got here. Let him deny that now.

Mr. SPEAKER: I regret very much that the Minutes have not been confirmed, and therefore they can only be dealt with as such in the form of unconfirmed minutes, but I am quoting here; the minute says: "The Hon. J. C. Tudor, seconded by Hon. G. G. Fergusson that this sitting be now suspended for half an hour. On resumption, Mr. Deputy Speaker took the Chair. Hon. E. W. Barrow entered the House and took his seat. Hon. J. C. Tudor sought and obtained leave that Hon. A. DaC. Edwards take charge of Order No. 2." But as this has not been confirmed, and although it is stated that the Hon. J. C. Tudor sought and obtained the leave of the House, Mr. Clerk who is beside me states that that is an error and that it should read "Hon. J. C. Tudor sought and obtained leave of the House that the Hon. E. W. Barrow take charge of Order No. 2." Further, that that hon. member spoke and moved that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. CRAWFORD: Mr. Speaker, may I enquire if there was anything in the Minutes that the hon. senior member for St. John was present before the suspension of the House? Or does it mean that he was not here?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am ruling that so far as this matter of the proceedings of last Tuesday is concerned, that any further discussion on that is, like the discussion which has been taking place for the last 10 minutes, irrelevant and I am not accepting any more discussion on that, but the debate on the Free Trade Agreement may go on, and the hon. junior member for St. Joseph may continue on the Free Trade Agreement.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, this is a Trade Agreement, and I was trying to make a point relative to the Minister of Trade. I was not talking about anything else. You have ruled, but I am saying that I have a Resolution here in my hand relative to a trade agreement and in the name of the Minister of Trade. That is what I am saying.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is that relative to the subject matter of the Agreement?

Mr. SMITH: If the Minister of Trade know anything about this, he would be in charge of it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, you have ruled that no comment must be made on last

week's proceedings with respect to this item. In spite of your ruling the hon. member is still persisting to cast a reflection on the integrity of the hon. Minister of Trade who is not now in his place. The hon. member should know that what he is doing is contrary to the rules of this House. He should also know that if he persists in doing it, we.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I appeal to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to continue on the Free Trade Agreement and omit personalities, and I know the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is not listening to any prompting.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I am not going to listen to any prompting, but I will listen very attentatively to the interruptions. You cannot hear the voices, Sir, down there, but you can hear the hon. senior member for St. Philip every time he breathes.

Mr. SPEAKER: His breathing is entirely coherent and intelligible.
9.25 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: Now, Sir, hon. members on the other side want to get me confused and stop, but if they wanted that, the quieter they would keep. I would have sat long ago, but if they try to confuse me, I will confuse them also.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. junior member for St. Joseph continue his speech.

Mr. SMITH: I appeal to the Speaker to make history in here by naming a Minister, and he would not do it. It would go down in history that the D. L. P.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I am much more interested, now after a strenuous day, to go home rather than to go down in history.

Mr. SMITH: Well, Sir, it would seem to me that you are not going home in haste tonight.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry hon. members fail to recall the powers of the Speaker in respect of adjourning the House.

Mr. SMITH: I am now going to refer to my note, because I have not touched any for the evening. So long as I keep myself in order, I cannot be ruled out of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is not what the hon. member thinks, it is what the Chair thinks.

Mr. SMITH: If I am in order, I am in order.

A VOICE: Are you challenging the Chair now?

Mr. SMITH: Do you hear that?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Thomas was distinctly audible, and has committed a flagrant breach of Standing Order No. 29(6).

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I am speaking. Will hon. members on all sides – we are at the end, I hope, of a trying day – remember, and not merely remember, but put into practice No. 6 of Standing Order 29? I have read it twice already today here.

"While a Member is speaking, all other Members shall be silent or shall confer only in undertones, and shall not make unseemly interruptions."

Will all hon. members, except they rise to a genuine or valid point of order, explanation or elucidation, allow the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to continue and to conclude his speech on the free trade agreement?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, before the hon. member resumes his harangue.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I will ask the hon. junior member for St. Thomas to desist from using such words? I think I heard that hon. member use the word "harangue". I am not ruling that it is unparliamentary, but it is not a word which helps to keep tempers in the unfrayed state in which we would like them.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I fully appreciate that, Mr. Speaker, but you should also realise that we on this side would run out of patience at some time. When you had to draw my attention to the remarks I used just now, I was only trying to draw to your attention that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, who was on his feet, was challenging the Chair; and I cannot sit here and allow members of the House to challenge the ruling of the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am very grateful to the hon. member for assisting me in taking care of the debate, but I did not see him rise, and therefore I did not appreciate any remark even for purposes of assisting me, if the hon. member did not rise. Maybe the hon. member had risen and I did not notice the difference.

