

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1966 - 71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 28th February, 1967.

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

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., F.Z.S., (*Speaker*); Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Health and Community Development*); Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., (*Minister of Education*); Mr. R. ST.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; Hon. N. W. BOXILL, (*Minister of Communications and Works*); Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (*Minister Agriculture, Labour and National Insurance*); Sir G.-H. ADAMS, C.M.G., Q.C., B.A., D.C.L. (Hon.), (*Leader of the Opposition*); His Honour G. E. SARGEANT, (*Deputy Speaker*); Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P. and Mr. L. S. CRAIG.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the Meetings of Tuesday 13th December, 1966 and Thursday, 15th December, 1966, have been duly circulated. I will put the confirmation of each of these meetings separately.

If there be no objection to the Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday, 13th December, 1966, the Minutes of that Meeting will be confirmed. (*A PAUSE*).

There being no objection, I declare confirmed the Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, 13th December, 1966.

If there be no objection to the Minutes of the Meeting of Thursday, 15th December, 1966, the Minutes of that Meeting will be confirmed. (*A PAUSE*).

There being no objection, I declare confirmed the Minutes of the Meeting of Thursday, 15th December, 1966.

PAPERS LAID

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

The Customs Duties (Household Effects) Order, 1967; and,

The Customs Duties (Fish landed from United Nations Regional Caribbean Fisheries Development Project Vessels) Order, 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 a Resolution to place the sum of \$24,073 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1966-67 Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1966-67 No. 52 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution; also

A Resolution to approve of the variation of the provision in the Estimates, 1966-67 under Head 9, Item 16 so as to include the expenses of United Nations Technical Assistance local costs; also,

A Bill to amend the Financial Administration and Audit Act, 1964; also,

A Bill to remit certain duties payable under the Barbados Turf Club (Imposition of Duty) Act, 1941; also,

The following revised Bill in substitution for the Bill of like title which was introduced on 24th January, 1967:-

A Bill to amend the Marriage Act, 1904 and the Marriage of British Subjects Facilities Act, 1916; to validate certain acts done thereunder; and to indemnify persons in respect of such acts.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to regulate the holding of boxing contests in the Island.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of \$16,220 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1966-67 Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1966-67, No. 53 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution; also,

A Resolution to approve the expenditure required to supplement the Annexed Estimates of the Port Department for the year 1966-67 as shown in the Schedule to the Resolution.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS BUSINESS

Mr. HOPPIN: To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

(a) Is Government aware of the danger the residents of Parish Land, St. George will be faced with should a fire occur in or around that area because there is no water hydrant?

(b) If the answer to the above is in the affirmative,

(c) Will Government install a hydrant and relieve the residents of this pending hazard?

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill to amend the Financial Administration and Audit Act, 1964, was read a first time.

On motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, a Bill to remit certain duties payable under the Barbados Turf Club (Imposition of Duty) Act, 1941, was read a first time.

On motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, a Bill to amend the Marriage Act, 1904 and the Marriage of British Subjects Facilities Act, 1916; to validate certain acts done thereunder; and to indemnify persons in respect of such acts, was read a first time.

2.55 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to regulate the holding of boxing contests in the Island be now read a first time.

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

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

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to give notice of the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for Bridgetown is asking leave to give notice of a Bill to establish the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship, and if there is no objection to notice being given now, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted to the hon. junior member for Bridgetown.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to establish the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to establish the Queen Elizabeth Scholarship be now read a first time.

Mr. HOPPIN: I beg to second that.

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

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Standing Orders Nos. 5, 14, 16, 18, 19, 40 and 45 be suspended for the remainder of today's sitting.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I do not propose specifically to object to the Standing Orders being suspended, but I hint to the Government not to be constantly suspending the Rules. As it is, we are unable to start Private Members' Business at 2.30 p.m. I just make that observation.

The question that Standing Orders Nos. 5, 14, 16, 18, 19, 40 and 45 be suspended for the remainder of today's Sitting was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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

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

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1966-67 No. 48

Head 2 - Service Commissions - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$335 be voted under Head 2, Item 20B, which is a new item, for stationery.

I beg to move that Head 2 - Service Commissions - stand part.

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

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

Head 9 - Ministry of Finance - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, the sum required under Head 9, Item 20, is \$3,664 for equipment and furniture, and for a new Item 23 - Training Expenses - consequent upon the establishment of a training unit as a division of the Ministry of Finance.

I beg to move that Head 9 - Ministry of Finance - stand part.

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

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

3.05 p.m.

HEAD 13 - CUSTOMS

Head 13 - Customs - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, Item 13 under this Head covers overtime at the Customs Department. Supplementary provision of \$9,000 is required because, as the Explanatory Note shows, of the increase in the number of tourists coming to the island by aircraft and steamers, and it is necessary to detail additional officers for duty on Sundays and Bank Holidays and for periods after 4 p.m. on week days. It is for this reason that this sum is being asked for. I beg to move that Head 13 stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that Head 13 stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 24 - PREMIER - CABINET AND GENERAL

Head 24 - Premier - Cabinet and General - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, under this Head there are two items, namely Item 12 - Contingencies - for which the sum of \$600 is required, and Item 25 - Furniture and Equipment - for which a supplementary provision of \$225 is required, I think, Sir, that the position is very well explained here in Note 5 as to why this supplementary provision is required, and I beg to move that Head 24 stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, the note to Item 25 - Furniture and Equipment - says this: "For security purposes, it is necessary to provide three metal filing cabinets for the Registry of the Prime Minister's Office for papers for which the existing storage space has become inadequate. The sum of \$225 is accordingly required for the purchase of the filing cabinets".

I am not objecting to this, but what I would like the Hon. Leader of the House to explain is this. When it says that it is necessary to provide these three metal filing cabinets for the Registry of the Prime Minister's Office for security purposes and that the sum of \$225 is required for this purpose, I cannot see how these filing cabinets for security purposes could really cost \$75 each. I would like the Hon. Leader of the House to make it clear to me what kind of cabinets are these. It has been stated that they are for security purposes, but I would like to know the kind of cabinet which is costing \$75.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, all I can say is that these filing cabinets are necessary because of the need for greater security of documents. These are not the ordinary metal filing cabinets for Government offices.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I can appreciate what the hon. member says. I would like the hon. member to tell this House if they want these cabinets as a protection for the Prime Minister when he drives about with these things in his car and with his brief case. The type of cabinet is exactly the type of cabinet which the Prime Minister would be tempted to put in his car for somebody to carry away at night. They know exactly why they have to ask for these cabinets. If we are asked to vote this sum of \$225.00 to buy filing cabinets, we want to be serious about it and we do not want to have our Prime Minister driving about people and asking them if they can assist in the recovery of documents. If they want to have something for security purposes we would think that they want something stationary, something like a safe which can be posted somewhere. I think that hon. members are making sport.

