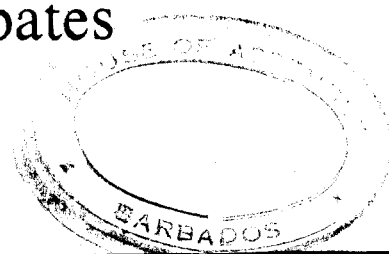


THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)



SECOND SESSION OF 1966 - 71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 8th August, 1967

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., F.Z.S., (*Speaker*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. E. D. MOTTLEY, C.B.E., J.P.; Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS; Mr. E. ST.A. HOLDER, J.P. Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Health and Community Development*); Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., (*Minister of Education*); Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Hon. G. G. FERGUSON (*Minister of Trade, Tourism, Co-operatives and Fisheries*); Mr. R. ST.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; Mr. L. A. LYNCH, J.P.; Hon. N. W. BOXILL, (*Minister of Communications and Works*); Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD, (*Chairman of Committees*); Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (*Minister of Agriculture, Labour and National Insurance*); Sir G. H. ADAMS C.M.G., Q.C., B.A., D.C.L. (Hon.), (*Leader of the Opposition*); Mr. W. C. B. HINDS; His Honour G. E. SARGEANT, (*Deputy Speaker*); Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P.; Mr. L. S. CRAIG; Mr. H. B. St. JOHN, LL.B., and Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, M.A.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I regret once again to have to inform hon. members that there are no Minutes yet available for confirmation.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Learned Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister of External Affairs, I am commanded to lay the following:-

The Drawback of Duties on sale of Goods to Tourists (Pearls) Regulations, 1967.

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

Statement showing the sums advanced to the Postmaster General for the payment of Money Orders the amounts repaid to the Accountant General and the amounts due by the various Post Offices to 31st March, 1967.

Statement showing the sums advanced to the Postmaster General for the payment of Money Orders the amounts repaid to the Accountant General and the amounts due by the various Post Offices to 30th April, 1967.

Statement showing the sums advanced to the Postmaster General for the payment of Money Orders, the amounts repaid to the Accountant General and the amounts due by the various Post Offices to 31st May, 1967.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister of External Affairs, I beg to give notice of the following:

A Resolution to fix the rate of interest to be paid by the Barbados Development Board on a loan of \$500,000 from Barclays Bank D.C.O. at one half of one percent below the prime commercial rate.

Resolution to fix the rate of interest to be paid by the Barbados Development Board on a loan of \$160,000 from Barclays Bank D.C.O. at one half of one percent below the prime commercial rate.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$4,414 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1967-68 Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1967-68 No. 12 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Bill to provide that United Kingdom coins shall not be legal tender as from a day to be appointed by the Minister responsible for Finance.

A Bill to amend the Interpretation Act, 1966.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to amend the note to Capital Estimates Head 103, Item 3 - Medical Staff Quarters in the Approved Estimates 1967-68.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to ask for the permission of the House that I may be able to deal with this Bill in all its stages today. Copies of this Bill will be circulated later.

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 sitting to deal with these money Resolutions, notice of which has just been given.

Also, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 55, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter, is ready.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 33, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter, is ready.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion:-

RESOLVED that this House disapproves of the appointment of two Senators to be the Heads of the Ministry of Education and of a Senator to be Minister of Home Affairs thereby depriving it of the opportunity of questioning in this Chamber those responsible for the administration of Education and of Home Affairs respectively contrary to established convention in Commonwealth countries.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to provide that United Kingdom coins shall not be legal tender as from a day to be appointed by the Minister responsible for Finance, be read a first time.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Interpretation Act, 1966, be now read a first time.

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

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

2.55 p.m.

On the motion of Hon. N. W. BOXILL, seconded by Mr. W. R. LOWE, a Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937, was read a first time.

SALARIES OF ANGLICAN CHURCH OFFICERS

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Question Time. I am advised that the Reply has been laid to Question No. 33, standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware that certain officers employed at a number of Anglican Churches in this Island have not received any salary increases since 1959?

If the answer to the above is in the affirmative would Government act immediately to remedy any defects which brought about the conditions which these officers, namely, Sextons, Bell-ringers and Organists may have suffered?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

"Under the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1958-55, the former Local Government Councils were not responsible for the appointment of remuneration of Anglican Church Officers, but merely for the making of grants to the Diocesan Synod to assist the latter with certain prescribed expenses, including the salaries of Church Officers.

2. The Interim Commissioner for Local Government is in exactly the same position as the former Councils in this respect.

3. The Anglican Church is therefore entirely responsible for the terms and conditions of service of these officers."

ALLEGED PERFORMANCE OF BABY-SITTING DUTIES BY POLICEMEN

Mr. SPEAKER: I am further advised that the Reply has been laid to Question No. 55, standing in the name of the same hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Are the services of members of the Royal Barbados Police available to the general public for performing duties as baby-sitting?

2. If the answer to the above is in the negative, would the Minister state whether or not a member of the Royal Barbados Police Force performed such duties on the night of 7th April, 1967, at a house situated at Gibbes in the parish of Saint Peter?

3. Who detailed the policeman to undertake such duties?

4. Was compensation paid to any member of the Royal Barbados Police Force or paid into the Police Reward Fund for the rendering of such services?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

"1. No, Sir,

No member of the Royal Barbados Police Force performed or was detailed to perform duties as baby-sitter at a house at Gibbes, St. Peter on the 7th April, 1967."

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to enquire of the appropriate Minister at which house did he carry out the investigations?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member would first have to say to whom he refers. The hon. member asked at which house did he carry out the investigations?

Mr. HINDS: I enquired of the appropriate Minister at which house did the Minister carry out his investigations?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, it is difficult to answer that question. The hon. member asked whether or not a member of the Royal Barbados Police Force performed such duties on the night of 7th April, 1967, and I said that that was not so.

Mr. HINDS: Will the Hon. Minister tell this House what enables him to state that that was not so.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Obviously, Mr. Speaker, investigations have been carried out by and through the Police Department and they have reported their findings.

Mr. HINDS: Will the Hon. Minister tell us if the same policemen who are accused of doing the baby-sitting are the same policemen who were detailed to carry out the investigations? In other words, were the police asked to investigate themselves?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I do not know if the hon. member has followed both his questions and the reply. He has asked whether or not a member of the Royal Barbados Police Force performed duties of baby-sitting, and the reply is that no member of the Royal Barbados Police Force performed or, in fact, was detailed to perform such duties.

Mr. HINDS: The hon. member in reply to my supplementary question said that he did not know whether or not I understood my own question and the answer which was given. My question is simply whether or not any member of the Royal Barbados Police Force performed duties of baby-sitting. How did the Minister come to know this?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: That is simple. The hon. member has put down an ordinary Parliamentary Question for an Oral Reply, and the reply is that the proper Department investigated and the reply is that which has been given to the hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: Will the Minister state which policeman carried out the investigation?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I have nothing further to add.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Did any police Officer from the status of Superintendent upward know of these investigations? (*After a pause*). If the hon. member is unwilling or is afraid to answer that question, will he answer this question? What was the status of the investigation?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, it seems as if the Hon. Leader of the Opposition is in an even worse position than the hon. junior member for St. Peter who asked the question. At least the hon. member who asked the question attempted to ask a supplementary which could conceivably have arisen out of the question, whereas the hon. member's question now does not. I cannot answer it because it is quite irrelevant.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Apart from the fact that the Hon. Minister tells Your Honour how to rule, if the question were out of order, Your Honour would have so ruled.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have never been told how to rule and both sides are out of order if they think so.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I do not know whom the hon. member is referring to, but sitting here as a Parliamentarian, I am shocked to think that that is the type of answer given to that question.
3.05 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the hon. member putting a supplementary?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member told us that no policeman was detailed or carried out any baby-sitting. Are we to understand that the duties can be performed by a policeman without being detailed?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: What I said was that no policeman had been detailed, or had performed such duties.

Mr. HINDS: Is the Hon. Minister aware of what baby-sitting would entail?

(Hon. N. W. BOXILL: *sotto voce* We are not answering that objectionable question.

(A VOICE: But he is not replying).

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Thomas is not entitled to call any hon. member to order.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is inviting me to ask him some embarrassing questions this afternoon. Mr. Speaker, I would like to know from the Minister this. Would the Minister tell us who live at the house at which the investigations were carried out?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Before the Minister answers that question, would he tell us how much he knows of it?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, this is another supplementary from this side of the House. I would like to know if they touched on anything dealing with Judo?

Mr. SPEAKER: That has nothing to do with the question. I do not think that is a proper supplementary.

Mr. HINDS: Does the Hon. Minister know that a policeman wearing the uniform of the Royal Barbados Police Force was seen hushing a baby at a house at Gibbes on the 7th April, 1967?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that it is now after 3.15 p.m. and Question Time for this meeting has now expired.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, would I be entitled to continue at the next meeting?

Mr. SPEAKER: That is a matter to which I will give my attention, but I am informed that the question remains on the Order Paper.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: When the Government gets up and suspends Standing Orders over and over again, can it not make it possible to suspend Standing Orders now, in order that this question may be settled?

Mr. SPEAKER: Standing Orders have not been suspended, and I have no control over that matter.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I strictly did not move the suspension of Standing Orders today, because I was informed that the Opposition wishes to reply to the Budget Statement. If Question Time has come to an end, it has come to an end.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Will the Hon. Leader of the House say whether Private Members' time will stop at the time set down in Standing Orders? There Private Members' Business begins at 3.15 and stops at 4.30 p.m. Does the Hon. Leader of the House propose to stop at 4.30 p.m. today?

The Hon. Leader of the House can point out whether he is permitting to let other members of the Opposition speeches be recorded.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Standing Orders have not been suspended.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Is it out of order at any time whatsoever to ask that Standing Orders be suspended, as long as there is no opposition to it? 3.15 p.m.

