

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1966 - 71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 7th March, 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.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Health and Community Development*); Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., (*Minister of Education*); Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (*Minister of Trade, Tourism, Co-operatives and Fisheries*); Mr. R. ST.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; 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*); Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of this Chamber for Tuesday, 10th January, 1967, have, I understand, been circulated, and unless there is any objection, those Minutes will be confirmed.

There being no objection, I declare the Minutes of the House of 10th January, 1967, duly to be confirmed.

PAPERS LAID

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

The Public Officers Loan and Travelling Allowances (Amendment) Regulations, 1967.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

A Resolution to place the sum of \$43,855 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1966-67 Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimate, 1966-67 No. 54 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution,

A Bill to make special provision in respect of the pensions, gratuities or other allowances which may be

granted under the Pensions Act, 1947, to officers who retire from public service under the Government of this Island and re-enter the public service under the Government of this Island.

I also would like to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to deal with the Money Resolution of which notice has just been given.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 6 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter, is ready.

Also, Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 15, asked by the hon. junior member for St. James, is ready.

Mr. HUSBANDS and Mr. HINDS entered the Chamber and took their seats.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 10, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Peter, is ready.

Mr. ST. JOHN and Mr. LYNCH entered the Chamber and took their seats.

Mr. SPEAKER: Before the Hon. Leader of the House proceeds, I will point out that there appears on today's Order Paper - by that I refer to the second Order Paper which was printed in respect of this day's meeting - the former of the two, hon. members will recall, did not contain any mention of Government Business - certain questions standing in the name of the hon. and learned member for St. Thomas, which Questions, as they now appear, were not given notice of in this Chamber. It will be recalled that recently when certain questions were tabled by the hon. and learned member for St. Thomas, the Hon. Leader of the House made some query as to these questions. I undertook to consider them notwithstanding that they had been vetted or presumably had been vetted by the Clerks at the Table. As those Questions were then phrased, they did not in my opinion conform to Standing Order No. 12 (i).

When I examined the corrected Order Paper for today, I noticed that certain other Questions appear, which Questions have not yet been tabled in this House. How and why those Questions got there I do not know; but inasmuch as these questions have not yet been tabled in this House, they should not have appeared as they do appear on the Order Paper.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, what then is Your Honour's ruling with respect to these?

Mr. SPEAKER: This is a general reply which includes the specific. No Question can appear on the Order Paper unless it had been given notice of in the usual way, and accordingly those Questions which were not given notice

of in that way should not have appeared today. They improperly appear on the Order Paper; therefore they will not appear again on the Order Paper unless they are given notice of in the usual way.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS and Mr. CRAIG entered the Chamber and took their seats.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, a Bill to make special provision in respect of the pensions, gratuities or other allowances which may be granted under the Pensions Act, 1947, to officers who retire from public service under the Government of this Island and re-enter the public service under the Government of this Island, was read a first time.

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.

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

2.55 p.m.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY *re* DEATH OF RT. HONOURABLE GEORGES P. VANIER

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, before we proceed with other business, I rise to move the passing of the following Resolution:

"WHEREAS this House has heard with sincere regret of the sudden death of the Rt. Honourable Georges P. Vanier, Her Majesty's Governor-General in the Dominion of Canada;

AND WHEREAS this illustrious son of Canada had rendered to his country and to the Commonwealth distinguished services as soldier, diplomat and statesman;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House extends its profound condolences both to the Government and People of Canada and to Madam Vanier and her family."

Mr. Speaker, the House would, I believe, have heard of the loss which the Government and people of Canada have sustained on Sunday by the sudden death by stroke of the Rt. Honourable Georges P. Vanier, who since 1950 had been The Governor-General of that country. The Rt. Honourable Georges P. Vanier was not, except as a personality, well known in these parts, but he was, of course, for many years a very distinguished public servant of the Canadian people. He was, of course, a French Canadian by birth and background, and in his own person he exemplified the basic unity of the Canadian people. He had served his country in a very distinguished manner for more than half a century on the battle field, as Ambassador and, of course, in recent years as Her Majesty's representative in the Dominion. His reputation had always been of the highest, and not only was he held in high esteem throughout the whole Commonwealth but he was certainly greatly loved by all his fellow-citizens in the Dominion of Canada. As a matter of fact, it would be true to say that not only did he represent the basic unity between the two large ethnic groups of Canada, but in his own person he was a symbol of greatness of the Canadian people. It is a great personal calamity for his family as well as for the people of Canada that in this year of all years when they celebrate their centenary of Dominion status and the birth of a Federation, this distinguished soldier and citizen will not be there except in spirit to join the celebrations, and I am sure that his passing is a great grief not only to members of his immediate family, but to

the whole Canadian nation and the Commonwealth. We, on this side of the House, of course, enjoy the closest possible and happiest relationship with the people of Canada and I am sure that this House would wish some fitting expression of their sorrow and sympathy with the Canadian people to be made on such an occasion. I therefore beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, in seconding the motion for the passing of this Resolution, I should like to say that we, on this side of the House, would like to endorse the remarks which the Hon. Leader of the House has made with respect to the career of the late Governor-General of Canada. We would like to express our profound sympathy to the people of Canada and to the members of the late Governor-General's family. I therefore beg to second the motion for the passing of this Resolution and to express, on behalf of the members of this side of the House, our profound sympathy.