The question that Head 24 stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 27 - CIVIL AVIATION

Head 27 - Civil Aviation - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, under this Head there are also two items - Item 32 - Water Rates for which supplementary provision of \$1,220 is required and Item 38, which is a new item - Electrical Installations for which supplementary provision of \$11,002 is required. As to the second item, the Note explains the position in some detail. It explains that it is necessary to have new installations at the Airport because of a reduction in the efficiency of the existing electricity generating plant from time to time. It is also because of greater demands on the services at the Airport. Such a situation is unsafe and it is proposed to install a new distribution board and an emergency alternator switch board at a total cost of \$11,002, which amount is now being sought to supplement this item. I beg to move that Head 27 stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that Head 27 stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 30 - PUBLIC WORKS

Head 30 - Public Works - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, there is one item under this Head and that is Item 33 - Maintenance of Government property other than buildings. Supplementary provision is required in the sum of \$2,218 for the purpose of providing for the payment of wages to four caretakers for the Government properties "Farley Hill" and "Eyrie". Two caretakers are to be assigned to each property. I beg to move that Head 30 stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, with respect to this item the Note says this: "The amount is to provide for the payment of wages to four caretakers for the Government properties 'Farley Hill' and 'Eyrie'. Two caretakers are to be assigned to each property." It would appear as if the Government has taken it upon themselves to have, I call it, fun in buying property, and repeatedly we have asked them to give their reasons for buying these properties. Now, today, Sir, they are asking for money for the payment of wages to two caretakers each for "Farley Hill" and "Eyrie". I am wondering what is it at Farley Hill which is needed to be watched. If there are only the remains of the fire, why is it that they are asking this House to have these two caretakers? What is happening at "Eyrie"? And mind you, Sir, we are not quarrelling or arguing with the hon. member (ASIDES) Mr. Chairman, we are accustomed to the undertones of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas. All his contribution since I have been here in this House is to make undertones. Fools rush madly where angels fear to tread.
3.15 p.m.

All that we are asking is what is going on at Farley Hill. What is happening at "The Eyrie"? What is the point of having these buildings and asking the taxpayers to pay for them? Can you exactly tell me all this?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for St. James appears not to be a Barbadian. He seems not to know that there are certain facilities at Farley Hill, for example, washrooms and toilets which have to be taken care of. The Government acquired Farley Hill as a National Park. One would not expect Farley Hill to be acquired and left there to whomsoever will, that the funds will be voted and whosoever will would go there and destroy any of the pictures at Farley Hill.

Turning to the question of "The Eyrie", I cannot remember what "The Eyrie" is to be known as, but police horses and the vans will be kept there; in addition there will be provision for a playing field.

One would expect the hon. member for St. James, instead of asking for an explanation, to ask that more funds be made available to Farley Hill than there are. He should be encouraging facilities at Farley Hill rather than questioning what are there.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, I would not like the hon. member for St. James to hear what I would say.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, which of the members from St. James does the hon. member mean? To the best of my knowledge, St. James has two members - the senior and the junior.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, there is just one member for St. James in the Chamber at present, but I am different from the hon. member over there. I would not like the hon. member to think that what he says is worthy of a reply.

There are some people who do not care if they bring this country down to the ground; they feel when they are doing something that they are doing it for the Democratic Labour Party. The hon. member wants to know what we are finding for the people to do. When certain people in this Island feel they have reached to a certain position they want

to extol their position. They think they can make a grand speech and have to be showing off; they want to get up and show off. The hon. member wants to know why these gentlemen are required. They are required to prevent the vandals that go around from entering this place. The purpose of this Resolution is to prevent vandals from going into this place.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, tell me what estate around there would employ two watchmen instead of one? What is the need for employing two watchmen instead of one? What is the need for employing two watchmen there? Is one to watch the other?

Mr. HINDS: Farley Hill is in the parish of St. Peter, and it seems to me that this House must learn that the electors of St. Peter are in need of other things than toilet facilities. As to the necessity of "The Eyrie", I would just say this. I understand that the Government members had promised that they would get rid of the police horses and the dogs. We now learn that they are providing "The Eyrie" for the keeping of the Police horses.

We feel that if Government property is to be bought with the taxpayers' money, that it should be put to the uses of the taxpayers. We have Sherbourne at Two Mile Hill and today it is not used for the purpose for which it was bought. Perhaps, what use is made of it, they may tell us.

We see in this Resolution before us a request for money to pay four watchmen. To watch what? They have made Farley Hill in a National Park. Tell me how many people have been encouraged to go to Farley Hill! Nobody knows that Farley Hill is a National Park except the Government, 3.25 p.m.

Nobody except the Government Ministers knows that Farley Hill is a National Park, because they look for something more than a sign-board and toilet facilities.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, anybody can make a mistake, even this Government. Do these two watchmen act like sentries and meet each other and you do not see the same watchman at the same time? Are the grounds at Farley Hill so great that you must have two watchmen? Are they on shifts where one watchman sleeps while the other watches? What is the point of having two? Not a single sugar estate in this Island would employ two watchmen for twice that size.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, I should like to point out to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph that the law does not provide for watchmen; it provides for caretakers.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I do not know if that is intended to be funny, but it isn't. It is just silly. What is the difference if you call them caretakers or watchmen?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, what could be more silly than the ignorance pointed out by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph when he sees in the note that provision is made for two caretakers and is saying all the time that we are providing for two watchmen? No provision is made for watchmen; it is made for two caretakers. If he cannot understand what is meant by caretakers, let him say so and not come in here talking about somebody saying something silly. The position is that I can understand what I read, I can see what I read, and I can explain what I read. I do not have to be knocked about mumbling, trying to get up and finding something to say. We are making provision for caretakers, and he is talking about a plantation employing one watchman. We are not dealing with watchmen; we are dealing with officers to take care of Government property; so it is the height of folly to get up asking about the appointment of watchmen when we are appointing caretakers. If he thinks he is going to insult somebody, he cannot insult me.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I always used to hear with regard to mullets that you only have to throw the bait and

before it touches the water they jump at it. The hon. member and one of his colleagues are like that.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, the other evening I told him what I thought of him and I was asked to withdraw it. Now I would like the hon. member to withdraw the reference to me about a mullet; otherwise I will get up and tear holes in his backside.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is not allowed in this Chamber to use words like that and should be called upon to withdraw them. I am asking you as Chairman to protect the dignity and decorum of this Chamber.

Mr. HOPPIN: Mr. Chairman, if the Government spends money in acquiring places.....

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order, a protest has been made affecting the dignity of the House, and you as Chairman have to rule. No hon. member is to speak until you have made a ruling.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, objection was made against the reference by an hon. member to another hon. member as a mullet. No hon. member was asked to withdraw that statement. There are two protests. If they are to be dealt with, the first has to be dealt with first.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order, there is an objection to the words used by the hon. member who has just sat down, and this must be taken before anybody is allowed to speak. Read the Standing Orders.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, old age makes some of us smug. I got up immediately the hon. member referred to me as a mullet and protested against it. The hon. member might have been doting at the time when I got up and protested.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Certain words have been complained of as being unparliamentary, and I would like the hon. senior member for St. Andrew to withdraw those words.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, I objected to the reference made to me by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph.

Mr. St. JOHN: On a point of order.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will both hon. members sit? I am asking the hon. senior member for St. Andrew to withdraw the words complained of.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman,.....