DEBATE ON BUDGETARY PROPOSALS 1967

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business stands in the name of the hon. senior member for Bridgetown. That Hon.

member I do not observe to be in his place. The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Leader of the Opposition and it is to move the passing of a Resolution as follows:-

"BE IT RESOLVED that this House note the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals for the fiscal year 1967-68 contained in a Statement made in this Honourable House on the 30th June, 1967, by the Minister of Finance.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, following the House of Commons practice which we follow according to the Standing Orders of this Assembly, I as Leader of the Opposition would just formally thank the Government for having made this Financial Statement, but in as much as the senior member for St. Thomas is the Minister of Finance in the Opposition's Shadow Cabinet, he - as the Chancellor of the Exchequer in England does - will make the main statement on this side of the House and I of course reserve my right to end the debate. (ASIDES)

Now on a point of order, I am following the House of Commons practice which we follow in this Assembly.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, it is important for us all, members of the public as well as members of this Honourable House, to take note of the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals for the fiscal year 1967-68. It is all the more important when we examine the speech made by the Prime Minister as Minister of Finance on June 30th when he took the opportunity not only to review the year just past, but also to review the five and a half years in which he has occupied the office of Minister of Finance in the Government of Barbados. What do we find when we look at this review? Members will readily recall the attack not so much on the policies of his predecessors in office, but on the language which they used in introducing those policies into this Honourable House. Members will also recall the general tenor of the opening remarks of the Minister of Finance on that occasion and at an early stage during the introduction of the Budgetary Proposals. Mr. Speaker, my ear was caught by a statement which I will read from a circulated copy of the Budget Speech to the effect that in 1960-61 there was not only a state of rest in the economy, it had actually begun to move backward, and the national income of Barbados had receded to a figure well under \$100 million, and below what it had been in the previous year.

Now, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the House has had the opportunity of reading the Economic Survey which was laid, I think, only the week before the Budget Speech, and we were therefore able to resort to the Survey for actual figures to compare with those given in the Prime Minister's speech; and when we turn to the Economic Survey we discover that what the Prime Minister had described as under \$100 million is in fact, as authenticated by a document which he himself has laid on the Table of the House, \$119 million. That, Mr. Speaker, perhaps will give hon. members an idea of how to examine and properly take note of

the Budgetary Proposals which were made on the 30th June.

Some play was made in that part of the Prime Minister's speech and in other parts, of alleged shortfalls of national income in the years before the Democratic Labour Party came to power, and these shortfalls were contrasted with the steady increase in national income which the Prime Minister stated has been a feature of the regime of the Democratic Labour Party - Again, Mr. Speaker, Sir, we are in the fortunate position of being able to resort to the facts. When once more we examine the facts, we see that far from there being a steady increase in the national income of Barbados during the years 1961-1966, in 1964 there was a fall - a very substantial fall. In 1965 the figures for the national income of Barbados had barely recovered to their position of 1963, and the gross domestic product *per capita*, a figure with which the Prime Minister made much play, had not indeed recovered; in fact, on the standard index of measurement used by all civilised countries to estimate the standard of living of their people, the standard of living of the people of Barbados actually fell slightly in 1964 and 1965 from its peak of 1963.

Mr. Speaker, I do not quote these figures to show that during the period of office of the Democratic Labour Party there was anything being done to cause a fall in the standard of living; these figures indeed do not reflect its management so much as they reflect factors outside the control of management, because Barbados, notwithstanding political independence, is still an economically dependent territory. We are still a territory where a large number of economic decisions are taken outside our shores. In 1963, the reason why the gross domestic product *per capita* was so high was because of the high sugar price that prevailed in that year. In 1965, one of the reasons why there was a recovery in the gross domestic product of national income was because the terms of trade had moved in Barbados' favour and we were paying less for imports of food in 1965-66 than we paid immediately before or since.

These are things over which even the most competent Minister of Finance in Barbados can never have control, and I hope that no speaker from our side will do other than blame the accidents of nature or the good fortune of bumper harvests in countries far from our shores as being responsible for a good year or a bad year, as the case may be, in Barbados; but, Mr. Speaker, I quote these figures to illustrate as I have said before, the tone of the Budgetary Proposals with which we are dealing.
3.25 p.m.

When a Budget is opened to an expectant House and to an expectant public, I think we can say that we are entitled to be treated as adults in the House and as citizens in Barbados. We expect the Minister to speak with the same voice in his Budget as he speaks in his Economic Survey prepared with no axe to grind by the competent and efficient Civil Servants in the Planning Unit of the Ministry of Finance. The Econo-

mic Survey is there for all to read, and it is a matter of regret that we should so often have had to turn to it to correct mistakes in figures and facts which appear in the Budget. Before I get down to 30th June, to the Budget there is something which is, we hope, mere tub thumping - if I may say this without offence to the rules of the House - in the form of general praise of himself by the Minister. But in the middle of these words of praise we find words which are far from praise, dealing with those whom the Prime Minister considers no doubt to be his enemies. When we take note of the Budget Proposals, we have to take note of everything concerned in the Financial Statement. What are we expected to make of this?

"In a country where freedom of the press means only freedom to destroy our moral standards and to engineer the destruction of the legally appointed Government of the people, it is necessary to uncover what has remained covered; to open up what has been closed; to let the fresh breezes blow in the nasty corridors of corruption, and let the light shine in the dark corners of conspiracy."

With the end of that statement members on this side of the House must heartily agree, and I think that we would join with the Minister of Agriculture to say that some members have been concerned about the nasty corridors of corruption in Barbados. If I thought that the Prime Minister's speech was intended to presage the breezes which blew through the Barbados Marketing Corporation and the Senate, I would have to congratulate him on it. I am afraid, however that it was a slip written days before it was realised that one of Barbados' most renowned political scandals, one of the most considerable examples of corruption, was due to be uncovered in certain nasty corridors well described by the Prime Minister. He dealt with the Press, and we may ask what the Press has to do with the Financial Proposals for the year 1966-67. But all that is merely to accuse the Prime Minister of irrelevance. We must not accuse him of something more. As right-thinking men and women in this Island and hon. members in this Hon. House, I do not believe that in a rational moment people such as these would consider that the Press in Barbados is "free only to destroy our moral standards and to engineer the destruction of the legally appointed Government of the people."

I, for one, Mr. Speaker, took note of what was then said and profoundly disagree with it. Disagreement is perhaps too mild an expression; some word that would express disgust is the one which I would prefer to use for such a statement about the Press in Barbados, one of the bulwarks of our society, one which, as a general rule one would accuse of no more than occasional incompetence and which, unfortunately, perhaps for some of the newspapers involved, has shown a penchant for accepting and printing what is said by the former Minister of Education and the other Ministers of the Government, to its ultimate financial loss. If our understanding is correct, the Editors will publish at their peril anything that the former Minister of Education offers to them. However, Sir, in taking note of the Financial Statement

and Budget proposals, we, on this side of the House, can never be held to agree with this particular exercise, to use a favourite word of the Prime Minister, of associating the Press with whatever local difficulties the Prime Minister and his Party may have been having with newspapers at the time of his speech.

Now, Mr. Speaker, again before reaching the meat of the Budget, we find a statement inserted for its rhetorical value, but indicative on this occasion once more as an illustration of the quality - and I do not mean the high quality - of the speech which was made on the 30th June. What, Mr. Speaker, can we make of the statement which was delivered with such a flourish? And I will quote again:

"By embarking on a Capital Works Programme evidence of which can be seen all over this country from the parapet of Paragon to the panorama of Pico Teneriffe, this Government has been able to keep hanging from buildings and bridges, from quarries to conference rooms the notice to all and sundry 'Men at work' ".

Now, Mr. Speaker, I believe that you have a very good view from the very favourite part of your own constituency of St. Lucy of Pico Teneriffe, and I also took the opportunity of going down through Boscobel making my way home through Pico Teneriffe to see if I found any sign of men at work or evidence of the Capital Works Programme.
3.35 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: Pie Corner is also part of my constituency, but Half Moon Fort is more greatly favoured.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I am obliged to Your Honour for informing me that Half-Moon Fort is your main spot, inasmuch as Pie Corner is also part of your constituency, Mr. Speaker, the only Capital Works that are in evidence at Pico Teneriffe are the ancient stone walls said of the aborigines of Barbados. The Prime Minister also laid claims to Capital Works going on at Paragon. The only Capital Works carried on there are the Capital Works of the United States Army and McGill University where their guns are being fired, and other activities are carried on.

The Prime Minister's statement is as inaccurate there as at Pico Teneriffe. There are other mistakes in the Prime Minister's speech.

Mr. Speaker, the House came here on June 30th to hear a Budget, and after sometime we heard a Financial Statement and a Budget. Now, Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister did not at any stage - and he must be given credit for this - hesitate to tell the House that the Government was planning a deficit in the Current Estimates of over \$6 1/2 million. The estimated revenue was at this stage \$45,516,440 and the estimated expenditure \$52,940,010 and this was a problem according to the Prime Minister's mathematical

judgment, although we did not think he faced any problem. We knew it was unlikely that we would once again pass through the entire financial year of 1967-68 without any increase of taxation.

The Prime Minister said in another part of his speech that the Estimates of Revenue often proved to be too conservative, and we know that Estimates in the past have proved to be extremely elastic. I have as an example the financial year 1966-67 - the Estimates for last year. It must be remembered that this was a year when it would have been very embarrassing for the Prime Minister to make tax increases, and the Prime Minister promised heaven on earth to the electorate. In that year of grace, Estimates were presented to this House in which there was \$42 million in Expenditure and not less than \$16 million on Capital Works.

We have always characterized that promise to spend \$16 million in that financial year or in any other financial year as a cheap type of cheap electoral propaganda..

In those Estimates were included everything for everybody. The promises in my own constituency of St. Thomas were a Post Office, a Police Station, roads - all offered to the electorate, although I am glad to say that the electorate has not been taken in by the cheap promises of everyone who got on the platform and made them. Mr. Speaker, my presence in this House, and the presence of many members on our side - is a tribute to the good sense of the electorate in Barbados who refused to be taken in on that occasion by the vilest type of campaign promises. But there were electorate promises last year, and with respect to the promise of \$16 million to be spent, only \$11 million being spent is an illustration of the type of financial management with which Barbados is at present putting up.