I think now the temper of the House is again as it should be. Let the hon. junior member for St. Joseph go right to the meat of the free trade agreement.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the Addendum reads as follows:

"This Resolution seeks the approval of the Legislature as a further step towards the implementation of an Agreement made by the Governments of British Guiana (now Guyana), Antigua and Barbados for the creation of a Caribbean Free Trade Association between the Member Territories, and the objectives of the Association are –

(a) to promote the expansion and diversification of trade in the area of the Association;....."

Well, Sir, the area only involves the three territories, and there can be very little expansion commensurate with the trade that should be done to raise the standard of living for the people in Barbados. It is my opinion that we would not be able to achieve our aims so soon, because with Guyana having a population of 600,000 people, a manufacturer would prefer to go there and set up business.
9.35 p.m.

According to Chapter 33 of the Agreement, either of these three territories can pull up their sticks in twelve months. I do not see where promotion in the expansion and diversification of trade in our area will work so well because Guyana is the biggest, and you cannot tie down any industrialist to set up business in any particular place. He will set it up in the place where he feels that he will get the most patronage and the most business. Our business would have to come from there. Anyone can see that clear and straight. The only advantage that we will have is getting goods duty free as much as to reduce the cost of living as to make it cheap to the housewife. That is my point.

The second point is that you can only be sure of trade between the three. You have no control over the other territories. At the present moment you are dealing with three territories. Can you expect to do so much business as to relieve what in truth and in fact the people of this country should be relieved of?

If we take a dollar from the other territories are we going to sell a dollar to them? That is what I expected to hear from the introducer. We are going into a business deal. We should make sure that the deal will benefit us. Those are the questions which I would like to hear the Minister in charge answer. Are we going to sell as much to these territories as we have to buy from them?

I am not really dealing with Antigua at all because I believe that we will get more business from Antigua on a profitable basis than from Guyana. Antigua will take more from us.

Another point, Mr. Speaker, is that we are trying to encourage the progressive development of the economies of the area. When we say the area we mean three territories according to this Agreement. I am thinking, however, in terms of Barbados. We may encourage the development of the economy of Guyana more than that of Barbados because Guyana is bigger and, in my opinion, she will be having more industries although the hon. junior member for Christ Church said that she does not have anymore than we have at the present moment. If we can succeed in getting the other territories to come into the trade area I am sure that the running towards industrialisation will come to us.

I am sure that any industrialist would prefer to set up an industry in Barbados than in Guyana because we are more stable and well behaved and we are not wild people. Anything could happen in Guyana. Guyana is not settled yet and we do not know if it will ever be settled. I am sure that Barbados is settled, and everyone lives like brothers and sister. *(Aside)* I am being interrupted Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sure that there was general approbation when the hon. member said that we all live together like brothers and sisters.

Mr. SMITH: We do. It is only at times when we have to speak our minds on either side. This House is not a Sunday School and we are all men and everyone can get up and talk. I am making a point, and I feel that you would agree with me and that everyone on that side of the House will agree with me that any sensible industrialist who wants to set up an industry would set it up here in Barbados rather than in Guyana. That is why I would leave no stone unturned to get these other islands to come along with us.

I would like as many industries as possible to be set up in Barbados because I know that the boys and girls would be getting jobs. I know that with so many leaving school there is a possibility of finding employment for them if more industries are set up in Barbados. If we just hold on to three territories and there are industries to be set up they will be in Guyana.

Although we are going into a trade agreement, we are not responsible for the people of Guyana. We are responsible for the people of Barbados. While we should not give the Prime Minister of Guyana the idea that we are trying to put one on him, at the same time we should try to get other territories into the agreement.
9.45 p.m.