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order, nobody can speak.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I am speaking on a point of privilege, and this takes precedence over any other matter in this House; and I shall be heard on that question.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will hear the Minister on the question of privilege.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I thank you for this opportunity. It is clear at any rate that tempers on both sides of the House have got the better of both hon. members. I would think, Mr. Chairman, without presuming to direct the Chair, that it would be better to deal with this matter in the chronological sequence in which the offences were given. If you find that one hon. member first used an offensive remark.....

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order, ...

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am speaking on a point of privilege and I have to be heard. There is no question of giving way to the hon. member. I am addressing the House on a question of privilege.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: There is no such Rule. When a member rises on a point of order, the member speaking must sit. I am speaking purely on a point of order. Apparently the Hon. Leader of the House thinks there is a rule to ignore the Chair or insult the Chair, whether the Speaker is in it or the Chairman; but as long as

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There are two hon. members on their feet and one of them must sit.

(Both hon. members sat).

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I rise on a point of order

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, continuing my question of privilege

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If this continues, I will have no hesitation in suspending this Sitting for ten minutes.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, ...

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I ask you to rule whether a point of order does not take precedence over everything.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I am addressing the Committee on a question of privilege, and this takes precedence over any other business in which the House or the Committee may be at the moment engaged.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am hearing the Minister on a point of privilege.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, ...

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I rise on a point of order. No question of privilege arises. Why should we make fools of ourselves in this House?

Mr. CHAIRMAN rose and both hon. members took their seats.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, ...

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, privilege is the privilege of the House, not of any individual member.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If he does not sit, there is going to be a worse clash.
3.35 p.m.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will both hon. members sit?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR and Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS took their seats.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am hearing, as I said previously, the Hon. Minister on a point of privilege.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I rise on a point of order on his speaking on a point of privilege. You can have a point of order about anything whatever which arises in debate.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, ...

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: It is not a question of privilege, it is a question of the use of the Standing Orders of the House. It is an abuse just to trot out a word which could not have any possible meaning. The hon. member talks about precedence; let the hon. member read the Standing Orders and study his "May". A point of privilege takes precedence over the Orders of the Day in a debate.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: This Sitting stands suspended for ten minutes because of grave disorder.

On re-assembling,

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On the suspension, both hon. members the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and the hon. senior member for St. Andrew in my opinion, disrespected the Chair. I am asking both hon. members to apologise.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I apologise, Sir, because you asked me to do so; but I profoundly say that I had not the slightest intention of disrespecting the Chair. I was merely rising on a point of order, as any hon. member is entitled to rise on a point of order. Your Honour having called upon me to apologise, I apologise and I explain.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, I apologise.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, if you say that your having started to put the question is putting the question, I will sit down.

The question that Head 30 stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 31 - WATERWORKS

Head 31 - Water Works - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 31 stand part of the Schedule.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I am wondering whether we are in order in sitting. Your Honour should have reported to his Honour the Speaker that grave disorder has taken place.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I suspended the business of the Committee, not the Sitting of the House.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Would I be in order in submitting that the Speaker's ruling should be taken?

Mr. St. JOHN: I am suggesting, Mr. Chairman, that anything that anybody does in here now is totally *ultra vires* and illegal. I am asking Your Honour to rule on that.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I am asking Your Honour to report to Mr. Speaker that grave disorder arose in Committee and let him do the suspension, of there is any suspension to be done.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, before we can have speeches I am asking you to rule. My submission is that this whole thing is out of order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report progress and ask for leave for the Committee to sit again.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: That is not in order. I again respectfully call upon Your Honour to report to Mr. Speaker.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have reported to the Speaker, I have asked the Marshal to call the Speaker.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Reporting progress is doing something pending the Speaker's arrival.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, if what we are doing now is being challenged, how can the hon. member be addressing you? I made a motion and Your Honour has not informed me that it is out of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have reported the matter to the Speaker and I am now awaiting his presence.

The CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who took the Chair.
4.05 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Chairman of Committee has reported to me that he suspended the Sitting. Power of sus-

pending a sitting by Standing Order No. 36 is vested exclusively in the Speaker or Deputy Speaker.

I therefore rule that the Sitting is not, and could not have been, suspended.

In view of the fact the sitting was suspended, but which in truth was not, or could not have been, suspended by the Chairman of Committees, whatever has taken place during the alleged suspension, when in fact there was no suspension at all, is valid.

There has not been any report that the Committee had finished its business or that there was no quorum; therefore, the Committee could not continue. There was no evidence to that effect; so, I therefore, retire and call on the Chairman of Committees to resume.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: It is true to say that I called on the hon. senior member for St. Andrew to withdraw the remark.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I remember that the two hon. members were disrespectful to the Chair and I called on both to withdraw the remarks.

I ask the Hon. Leader of the House to get on with the business of the House.

The question that Head 31 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative.

HEAD 32 - PRINTING OFFICE

Head 32 - Printing Office - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, Supplementary provision of \$25,215.00 is required under Head 32 - Printing Office, to meet the cost of replacing four (4) Justo-writer Machines at the Government Printing Office.

I beg to move that Head 32 stand Part.

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, before you put the question, I would like to speak on Head 32 - Government Printing Office. I would like to draw to the attention of hon. members, the unsatisfactory state of affairs at the Government Printery. I hope that this additional sum of money would help that Department to speed up the printing of the Laws of Barbados which has not yet been printed for 1965 and 1966 as well as the Subsidiary Legislation which has not been printed for some time. All this money is required so as to have these laws published in the *Official Gazette*. One cannot understand why there is this delay and why this cannot be done soon after the end of the year.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I want the hon. member to realise that we are aware that there are a good lot of publications, not only the laws of Barbados, that require to be printed and we are trying our best to remedy the situation.

Some of the publications required are printed by old and tired machinery and they cannot produce as quickly as new machinery. It is not a question of printing only the Subsidiary Legislation and the Laws of Barbados, but is also a question of getting out Hansard and putting it in the hands of the public soon after a debate takes place. There is tremendous pressure on that Department in recent months. Not only has the Government Department done all the printing which is normally required but it has done all the printing required for Independence by the Government. It would be quite a fillip to them to put new equipment at their disposal to expedite the work which they have to do.

The hon. member can be assured that his point is well taken care of and it is not only these publications which he would like, but the whole question of Government printing which is increasing week by week which we are thinking of getting out.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister, what is the age of the present machines at the Printing Office.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I cannot remember exactly but I understand that these machines were in service from the time that the Government Printing Office was established, which is over ten years anyhow.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of \$54,637 do now pass.

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

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

4.15 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1966-67 No. 50

Head 18 - Police - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Item 90, Mr. Chairman, is a new one to make provision of \$600 for an air conditioning unit. This air conditioning unit is required for the room at Central Police Headquarters which keeps the telecommunications equipment and replaces one that has been condemned.

I beg to move that Head 18 - Police - stand part.

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

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

Head 28 - Ministry of Agriculture, Labour and National Insurance - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, under Item 83 we are asking for supplementary provision of \$16,460, and it has to do with the fact that the sugar crop of 1966 started later than was expected, and the cane testing wages which would normally have been met from the previous Estimates, had to be met from this year's.