I think we can safely predict that were it not for the maw at the Hilton Hotel into which nearly \$9 million of the taxpayers' money was poured last year, even the figure of \$11 million would not have been reached. That figure would not have been achieved without the waste and whatever else is covered up for ever at the Hilton Hotel during the present period of its construction.
3.45 p.m.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is the duty of an Opposition to oppose, but I am going to say something about a particular part of the Prime Minister's speech which is not in any sense opposition to what is therein set out, and with which certainly, Mr. Speaker, we on this side do not anticipate we will ever disagree with any gusto, and that is the position of the Public Debt of this island. I am not the Minister of Finance, and it is not my position to expand on what was given by the Prime Minister on the meaning of a public debt, but let it be said at an early stage that I have never been among - and I do not believe the Prime Minister could include any responsible members of any of the Opposition groups among those who make alarming

statements about the Public Debt. We on this side accept as readily as anyone else the arguments that Governments must sometimes borrow money for capital works in order that the generations who come after and share in the benefits of those capital works also have to share in their costs, and all I would say about the Prime Minister's statement is that I have heard it put much better in a broadcast given by a member of the Opposition at the time of the election.

Now to this year's current expenditure and capital expenditure, Mr. Speaker. \$52 million was passed by this House in the Estimates; at the time estimated revenue was \$45 million. The Prime Minister made his proposals - which he said were not half measures - to deal with this deficit of \$6 1/2 million. The first among his proposals were proposals which would cost money rather than increase the revenue. These were proposals to increase the allowances for working wives. And then, Mr. Speaker, he came to the increases in taxation. There was increased duty on various grades of petroleum and gasoline; there was a consumption tax on cigarettes, Package Tax, and increases connected with the Registration office - increases concerned with companies, trade marks, certificates and so on. There was also - and I mention this in passing - certain tax concessions given to yachts and light aircraft, and I hope that the Prime Minister will not take it amiss if I say that he must have been extremely popular on his next visits to his favourite clubs, the Barbados Cruising Club and the Light Aeroplane Club; but Mr. Speaker, merely on the grounds that the Prime Minister is a member of the two Clubs which benefit from this, we will not suggest that he personally was seeking to benefit in any way, and we do not think that he should deprive his fellow club members from benefitting because he is incidentally a member of the organisations, and will receive some benefit.

Mr. Speaker, when taxation has to be raised, gasoline, cigarettes and spirits, one presumes, are all things which I think the public expects that it has to pay more for, and there is not a great deal that the Opposition has to say on those points. A Minister of Finance has to choose where he will strike.

On the question of Package Tax he has mentioned that the importers were avoiding the tax by importing many packages tied together in one package. We have heard from other Ministers that this is not the real argument in favour of increasing or altering the method of computation of Package Tax. As the hon. senior member for Christ Church said, no matter how many packages were placed together, as long as they were invoiced as separate packages they were charged as such. That argument by the Prime Minister, I think we can ignore, or we can in fact perhaps treat it in exactly the same way as we have had to treat some of his figures and some of his illustrations. But there was another argument which has been heard in connection with the Package Tax dispute.

All along we on this side of the House have urged on the Government that the Package Tax can make

serious inroads into certain items embraced in the cost of living index of Barbados, and we have been told that this is extremely unlikely, and that most items already weigh less than 56 lbs. The Prime Minister referred to a non-existent Act in support of his argument. That is by the way, but we have also been told that all these items are contained in the Schedule of exemption and therefore the cost of living cannot be affected by the increases in the Package Tax; but Mr. Speaker, since the 30th June, a number of pieces of subsidiary legislation have been laid on the Table of this honourable House, and I have been searching through the subsidiary legislation, Mr. Speaker, and seeing exactly what Orders have been made by the Competent Authority; and I find, Mr. Speaker that on the 7th July the price of English Potatoes was raised; the control price was raised. We find again that on the 11th July, Mr. Speaker, corned beef went up in price; on the 18th July sardines went up in price, and the most recent which my file affords is that on 24th July, corn meal has risen in price. These are the things that were not to go up in price; "there would be no increase in the cost of living; foodstuffs are excluded". All those arguments have been heard in connection with Package Tax, but once again, the evidence is there before us. We have the documents, and we can see the documents laid in this honourable House that as to items which are subject to control prices; the control prices have been raised, and it is within the experience of all of us that the items which are not subject to control prices have also seen increases in the shops and supermarkets.

Mr. Speaker, we attacked the Package Tax when it came before us as a legislative proposal. It is a tax which in its increased form is difficult for Customs and importers alike to operate; it is a tax which in this form exists, as far as we know, nowhere else in the world.

3.55 p.m.

It is a tax which we hope very sincerely that the Prime Minister, if he is granted another year of office, will review on the next occasion on which he has to present a Financial Statement and Budget Proposals.

Mr. SPEAKER: I trust that the hon. member will continue to avoid any contravention of Standing Order 26 (4) which says:-

"It shall be out of order to reflect on any vote of the House or attempt to reconsider any specific question upon which the House has come to a conclusion during the current session except upon a substantive motion for rescission."

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I am glad that Your Honour has observed that I have not been reflecting on any former vote of the House. I am glad that Your Honour congratulates any member on this side of the House even indirectly, for not infringing the Standing Orders.

As to the Bingo Duty, we can only regard the reduction in the tax as an example of the financial in-

competence which most of the time overtakes this Government. The Prime Minister said that he wanted to avoid the use of economic jargon and I will also try to do that; but there is one little piece of jargon which, I hope, will catch his ears.

As hon. members will observe, the Prime Minister has once again committed a breach of Standing Order 64 referring to members absenting themselves from the House. The Prime Minister is once again not here to hear what hon. members have to say about the Budget Proposals. He is absent from the house on a debate which is his own subject. He is not present in the House of Assembly when his Budget is being debated, and act which, if committed or attempted in the House of Commons, would result in the Chancellor of the Exchequer being driven from public life as being unfit for holding office. Nevertheless, what can be done? We can say that it is unconstitutional; we can point out the conclusions which we must automatically deduce from his absence from the House, and we can rest assured that the electorate are taking note of it and will, in the fullness of time, pass their judgment. Even if the Prime Minister is not here, his shadows are here and his documents are here.

As to this Bingo duty, I would suggest that it is a tax which is always subject to the law of diminishing returns. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that this will not be any unnecessary use of economic jargon. These marginal taxable activities - betting of all sorts and drinking of all sorts - are subject to preference in the bosoms of consumers. In our view, the Budget of last year which imposed a bingo tax was always acting on highly mis-conceived principles; it was thought that that tax was going to raise money. We welcome the correction which has been introduced into this year's budget, of reducing the tax on each ticket, so that the Jaycees and the Lions Club, which are the organisers of the Bingo games, and which derive no profit from them except perhaps in the sense of purpose which the members of these two Service organisations find in pursuing their aims. We welcome the fact that Bingo games will once again be in a position to raise money for the charitable purposes which they have been pursuing.

We come now to the Driving and Motor Vehicles licences. All along we argued that in fact it was hypocrisy to pretend that the original introduction of the increase in Driving and Motor Vehicles Licences was made in this House for the purpose of tidying things up. If the Government really wanted to tidy things up, it would go through all the old legislation and have a look at such things as rewards of 2/6 which existed many, many years ago. We have always thought that the purpose of these motor tax increases was purely budgetary, and we must congratulate one or two Ministers who were prepared to say that if we want to have better roads then we must pay for them. Our argument was, and still is, that it should have been made possible for the Government to declare openly that the purpose of these increases was budgetary, and they were not being slipped in under the guise of straightening out anomalies. Our argument,

and I will urge it on hon. members, is all the more important when we realise that this House has now passed a Bill which makes all the Budgetary Proposals law from the date on which they were introduced in this Hon. Chamber, and to define the Budgetary proposals, not in the universally accepted way of impositions of one sort or another, but in the new form of proposals to increase taxation to serve the Government of this Island. When we have a vague admission of that, and they say that they were straightening these things out, then it is open to the Revenue Departments to argue that at any time at which you make an alteration in the Statutory description of money to be collected by the Government as Statutory proposals, it becomes law from that moment. I do not believe that that was what was intended. Nevertheless, it is on the Statute Book and it behoves the Ministers to be more careful as to how particular taxation proposals are introduced in this Hon. House. 4.05 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure that Your Honour, as well as hon. members, would remember, if you listened to the Budgetary Proposals, when we were told that we were faced with a deficit of \$6 1/2 million and how the \$6 1/2 million deficit was to be raised; and then at the end of it the Prime Minister, not having the figures of the increases which he had made, said they added up to a deficit of a little less than \$1 1/2 million. He took the revenue from \$44 million to \$50 million at least. If you add all the income tax arrears which amount to, I think, \$2.8 million to all the taxation increases mentioned by the Prime Minister, if you assume that the Package Tax is going to bring in more, we still do not get this mysterious \$5 million which the Prime minister indicated in four lines.

The Prime Minister said this and I quote.

"With the revenue measures I have outlined, with the higher prospects of revenue from our expanding economy and with the institution of a vigorous programme of collection of arrears of income tax the funds in sight for financing current expenditure are \$50.5 million. This leaves a gap of \$1.5 million which I have no doubt will be closed as we succeeded in doing last financial year by practising strict economy and by tightening our financial controls."

In my school 1.5 and 2.8 do not make 5. The Prime Minister has produced some unusual arithmetical working in his pontifications on higher prices and revenue, but he will by now have corrected the figures which he blandly told us and this House that the Mercantile Tax and the Package Tax would bring in. The figure which he actually arrived at was \$50.5 million, but he should arrive at it in here. Never before have I read about, witnessed or heard the Chancellor of the Exchequer or a Minister of Finance give a total figure when he specifically stated that he did not know what certain taxation would have brought in, because he did not make any enquiry. He suggested that it would have been improper to enquire from those from whom he could have got the information because they would then have become aware of his taxation measures.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we have our own view of how the gap could be closed, but I will return to that later. Before I return to that, I would warn of the danger of accepting the figures of the Prime Minister.

Mr. Speaker, I listened carefully, and I heard the Prime Minister say in his Budget Speech that we were faced with a deficit of \$6 1/2 million in 1966. I have examined the duplicated copy of the Prime Minister's Speech which was circulated to see if 1966 was the year referred to. I have before me a note made by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph reading "a deficit of \$6 1/2 million in 1966." We then turned to the Estimates and we saw on the cover of the Estimates for that year that the estimated deficit was \$1.5 million, but the Prime Minister several places referred to a deficit of \$6 1/2 million.