This is not talking against the Agreement as such, this is common sense; but I still feel that the three islands would be doing very little together. I am thinking of the girls and boys walking up and down looking for employment and not finding any. The Government has to do all that is in its power to encourage other islands so that we will be able to relieve some of this unemployment that is in the country. It is surprising to see the amount of applications for one particular job; if I had to choose the person to fill the job I believe that in fairness to everybody I would have to put all the names in a hat and pull out one. The people want work, and what are we doing? This Addendum says:

"(a) to promote the expansion and diversification of trade in the area of the Association;

(b) to secure that trade between Member Territories takes place in conditions of fair competition;

(c) to encourage the progressive development of the economies of the Area;

(d) to foster the harmonious development of Caribbean trade and its liberalisation by the removal of barriers to it."

Guyana will try to encourage development of their economy, and so will Antigua. Let Barbados do the same. If three industrialists wish to set up business within this Free Trade Area, and they come here and ask us in Barbados where we would like to have this industry set up, we could not be so foolish as to say Antigua or Guyana, but we would say in all three, and when they ask why, we would be able to say that we are trying to relieve the unemployment in the area. This is how the Government must go about this thing.

It is all well and good to talk about the removal of barriers; you would like to remove these barriers. That is not selfish, but you have got to think in terms of yourself. I do not know who is responsible for it, but one of the Governments should try to get more into the area. Now that we have the "Little Eight", and the Leewards would be nine, we are still applying for three, and the other six running wild. In other words, it would be only a question of money that the other six would not join, because we can sell them cheaper, but you cannot make them buy from you if they are not with you. If they could see their way to buy elsewhere rather than in the area you cannot say anything, because they are not bound, they are free to do as they like, so it would be our duty to try and encourage them to join and not let them get away, because it is a fact that if we are making anything here in Barbados, and Trinidad is making the same product, Trinidad may be able to work a little competition and deliver it down to these islands cheaper that we can, and we would lose the trade. I am appealing to the Government now – my Government, our Government – to think about it seriously, and do everything that lies in its power to do. If you think you would not be able to convince some of the leaders of the other countries, and you think that I will be able to do so, call on me and I will go down to them and I will put the tongue on them.
9.55 p.m.

If you think you would not be able to convince some of the Leaders in the other territories and you think I would be able to do so, call on me and I will go down to them, and do everything possible to try and get them in with us, because I would not want Trinidad to steal the trade. I would fix it right. Do not therefore accuse me of being dishonest and not willing to help the poor people of Barbados. Do not accuse me of trying to oppose this agreement so that the standard of living for the people would not be raised. I would say, Sir, that Trinidad is not feeling happy about this. Only the mention of this trade agreement has them thinking twice; but if you just have three territories, they will laugh at us, particularly when you are dealing with a bird which can fly away at any moment. If anyone is in this agreement and can get goods cheaper from outside the area to raise the standard of living and lower the cost of living, he is not going to stay in this agreement, especially when he has twelve months to give notice of withdrawal.

If they tell you they are waiting until after the elections, you cannot do anything; but a lot of water is likely to flow under the bridge before elections. You may lose them altogether, and I am sure that if we go about it the right way, Trinidad will have to come with us. She is playing big, but we can steal some of her industries. We cannot rob her of oil, because she has

oil. Are you telling me that if the Islands come together including Guyana that we could not steal the cement industry and other things from Trinidad?

I admire you for the start, but do not sit back on it. Do not insult or say unpleasant things about them. Tell them they are the best people in the world, the cleanest, most energetic and most sensible. Use soft gloves on them. You might be giving a person the best to eat and drink, but if you are a little rough with him he would rather leave and go and live roughly than to stay and live smoothly while you are treating him roughly. Let us encourage them, because we cannot do without them. I sincerely hope that something may happen at the Regional Council of Ministers at Sherbourne that will make them decide to come in. I hope that some magic wand may be waved up there and everyone who is attending the conference will agree as soon as he gets back home to enter this agreement, because they stand to benefit more dollar for dollar than we do. The Premier should try and get them into the fold, and after that he can do as he likes. There is an old saying that soft answers turn away wrath. I have nothing more to say.

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

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Addendum to this Resolution clearly sets out the purpose of this free trade area. After 35 years of trading in the Caribbean area, I think I can state that Guyana is the one country where its people are more like the people of Barbados, and there is every possible reason why there would be greater cooperation between Guyana and Barbados than there ever has been between the other Islands and Barbados in a Federation, and there is no reason whatsoever why this trade pact should not be a success.

The hon. senior member for St. Philip has placed great stress on population basis with respect to industrialists interested in setting up business, but I think too much concentration has been laid on the amount of people in territories, rather than on the financial and geographical position of the countries. There are a million and one things to which industrialists pay attention before they decide in which territory to set up business.