I beg to move that Head 28 - Ministry of Agriculture - Labour and National Insurance, stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I am reading from the note on this particular Head, and I see here that the reaping of canes for the 1966 crop season started later than was expected and wages which would normally have been met from the 1965-66 Estimates had to be met from this year's.

I want to ask, Mr. Chairman, whether we are to understand that wages which should have been met from the previous year's Estimates had to be met from the subsequent year's Estimates, and whether it is not the right thing to bring in a Supplementary Estimate. (A VOICE: That is what we are doing. He would not understand). I would not understand, but green bananas grow between the canes. I am being told that we are supplementing, but is this the method in which you are coming to the House with Supplementary Estimates? That is what we want to concern ourselves with. The note goes on to say that reaping of this year's crop has also started earlier than expected when Estimates were compiled, and this has resulted in wages for reaping the crop having to be paid from an earlier date than anticipated. I would very much like to hear from the Minister of Agriculture something about this whole paragraph.

Hon. A. DaC, EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, there was a provision in the 1965-66 Estimates to cover payments for, say, X weeks to the Cane-weighing Inspectors during the year 1966. If the amount of money voted in the Estimates to

meet these expenses to the end of March, 1966 was so many dollars, and it is anticipated that the crop would have started some date in February, it means that if the crop began on some date in January, the amount in the Estimates to meet this expenditure to the end of March in the 1965-66 Estimates would have been too small, because you would have had more weeks to pay for between January and March than was anticipated. There was therefore a demand for more money. Some of the expenses, therefore, from that year for the extra week or two had to be met from the 1966-67 Estimates. Now, in order to meet the expenses up to the end of March, 1967, one has got to supplement the 1966-67 Estimates, and the necessary provision for 1967-68 will be made in the Estimates next month.

The question that Head 28 • Ministry of Agriculture, Labour and National Insurance • stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head 38 • Ministry of Health and Community Development • was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I think the reason for this supplementary speaks for itself.

I beg to move that Head 38 - Ministry of Health and Community Development - stand part.

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. Chairman, I beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of \$19,060 do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1966-67 No. 49

Head 33 • Highways and Transport • was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, under Item 29, supplementary provision is required for travelling in the Highways and Transport Department. This arises, as hon. members will see, as a result of the take-over of the roads in the Southern District Council area by the Central Government, and the list of offices to whom travelling allowance is normally paid in the Highways and Transport Department has of course increased, and no provision has been made in this year's Estimates. Supplementary provision is now required.

I beg to move that Head 33 - Highways and Transport - stand part.

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, speaking on this Item affords me the opportunity to request from the Hon. Minister involved a statement as to the extent of the tenantry road repair programme in the Southern District area as a whole, and in particular with respect to the parish of Christ Church. The roads were taken over some time ago by the Central Government, and it is my information that this year a considerable amount less has been done than was done in the past under the Southern District Council. I would like to know whether in the future Estimates increased provision will not be made in order to take into account the fact that this year's programme was a very reduced one, and that the people in that area should not suffer because of the fact that it took some considerable time to have the necessary machinery working by the Central Government.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, if I may answer the hon. senior member for Christ Church, he has not given the facts as they should be. If his Council has informed him, it has done so incorrectly. What has happened is that

after the Central Government took over the Southern District area, we found it rather difficult to get proper Supervisors and Superintendents. We did not want to put people to work harum-scarum and then the money would not be sufficient. I should like to draw to the hon. member's attention that for the time the Council has been running Christ Church, I myself had been somewhat appalled at what they had done. They had not repaired the roads properly, but they built more roads. You know how it is. Everybody wants a road; so you get people saying that if you give them a road, they will vote for you; so they neglected the other roads, and you are liable to get your car springs broken. It is not true to say, therefore, that we have cut back on the road programme.
4.25 p.m.

We have to look for something like one million dollars to spend in the Scotland area. We have the workers working there. You can rest assured that now we have passed the Civil Establishment Order, we have the necessary number of officers to investigate these complaints and so on, and the road programme especially in Christ Church will be speeded up considerably.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, it is not a question of stroking the village pump. I was dealing with all the roads in the Southern area. There are other means of getting elected than stroking the village pump. If the people have sufficient confidence in you, they will elect you apart from stroking the village pump. I want to know the procedure which his Ministry has established in order to find out the particular roads that are necessary, and particularly the new roads. The position is different now from when we had the Local Government Authority. People used to petition the Local Government. I do not want to have to come into this House and ask questions and draw attention to specific roads Tuesday after Tuesday. If the hon. member can inform me as to the procedure whereby the Central Government can be *au fait* with the Particular roads which are to be done, then I will be grateful.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, it is somewhat similar to what went on with the Local Government. What happens is that people request a road to be done and they write a petition to the Ministry. I myself go and look at the road. I take with me the Director of Highways and Transport with me the Permanent Secretary and other people from my Ministry, and if we think that there has been a good case made out, especially when the request is an outstanding one, we give it priority. I look at the road myself and I decide which road should be given priority. Barbados is a small country with a limited amount of money and it is true to say that the Department of Highways and Transport spends a large amount of money. When the road programme is being assessed, we look at the outstanding roads and we decide that such-and-such an amount of money will serve the people best and we decide to have this or that road done.

Mr. St. JOHN: I thank the hon. member for his information.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I had no intention of speaking on this matter at all, but the hon. member disclosed out of his own mouth the serious situation that the Central Government found it difficult to recruit Supervisors and Superintendents of roads for the Southern District Area. I publish a newspaper myself and there are other newspapers published in this island, and I have not seen any advertisement in any of these newspapers asking unemployed Superintendents or Supervisors of roads to make application to the Department of Highways and Transport. We have no reason to doubt what the Minister has said, but we do know that there are quite a number of unemployed Foremen and Supervisors who are in need of jobs; and if the Minister wants staff we can do all we can on this side of the Table to supply him early tomorrow morning with people who can supervise the roads. It is a very serious state of affairs if the Minister says that he cannot get these people.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, I feel that the hon. member is under a misapprehension. I, as Minister,

per week. The hon. member made it appear that only ten cents could be earned by these inmates per week. I do not care to interrupt any hon. member during the course of his speech, but this is what the note states. "Rates of awards range from ten cents to \$1.50 per week". Let the hon. member read what it says.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I read that the rates of awards range from ten cents to \$1.50 per week and I stopped there. If it did not suit the Minister to hear that, it is a matter entirely for him.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: For the benefit of this Chamber and of the Committee in particular, I must say that for the first time during a long number of years, attempts have been made to improve the conditions at the Mental Hospital, and the Medical Superintendent not only has the necessary ability but sincerity and honesty of purpose about him. 5.05 p.m.

He has the drive and that sincerity of purpose and he tried to get things changed up as quickly as possible. Out of the patients at the Mental Hospital, 170 are employed and given work to do by means of occupational therapy. I am not saying that everything is all well and good at the Mental Hospital. It is not so in any Hospital.

If a joiner built five chairs and four were stolen the next day, I am not a policeman at the Hospital; I was never a policeman. If the hon. member would like to become a policeman at the Mental Hospital, by all means I would entertain his application. I will investigate the point made by the hon. member.