I think this would require some explanation. He said \$6 1/2 million in his speech. It is a deficit of \$1 1/2 million on last year's official Estimates. This was an important part of the Prime Minister's Speech; it was not an afterthought because he was telling the House that notwithstanding the low level of taxation, yet the gap of \$6 1/2 million would be closed because he had closed the gap of \$6 million in the previous year. There was no gap of \$6 million in the previous year. That, Mr. Speaker, in our view is the best illustration of the state of management of our financial affairs.

Mr. Speaker, no Government lies down and remains idle; so I do believe the gap will be closed. There is the General Revenue Balance and if there is a shortfall, you can make it up from this fund. What may happen is that even recurrent expenditure can prove as elastic as the Government's Revenue estimates. For example, we may find that Recurrent Expenditure is not fully spent because it is known that the Government has experienced great difficulty in filling some of the posts, and the multiplication of Ministries is no answer to an understaffed Civil Service. This is the note on which I want to close my remarks, because the Civil Service has never yet been able to survive a major financial speech by the Prime Minister without a major assault on its integrity, interest and all the things which we can reasonably expect from a Civil Service.

The National Income of Barbados has undoubtedly been increased and as the Prime Minister has said, a great deal of that increase is due to the increased cost to Government. Civil Servants are taking a larger share of the National revenue than ever before.

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

4.15 p.m.

I welcome you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to the Chair. Mr. Deputy Speaker, if we examine the Economic Survey of 1967 which was laid on the Table of the House, to which I made earlier reference, and look at Table XI we can realise that the major part of the expansion of the Barbados economy was undoubtedly harvested by the Civil Servants. When the Prime Minister took office, as he has said, the Civil Ser-

vants were then drawing only \$12 million per year; they are now drawing over \$21 million and there is nothing in the economy that has shown rises of this magnitude other than the civil service. The value of manufacturing industry has hardly gone up since the regime of the Barbados Labour Party Government ended to the present year, despite everything that has been said, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and despite the fall in the value of money.

The value of manufacturing industry has only gone up annually from \$12 million to \$14 million. So much for the years of Democratic Labour Party expansion. Sugar: it comes and goes; other agriculture has actually fallen since 1962; but the Civil Servants have gone on and they undoubtedly take a very large sum, and their earnings form indeed the third largest factor in Barbados gross national product. Now, Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is a problem all over the world; there is hardly any country where the growth of bureaucracy is not deplored, but the way to deal with it is not to attack the Civil Servants; if the Government chooses to expand the ranks of Government servants, it is the Government who is responsible if the costs to Government are becoming too high; it is up to the Government to take such steps as will keep those costs within the limits which the economy can afford.

I do not know if the Prime Minister has ever read a book by Professor C. Northcote Parkinson, but it outlines a highly serious concept in showing how easy it is for the Civil Service to expand; as Professor Parkinson pointed out, in 1914 when the British Navy had 60 battle ships, there were only 4,000 Civil Servants; in 1961 there were no battle ships, but there were 60,000 Civil Servants in the Admiralty. I am sure the Prime Minister will find examples of this in his own Department and in other departments of Government. Saying it is an army of occupation, and attacking the Civil Service is not going to help; that is no way to face the problem of the increasing cost of Government. That is the problem to which, Mr. Deputy Speaker, we on this side hope the Prime Minister will give his serious attention, and we hope that his serious attention will produce a more adequate result than the result of the attention which he has given to many of the other problems of Barbados. If the appointment of a junior Minister of External Relations will assist the Prime Minister, we welcome it; that will help. Unfortunately we have to fear that the supervisory tasks which he will now have to undergo may be as great as the amount of work he had to do when he was his own Minister, and he will again have to let the Civil Servants - army of occupation or not - get on with the administration of the Departments which now apparently need a further hand, or at least a different one.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, we have taken note of the Financial Survey and the Budgetary Statement for 1967-68. Next time let the Prime Minister get his figures right; let him come in here and let accuracy rather than abuse be the keynote of his speech. I hope for myself never again to see a Financial Statement from a Minister of Finance in which I could pick out

mistakes on every page and in which only Parliamentary decencies restrain me from giving some of these mistakes a much stronger name indeed. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to support this Resolution.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would like to ask the Leader of the House what he proposes to do at this stage.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are still in Private Members' time and shall be for another five minutes.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order, will the Leader of the House move the suspension of certain Orders in order that this reply may be made today? If he does not, I will do it.

(A PAUSE) I beg to move that rule 5 be suspended in order that the present debate may continue.

Mr. St. JOHN: I beg to second that.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have to oppose this motion for several reasons. It is often charged against this Government that we do not give the Opposition time to do their business, and that we are rather unfair and onesided in our approach to Parliamentary business. I would have thought that what we have done this afternoon gives the answer fairly and squarely to that. The hon. member, some weeks ago, gave notice of his intention to reply to the Budgetary proposals; this side waited on him, made no attempt to hurry him; we were quite content to provide whatever facilities were required, and even for a half-hour broadcast speech, which we have done.

In accordance therefore with that understanding, I did not - I repeat, I did not move the suspension of the Standing Orders today because Private Members' business had to be done. Private Members' business has taken up the time - I think it was twenty minutes past three when they began - and at the present moment the hon. member is quite within his place to continue on the next occasion when the House meets if he so wishes.
4.25 p.m.

There is no reason why, because we are approaching the conclusion of the time which the Standing Orders set for Private Members' Business, that this debate must necessarily come to an end, because in any case, the Government has to reply. I think that it is much more sensible for Private Members' Business to continue again next week and any hon. member can continue the debate and then have the Government's reply. Therefore the Hon. Leader of the Opposition cannot have it in both ways. If you say that we do not accommodate the Opposition because we have the numbers which we have, today we did not ask that the time for Private Members' Business be set aside in order to continue Government Business. It is either that hon. members wish to play the parliamentary game as it should be played, or they do not want to do that. If I had risen at the beginning of

today's sitting and moved the suspension of the Standing Orders.....

At this stage, Hon. J. C. TUDOR took his seat.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, speaking on the motion of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition...

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It now being 4.30 p.m. of the clock, I now call Government Business.

Mr. MOTTLEY: No, No, Sir. I am on my feet.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, at 4.30 p.m. of the clock I gave way to you.

Mr. MOTTLEY: We must go on; the question cannot be put.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I have been reminded by the Acting Clerk that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition had made a motion.

MEMBERS: Question!

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: A motion has been made by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and if any hon. member desires to speak on that motion he may do so now.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am not giving way.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On a point of order. If you call upon the hon. senior member for the City to speak, you must recall that I gave way to you.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, that is not a point of order.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It is for me to determine if the hon. member is speaking on a point of order.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will hear the Hon. Leader of the House on his point of order.

Mr. MOTTLEY: But not a speech.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House did indicate that it was half past four of the clock.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, if I understand correctly what is going on, I have not surrendered my turn to speak on the motion before the House. I gave way to Your Honour because it was 4.30 p.m. of the clock. Your Honour must rule as to who has the right to address the House at this moment.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order. Is Your Honour now going to revise the recent ruling

that you gave of calling on the hon. senior member for the City to speak on the motion which I made?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I did not call on the hon. member to speak; I said if any hon. member wants to speak, he may speak now.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: A motion was made.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the point has to be cleared as to who has the right of addressing the House at this time. The hon. member knows that I gave way to Your Honour.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I made a motion which was seconded and therefore it must be put to the vote. *(After a pause)*. I made a motion before half past four which was seconded - a motion that Standing Order 5 be suspended.
4.35 p.m.

The question that Standing Order No. 5 be suspended was put and resolved in the negative, the House dividing as follows:-

NOES: Mr. YEARWOOD, Hon. J. C. TUDOR, Hon. C. E. TALMA, Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, Hon. A. Dac. EDWARDS, Hon. N. W. BOXILL, Mr. LOWE, Mr. CORBIN, Mr. WEEKES and Mr. HOPPIN - 10.

AYES: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MOTTLEY, Mr. HINDS, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, Mr. HOLDER, Mr. SMITH, Mr. St. JOHN and Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS - 9.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I would like to know, Mr. Speaker, what the Hon. Leader of the House plans to do in regard to Government Business. There are so many things which the Opposition must get straight.

(A VOICE: Sit down)

The hon. junior member for St. Thomas has a lot of privilege in here. He makes remarks as if he were a Cassius Clay.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Deputy Speaker.....

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: On what is the hon. member speaking?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: On a point of order. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph said that the hon. junior member for St. Thomas had a lot of privilege in here. I want to know if I have more privilege in here than anybody else.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the hon. member take his seat.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I did not hear what Your Honour said.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Government Business has been agreed to and the first Order stands in the name of the Hon. Prime Minister.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 2 be taken as the first Order of the Day.

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

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order No. 2 stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House: To move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the Island.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply.

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1967-68 No. 9

POLIO REHABILITATION

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is for the sum of \$2,059. The Addendum states:

These funds are required to settle an amount due to the Jamaica Government on account of treatment received by four polio victims at the Jamaica Rehabilitation Unit during 1964.

This money has already been voted and the Government failed to pay it in time; so this is really a revote. I may say that all four victims of polio have been treated and have returned and are rehabilitated. I think they returned to the Island on the 27th November, 1964.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1967-68 No. 11

BARBADOS TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, this is a Resolution for the sum of \$1,500. It is proposed to make a grant of \$1,500 to the Barbados Tennis Association to enable it to send a team of eight players and a manager to participate in the 1967 Caribbean Table Tennis Championships in Jamaica during the period 14th to 26th August, 1967.

They wanted the Government to assist in the sum of \$2,000, but the Government has come down for \$1,500.
4.45 p.m.

The Government is covering the expense of \$1,500. The policy of assisting in the field of sport, more or less on a dollar to dollar basis is being pursued on this matter, and I would not expect any sort of opposition except by a very junior member over there.

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

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

RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE GRATUITY TO
ESTATE OF REV. S. A. E. COLEMAN

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is for the sum of \$991.50 to grant some measure of assistance and relief to the widow of the late Reverend S. A. E. Coleman who served for many long years in here and to whom we owe a debt of gratitude. It is to assist in paying his funeral expenses and to provide assistance to the widow. I think that if the amount were twice as much hon. members would be willing to grant it. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report the passing of these Resolutions in Committee.