10.05 p.m.

I have absolutely no doubt that in the entire West Indian area Barbados is situated in a first class position. It has good standards and a stable Government, and there is every reason to believe that Barbados will have a first class opportunity of attracting more industrialists than any other country in the Caribbean, and I say that without apology.

Shipping is one of the essential things in building up industries for export trade. Barbados is in a first class position with a Deep Water Harbour and with facilities for small ships to ply between the islands.

There is another point. If you take a country with a half million people and one with a quarter million people, but the capital that circulates among the quarter million people is more than that which circulates among the half million people it will be seen that the number of people has no value by itself. Then there are labour conditions and other things that will put Barbados in a first class position to have industries set up under the Free Trade Area Agreement.

With this association between Barbados, Guyana and Antigua there is every likelihood that the other territories will fall in whether they like it or not, and I am saying that with authority. The main reason why the Federation failed was because there were too many implications. A Free Trade Area is a different matter and there is every reason to believe that in time there will be cooperation between these countries.

Anyone who knows the entire West Indian area as I know it and has an interest in this country would not think of taking the taxpayers' money and spending it to bring the other islands to the level of Barbados. They are too far below us in Police services, social services sanitary services etc. There would be too much money to be spent and it would be too heavy a burden on the inhabitants of this country. That would not be in accordance with the beliefs of good Barbadians. Therefore the only solution that members on both sides could have would be to see if we can create some kind of association by a Free Trade Area.

Mr. Speaker, I fully support this Resolution. I am sure that at some future time the other territories will fall in line and I am sure that it will be a success.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not want to detain the House for more than a few minutes, but I have one or two points which I think should be made clear. I do not need to rebut the arguments put up by the other side. I think that they have been fully covered by the Minister who has just sat down and by the Minister of Trade earlier this evening, as well as the speech of the Hon. Premier last week.

But, Mr. Speaker, there are impressions arising out of speeches on the other side which should be entirely dismissed. The first is that this agreement signed between Antigua, Barbados and Guyana is based on some calculation on the part of each of the three to snatch some advantage from the other two.

I wish to make it perfectly clear that neither of these Governments have entered into this Agreement with the feeling that they are putting something over on the other two. This Agreement has been reached because each of these Governments has decided in the light of its experience that this is the way in which the area can proceed to develop its economy.

There has been no plot between the Governments of Guyana, Antigua and Barbados somehow or other to solve the internal problems of Guyana at the expense of these territories. Everyone knows and appreciates the history of Guyana. Everyone, I think, must also give full marks to the present Government of Guyana for the way in which they have manfully tried to solve these problems. To suggest that somehow or the other there is a plot on the part of the people or Government of Guyana to use the people of these islands to solve their problems is unworthy of this Chamber.

It is true that the Prime Minister of Guyana has from time to time expressed his hope for closer cooperation between the Governments and people of this area. In doing that he was not arguing for a Federation of the West Indies in the sense that we are accustomed to use that term. All that he was saying is that we have a lot of things in common with one another and the sooner we start doing that the better. It would be wrong to read into that that the Prime Minister of Guyana was trying to press the Government of these territories into a Federation.

Mr. Burnham has said that neither he nor the Government of Guyana intend to interfere with the internal political arrangements of the Governments of this region. He recognises the rights of the Governments and people to manage their own affairs. We should not misinterpret his statements as trying to cajole the rest of us into a Federation which we have rejected.

Mr. Speaker, underlying the speeches on the other side has been the suggestion that somehow or the other the Government of Barbados is on bad terms with the Governments of the other islands. You would be surprised to know the vast amount of correspondence which passes from day to day between the Government of Barbados and those of the other territories on all sorts of matters connected with our mutual welfare.

The relations between us is as cordial as it has been in the past, and now that the political situation in the region has been clarified, they are even more cordial.

10.15 p.m.