So far as commodities are concerned, not only is cod-fish given to the patients every day; they are given other meals. Since we have this new Medical Superintendent, he has tried to improve the conditions of patients not only in the Pay Ward, but in the General Wards as well. He has given them chicken and a variety of vegetables. He has tried to rehabilitate them and he is asking for \$2,850 for furniture and equipment. Well, there are certain items of furniture which we need to replace; and if our repairs seem heavy, we have to replace certain kitchen items and kitchen tools as well as many other items. Hon. members must bear in mind that this is a mad house with which we are dealing. We have to get more plates, cups and so on. I do not think the amount required is unreasonable under the circumstances. This is not an ordinary Hospital; this is a Mental Hospital. I think the explanation given is quite satisfactory.

The hon. junior member for St. James from what he has said seems to have inside knowledge of this Hospital.

The question that Head 42 stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that this Resolution for \$32,612 do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1966-67 No. 51

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, as the Addendum sets out, construction of a sewage treatment plant is a part of the project undertaken for the purpose of improving the sewage disposal system at the Mental Hospital. The sum of \$8,248 is a revote and is required to continue work in this connection.

This work was commenced already; so this amount which we are asking for can be looked at in the light of a revote so as to continue work on this sewage treatment plant at the Mental Hospital.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you now report the passing of four Resolutions in Committee of Supply.

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

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

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

On separate motions of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Resolutions were read a first time and agreed to.

5.15 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that, Order No. 4 be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

RESOLUTION TO SUPPLEMENT ESTIMATES OF PORT DEPARTMENT

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 4 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, Minister of Communications and Works; to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the expenditure required to supplement the Annexed Estimates of the Port Department for the year 1966-67 as shown in the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, there is no Department under my Ministry known as the "Post" Department; so it is obvious it would be "Port" Department. That is a typographical error.

The Addendum does not set out very much, Mr. Speaker; but what has happened is that the two barges which we have been using at the Deep Water Harbour for some time have become old and worn. They are so worn that not long ago a fishing boat passing one of these barges touched it, and believe it or not, the fishing boat punched the barge. As a result, the Port Manager decided that the barges had seen their best days, and in order to save life and limb it was thought best to remove these two barges. It was agreed to order two barges from England, but the firm from which we wanted to order them told us that they could not give us these barges in the time we stipulated, but that there was another firm willing to supply these barges within the stipulated time for an additional sum to which we agreed. That is the reason, therefore, why we are here asking this House for supplementary provision of \$12,436 to pay for shipping, storing, putting them on deck on slings, handling charges and insurance. I should like to say that if the barges are not here already, they will be very soon. I am therefore asking this House to approve the expenditure of \$12,436 for these barges for the Port Department.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, we read this Resolution and listened to the explanation with interest. Now in the Schedule we observe that there has already been a supplementary estimate for \$25,168. Presumably this is in respect of this item, but the Minister has not assisted us. We can only guess it is in respect of this item, and now we are told that they want another \$12,000, half as much again, to pay the little extra necessary to get these barges here in time. If this sum of \$25,000 is not the ori-

ginal estimate for the cost of these barges, I would be very glad if the Minister would be kind enough to interrupt me and state what was the original estimate; but if this \$25,000 has anything to do with the barges and now the little extra is going to be \$12,436, we would have to hear something about who made the original cost analysis.

Now, the Minister referred to the increased cost not only of the extra thing occasioned by the necessity of getting them here on time, but also to the cost of insurance, slinging them, cargoing them and putting them on deck. I would hope that after all this expenditure the barges would be shipped here and not cross the Atlantic on their own steam, and that the cost of these things would have been included in the original estimate and would not now at this stage have to be provided for. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister does not know if the barges are here already, he is as much at sea or at the Harbour as the rest of us here. I know the Minister has a certain familiarity with shipping costs, we may say, and with the processes of shipping, and we hope for that reason that whose-ever eyes were liable to have wool pulled over them - where it came to the original estimates for slinging the barges and so on - the Minister's eyes would be free from such dangers. Until we on this side hear exactly what the original provision was, because we cannot see from this Schedule, we cannot give our approval to this Resolution.

We would like to hear, Mr. Speaker, whether the figure of \$142,390 is the entire amount for buying these two barges, whether the figure of \$5,168 is the cost of the two barges, whether there is some figure in between these two portions or whether the supplementary estimate of \$25,168 has anything to do with the two barges. We have not heard how it is you can place a contract for barges of which time is of the essence, and the persons with whom you place the contract can merely blandly tell you they are sorry they can no longer fulfil the contract to time and you will have to pay more if you want them at a certain time. We have not heard when it was that the fishing boat did its injury to the barge, we have not heard the purpose for which the barges are used, and I would be interested to hear that, speaking for myself. We have heard so little of these barges; all we have heard about is the sum of \$12,436 as a little extra thing, and we on this side would welcome some more information on this entire point of the barges before we are actually asked to vote this supplementary estimate.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there is no other hon. member desirous of speaking then the Hon. Minister may exercise his right of final reply.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, sometimes members in this Chamber.....

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I want to know if this is the reply because I want to speak after the member has spoken.

Mr. SPEAKER: I said if there was no other hon. member desirous of speaking, I would ask the Hon. Proposer of the Motion, if he so desires, to exercise his right of final reply. Let the Hon. Minister proceed.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, sometime ago in a debate in this Chamber, a member said that some people could not speak the truth by accident. I say now that a number of people seem to find it extremely difficult to speak the truth when they speak, and if they see it, they deliberately close their eyes to it, or they are totally ignorant of some of the things that take place in this Chamber. 5.26 p.m.

The last speaker who sat down said that \$25,168 was voted as a supplementary amount and now \$12,436 is being asked for to supplement a former supplementary vote. The hon. member also went on to say that I know about the sea. Yes, I spent my time at sea; and if some of them had spent that time at sea, they would have been better off now. During my time at sea I was never charged as a procurer

or any of these unsavoury things. This is more than what could be said about a lot of people.

Sir, the reason why the price of the barges had to go up like this is because after the Port Manager discovered that the doors of the barges would have been made of wood, he decided that it would have been better to have these barges lined. Also, as a result of that, there was an extra cost. Again on the barges they have extra bolts installed and this will also cost some money. Nobody will do anything for you for nothing; not even your own family will do it for nothing; and if these people in England have to build these barges and we ask for these things to make the barges stronger and more durable, then they will have to be paid for them. But, Sir, to try to mislead this Chamber that this is the second supplementary

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order. Is the hon. member trying to accuse me of saying what is not here? What I have said is in the Schedule to this Resolution. If the hon. junior member for St. Thomas cannot read

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has made his point.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, perhaps the hon. member cannot read. He got his education by the sweat of the masses of this colony and that is why he cannot read. I did not get my education in that way, and I have made a better use of my education than he has made of his.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member proceed.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The hon. member should be the last to speak about anybody not being able to read. I was never given a Scholarship as a result of the sweat of the masses of the people, nor have I ever been to England and failed my exams about five or six times. Just like some of his colleagues he is trying to be offensive and rude.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has accused me of being offensive and rude. I take that as an offence and ask that those words be withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member said "He". He never suggested that it was the hon. member who was trying to be offensive and rude. He never admitted that the attempt was successful. I do not deem that to be unparliamentary. I would not like to have a Civil War between the members for St. Thomas in this Chamber.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: And if we happen to trade our guns, I will be the first to start.