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

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I want to draw to the attention of the House that in spite of some remarks made by the Leader of the House a moment ago about the Budget reply debate, contrary to his promise, the debate has not been broadcast live, but only recorded here, and CBC can make any deletions it likes. I wish to draw to the attention of the House that a promise was made. Mr. Chairman, it is understood that - the Speaker will accept this as a matter of privilege and a matter of urgency, I will say no more now, but it is a monstrous thing to have happened, and then the Leader of the House tries to blame the Opposition for this debate not coming on earlier, when he knows he spoke to the senior member for St. Thomas and asked him to refer it to me that he wanted to make preparations for the broadcast, and....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: At this time I must interrupt the hon. member. I think that we were dealing with the Resolutions in Committee. Are you speaking on the motion to grant an ex-gratia payment to Mrs. Coleman?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: All that has passed. The motion is that you report the passing of these Resolutions.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am ruling that these three Resolutions in Committee can have absolutely nothing to do with Private Members' business.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Under what rule? I had to remind you already.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will ask the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to sit down; take his seat.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I will sit down when you show me where I am out of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will ask the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to sit down.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: If Your Honour has any Standing Order to show me where I must sit down, I will sit down. When the Chair rules wrongly, what are we coming to?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am asking the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to sit down.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I am sitting down because you have numbers over there and for no other reason.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am appealing to the hon. member to sit down. We must raise the dignity of this Chamber. I again am asking the hon. junior member to sit down.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I sit because I know that the numbers on the Government benches will force me to sit down if you put it to them. It is a matter for the House because there is no Standing Order you can show me where it says that I cannot speak on any motion.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will ask the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to sit down.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Your Honour will maintain the dignity of the House better if you observe the laws.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like to read first rule 35, and after that, if the hon. member does not take his seat, I will have no alternative than to read 36 (2). I am asking the hon. member to sit down.

The question that the CHAIRMAN report the passing of three Resolutions in Committee was put, and resolved in the affirmative, the Committee dividing as follows:-

AYES: Hon'bles TUDOR, TALMA, FERGUSON, EDWARDS, BOXILL, Messrs. LOWE, SARGEANT, CORBIN, WEEKES, HOPPIN, LYNCH, MOTTLEY - 12

NOES: Messrs. HINDS, CRAIG, ADAMS, SMITH and Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS - 5.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am advised that 12 hon. members voted AYE and 5 hon. members voted NO. I therefore declare the AYES have it.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that these Resolutions be now agreed to.

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

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

4.55 p.m.

MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC
(AMENDMENT) (No. 3) BILL

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937, of which notice was given earlier today by the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works, be the next Order of the Day under Government Business. I believe that copies of it have been circulated.

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

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day under Government Business stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works:—To move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Deputy Speaker, those of us who live in Barbados and are mindful of the vehicular traffic, would have noticed that the numbers of the motor vehicles in St. Michael have reached up to "9999" and, as a result of that, since we do not want to have number plates as wide as those we now have on carts, we have decided to have an amendment made to the Act in order that the numbers will be more uniform.

The "Object and Reasons" of the Bill set out that this Bill would amend the Second Schedule to the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937, in order to provide for the issue of a new series of Motor Vehicle registration numbers in any case where the registration number "9999" has been assigned to a motor vehicle. This is for persons who live in the parish of St. Michael. The next person after "9999" would have the registration number MA 1, MA 2 and so on. As it is also set out in the "Objects and Reasons" of the Bill, each new series would run from numbers 1 to 999 and have a letter of the alphabet prefixed to the number beginning with the letter A. That is, the first new series of registration numbers for St. Michael would run from MA 1 to MA 999. When we get to the parish of St. George, the letter of the alphabet used will be G, and we will have GA, for St. James, the letter will be S and we will have SA. For St. Andrew the letter would be A, and we will have AA. The Bill would also amend the Second Schedule to enable regulations to be made for prescribing the size and shape of registration number plates and the size and spacing of the letters and figures appearing

thereon in the case of motor vehicles registered after a certain date.

Some of us will know that we have a new type of number plate here which is uniform in Great Britain, but it is somewhat small. You cannot observe it unless you go close to it, but it is somewhat smaller than the specified licence number plate which is used here. We are proposing to have this licence number plate changed at a later date. We will be making it legal for the people who have the number plates which are smaller than the specified ones, to have these number plates without the users being prosecuted for using them. In view of what I have said, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

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

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

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called. It reads as follows:—

2. The Second Schedule to the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937, is hereby amended as follows

- (a) by substituting a colon for the full stop at the end of paragraph (1) and adding next thereafter the following proviso —

"Provided that when the number "9999" has been assigned to a motor vehicle the numbers "1 - 999" may be re-assigned in series, each series having a letter of the alphabet prefixed to the number";

- (b) by adding next after paragraph (7) the following paragraph as paragraph (8) —

"(8) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Schedule, in the case of any motor vehicle registered after such day as may be prescribed, the plates required by section 9 shall be of such shape and size and the letters and figures on such plates shall be of such size and shall be separated by such space, as may be prescribed."

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, there is just a small point which I would like to make, and it is this; while the matter of numbers or number plates is being gone

into, I want to say that I think that the number of accidents which are occurring at the moment are such that the Police ought to pay much more attention to the manner in which the numbers placed on motor vehicles are now being carried.

5.05 p.m.

Only yesterday, I observed some motor car carrying four numbers to the front and three to the back. The danger of that is that somebody may become involved in an accident, somebody may get knocked down and when an attempt is made to see the number of the vehicle, you find that you observe three or four numbers on the back number plate but the front number plate did not bear the same relation.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to ask the Minister in charge of the Bill if he thought of what is done in other places and introduced it here, that is, to take out the numbers of heavy duty vehicles, such as motor trucks and buses as well as motor cycles and have them marked in a separate register so that we would be able to reduce these figures.

I would like to know whether the Minister thought of that.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, the hon. senior member for the City has overlooked the fact that formerly these taxes were collected on a parochial basis and these vehicles were numbered in each parish separately.

Now, since we have frozen Local Government, you find that one set of collection is under review at the moment.

(LOUD ASIDES)

Mr. Chairman, I am trying to answer the hon. member's question.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I shall ask hon. members to observe Rule 25 (6).

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

On motion of Hon. N. W. BOXILL, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to move that this Bill do now pass.

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

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

ORDER NO. 1 CALLED

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 1 be the next Order of the day.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I expected a Ruling from Mr. Deputy Speaker. I wish to explain that for some reason, Mr. Deputy Speaker has not given that Ruling yet. It was a Ruling to be given on some notice which I have.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have been advised that His Honour the Deputy Speaker, is not yet ready to give his Ruling. It may well be that he will not be ready until the next meeting of this House.

This is a matter, if I understand the Hon. Leader of the Opposition correctly, in respect of which I ruled that there was not at all a motion of censure against the Chair of which he had given notice. That motion of censure was not against the Chair, but it is of the nature of a motion of censure in respect of the Ruling which I had given from the Chair.

As the Chair is presently occupied, it may well mean that I will be giving a biased Ruling, or rather that I would be ruling against something which I had ruled on.

I am led to believe that the Deputy Speaker is giving this matter his careful consideration and will give his Ruling at the earliest possible time.
5.15 p.m.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I am afraid we are at cross purposes. The Deputy Speaker has nothing to do with this. The Clerk handed me this which is the original notice which.....

Mr. SPEAKER: That is exactly the one to which I am referring. I rule that the motion of censure was not in order and the hon. and learned Leader of the Opposition - unless I am misinformed - gave notice of a motion of censure against the Chair, or the ruling by the Chair in respect of that motion of censure, and obviously I would hardly be the fittest person to give a Ruling on my Ruling.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Your Honour is not ruling on anything now. I was handed this in the normal way this morning to give notice of it. I am moving a vote of censure, the only thing I can do in respect of a Ruling of the Chair, a substantive motion on the Ruling given by Your Honour, given in August. If it takes every sitting of this House I am going to see that this thing is done. (LAUGHTER) This is no laughing matter; if the hon. members think so, they are absolutely destroying the House of Assembly.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. and learned Leader of the Opposition has made his point of order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, if I may with some trepidation encourage the House to return to

its business, I will move that Order No. 1 be the next item under Government Business.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: Consequently Order No. 1 which stands in the name of the hon. and learned Prime Minister is the instant Order of the day.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to take charge of this item in the absence of the hon. and learned Prime Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. Leader of the House is asking leave to take charge of Item No. 1 which stands in the name of the hon. and learned Prime Minister. Unless there is any objection leave will be granted. (A PAUSE). Hearing no objection, leave is granted to the hon. Leader of the House to move the House into Committee on the Bill to provide for the acquisition, deprivation and renunciation of citizenship of Barbados and for purposes incidental to or connected therewith. This Bill was sent to a Select Committee and the report of this Committee was presented on 1st August, 1967.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order. As a member of the Select Committee who sat on this Bill, I would be obliged if Your Honour would rule what is the effect of rule 58, paragraph 4 which says "A Bill reported from a Select Committee, together with a report on the Bill, shall be ordered to lie upon the Table without question put, and the report shall be ordered to be taken into consideration upon such day as the Member in charge of the Bill shall appoint. On the order for consideration of the report being read, any member may move that the report be adopted and, if that motion is agreed to, the Bill shall thereupon be ordered to be read the third time, either forthwith or upon such future day as the Member in charge may appoint." I appeal to you as a junior member of this House; I so often do. I do not know that after a Select Committee has reported that there can be any further stages to the Bill. I should like a Ruling; I am not suggesting that Your Honour is ignorant of the rules or anything like that.

Mr. SPEAKER: I appreciate the hon. member's way of putting things.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, as I understand it - and I think hon. members will have this interpretation of it - the Select Committee has reported, and this Report, I believe, was laid by Your Honour before the House last week, and as a consequence of that, has been printed and circulated to hon. members. All that remains for the House to do is to adopt the Committee's Report, or not to adopt it, as the case may be. If it is adopted, the Bill proceeds to its third reading.