Mr. SPEAKER: Before I put the motion for the passing of this Resolution to the House, I would like to associate myself with the tributes which have been so fittingly paid by the Hon. Leader of the House and the hon. senior member for Christ Church on behalf of the passing of the former Governor-General of Canada. I had the privilege of meeting His Excellency only last year and it was a source of great happiness to me to be a guest of His Excellency and to have the opportunity of chatting with so distinguished a son of the British Commonwealth of Nations. I refer, of course, to the occasion of the Annual Conference of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association which was held in Ottawa last year when this Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association was represented by the Governor-General Designate of Barbados, Dr. Arleigh Scott, and myself. I will ask hon. members to stand for two minutes in silence in signifying their acquiescence in the passing of this Resolution.

Hon. members stood in their places for two minutes in silence as requested by His Honour the SPEAKER.

Mr. SPEAKER: This Resolution has been unanimously passed and the Clerks at the Table are hereby directed to take the necessary action immediately.

QUESTION TIME

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

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Question Time. I have been informed that the Reply has been laid to Question No. 6, standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.
3.05 p.m.

DIFFICULTIES OF RESIDENTS IN SPEIGHTSTOWN TO RENT HOUSES

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, the Question is as follows:-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Is Government aware of the difficulties encountered by residents in and near Speightstown when seeking homes to rent?

2. Will Government see to it that a Housing Scheme is provided for such persons in or near Speightstown in the parish of Saint Peter?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the Replies are as follows:-

No Sir,

Very few applications for rentals of the Housing Authority's houses have been received from residents in the area.

There has, therefore, been no awareness of a demand. There are proposals for the re-development of Speightstown as a Trading Centre and for provision of high density housing for the area. A survey of housing needs will be undertaken in this regard.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 10 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Peter.

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Is Government aware of the sad plight of hawkers of green vegetables and fruit and other perishable commodities who ply their goods for sale in Speightstown on weekdays?

2. Is Government aware that such hawkers have to squat on sidewalks, on private properties, and even outside the Public Library at Queen Street, Speightstown?

3. Is Government aware that certain properties situated at Sand Street and Major's Walk were compulsorily acquired for the purpose of erecting a public market in Speightstown?

4. Does Government intend to use these acquired lands for the purpose of erecting a public market and slaughter-house?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

The Government is aware of the conditions under which hawkers of green vegetables and fruit ply their goods for sale in Speightstown.

Government proposes to commence work in the near future on the clearing of the site at Sand Street, and Major's Walk which has been compulsorily acquired with a view to providing market facilities in Speightstown. It is not proposed to provide slaughterhouse facilities at this stage.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, I will put a supplementary question.

Is the Minister aware that the slaughtering of animals in Speightstown under present conditions are not conducted in accordance with modern methods? It is not done under modern hygienic conditions.

Mr. HINDS: Is the Minister aware that slaughtering of animals is done not only in Speightstown but in other parts of the country?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Yes, but it is not the intention of the Government to put up any more slaughtering houses at the moment. It needs money to put up a slaughtering house at Speightstown at this stage.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Is the Minister aware that apart from two well known centres in Speightstown, there are other butchers who slaughter animals privately? Does the Minister know that there is no modern slaughtering facilities available in Speightstown?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, as soon as I receive a proper notice of that question, I would be willing to answer it.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Does the Minister want to tell the House that the supplementary question is not well put?

RESUSCITATION OF TWO LAWN TENNIS COURTS AT THORPES

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 15 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. James. I observe that the hon. member is not in his place and no other hon. member has intimated that he is willing to put the question.

Mr. St. JOHN: On behalf of the hon. junior member for St. James I will put the question.

To enquire of the Minister of Social Services:

Will Government resuscitate the two lawn tennis courts at the Playing Fields at Thorpes Housing Area, St. James, upon the spots where the two courts were formerly sited, one for the convenience of the residents of the said Housing Area, and the other for the use of the St. John The Baptist Primary Schools?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the Replies are as follows:-

No Sir.

It is not proposed to resuscitate the lawn tennis courts at Thorpes, St. James.

Consideration is, however, being given to the provision of a hard court for tennis there.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the hon. member going to ask a supplementary question?

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: This is not a supplementary question. The point of order is relative to Question Time. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately for me, I did not know that the Hon. Leader of the House raised objection to Question No. 28 which stands in my name. What I am asking is my position as regards that question. At the time of Notice of Questions at last Tuesday's meeting, I was not in here.

Rule 13 - Notice of Questions - provides at (2) that Notices of questions shall be given by Members in writing -

(a) when the House is sitting, by being handed in at the Table; or

(b) when the House is not sitting, by being handed in at the office of the Clerk within the time prescribed for the purpose.