Mr. SPEAKER: Aim directly across the Chamber. (Laughter).

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, after the Port Manager realised that the doors of these barges would have been made of wood and knowing how easily these things erode, he decided to ask the makers to carry out this arrangement. They agreed to do so and said that it would cost us something extra. We really need these barges because they make money for the port. When a tourist ship is in the Harbour it is against the laws and the regulations to throw garbage in the Port. These barges collect the garbage and take it out to sea and dispose of it. To say that this is a second supplementary Resolution for these barges is utterly misleading.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order. The hon. member has repeatedly said that somebody has tried to say that this is a second supplementary amount. I said that there was a supplementary estimate and we would like to hear if this \$25,000 shown here is for the barge and the \$12,000 is supplementary to that sum. We want to know that.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: You idiot - I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, I withdraw that remark.

Mr. SPEAKER: I assume the hon. member knows that that is not parliamentary.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I withdraw the remark. The hon. member seems to think that this is a law Court and that he can throw in his remarks. He might as well keep his equilibrium and his voice, because when he shouts he does not scare me one bit. If I feel like answering him or if I feel that there is something to be answered, I will answer it. In the Estimates for the Port Department under Item 61 - Marine and other Equipment - the sum of \$142,390 was voted, and included in that sum was \$115,000 for the purpose of replacing one Hopper Barge and for the purpose of purchasing a second barge. When I use certain words my jaw seems to become dislocated. The hon. senior member for St. Thomas has asked about the price of these barges; the two barges cost \$84,096 and all of this I have explained. Everybody knows that if you are ordering something from England unless you are trying to bring it out in your pocket, you have to pay for it.
5.35 p.m.

I think I have answered all the questions which the hon. member has asked. The additional cost of the barges has increased. Some of the members in this Chamber seem to think that this Chamber is a Pentecostal Mission. Most of the time they generally get their feet in their mouths.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Is there anything before the Chair?

Mr. SPEAKER: Nothing except the expression of taking your feet out of your mouth.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Sir, let the hon. member make no reference to us.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

HOTEL AIDS BILL, 1967

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 8 be taken as the next Order of the Day. I am also asking for leave for the Hon. Minister of Agriculture to deal with this Order.

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw attention to the fact that I have just received my copy of this Bill only yesterday. I would like some time to study it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I do not think it is a controversial Bill. If they did not have a copy of this Bill until today, would they allow the Hon. Minister to deal with it today and postpone it after, the second reading, until next week?

Mr. St. JOHN: Alright.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House has asked for leave that the Hon. Minister of Agriculture deal with this Bill. If there is no objection, leave is granted the hon. member. (A PAUSE)

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

Mr. SPEAKER: This order is the second reading of a Bill to consolidate and revise the law relating to the encouragement of the development of hotels and for matters incidental thereto and connected therewith.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, for the past two years the Tourist Industry has been of tremendous help to the economy of this country. With the growth of tourism, the revenue of this country has increased considerably over the past five or six years. The pace of improvement can be accelerated if there were more properly equipped and first-class hotels in this country. As Your Honour is aware, the

Tourist Board has its agencies in various parts of the world, Canada, the United States and other parts - to sell Barbados as a Tourist resort.

We have found out that much of the tourist profit which would come to Barbados is lost as a result of the paucity of first-class hotel accommodation. With the hotels that are excellent in Barbados, when those bed nights are sold, the agents fly the tourists to hotels in other parts of the Caribbean rather than selling the beds that are available at the second-class hotels here.

We have considered this matter and a fillip to the tourist industry would be for people to come in to Barbados or even Barbadians themselves to establish some first-class hotels.

The Hotel Association has made some recommendations to the Government, most of which have been agreed to by the Government. There is recommendation for more first-class hotels to be constructed in Barbados, and for some of the first-class hotels here to be reconstructed so that they can accommodate more tourists. We would then be able to accommodate a greater number of tourists. We should do everything we can to encourage the tourist industry. It was decided by the Government to give additional concessions to the hoteliers, and one of the considerations is to grant certain customs concessions.
5.45 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, if a hotel is granted certain customs concessions, there is a period within which that hotel has got to operate as a hotel; otherwise the duty-free concessions which were offered to the hotel would have to be refunded. This is a means of ensuring that when customs duties are paid back to hoteliers for expansion of hotels or anything of the sort, or when they have certain tax exemptions, they must operate as hotels for a period of not less than seven years of the time during which the concessions were granted.

Another concession given was that the period over which capital expenditure on the hotel could be written off against profits should be increased from eight to ten years. As the Act stands now, a hotel is given eight years during which time the capital expenditure can be written off from profits. What we are doing in this Bill is to extend that eight years period to ten years. This was a request of the Hotel Association and we thought this would be an incentive to people to spend more money in the construction of hotels. It was also suggested that the Second Schedule of the Act be amended to remove wrought iron and aluminium furniture from that Schedule. We are now manufacturing this type of furniture in Barbados, and in order to assist local industry, we feel that any wrought iron furniture used in hotels should be manufactured in Barbados, and in order to protect local industry, we will not grant duty-free concessions for this type of furniture imported from outside. At the same time we are providing work for local people in Barbados, and whilst we would like to see the hotel industry developed, we have to see other development go on, and therefore we do not advocate bringing furniture and equipment from outside if we can manufacture it locally.

Under this Act the Minister of Trade is given authority to amend the Second Schedule from time to time in the light of development of local industries. That is, furniture on which duty is refunded through duty-free concessions to hotels will be taken off the Schedule as industrial development improves in Barbados. If a hotel brings in a type of furniture which in future some concern here manufactures, we are not going to allow it to come in duty free since it can be acquired locally.

Another provision of this Bill is that hotels which existed on the 31st October, 1956, are to be granted duty concessions on refurbishings over a period of three years from the date of the coming into operation of this new Act. If a hotel, say, two months from now wants to do some reconditioning and refurbishing, we will allow the furniture or whatever material is used in the hotel to be used free of duty whether the hotel was in operation from 1967 or from 1956. Another provision of the Bill is one giving the Comptroller of Customs discretionary power to permit the mark-

ing in the Island of certain articles listed in the Third Schedule under Heads 1, 2 or 4, if proof is shown that the hoteliers had instructed the suppliers in good time to mark the goods. If certain goods come in to be used in the hotel industry - and I refer to equipment and so on - these commodities are allowed a duty free concession, but they have to be marked by the suppliers pointing out that they are coming specifically for use at a particular hotel. Now if this is not done, the Comptroller of Customs according to the present Act cannot allow duty-free entry of these goods for use in the improvement of the hotel industry. This Bill now provides that if the goods come in and are not marked, provided the hotelier can satisfy the Comptroller of Customs that he had advised the suppliers that these were to be used in the hotel industry in proper time, a duty-free concession will be granted.