I had risen really to move that the Report of the Joint Select Committee be adopted. As Your Honour rightly said, this Bill had its second reading on the

4th July and it was properly sent to a Select Committee of both Houses; this Select Committee met on two occasions and examined the Bill in its entirety.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry, but I cannot hear the hon. Leader of the House as well as, unfortunately, I can hear another hon. member.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am saying, Your Honour, that the Select Committee met on two occasions and according to its report, recommended that the Bill be passed with the following amendments:

Clause 2(1) By deleting the definition of "child".

By inserting immediately after the definition of the word "Minor" the following:-

"Parent" in relation to a child born out of wedlock and not legitimated by the subsequent marriage of his parents means the mother.

By inserting the following sub-clauses to be numbered (5) and (6), namely:

(5) A person born out of wedlock and legitimated by the subsequent marriage of his parents shall as from the date of the marriage or of the commencement of this Act whichever is later, be treated for the purposes of this Act as if he had been born legitimate.

(6) A person shall be deemed for the purposes of this Act to have been legitimated by the subsequent marriage of his parents if by the law of the place where his father was domiciled at the time of the marriage, the marriage operated immediately or subsequently to legitimate him, and not otherwise.

Clause 8: By deleting the word "also" appearing in line 2 thereof, and

By inserting immediately after the words "who is" appearing in the last line the words "or who intends to become".

First Schedule By inserting immediately after the words "and Colonies" appearing in line 1 the words "and West Indies Associated States".

Fourth Schedule By deleting the words and figures "Delete section 15" appearing opposite the figure and words "2. The Expulsion of Undesirable Act,

1927 (Act 1927-1)" and inserting in place thereof the letters and words:

"(a) Delete the proviso to section 2 and substitute therefor the following: "Provided that this section shall not apply to a citizen of Barbados",

(b) Delete section 15".

5.25 p.m.

Delete section 15. With respect to Sub-clause (3) of Clause 4 the hon. senior member for St. Thomas and the hon. senior member for Christ Church did not see eye to eye with the other members of the Committee as to the intention of that Sub-clause because, in their view, the insertion of such a Clause would be unconstitutional. However, Sir, this form is found in the legislation in the Jamaican Constitution and my advice is that it is not unconstitutional. I daresay that those hon. members will let the House know their views on this matter. It appears to me that success was arrived at by the Select Committee of members of both Houses of the Legislature, except in respect of the last part which I have mentioned. I therefore beg to move that the Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on this Bill to provide for the acquisition, deprivation and renunciation of citizenship of Barbados and for purposes incidental to or connected therewith, be now adopted.

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, speaking on the motion for the adoption of this Report, the position is that, along with the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, exception was taken to the provisions of Clause 4 of the Bill which seeks, in the case of persons who are acknowledged as citizens residing in Barbados for a period of seven years preceding November 30th, that they be registered at the discretion of the Minister. Clause 3 (2) of the Constitution states this:-

"(2) Any person who is a Commonwealth citizen (otherwise than by virtue of being a citizen of Barbados) and who -

(a) has been ordinarily resident in Barbados continuously for a period of seven years or more at any time before 30th November 1966; and

(b) has not, since such period of residence in Barbados and before that date, been ordinarily resident outside Barbados continuously for a period of seven years or more, shall be entitled, upon making application, to be registered as a citizen of Barbados:

Provided that the right to be registered as a citizen of Barbados under this subsection shall be subject to such exceptions or qualifications as may be prescribed in the interests of national security or public policy."

The bone of contention on this point is that Clause 4 (3) of the Bill simply states that the Minister may refuse to register as a citizen of Barbados any person who is entitled under the Constitution to be registered as a citizen if he is satisfied that it is not in the interest of National Security or Public policy. We are dealing with a category of people who have been residing in Barbados for seven years or more before the 30th November. Everybody has had sufficient time to know whether these people are desirable or undesirable as citizens of Barbados, and to say that the discretion of the Minister cannot be enquired into by any Court at all, we feel that that is not what was envisaged by the Constitution. The Constitution said that there should be exceptions or qualifications, and we feel that it is not beyond the ingenuity of the legal draftsman to set out quite clearly the circumstances under which the Minister can refuse to register a person as a citizen of Barbados.

One must bear in mind particularly in these cases that there are no means or methods of compelling anybody to assign a reason as to why he is refusing to register a person as a citizen of Barbados, a person who has been residing here for seven years immediately preceding the relevant date, which is the 30th November. Lest people may feel that this is absolutely necessary, I feel that this category of people with whom we are dealing, are people who were Commonwealth citizens before we had people from the Leeward and Windward Islands, people from Guyana, Jamaica and Great Britain who have been residing here and want to take up residence as citizens. We are not dealing with aliens and people who have been residing here because they are dealt with in the application for naturalisation. That has become much more important now and there is no Minister of Home Affairs in this House so that any questions can be directed to him with respect to his refusal to register a person as a citizen of Barbados.

It has been said that this is in the Jamaica Constitution, but that is not an apt illustration because Jamaica does not have this provision in its Constitution. They depend upon the Citizenship Bill which has been passed. It is included in the Citizenship Bill of Guyana but Guyana has peculiar problems of citizenship, and while they may want to treat the wife of the Leader of the Opposition in Guyana in such a way as to enable them not to be able to register her as a citizen, that is a matter for them. We feel that as to these people who have been residing here for this long period of time and who cannot be deported from Barbados anyhow - we feel that this situation should be clarified immediately and that no door should be left open for any pettiness or misuse or discretion in a manner which could deprive these people of the right which the Constitution gives them.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS and Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS rose to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Thomas caught my eye first. (After a pause).

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: If the hon. member is not speaking, I am speaking on a point of order. I want

to point out that Standing Order 58 (4) has not been complied with. That Standing Order is as clear as daylight. A day will have to be fixed by the hon. member in charge of this Bill for the consideration of the Bill. That day has not been fixed. On the day that is agreed to by this Standing Order 58 (4) the same hon. member can move the adoption of the Report. Mr. Speaker, if we are not going to stick to the Standing Orders, why should we have Standing Orders at all?

Mr. SPEAKER: I note the point which has been made by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, but I have also noted that the motion was made by the Hon. Leader of the House and the hon. senior member for Christ Church has participated in the debate. This motion, like any other motion on the Order Paper, was fixed for today because it is on today's Order Paper.
5.35 p.m.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Can it be placed on the Order Paper without the hon. member in charge of the Bill saying that he was ready to proceed with it? I am not normally a person that sticks to the letter of the law. (ASIDE)

I do not even always pay attention to the junior member for St. Thomas. I do not know if the hon. junior member for St. Thomas has a special privilege in here.

Mr. SPEAKER: Where a law goes against a particular procedure, we should not go against it, but we are asked to deal with this Report from the Select Committee appointed to deal with this Bill to provide for the acquisition, deprivation and renunciation of citizenship of Barbados and for purposes incidental to or connected therewith. We have a particular procedure which we follow when we are asked to deal with a Bill which was considered and reported on by a Select Committee.

I note the point made by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. The hon. senior member for St. Thomas caught my eye first, and he can speak.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I rise with some difficulty as regards the stage which this Bill has reached. I take it that we are dealing with sub-clause 3 of Clause 4 of the Bill and I take it that the Bill has reached the House in its amended form.

I am speaking on that basis because if that subsection is agreed to, we of the Opposition would not be able to vote for the adoption of the Report of the Select Committee since I feel most strongly that sub-clause 3 of Clause 4 referred to in the Bill is unconstitutional.

Now, Sir, preliminary to that, there are a certain number of corrections which, I have no doubt, would be corrected. Senator the Honourable H. A. Vaughan O.B.E., Q.C., has been described as "Leader of the Seante." It should be Leader of the Senate. Also in the Report is stated "Delete section 15" appearing opposite the figure and words "2. The

Expulsion of Undesirable Act, 1927 (Act 1927-1)". Instead of "Undesirable" it should be "Undesirables".

But more important than all of that is the more vital statement which states that the hon. senior member for Christ Church and myself "do now agree with the retention of sub-clause (3) of Clause 4 because they are of the opinion that the insertion of such would be unconstitutional." I am sure it could not be so because we were debating this particular subsection of Clause 4 on both meetings of the Select Committee and we never agreed to it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Sir, I said in respect of that Report there were dissentient voices in respect of the two hon. members.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Sir, the Hon. Leader of the House has done us complete justice on the Report when he said that there was a dissentient voice in respect of the two hon. members. I hope the paragraph of the Report would be corrected so that the hon. senior member for Christ Church and myself would not go down as agreeing to an unconstitutional clause such as this one.

Now, there are certain subjects, Mr. Speaker, that are always said to belong to the lawyers, and I suppose that this is one; and on an earlier occasion I heard the Hon. Leader of the House saying that if the lawyers on the other side say that it would be unconstitutional, he would have to accept the words of the Attorney General. We cannot quarrel with that. I respectfully submit that we are sorry that we did not have the benefit in Select Committee of the hon. junior member for St. Philip because I believe he would have provided a useful contrast to some of the views expressed in Committee, and which I have no doubt would be expressed today.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we have to deal with constitutional practice. This is not the first time that the Constitution has been infringed by some measure before the House, but this is a serious one because it is a most serious legislative assault in the provisions of this Bill. I challenge the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs to refuse citizenship to anyone, and I have no doubt that no one who goes and asks for it will be withheld it though this clause says that 'the Minister may refuse to register as a citizen of Barbados any person who -

- (a) under subsection (2) or (3) of section 5 of the Constitution is entitled to be registered as a citizen of Barbados; or
- (b) pursuant to subsection (1) of this section applies to be registered as a citizen of Barbados,

if he considers that it would not be in the interests of national security or public policy for any such person to be registered as a citizen of Barbados'.

To some degree, we are dealing with some matter which potentially is not a serious question because I, Mr. Speaker, would stake what I myself know

of constitutional law on this point that it may never be enforced.

If, Mr. Speaker, I say that the best argument which I heard on this was that it was copied from something which the Attorney General of British Guiana had, it will give you some idea of how poor the arguments were, and this is an important matter on constitutional practice to me.