Your Honour would remember that you called on me to ask a question of which notice was given in your presence on the last occasion. In any case, I am asking if I am going to be called upon to ask Question No. 28, 5.15 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: In respect of that which appears on the Order Paper, it should not appear on today's Order Paper, because notice of that series of Questions has not been given in this House. It is a fact that notice of another series of Questions was given in this House. Those Questions, I understood, had been vetted by the Clerks at the Table. My attention was specifically drawn to the series of Questions in a query by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, and on considering that series of Questions as then drafted, it was my view that they did not conform to Standing Order No. 12 (1). If Questions *apropos* of the subject matter or for that matter any other Question has been drafted and duly vetted, such Question may be put at the usual time for Questions and in the usual way, but these Questions which appear on the Order Paper are not the Questions on which a query was made, which in my view did not conform to Standing Order No. 12 (1), and should not be on the Order

Paper; but of course any Question by any hon. member having been duly vetted and which conforms to the Rules of the House may be given notice of at the usual time and in the usual way. That is my Ruling as to that matter. It is of general application, not specific.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I regret that I should in any way give the impression that I am questioning Your Honour's Ruling. What I am saying is that I gave notice of a Question last Tuesday and have not been called on to ask it today.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I try my best to point out that the hon. member was not, so far as my recollection serves me, in the House today when Questions were being asked and therefore could not have been called upon. Nor was his name on the Notice Paper of matters in my file; therefore he could not be and was not called upon. What I am pointing out is that an extraordinary incident has occurred in that a Question which has never been given notice of actually appears on the Order Paper. That is the work presumably of the Government Printery. I do not know how that happened.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I regret to rise a third time, but in fairness to the Clerks it must be said that I did in fact give notice of a Question in Your Honour's presence last Tuesday, and I handed the question to the Clerk. I will ask Your Honour if Your Honour would make an enquiry as to why it did not appear on Your Honour's Notice Paper, and to ask the Leader of the House whether this notice can be given today, because it has been given a week's notice by being handed to the Clerk last Tuesday. I would ask Your Honour to make an inquiry.

Mr. SPEAKER: No question has been vetted by me and approved of. The Questions vetted by me were Questions which in my view did not conform to Standing Order No. 12 (i). That is the only vetting which has taken place so far *apropos* of the hon. member's Question, but in any event the Question would have to be given notice of in this Chamber at the usual time except at a later time by permission of the House. Questions may not appear on the Order Paper which have not been asked in the ordinary way in this House, and I must say this in the presence of the Hon. Minister whose Portfolio includes the Government Printery and I have no doubt he will take due cognisance of what I am saying.

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: I will ask hon. members to refer only to the second Order Paper which they received, as the first had no mention of Government Business.

The first Order under Government Business for today 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. 52

Head 26 - Barbados Regiment - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, Supplementary provision of \$3,680 is required under Head 26 - Barbados Regiment - Item 41 - Cadet Exchange Scheme. This amount has been found inadequate for two reasons, because of the siting of the camp at Combermere School which has necessitated the provision of additional facilities, and also because more cadets were in attendance last year than was anticipated.

I think hon. members are aware of the value of this exchange and re-exchange of Cadets with Canada, Jamaica, Trinidad, I believe St. Lucia and Dominica. The additional sum is therefore required to meet commitments to the end of the current financial year.

I beg to move that Head 26 - Barbados Regiment - stand part.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.
3.25 p.m.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Chairman, speaking on this Cadet Exchange Scheme, it is about the appropriate time that I will ask the Minister to remind himself that for some long time now the setting up of a Cadet Corps at the Coleridge and Parry School was under consideration. I think it is time that we should make an injury as to when he thinks that a Cadet Corps for the Coleridge and Parry School will finally take shape.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I am grateful to the hon. member for raising this point. As a matter of fact, he has been raising it now for some time. There is no objection to the establishment of a cadet Corps at the Coleridge-Parry School. What I have been seeking advice on is whether the establishment of a Cadet Corps should be extended not only to the Coleridge-Parry School but to other secondary Schools as well. I have asked the people at the Barbados Regiment and other knowledgeable people in this respect to provide me with some advice on the matter and I propose that when we are considering the Estimates in a couple of weeks' time to say a bit more on the matter. But I wish to assure the hon. member that as long as it has been in coming, it will come.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman, may I inquire through you from the hon. Minister of Education whether it is proposed that a Cadet Corps should also be attached to Independent Schools inasmuch as the children of these schools are the children of taxpayers who would be financing the Cadet Corps at the Government-maintained schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I am very sorry that whenever the hon. member wishes to ask any question about Independent schools, he brings in the children of the taxpayers. That is not in dispute. Let the hon. member ask a straight question and he should not quarrel with us on this point. The answer to the question is that it is because I wish to take into account the needs of the Secondary Schools which carry a Cadet Corps that there has been this delay in meeting the hon. member's query with respect to the Coleridge-Parry School. It is precisely because we wish to extend a Cadet Corps to Independent schools as well as Secondary Schools. It is precisely because of that that we need time to make an evaluation of it. There are boys going to the Alleyne School; there are those who are going to the Boys' Foundation School and there are those who are going to the school in which the hon. junior member for the City is interested. The Government was hoping that we would have been able to have a central Cadet Corps, one whose activities of administration and organisation would be shared by separate schools without in any way dissociating individual ones from allegiance to their particular school. It is a matter which calls for some careful study and it is because of the need to interest other schools as well. The question as to whether there are Independent Schools and whether the children of taxpayers are attending these schools does not arise. It is a question of our going into the matter in this way that is causing this delay. I have been thinking of this matter and I have been asking officials to work out a plan which would bring a Cadet Corps to all the Schools who do not have a Cadet Corps and which would not only meet with the individual desires of particular schools, but would

serve the whole island in this respect, both in the Government-aided schools and in the Independent Schools.