I must say, Mr. Speaker, that this Bill has been the result of long discussions with the hoteliers from as far back as 1963, and a great deal of thought has been given to it. There have been several meetings on this, and this Bill is about the third draft because we wanted to make sure that what we were doing was in the interest of the promotion of the tourist industry which we estimate will in another three year's time be responsible for an income of \$40 million in this country. At present the tourist industry is responsible for an annual turnover of approximately \$28 million or \$30 million. It is the second industry to sugar from which we realise about \$40 million. Some people feel that the tourist industry will beat the sugar industry or it will beat agriculture in this country. We in agriculture are fighting to see that it does not bypass agriculture, although we want to see tourism succeed. We feel that when tourism grows we should make agriculture grow also, so that the incidence of taxation, because of the amount of money circulating in this country, will not be increased proportionately, and we would be able to receive more taxes because of the increase in the volume of money circulating in the country. 5.45 p.m.

We want to have enough money circulated in the country not only from agriculture but also from tourism so that it will not be necessary to increase the rate of taxation, so to speak; yet we will collect taxes. That is what we are fighting at. In these concessions which we are giving, we expect to have more hotels built in this country. As a matter of fact, last year I think that there were approximately 1,200 additional beds provided in the hotel industry in this country and one of the instances given - I am speaking now under correction but I can get the exact figure when I am replying to hon. members on the second reading of this Bill. However, Sir, as far as my memory serves me, there will be over 1,200 additional beds provided since the 1st January last year. This has been occasioned because of the fact that the hotels were promised this bit of legislation.

I know that this matter is not controversial. I know that hon. members would like to see tourism go forward in this country and they are as much concerned about taxation in this country as we are, and they know that the greater the number of tourist who come to Barbados the better it will be for us. As I have said, I know that there is nothing controversial in this matter. I know that the Hotel Association agrees with us that this is what they want. The most of what they have asked for they have got; they have got what they asked for. There has been a lot of discussion on this matter and we are satisfied that this legislation will result in a further increase of hotels in this island. The increase in the number of beds last year is as a result of what we promised here. Now that we have this legislation, I expect to see the number of hotel beds increased a great deal. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I beg to second that.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the further consideration of this Bill be postponed.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I beg to second that.

The question that the further consideration of this Bill be postponed was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE LEASE TO THE DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF LAND AT PELICAN WORK-SHOP

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 5 be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Education is asking leave to take charge of this Order standing in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, and if there be no objection, leave will be granted. (AFTER A PAUSE) There being no objection, leave is granted.

The next Order of the Day now stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Education:- To move the passing of the following Resolution:

A Resolution to approve of the lease to the Barbados Development Board by the Minister charged with the responsibility for the subject of Lands of a parcel of land situate at Pelican Workshop in the parish of Saint Michael.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I believe that the House is already aware of the current policy of the Government with respect to the expansion of industrial estates. The House is also already aware of the development which has already taken place at Grazettes, and hon. members are also aware of what is already taking place at Seawell. We propose to do the same thing in this City. The matter before us, therefore, is that the House is being asked to approve of the lease to the Barbados Development Board by the Hon. Minister charged, for the time being, with the responsibility for the subject of lands, of the parcel of land described in the Schedule to this Resolution. The Addendum states that it is proposed by the Government that a lease be granted to the Barbados Development Board in terms of the Schedule in order that the Board might establish a block of industrial workshops for the purpose of housing small industrial operations, and the parcel of land is situated at Pelican Workshop in the parish of St. Michael. The parcel of land contains by admeasurement 119,756 square feet and it is situated on Prescod Boulevard and on Princess Alice Highway. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

REGISTRATION OFFICE (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day is Order No. 6 which also stands in the name of the Honourable and Learned Prime Minister.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am asking the leave of the House to take charge of this Order in the absence of the Honourable and Learned Prime Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Education is asking leave to take charge of this Order in the absence of the Honourable and Learned Prime Minister, and if there be no objection, leave will be granted. (AFTER A PAUSE) There being no objection, leave is granted the Hon. Minister of Education to take charge of this Order which is to move the Second reading of a Bill to amend the Registration Office Act, 1961.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the House is well aware that the remuneration paid to Copyists in the Registration Office is governed by the Act of 1961; therefore if any adjustment in remuneration is to be given to the Copyists it has to be done through this amended Bill. The Bill merely seeks to give effect, as from the 1st April, 1966, to

changes in the figures which hitherto have been enjoyed by these copyists. The changes are to increase from 16 cents to 22 cents and from 18 cents to 20 cents per folio of 90 words, the fees payable for recording and copying documents, and to increase from 25 cents to 30 cents and from 15 cents to 20 cents per folio of 90 words and fees payable by members of the public for recording certain papers and for office copies of documents and papers. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I beg to second that.
6.05 p.m.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, the objects and reasons of this Bill particularly is to deal with an increase in fees payable to Copyists for seconding and copying documents as from the 1st April, 1966. This increase goes to this small number of the staff who have worked so hard over these years to get these documents for those who need them.

However, at this stage, although there are those in this staff at the Registry, it is really difficult to get documents and office copies made where such is needed for the expedition of legal business required. For example, a Power of Attorney for taking out Letters of Administration has to be copied in a book by hand, but the fact is that it takes time.

There are many things which we believe should not be delayed. These things are extended to evidence in Supreme Court cases. I speak as to the copying of evidence for the Supreme Court. That is at the bottom of the list. There is some other machinery which can work very easily. It takes months and months to get evidence of appeals in criminal cases, and the entire process should be speeded up. A look should be taken in respect of the work to be done and getting copies out of the Registry.

We hope a look will be taken in order to speed up the entire work of copying and we hope this Bill would be merely an interim measure which ultimately would lead to the setting up of a final permanent plan dealing with this problem.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the points raised by the hon. member are exceedingly important, and I believe he has given a great amount of study to this matter.

Something is in the archives by a former Chief Justice who made study of this process to see whether something might be done so far as these vital documents are concerned.

The Copyists must be skilled in their job and I know the hon. member is quite interested and enthusiastic to bring about the improvement which he wishes to bring about.

However the increase in the fees payable to Copyists would not bring about increased efficiency. They are not given more to produce greater efficiency. The people who work in the Registry as Copyists need increase in fees. This is not there to bring about a new process. I will give the hon. member the assurance that the matter is favourably considered.

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

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

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

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

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

6.15 p.m.

Clauses 1 to 5 inclusive were called and passed.

Clause 6 was called. It reads as follows:-

6. (1) This Act, with the exception of section 4(b), shall be deemed to have come into operation on 1st April, 1966.

(2) Section 4(b) of this Act shall come into operation on such day as the Governor-General may appoint by proclamation published in the *Official Gazette*.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 6 stand part.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, this is a very minor point, but I wonder if the Minister would be kind enough to tell us why it is necessary to delay the coming into operation of section 4(b). I trust the Minister sees what I mean.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I think I see the point. What comes into force on 1st April, 1966, is, of course, the increase of pay for members. The other thing has to do with the increased charges which the public will pay for copies of documents, and this could not really be backdated.

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

The Schedule was called and passed.