As the hon. senior member for Christ Church said, only a certain number of persons would be affected by this, and from what has been said, it is almost certain that nobody would be refused citizenship, at least anyone who have lived in Barbados. I have seen a passport issued to a gentleman who was born in Bombay who can be a citizen of Barbados. From that you can safely say that passports are already issued describing persons as citizens of Barbados even though they are born in Bombay. If the Hon. Minister of Home Affairs has taken a lax view of citizenship pertaining to this paragraph, it is no surprise.

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

5.45 p.m.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, on a point of order. I would draw to Your Honour's attention to a point made when His Honour was in the Chair. The motion before the House, according to the Order Paper, is to move the House into Committee on a Bill to provide for the acquisition, deprivation and renunciation of citizenship of Barbados and for purposes incidental to or connected therewith, but the House is discussing now the consideration of the Report, and the procedure is clearly laid down in our standing orders. It is very clear, and the hon. senior member for St. Thomas read out that particular standing order - 58 (4). How can we consider one and not the others? The two must come together; there must be an order that the report should be taken into consideration, and the day must be a day fixed by the member in charge of the Bill. On that day then any member may move that the Bill may be adopted.

I would prefer Your Honour to rule on this point. That motion for consideration cannot be given with the presentation of the Report. The usual notice has to be given beforehand, a member would have to give at least a day's notice if he is a Minister, and any ordinary member has to give at least three days' notice. None of that has been done, and we would be just tearing up the rule if we did otherwise.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, on a point of order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I am speaking on a point of order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I will not give way to the hon. member. Points of order do not arise out of points of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: When the hon. member is pussy-footing around the Table, one must get up.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I spoke after the last hon. member sat down.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Andrew has risen on a point of order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: One of these days the Chair will rule.....

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order, if points of order can be interrupted.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Andrew has risen on a point of order. He caught my eye before.....

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I gave way to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph on a point of order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: The hon. senior member for St. Andrew is interrupting me.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will the hon. senior member for St. Thomas please take his seat?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rose on a point of order to draw Your Honour's attention to the fact that the hon. junior member for St. Joseph who rose on a point of order was making a speech. He made the point and then went on to debate whether we should do this Bill or should adopt this Committee's Report or not. That was not a point of order; he was interrupting the hon. member.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You have made your point.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Only I can object if I think it is not a point of order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, if the point that is being made that the proceedings are out of order, what greater point of order could be made? How could there be a greater point than that these proceedings are out of order? I have pointed out to Your Honour that the Order Paper says "To move the House into Committee." Our Standing Orders say what happens when the Report is given therefore we have passed that stage. The House has been moved into Committee; as usual the Leader of the House, after the hon. senior member for St. Thomas pointed out to His Honour the Speaker this rule, promptly got up in his usual way - over and over again he says that he is Lord Interrupter - and interrupted.

It is completely out of order now to be discussing what appears on the Order Paper. What we are dis-

cussing is consideration of a Report from a Select Committee; that is not before the House and it should be done in its proper time. Only the member in charge of the Bill, the Minister in this case, says a future date, and he has to do that after giving notice; that is as clear as daylight. Ministers are allowed a day's notice, we have to give three days' notice that on such and such a day I will move the consideration of the report, and that is what appears on the Order Paper. That is what the House does. Good Heavens, all hon. members doubtless can read, some hon. members can understand everything that they read, and those who do not understand.....

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. Leader of the Opposition has made his point of order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Those who do not understand completely, they have men to guide them, and it has been established in this House.....

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: the hon. Leader of the Opposition has made his point of order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I ask Your Honour therefore to rule whether we are in order at the present moment.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Exactly at 5.40 p.m., this afternoon, the hon. Leader of the Opposition raised that point when my learned friend, the hon. Speaker was in the Chair. His Honour did not give a Ruling then, and I prefer the Ruling to be given by him.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, in view of Your Honour's ruling, I presume at this stage there should be a motion that further consideration be postponed until the Speaker can be sent for, but it has been pointed out to me that the Bill has not in fact as reported been laid on the Table; so this in fact is further out of order. I trust that the hon. member for St. Lucy, the Leader of the House, appreciates this point; what is meant by the expression "the Bill must be reported"? Surely it means the Bill and its amendments must be laid, and the Bill has not been in fact reported since Select Committee, and this being so, I can only ask Your Honour's ruling as to whether I should suspend my speech until the return of the Speaker or whatever you say, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Certainly there is a great deal I have to say on it, and I am prepared in so far as is possible to be prepared to say what I have to say, but it does not appear to me, subject to Your Honour's ruling, that the procedure has been followed, and the Bill itself has not been reported. 5.55 p.m.

I wish to make an amendment to the Bill as it has been reported, by the deletion of a particular Clause. In the absence of a ruling by Your Honour I will have to continue. I might describe this as the first legislative assault on the Constitution. It is the first direct, head-on clash with the Constitution, and I am fortified in this opinion by having listened to the legal members of the Cabinet who feel that the provision

of the Constitution is quite workable. It seems as if the members of the Cabinet are prepared to look at the Constitution and say, because they do not know how to do something, that the Constitution is workable. That is disgraceful. Perhaps the Government or the Minister concerned has been a little shaken by this and he will exercise his discretion in the direction of the Universal grant of citizenship. As you yourself know very well, Sir, there are forms of words which lawyers use to create a test for the consideration of Ministers, and there are forms of words which lawyers use to create a subjective test to give a discretion to the Minister. We who went to London deliberately chose to use these words:-

"Provided that the right to be registered as a citizen of Barbados under this subsection shall be subject to such exceptions or qualifications as may be prescribed in the interests of national security or public policy."

That is the form of words that is Universally used if a Minister's discretion is to be included, and this proviso is to mean something. Sub-clause 3 of Clause 4 says:-

"The Minister may refuse to register as a citizen of Barbados any person who -

- (a) under subsection (2) or (3) of section 3 of the Constitution is entitled to be registered as a citizen of Barbados; or
- (b) pursuant to subsection (1) of this section applies to be registered as a citizen of Barbados."

if he considers that it would not be in the interests of national security or public policy for any such person to be registered as a citizen of Barbados."

Mr. Speaker, I have always been on the side of principle. I do not believe that we have seen examples in Barbados where you can cut down a Minister's power or discretion in favour of setting out rules and regulations, and I am in favour of setting out rules and regulations. It seems to me that the draughtsman of this Clause believes that it is necessary in carrying out the Constitution to set by rules and regulations under the Citizenship Act all the considerations of national interest and public policy which can exist. That is clearly wrong. If the Minister does not want a man to be a citizen of Barbados because he is a Communist, he can set out regulations defining "Communist" and put on every regulation the heading that the Court will not allow it in the interest of Public policy. If the Minister does not want a man who is a convicted dope-smuggler to be a citizen of Barbados, he can put in the regulations that anyone who has a conviction for dope smuggling cannot become a citizen of Barbados; but the Minister must tell us what is in his mind.

The fact that the Constitution appears to be infringed should be something which should concern all of us very deeply. The Constitution says that the exceptions and qualifications must be prescribed. The

subject of dissension in the Report which is before the House purports to substitute the Minister's consideration for an exception and qualification required by the Act. That it should be prescribed by an Act of Parliament is the argument of a child, and I should say that the Attorney General would be back at the level of years gone by when the Government had an uninterrupted record of failure in the last three years in its attempt at litigation in the Courts. I cannot recall any case in which the Government's Officers have been upheld in the Supreme Court of Barbados in their arguments: and if this goes to the Supreme Court, I feel safe in predicting that the Supreme Court would strike this Clause out of the Constitution. The principles of law which have been enunciated in the Constitutional text books continue to be valid. I would welcome Your Honour's opinion if you were to take the opportunity of debating this matter. I would not ask the Speaker to address his mind to problems like this one.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I understand that His Honour the Speaker wishes to resume the Chair, and if Your Honour wishes me to sit while this process is being carried out, I shall be happy to oblige Your Honour.

At this stage, Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

6.05 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: When the Deputy Speaker was presiding in the Chair, I had the opportunity of having a word with the First Clerk at the Table as to the Order Paper for today and he has explained to me that there is on the Order Paper, in as far as the caption to Item No. 1, something which was not in his transcript; but, unfortunately, a mistake has crept into the printed Order on the Order Paper and it should have appeared as "to consider a report of the Select Committee" etc.

Now, in respect of the point made by the Hon. Leader of the Government, I also had a word with the Clerk of the Table in respect of this item and there are grounds for complaint and I tender my apology.

In respect of the point made by the Hon. and Learned Leader of the Opposition under Rule 58 (4) that the Bill should be taken into consideration on such date as the member in charge wished it to be done, it is a valid point; but there has grown up in here the practice that in respect of the consideration of a Report of a Select Committee, that so long as the Order appears on the Order Paper for the Day, it is deemed that the member in charge of the Bill, principally the Leader of the House, had appointed that date for it to be dealt with.

In view of the point made by the Hon. and Learned Leader of the Opposition, I agree with him technically; and although the practice has grown up that so long as the Order appears on the Order Paper for the Day that the member in charge has appointed that date, if the Hon. and Learned Leader of the Opposition want

to press his point, I would call on the Hon. Leader of the House to name the date which he appoints as the date to proceed with this Bill.

On the other hand, a motion has been made that the Report of the Select Committee be adopted. The Order Paper states that on the 4th July, 1967, this Bill was read a second time and referred to a Select Committee. The Report was presented 1st August, 1967.

The question was put that the adoption of the Report be proceeded with, but it was intimated that no notice that it was to be proceeded with today was given. If the Hon. Leader of the Opposition proceeds with his objection, I would request the Hon. Leader of the House to name the date.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to proceed at all with my objection, having heard the circumstances and having been told this fact that certain people are waiting on the passing of this Bill. I therefore would not press it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am grateful to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition for his co-operation.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am grateful to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Speaker. May I then move that this date, this moment, is the time that this motion be proceeded with?

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Yes; I agree.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the matter be proceeded with.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak on the motion which has been regularised. I would state that I cannot vote for the Report of the Select Committee which considered this Bill and I beg to move an amendment to Clause 4 of the Bill as follows:-

Delete paragraphs (a) and (b) of sub-section 3 and the comma at the end of "Barbados".