Mr. LYNCH: I hope, Mr. Chairman, that the Hon. Minister does not think that I am being unnecessarily offensive. I am sure he will agree with me that repetition is a part of the armour of any teacher.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes, Mr. Chairman, so long as you are not repeating what is all very well known.

The question that Head 26 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, under this Head provision of the sum of \$6,644 is being asked for to meet the cost of filling in an old quarry at the Pine, St. Michael. This is a new item. This quarry is considered to be dangerous and to be in an insanitary condition. It is near to the Pine Primary School and it is considered that it should be removed. It is also proposed that it should be used as a filling ground for refuse. Provision is therefore required to put this work in hand. I beg to move that Head 30 stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, we on this side of the House are not against the principle of filling in this particular quarry which is near the Pine Primary School and has an effect on the young children. But there is one thing which the Minister said which causes concern and that relates to the form of the filling in of this quarry. Whenever these quarries are filled in this refuse, health problems can arise. I hope the Hon. Minister will assure us that no health hazard would be caused by the filling in of this quarry and we hope that it will be filled in in such a way that it will not be a combustion quarry. I would not put the Government to the expense of filling in this quarry with marl or stone, but I hope that the Minister will give us an assurance that it will be filled in with the least hazard to the Health of the people around there.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Only a village idiot or a community donkey could think that somebody would fill in a quarry and create a hazard on the children of the school.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I object to the reference made to "Village idiot" and "community donkey". That could only apply to a person who holds a particular point of view and the only point of view expressed in that light was expressed by me. I object to this reference and I ask that it be withdrawn.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, I am speaking. Anyone who thinks

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, the hon. senior member for St. Thomas rose on a point of order, and it is your duty to rule on the validity of the point of order before the Hon. Minister speaks or continues to speak.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I do not think the Minister was replying to any hon. member in this Chamber when he used the words "village idiot" or something like that. If it had struck me that the hon. member was replying to any hon. member, I would immediately have asked him to withdraw the remark. Therefore let the Hon. Minister continue.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, hon. members of this House are getting too touchy and they get up at the wrong time, catching at the shadow and losing the substance. I was saying, Sir, that the Government happens to be that by the people on this side of the House.
3.35 p.m.

Therefore, we are not going to do anything that would be detrimental to the people of Barbados.

The question that Head 30 - Public Works - stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 38 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (1) GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Head 38 - Ministry of Health and Community Development (1) General Administration - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, supplementary provision is required for Item 75 - Furniture and Equipment; Item 76 - Stationery and Item 79 - Incidentals. The supplementary notes supply whatever answers are necessary.

I beg to move that Head 38 stand part.

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

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

HEAD 38 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (3) HEALTH CENTRES

Head 38 - Ministry of Health and Community Development - (3) Health Centres was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to move that Head 38 (3) Health Centres, stand part.

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

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

HEAD 39 - LAZARETTO

Head 39 - Lazaretto - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Under Head 39 - Lazaretto, there are two items for which sums are to be voted, Item 14 - Provisions and Fuel and Item 16 - Cleaning, Water and Light. Under the note for Item 14, it is stated that changes in diet and the increase in the prices of certain items of food account for this request for supplementary provision. In the note on 16, it is stated that increased expenditure has been incurred on this item as a result of the re-opening of the Matron's quarters and the female Pay Ward, the revised rates of charges for electricity and the use of a refrigerator. The notes are quite explanatory.

I beg to move that Head 39 stand part.

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

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Chairman, I see here that changes in diet and the increase in the prices of certain items of food account for this request for supplementary provision.

We should be told what are these changes in diet. Is the patient getting better food? We of the Opposition would like to know what are these proposed changes. I think the Hon. Minister is quite competent to answer the question.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: This supplementary is necessary because of the change in diet and the general increase in the cost of items of food. It is a question that we require now more milk and fish and more fruit. You will find that at the Lazaretto the standard of diet has improved. There is a higher standard of diet not only at the Lazaretto but at the Mental Hospital, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and other Institutions of the Government. As regards Item 16, an increase has been incurred on the item as a result of the re-opening of the Matron's quarters.

Mr. HUSBANDS: These notes can be helpful, but this note on Item 14 is not helpful. It just says "changes in diet".

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the Resolution for \$24,073 do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1966-67 No. 53

1 - ANNEXED ESTIMATES - POST OFFICE

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The provision of \$38,200 under the Annexed Estimates, Post Office, Item 11 - Overtime, to meet payment of overtime allowance to the Staff of the General Post Office has proved to be inadequate.

The Post Master-General has said that the expenditure during the months of November and December has been heavy, and the original vote has proved to be inadequate. 4 15 p.m.