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

On the separate motions of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE WILLS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1967

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day, No. 7, stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister: to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the law relating to Wills.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is seeking the leave of the House to take charge of this Bill which stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted the Hon. Leader of the House to proceed to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the law relating to Wills.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this is a Bill which the House of Assembly passed in the last session, but the dissolution of Parliament caught it, so to speak, between wind and water, and consequently the customary and traditional law-making processes could not be fully done. It arises, as hon. members will see, out of an International Convention to which Barbados subscribes having to do with the validity of Wills. This Convention, I believe, was enacted at the Hague in 1960 and at that time we were a colonial

territory and the United Kingdom adhered to the convention on the part of the then colonial Government of Barbados. Now that we are independent, the United Kingdom's responsibility ceases in this respect, and we are now asked to adhere to it on our own.

The Bill seeks to make certain amendments to the Law relating to Wills which are necessary in view of the extension of the convention to Barbados. Hon. members will notice that in Clause 2 there is the interpretation of "internal law", "state" and "will", but there are some additional rules. There are certain requirements in Clause 5 which are to be treated as formal. Clause 7 gives the period for determining the validity of the Will, and in Clause 8 the commencement and application of the Act.

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

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

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

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

The Preamble was postponed.

6.25 p.m.

Clauses 1 to 8 inclusive were called and passed.

The Preamble was called and passed.

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

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

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

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

On motions of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

LAND RESTRICTIONS (DISCHARGE AND MODIFICATION) BILL

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 3 be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave for the Minister of Health and Community Development to take charge of this Order in the absence of the Honourable and Learned Prime Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Education is seeking the leave of the House for the Hon. Minister of Health and Community Development to take charge of this Order in the absence of the Honourable and Learned Prime Minister, and unless there be any objection, leave will be granted. (AFTER A PAUSE) There being no objection leave is granted for the Hon. Minister of Health and Community Development to move the Second Reading of a Bill to provide for the discharge, modification and interpretation of certain restrictions affecting land and for other matters connected therewith.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, this Bill seeks to bring into line all local legislation in so far as restrictive Covenants are concerned, and it follows the provisions of

Section 84 of the Law of Property Act, 1925 of the United Kingdom and it also follows the Restrictive Covenants (Discharge and Modification) Law, 1960 of Jamaica. It is a means whereby the Bill would provide for the discharge or modification in certain circumstances of such restrictions or such restrictive covenants affecting land. The power to discharge or modify such a restriction is vested in a Judge of the Supreme Court who may by Order wholly or partially discharge or modify the restriction, subject or not to a certain payment of compensation to anybody who is suffering loss in consequence of the Order made by the Court. Very often, Sir, there are covenants affecting land, and regulations of the Town and Country Planning Officer may be involved. This Bill, in order to regularise the situation, seeks to vest certain powers in a Judge of the Supreme Court in order to modify, vary or wholly remove the restrictive covenants affecting land. That is the gist of this Bill and it will serve a very useful purpose in that certain restrictive covenants can only be modified, varied or annulled by Order of the Supreme Court. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, it is clear that a part of the general Town Planning Regulations, now that Town Planning has come to Barbados, will have to be given positive power provided in this Bill of discharging restrictive covenants, which may turn out to be in conflict with development schemes which may be thought proper to what the Town Planner may have in mind. It obviously will make nonsense of the positive aspect of the Town Planning functions for the Town Planner to say that a particular area should be zoned for development, where the area was once a parcel of land laid out for residential purposes only. Therefore in principle we must expect that this Bill is necessary even though the occasion for its exercise has not arisen in any planning problems which have come before the Town Planning Department to date. 6.35 p.m.

But our view is that the Town Planning Chief is the best person to do all. There is the Town Planning Act to provide for development, but I think it is fair to say the Development Control restricts the use of land as exists to others.

This Bill plays a most positive part in the development of this Island. Other countries as set out in the objects and reasons of this Bill are dealing with development. Other countries that these powers are taken on in the same way have a comprehensive law as was passed in the United Kingdom in 1925. We feel comprehensive law should be made to take care of all Town Planning in Barbados instead of the bits of statutory laws which we have.

It has been suggested already that there are too much divisions between different aspects of planning in the laws at present on the Statute Book. In many countries what is done by Urban Development is done by Local Government. It is true that Local Government may not be functioning in Barbados as is liked, but this view is only expressed by the Opposition; perhaps it is existing in the minds of some of the Ministers themselves.

It is going too far in the separation of things which are basically the same. We of the Opposition feel that in the immediate future this Act would have to be used in planning formally at Urban Development level, but we observe that only the Town Planner would have power on behalf of the Government. In other words, the Town Planner would be charged with administering the Government's view, and not the Urban Development Corporation.

We, therefore, suggest to Government to look at all the existing legislation on this matter. The best body responsible for planning is the Town Planner who is there to restrict, but who is also the official to encourage the type of planning you require, and when he makes plans those are the plans of the Government. His functions would be positive instead of the inactivity which prevails at present.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I agree with the purpose of this Bill and we on this side have no objection to it. We agree with this Act somewhat that there is need for change. The necessity for this Bill is very obvious.

There is one thing which I would like to draw to the attention of the proper person. It is that we hope this Bill would not be brought into operation right away, on the passing of it. I hope when it comes into operation that a long period would not elapse before they make the rules and regulations which are to be provided.

We have no objection to the principle; it is only putting into effect an old Common Law rule. I hope that the rules which this Act envisages will be made very soon.

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

On motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. N. W. BOXILL, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

Clause 1 to 7 inclusively were called separately and passed.

6.45 p.m.

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

On separate motions of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

AMENDMENT TO GOVERNOR-GENERAL (EMOLUMENTS) BILL, 1967

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 9 be the next 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. SPEAKER: As hon. members will recall, this Order is to resume debate on the amendment of the Senate to the Governor-General (Emoluments) Bill, 1967. When this motion was adjourned, it was so done on the motion of the hon. senior member for St. Andrew, seconded by the hon. junior member for St. John. Does the hon. senior member for St. Andrew or the hon. junior member for St. John desire to speak?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, as you will remember, the hon. senior member for St. Peter raised a question with respect to this amendment from the Other Place as to whether vesting in Parliament, instead of in the House of Assembly alone, the power by Resolution to increase the emoluments of the Governor-General would not pose some embarrassment to the Governor-General, in as much as he is a member of Parliament and would therefore have to assent to any Resolution passed by both Houses of Parliament. I did think myself at the time that the answer was that it did not really matter because he has to assent to this Bill anyhow, and this Bill is an Act to make provision with respect to the emoluments of the Governor-General; so it would not matter if we accepted the amendment of the Senate, because any Resolution passed by both Houses of Parliament on whatever matter has to be assented to by the Governor-General to have validity. On this side we accept the Senate's amendment to substitute the word "Parliament" Clause 3(2) for the words "House of Assembly", and it will read "Parliament may from time to time by Resolution vary the Schedule by increasing the emoluments specified therein." Now when we left off last week on this matter, I had already moved that the amendment be read a second time, and it had been seconded; so I do not now have to repeat that motion.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this amendment be now agreed to.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sure hon. members can appreciate that this Bill was not certified by the Speaker as a money Bill.

ADJOURNMENT

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

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 7th March, 2.30 p.m.

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

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

6.55 p.m.