My reasons, Mr. Speaker, were at length given during the irregular proceedings. To put it in what an eminent research lawyer has said, it is that there should be no direct contravention of the Constitution.

The information has been put forward that if we pass the provisions at 4 (3) it cannot stand; yet I do not think we should pass it at all. Let us keep our legislation free of anything that contravenes the Constitution. This section is the direct opposite to what the Constitution calls for and it is a fact that you cannot refuse any Commonwealth citizen citizenship.

I have formally approached more than one lawyer on this - and I am not speaking of the lawyers in this House - and you will find more than one lawyer will be taking this up with the Attorney General.

Mr. Speaker, there is another reason why this Act is a little bit phoney. The Act was drafted in a hurry.
6.15 p.m.

I call that careless drafting, and I do not think that any Act should come before this House carelessly drafted, especially an Act as important as this. If we look at section 5 of the Act we will observe that the Minister can in his discretion - in other words, a Barbadian who is so by virtue of his father's birth in Barbados may be living here, and examples were brought, I seem to recall, that a Minister can refuse to allow his children to be citizens of Barbados. When we look a little further down in section 5 (b), if you adopt a child it becomes a citizen automatically, and so section 5 as it stands makes it easier, if you happen to be a Barbadian, a parent inside Barbados, and you want your child to be registered as a Barbadian, it is easier for a Barbadian to adopt your child; but if you apply for it to be registered as a citizen, the Minister can refuse.

The Select Committee should have taken its time and given these anomalies a little more consideration. The argument that such and such a form of words appears in Barbados, Trinidad, Jamaica, England, and that those people cannot be wrong is no argument; all of them can be wrong. It is said that four independent countries independently arrived at a form of words, but it can be a piece of bad draughtsmanship from the British Nationality Act that has perhaps since been repealed or amended when the British have that their old provisions were bad, and repealed them. I cannot support the Select Committee Report; I really cannot support it and I will join with hon. members from this side or from that side - it matters very little as far as I am concerned - because I think this is a matter on which fundamentally there should be a free vote of the House.

There has never been during the regime of the Democratic Labour Party - and I challenge the Leader of the House to deny this - there has never been a free vote of this House; there has never been the possibility of a free argument with a matter that cannot be a Party matter, because I cannot concede that the Democratic Labour Party wishes to differ from its own Constitution, and therefore the Leader of the House ought to invite members to consider arguments rather than discipline. We know that the discipline, the threat of discipline has already been made to members of the Government - I am not sure Parliamentary Secretaries are members of the Government, but we know that threats of discipline are good ones, when exercised by so good a disciplinarian as the Prime Minister himself. I am inviting the Leader of the House to relax the rules somewhat and let hon. members look at that Constitution; I do not think that they want to go down as having said AYE to something which they do not agree with. I am not standing up and being counted among those whose votes will be laughed at by a Court of law at some future date. Mr. Speaker, I cannot vote to adopt the Report of the Select Committee.

The question that the Report be adopted was put and resolved in the affirmative, the House dividing as follows:

AYES: Mr. YEARWOOD, Hon'bles TUDOR, TALMA, FERGUSSON, EDWARDS, BOXILL, Messrs. LOWE, CORBIN, WEEKES, HOPPIN. - 10.

NOES: Messrs. CRAIG, LYNCH, HINDS, J. M. G. M. ADAMS, HOLDER, SMITH, St. JOHN, Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS. - 8.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am advised that 10 hon. members have voted AYE and that 8 hon. members have voted NO. Accordingly I declare the AYES have it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Bill, as amended, be now read a third time.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, the Bill as amended is now before the House and we on this side - speaking personally - we have no wish to see Barbados without a Citizenship Bill, but at this stage, I wish to move an amendment. To delete in clause 4 (3) of the Bill, the dash, paragraph 8, the semi colon, the "or", the bracket, (b) and the bracket, comma at the end of "Barbados".
6.25 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I would be glad if the hon. member would repeat the amendment which he is proposing.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I should like to ask Your Honour for a direction on this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not deem the proposed amendment to be valid. The motion is that this Bill be now read a third time, and it is entirely open to the hon. member to move that the word "now" be deleted and that there be substituted therefor the words "this day six months" or "one week" or for as long as the hon. member thinks fit.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I withdraw the amendment.

The question that this Bill be now read a third time, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, Mr. SPEAKER declaring "I think the 'Ayes' have it."

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill was passed.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS CONCLUDED

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the consideration of that Order concludes Government Business for today's sitting.

RESOLUTION re DEATH OF SPEAKER OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF GUYANA

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, if the House is indulgent, I should like to ask leave to move the passing of a Resolution in connection with the recent death of the Speaker of the National Assembly of Guyana.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is craving the indulgence of the House to propose a Resolution of condolence in respect of the recent death of His Honour the Speaker of the Legislature of Guyana, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted. *(After a pause)*. There being no objection, leave is granted to the hon. member to move the passing of the Resolution of which he has intimated.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the passing of the following Resolution:-

WHEREAS this House has learnt with profound regret of the recent death of the Honourable A. P. Alleyne, M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly of Guyana,

BE IT RESOLVED that this House desires to express its sincere condolence to his relatives, to the National Assembly, Government and people of Guyana

Mr. Speaker, I should imagine that there are at least three of us and possibly four of us in this Hon. House to whom the death of the Hon. Aubrey Alleyne will be felt as a personal loss. I know that Your Honour will miss him as a colleague, apart from other chance meetings which Your Honour and the late Mr. Alleyne have had. I think it was two years ago at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association occasion when Speakers of the Commonwealth foregathered and Your Honour, I believe, was very much impressed by the dignity and decorum of the Hon. gentleman. Aubrey Alleyne was, like most Guyanese of his young generation, a descendant of Barbadian parents, and like most Barbadians of that generation living outside of Barbados in neighbouring territories he was a teacher. I suppose in this respect the Guyana Parliament had something to boast about while he was Speaker, which few other parliaments, I venture to suggest, could boast about; the Speaker of the country had taught at some time the Prime Minister of the country. That is the proud record which both Mr. Alleyne and Mr. Burton shared of the National Assembly of Guyana. Those Guyanese who are under fifty have nearly all come under the hands of Mr. Alleyne as a teacher in Georgetown at one time or another.

From my own knowledge of Mr. Alleyne and of the political developments of Guyana, and of my knowledge of some of the leading figures in public life in that territory, I think that I can safely say that this influence can be felt in careers in large numbers. He was only by temperament moderate; conservative but only in politics; in outlook and in attitude he was a man of strong, socialist convictions. Even in the days when the political development of British Guiana - Guyana, as it is now - had not gone as far forward as we know it to be, Aubrey Alleyne's voice was one of the voices heard in Georgetown preaching for a better day. In this respect, he was a volunteer; but all of these wholesome, radical movements have inspired the public life of Guyana in the last two decades. All the reforms which have now been seen in that country, particularly the national spirit which is now so manifest, are due in no small measure to the

pioneering work of Aubrey Alleyne. It was therefore fitting that, in addition to being in the political system which now exists, he should have been thought to be the fittest person to adorn the Chair of the National Assembly of Guyana. He was indeed a very firm and loyal friend and an outstanding personality of Guyana. I am sure that hon. members of this House and in his own territory will mourn his loss sincerely.

6.35 p.m.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow that I rise to second this motion moved by the Hon. Leader of the House on the occasion of the death of the late A. B. Alleyne, Speaker of Guyana. What the Hon. Leader of the House has said about him, I fully endorse. I remember one thing. When I first met him in British Guiana as it then was, I said, "Of course, I am glad to see that many people there are Barbadians and to know that we have many people all over the world who are descendants of Barbadians."

I do wish to say of the late A. B. Alleyne that everything the Hon. Leader of the House has said is the plain, unvarnished truth. It is seldom that one deserves everything that has been said of him after death, because the circumstance of death make many things to be said that would not be said. However, this is an occasion that everything which has been said of someone after his death is true in every detail.

I would not say any more than that the late A. B. Alleyne has not lived in vain, and I join with the Hon. Leader of the House in expressing these condolences.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I associate myself with the Hon. Leader of the House and the Hon. Leader of the Opposition over the passing of the late Mr. A. B. Alleyne. I personally knew him and was impressed by him as a man of considerable charm, quality and dignity. We were associated in 1965 on the anniversary of the Parliament of Westminster and we met again last year.

I think Guyana would be the poorer by his passing. With his business acumen and his academic background, he was an ornament to the Chair. I will ask hon. members to consent to this Resolution by standing in their places for two minutes.

(Hon. members stood in their places.)

Mr. SPEAKER: I declare this Resolution to be unanimously passed and I ask the Clerk of the House to have it despatched forthwith to Guyana. I hope this would be done with the same speed as we have considered it.

SPEAKER INFORMS HOUSE OF RECEIPT OF LETTER FROM LADY HOLDER

Mr. SPEAKER: May I avail myself of this moment to inform hon. members that since the last meeting of this Honourable House I have received a letter from Lady Holder acknowledging with thanks the receipt of a Resolution of Sympathy from this Hon. House on the death of her husband, the late Sir Frank Holder. The letter was dated 29th June, 1967.

ADJOURNMENT OF HOUSE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I would like to get an intimation from the Hon. Leader of the Opposition as to whether adjournment of this House until 2.30 p.m. next Tuesday would be convenient to them.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, at the present moment, as it is, according to the Rules, the House should meet at 12 (noon) in conformity with Standing Orders. Again, it would be far better to come two hours earlier and leave earlier. Perhaps we would have less interruptions.

We feel that in future the Hon. Leader of the House should stick to 12 o'clock (noon).

I suggest that we meet next Tuesday, 15th August at 12 o'clock (noon). I hope the printers would have sufficient time to prepare the Order Paper, and the other things.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I would like hon. members opposite to be apprised of what we have to

do. If we meet at 12 o'clock next Tuesday the first thing on Government Business on the Order Paper would be Committee of Supply and the other matters to follow seriatim.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House stand adjourn until this day week, Tuesday 15th August, at 12 (noon).

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: I now ask the Clerks of the House to have the Order Paper for the next meeting ready as early as possible and I also exhort them to use their influence on the Printer to have it sent out as early as possible.

This House now stands adjourned.
6.45 p.m.