The reason for this supplementary, Mr. Chairman, is the Independence public holidays, the issue of first day covers of a new series of Independence stamps, the heavy volume of mail starting from early December, public holidays during Christmas and also the elections. The sum of \$16,220 is therefore sought, Mr. Chairman, to pay for overtime. The actual expenditure up to October, 1966, was \$16,958; the estimated expenditure to the 31st of this month is \$34,000. It is made up of: clerical staff, two months at \$1,600 per month; porters and messengers, two months at \$40 a month; extra duty allowance, five months for five officers at \$30 a month, postmen during the Christmas season, and the computation of paysheets in connection with revised salaries. This extra work has resulted in the House being asked to approve this \$16,220 in order to carry us through to the end of the financial year.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I rise hoping that there will be a more peaceful note as far as the Minister is concerned. I will ask the Minister to believe that in this instance I really am speaking not so much as a member for St. Thomas, but as a person having a personal interest in something he has mentioned in connection with supplementary provision. I think perhaps I can say that my interest is in connection with first day cover stamps. I am a director of a small stamp company, and therefore some of what I say may be thought to have some bearing perhaps remotely, but I think it has a bearing.

The Minister mentioned that Item (a) the increase in over time work in consequence of an unanticipated increase in the volume of mail was due partly to the servicing of first day covers of the Independence issue. Now philatelists have had many complaints about the Post Office and its policy towards the issue of stamps, and its handling of issues of stamps in Barbados. Speaking as one myself, I can say that these are complaints which have gone on over quite a number of years. I myself personally before this had to write letters to stamp agencies in England warning them and drawing certain things to their attention in connection with the Barbados Post Office and the issue of new stamps. What I say relates first of all to the past, because I think it bears a lesson for the future, and I am sure that the Minister, if he makes an inquiry into this, will at least have the facts placed before him which may never have been placed before him in the past. I certainly would not blame the Minister for what I think are shortcomings in relation to stamp issues in Barbados. In the old colonial days, Mr. Chairman, certain omnibus stamp issues could be made by all British colonies, and these issues were handled by Crown Agents in London, and a very large proportion of them were sold in London and represent practically pure gain to the Barbados Post Office. I was not expecting this item; otherwise I would have been able to bring figures for issues in other islands in the West Indies less known than Barbados whose stamps do not command

such a ready market. But it is safe to estimate that 50,000 sets of any commemorative stamp would be sold in London if issued by Barbados, and multiplying 50,000 sets by the face value of the stamp, this represents pure gain to the Post Office. If you issue a \$1.00 stamp and 50,000 are sold in London, that is \$50,000, and the only work that has to be done is that the person who issues the stamps has to fill out a certain number of forms. I have been told that in the past there has been inefficiency. For example I have been told that Barbados could have issued a Red Cross stamp, and I hope the Minister will investigate this and correct me if the occasion arises in the future. I was told that it was the failure to sign the requisition by a particular date that caused Barbados not to issue Red Cross stamps. In other words, it was a Civil Servant giving away the value that these stamp sales in London not to speak of those here, would have brought to Barbados.

Over the last few years there have been numerous issues - Red Cross, International Co-operation Year and others - which Barbados was invited to make, and which Barbados did not make. Now there are certain small countries whose revenue is principally made up from the sale of stamps. There are British colonies where no taxes are levied where half the Government's revenue comes from the sale of postage stamps. These issues are pure gain. They do not in any way trouble Barbados except the trouble to Civil Servants filling out the forms. If it is thought that the Department which deals with the issuing of stamps is understaffed and overtime is necessary, take on more staff, because this is money. Take on one person to deal with stamp issues, and he may very well be handling the arrangements for the Government of Barbados at the Post Office for around \$30,000 or \$40,000 just by one issue of stamps. Now if this in the past was not drawn to the Minister's attention, it is only to be expected that any Postal Department which is conscious of its duties will know that independent countries have a certain policy of issuing postal stamps.

Postal stamps have been regarded in many ways as advertising your country as well as a way of earning revenue. Tourist issues bring many countries tremendous reward, because they do not only bring the value of the stamps which they sell, but they also bring the publicity which the country gets from well designed and attractive stamps going all over the world on envelopes, and these are not small amounts. I am appealing to the Government to have a balanced attitude towards stamp issues and strike a middle path between two serious dangers. I am fairly well in touch with stamp dealers. The dangers that independent countries have with this question of stamp issues are that they can issue too many, and some stamp collectors say: "They are only trying to put their hands into our pockets and we are not buying any more stamps." It has happened to Ghana and several other countries which used an agency in New York. It has happened in those countries which used those agencies which encouraged them to make several stamps, and they destroyed the philatelic market of stamps. Equally you can issue too few.

Again the Minister, I am sure, will agree that an independent country must have a certain number of commemorative stamps. Many countries find it financially rewarding to have an issue on Independence day. 4.25 p.m.

That is a matter for the Minister to think of. We have the Annual Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition and there are many persons who would like a supply of the issue of stamps at that time. This is the year 1967 and many of us regard this year as a year for the development of Barbados' Independence. I would respectfully offer this advice to the Minister that he might well consider an issue, a special issue, of stamps in relation to the 1937 riots. Similar issues have been made in Nyasaland and they have heightened the people's sense of their own history. I urge this on the Minister at this request for a supplementary Resolution like this. These people will have covered many times their own value in overtime. First day covers on the Independence issue could cover \$16,000. This Resolution is one which is asking this House to pay money for bringing in an already

large sum of money into the coffers of the Post Office. The present system of handling the Post Office is that a booth is set up on the ground floor immediately below where I am standing and the covers are sold from that booth.