Only two months ago when we had the Conference here prior to the Canada/West Indies Conference which took place last month, I told the Chief Minister of Dominica that I would be willing to assist, subject to the Cabinet's approval, the Government of Dominica with respect to its Teacher Training programme if they would like us to help, and I said that I would make places available at our own Teacher Training College for as many as we could accommodate from the Government of Dominica. The Chief Minister very willingly accepted my offer, and I will hear from the Government of Dominica on the number of teachers they will send to us. This is something which, in my own sphere, I am hoping I will be able to do, and I won't confine this to Dominica alone. This is the policy of this Government. There is no reason to suppose therefore that any bad feeling exists; we have a point of view. Last year we were not prepared to engage in a Federation in the way in which other people wanted us to engage in it, and our policy has been vindicated, and all of them, with the possible exception of Montserrat, have initiated a new political status, and therefore we have no reason to assume that the Governments of the Leewards and Windwards are dissatisfied with the position they have reached, and there is certainly no reason to assume that the Government of Barbados is dissastified at its having achieved Independence. They cannot on the one hand claim that they are still in favour of a Federation, and at the same time claim the credit for having brought Independence to this Island. I do not know how they can speak in two voices. If my hearing and my understanding is correct, even now that Independence has been achieved, they are still talking as if it were an open question, and they are forgetting that the Government of Barbados has never prevented anybody else from forming a Federation. Even if you argue that the Government of Barbados was biased on a Federation – which it was on certain terms – you cannot argue that it prevented any of the six or seven territories from forming a Federation of its own. It is unfair to cast on the shoulders of the Government of Barbados the blame for the breakdown of the Federal talks, and since we issued a White Paper on the 11th August last year, several countries have had general elections.

There has been one in Antigua, St. Kitts, Dominica, and there is one soon to come off in St. Vincent. Now, if Mr. Bird has been returned in Antigua with all the seats, one has to assume that the people supported him; if Mr. LeBlanc in Dominica gains all but one of the seats in his Legislature, you have to assume also that the people of Dominica were not only not dissatisfied, but actually supported his stand in not pressing for a Federation. If in St. Kitts the same Party which held the Government for the last five years has been returned with the same sort of majority it had, you will have to assume that the people also are satisfied with the new status these countries have achieved. I have no reason to suppose that the elections in St. Kitts will not turn out the same way. It is therefore unfair that the Opposition Parties when they say that nobody else outside of Barbados was pressing for Federation, when they see that the six or seven other territories have accepted what has happened, to cast all the blame on the Government of Barbados. It is unrealistic that the Opposition Parties could not even carry their own public opinion with them to stop Independence. So if you cannot carry your own public opinion on Independence, why do you still argue as if the new political status of Barbados and the other territories is still open to question? I am very sorry that in an issue like the Free Trade Agreement where three Governments have tried another way to closer co-operation that they should meet with such conflicting views. It would be unfair to those three Governments to ask them to change the Agreement which they have reached among themselves. The door is open, but it must be made absolutely clear that they have to come in on the basis of what now exists. It is therefore no question that we are preventing anybody; when the hon. junior member for St. Joseph argues that we should bend over backwards to attract them, we have to safeguard the position of the three territory Governments which originated the idea. You could not have a Free Trade Agreement if every time somebody new came into it the terms in the Agreement had to be changed, and the fact that people can withdraw from it by giving a year's notice is a safeguard in itself.
10.25 p.m.

I think all praise has to be given to the Governments of Barbados, Guyana and Antigua for devising this method of working for closer co-operation.

One last point, Mr. Deputy Speaker; the reason why Antigua has the pre-eminence which seems to puzzle the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is simple. It was in the territory of Antigua that the agreement was signed. It was signed at Dickenson Bay on 15th December, and the one authentic copy of the Agreement has been deposited with the Government of Antigua. Because the Government of Antigua, so to speak, is holding the papers for everybody, anybody who wishes to withdraw will likewise inform the Government of Antigua. This is nothing to do with any cleverness or slickness on Mr. Bird's part, but apart from anything, it is only right and proper that this pre-eminence should be given to the Island of Antigua, because the Chief Minister of Antigua is senior Statesman of the region, and therefore the honour and privilege of being guardian of the free trade treaty should properly rest with the Government of Antigua. There is no mystery about it; those are the facts.

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

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

## ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I do not propose to proceed with Order No. 5 this evening. I ascertained from hon. members on both sides of the House that this Bill was circulated only late last week, and hon. members would therefore not have had a chance to study it, and in accordance with the undertaking which I have given, I do not propose to proceed with it. But I should certainly like to tell you that we are going to do this next week.

This concludes Government Business for todays's Sitting, Mr. Speaker, the Order Paper having been fixed.

*The Order Paper have been fixed.*

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 16th August, at 2.30 p.m.

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

*The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 16th August, 1966 at 2.30 p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.*
10.30 p.m.