The Independence covers were sold out by 10.30 a.m. o'clock on Independence Day. It was not that the Post Office did not have any idea of what the first day would cover. The Post Office has a habit of servicing the dealers from England first. The Crown Agents in England send out first day covers which they send on discount and when the ordinary general public of Barbados want to get some first day covers, they find that they have been sold out since 10.30 o'clock in the morning. This has happened at least twice. I do not think that overtime should be paid in respect of an issue after the covers are sold out by 10.30 o'clock in the morning. Anyhow, Sir, the distributors will deal with that. I am asking the Minister to consider if it is right that the English stamp dealers should have the monopoly of servicing first day covers of stamps issued in Barbados. I do not know if there is a sufficient number of dealers in Barbados who could take over this work. It may be that there are people in Barbados who would have the time to do this work. We have to buy stamps from England because they are not available in Barbados. If you ask for these stamps or for certain stamps people will tell you that they cannot sell them, that you have to write for them. There was one issue which did not reach Barbados at all and I found myself paying 30 cents for a stamp which might well have been available for less. I am sure that when all of these matters are considered, the Minister will give them his attention. I am sure that he will go into these matters and I hope that in the very near future we can have some indication of forthcoming stamp issues. I hope that the people whom we put there to make the policy will make such policy. In the circumstances, you can only take the advice of those who can give it, and if the advice is not the best, you cannot do anything.

I emphasise that I cannot blame the Hon. Minister: but I hope that when this question next arises, we will be able to hear something about copies of stamp issues, first day covers and dealers' commission and that we can make the maximum use of them so that we can have a historical issue of these stamps.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, I am not at all surprised to hear the hon. member say that he is a philatelist. I am not a philatelist, but what the hon. member has said is not all correct. As to first day covers, the hon. member said that the Crown Agents look after these things for us. They look after having the stamps painted and they tell us how many they can sell for us. As regards the Independence issue, these stamps were bought out far in excess of what was anticipated. We anticipated a greater number of stamps than were put on the market, but it is not absolutely true to say that about the Red Cross issue. I do know that we put out four issues of stamps yearly and we try to keep within that scope. You can put out an issue of stamps every month. I know that there are some stamp sharks operating outside this country who would give us bad advice by putting new issues of stamps on this market as they have done with other people; I repeat, I am no philatelist and I try to keep my head on and I see that this Government does not fall into any trap. I collect stamps and I keep them for my purpose.

As to the Red Cross issue, we had the Independence issue and we had to decide between the United Nations and Winston Churchill and we have had to decide which stamp would attract the people most. We had to have the Independence stamp no matter what happened, and we decided to get the Independence issue. Despite what the hon. member may say about the Crown Agents, I am quite sure that if it had not been for the Crown Agents we would not have been able to do as well as we have done.

4.35 p.m.

They have been immensely helpful to this country; and when the hon. member says that the Crown Agents have not any interest in this country, I would like to tell him that

some of those people are very helpful to this country in many ways.

The same forgotten territories are asking the Crown Agents if they will start selling stamps for them again. I am a Barbadian first. We always have to be aware of the Greeks when they bring you gifts.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I said that I went into the Crown Agents office and could not get a first day cover after 10.30 o'clock. Philatelists should be given some encouragement.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I never agreed, but I was speaking generally. I do not think he may have said that. I was only trying to say for the information of the general public that we have to get our own because what was done in Africa I would not like to happen here. As I said before, this is a case where we are far in excess of what we anticipated. We would have some leftovers, I think, but, as the hon. senior member for St. Thomas said, these things were snatched up like hot cakes. Before the ink on the cable had dried, we got another cable, so that would give you an indication that you did not know what was happening.

I would like the hon. member to understand that I am not a philatelist; I am a Minister; but I do a lot of reading. I know quite a bit about first day covers. I know something about illegitimate ones. Therefore, the hon. member can rest assured that what he has said is taken in good faith.

The next time I come in here to deal with the Post Office I will have all the information in front of me to give the hon. member the answers to the questions which he raised.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report the passing of two 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 and second time and agreed to.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE VARIATION OF THE PROVISION IN ESTIMATES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 3 be taken as 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: The instant Order of the day stands in the name of the Hon. Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister of External Affairs: To move the passing of the following Resolution:

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.

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

There being no objection leave was granted the hon. member.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think hon. members are all familiar with both the Heads of Expenditure in which this matter before us is covered, 4.45 p.m.

Under Head 9, Item 15 of the Estimates, provision had already been made for a certain sum of money to cover the cost of expert services provided by the United Nations. Under the customary agreement for technical assistance, each Government is obliged to pay 12 1/2% of the actual cost of expert services. In our case for this financial year, the sum already voted has been exhausted. Now Head 9, Item 16 makes provision for other expenses of the United Nations Technical Assistance and Technical Assistance from other sources like Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom, but of course it is not specifically for local costs of United Nations Experts, and since under this latter Head there are available funds, permission is now being sought to meet the expenditure arising from Head 9, Item 15 from this source, and therefore the House is being asked to give its permission that from this source the Government's obligation for the local cost of expert services provided by the United Nations for the rest of the financial year can be met. This Resolution is of course seeking to give effect to that desire.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, whilst we on this side of the House have no objection to the Resolution, we seek to use this occasion for the purpose of soliciting some information from the Hon. Mover of the Resolution as to what fields of activity we are at present receiving this United Nations Technical Assistance in. As far as we can gather from this side, it is only in the field of Fisheries Development that we are at the present moment receiving technical assistance from the United Nations.

Mr. SPEAKER: Before the hon. member replies, are there any other hon. members who seek to contribute to this debate? (Pause)

Let the Hon. Leader of the House exercise his right of final reply.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I only regret that the hon. member has spoken and finished speaking so quickly, because I was hoping for a little more time to find the information which he requires.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is not deprecating concise speaking, is he?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Oh no, Sir. The first thing that springs to my mind is of course the Fisheries Project. The hon. member is already aware of the Fisheries Project. In addition to this there is the assistance in Hospital administration. I believe the Director, if I am not mistaken, who has just left us was part of this technical assistance programme; then in the Ministry of Agriculture I believe we had the services of one or two Entomologists, Agronomists and other specialists. If the hon. member would like further information on this matter, we can provide this when we are doing the Estimates.

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

THE FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION AND AUDIT (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1967

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, and it

is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Financial Administration and Audit Act, 1964.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is seeking its leave to take charge of this measure in the name of the Hon. Prime Minister, and unless there is any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted, and the Hon. Leader of the House may now proceed to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Financial Administration and Audit Act, 1964.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, from time to time probably for the next few months, the House will be involved in passing some amending legislation to various Bills in order to bring the Acts under consideration into line with the provisions of the Independence Constitution of Barbados. Hon. members will be aware that Chapter 9 of the Independence Constitution which of course deals with finance provides for the establishment of a Consolidated Fund which does not now exist. Consequently the purpose of this amending Act is to amend probably about twelve sections or parts of sections of the Financial Administration and Audit Act, and of course to make provision for the construction of reference to the Governor-General and to the Legislature.

So far as we can see, the Bill is one which would commend itself to hon. members, who I am sure have studied it in some detail.

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

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, we have not the slightest objection to the principle of the Bill, and therefore there is no chance that we will be opposing it on the second reading, but we only got the Bill yesterday. These amendments bring before us the great variations in the financial procedure that the hon. senior member for Christ Church, the hon. junior member for St. Lucy and myself among those who are present here today agreed on at the Independence Conference, and it is impossible for us to accept anything other than the principle of the Bill today, because only having seen it yesterday, we have not studied it Clause by Clause and compared it with the original. I do not know if some arrangement can be made to pass the second Reading and postpone the Committee stage, because if there is going to be any discussion, it would be as we read the original amending sections. I do not know if such a course is projected.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: This is quite acceptable to us if hon. members would like to pass the second reading of the Bill, and let us take it in Committee next week.

Mr. St. JOHN: I think the procedure we would appreciate on this side is the same procedure that obtained on the last occasion with another item on the Order Paper today in having the matter introduced. We will therefore move that further consideration of this matter be now postponed. We only got the Bill yesterday, and in addition to the fact that the laws for 1964 have not been printed up to now and are not available here on this side of the Table, one has to do a certain amount of digging up to find them. We agree with the principle of the Bill because it is something that was agreed by the parties at the Constitutional Conference in London, but we want to see the provisions and check them with the original Constitution. 4.55 p.m.

I therefore beg to move that the consideration of this Bill be now postponed.

Mr. SMITH: I beg to second that.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, we quite well appreciate, of course, the points made by the hon. senior member for Christ Church although we cannot accept them. It is true that last week we followed the procedure which was referred to in that speeches were made on a Bill and we proceeded no further with it, but that was a Bill on which there might have been conceivably some controversy. That is not the case with this Bill. This is a question of constitutional procedure which has arisen out of a basic agreement on both sides of the House, and what the Government is doing is bringing the provisions of the Constitution up to date by the introduction of this Bill. There is nothing in this Bill which would divide us and I concede that not having time to study the Bill, hon. members might wish to make their contribution to the debate. I think that this Bill could be given its second reading and reach the Committee stage next week. We would consider the request that we should pass the second reading of this Bill and postpone the Committee stage so that points can be made in Committee, since we are at one as far as the principle of the Bill is concerned there is no need to postpone the second reading of the Bill.

I am hoping that the hon. senior member for Christ Church will not press us on this matter because we are quite willing to accommodate them in so far as the opportunity for debating the sections of the Bill in Committee is concerned, but we ought to pass the second reading now, as I have already mentioned, and go into Committee on the Bill next week because this is not a controversial Bill. We cannot have two sets of policy on financial administration and audit, but we can have two policies or two sets of policy on hotel aid legislation. In the case of the one last week, we did postpone the second reading of that Bill, but in this case, the postponement of the second reading of this Bill does not hold good, I hope that hon. members on the other side will not press for a postponement of the second reading of the Bill because it would be quite reasonable to pass the second reading now and leave the Committee stage until next week.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, we find ourselves in great difficulty.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that the hon. member who made the motion for the postponement of this Bill has already spoken on this matter.

Mr. St. JOHN: I am replying to the motion for postponement.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is only with the leave of the House that the hon. member may speak again on this amendment of his.

Mr. St. JOHN: Very well, Sir, I shall ask for leave to speak again.

Mr. SPEAKER: It has been intimated to me from Government Benches that the Government does not oppose that.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I realise the speed for this Bill. At the same time, we do not wish to do anything to suggest that we are condoning the practice of their sending Bills to us at the eleventh hour, or the sending of Bills to us at the eleventh hour by those who are responsible for so doing. There are certain general aspects in relation to this Bill which we would like to draw to the attention of the Government and particularly the provisions of the original Bill which deals with the functions of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition and the Accounts Committee. We think that this would be a most appropriate occasion to draw this matter to the attention of the Government. We want to have the opportunity to see this Bill as a whole with its amendments so that we can take these objections on the principle and advance our point of view on the principle rather than having to make individual speeches on each Clause of the Bill in the Committee stage. That is our reason for asking for the postponement of the second reading of this Bill.

The question that the further consideration of this Bill be postponed was put and resolved in the negative, Mr. SPEAKER declaring "I think the "Noes" have it."

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 the further consideration of this Bill be now postponed.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The further consideration of this Bill is now postponed.

BARBADOS TURF CLUB (REMISSION OF DUTIES) BILL, 1967

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister and that is Order No. 5.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is seeking the leave of the House for the Hon. Minister of Agriculture to take charge of this Order in the absence of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, and if there is 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 Agriculture:- To move the second reading of a Bill to remit certain duties payable under the Barbados Turf Club (Imposition of Duty) Act, 1941. Let the Hon. Minister proceed.
5.05 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, for quite a number of years now, there has been the Barbados Turf Club which formerly made substantial contribution to the Treasury of this country. The Barbados Turf Club now finds itself faced with financial difficulties due to competition in several other things - bingo and, to a lesser extent, pool betting.

Horse racing is an attraction generally. Not only is it an attraction to tourists, but the Barbados Turf Club is responsible for the employment of 500 workers or more per annum. It employs among its ranks clerks and typists as well as blacksmiths and other people. Horse racing in Barbados by the Barbados Turf Club can therefore be called an industry; the Turf Club is employing 500 or more people, and therefore it has to be given some form of protection by the Government.

In the last Budget Speech by the Hon. Prime Minister reference was made to the remission of duties payable by the Barbados Turf Club of tickets sold or issued between 1st April, 1965 and 31st March, 1967.

This Bill is to give the Barbados Turf Club a breathing space so as to face competition and to ensure that it would be able to carry on. All this Bill is asking is to make provision for what was provided in the Budget Speech of last year. This Bill is to make provision for some of the promises which were made last year in the Budget Speech.

Its accounts were vetted by the Financial Secretary. We were satisfied that they are in some trouble, and we have asked them to get their house in order.

This is a question of securing the employment of over 500 persons.

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

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, we on this side of the House would hate to see the day in Barbados when there was no organised racing carried on; therefore we would give our support to any measure which would give any help to racing in Barbados as carried on by the Barbados Turf Club.

What we would like to know from the Hon. Minister concerned with this matter is whether the Government is satisfied that this measure which is envisaged by this Bill would of itself be sufficient to put racing on an even keel. We feel that the time has come when the whole question of gambling should be enquired into, and this enquiry should take place very soon.

As the hon. member has said, although horse racing is a form of gambling, from time immemorial mankind has been thrilled by two animals matching their skill against each other. This has been the experience of human beings all over the world.

We think that an enquiry should be set up into the question of gambling in Barbados as soon as possible. We hope the Government will set up some sort of enquiry for all aspects of gambling in this country. While we give our support to the Bill, we would like to know from the information which the Government has whether the provisions of this Bill would be sufficient to keep racing from going under in this country.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, in supporting this Bill, I am happy to know that Government has taken such steps in providing the Barbados Turf Club with the necessary remittances which would put it on an even keel.

It is not only the Government which is interested in the king of sports. As the Hon. Minister said, the tourists in Barbados too are interested.

What I would like to draw to the attention of the Government is this. Some of these so-called organisations like the West Indies Hospital Sweepstake Company which draws money from the Barbados Turf Club should be looked into by the Government so as to help strengthen the hands of the Barbados Turf Club. It is unfortunate that the Barbados Turf Club should find itself in such a financial stranglehold. Some of these organisations like the West Indies Hospital Sweepstake Company should be looked into by the Government. I hope the Minister would give this some consideration.
5.15 p.m.

I personally feel, Mr. Speaker, and I would like to draw it to the Minister's attention, that it would be a very good idea if Government along with helping the Turf Club would set about to destroy the West Indies Hospital Sweep whereby the people would have the right also of putting the money which they would normally have spent in other organisations towards the Turf Club. I hope the Minister will give that his consideration.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the last speaker referred to the West Indies Hospital Sweep, but in my opinion I do not think that that Organisation sells two tickets in Barbados now. Now the Government is going to refund the duty payable on these tickets. The Minister has not let us know what has caused the Turf Club to be in such a bad state financially. Something is wrong; and this duty which we are going to give them in my opinion is not going to do the job, because they are only taxed on every ticket sold; so if they are not selling tickets they would not have to pay on them. If they have to face a regular weekly or monthly expenditure, and they are not making the turnover to offset that expenditure, they will always have to ask for help. Now do not let us be party to keeping down the Turf Club when in truth and in fact they have during all the years been in a position to pay their way.

This country is small when compared with other countries, and the people on whom the Turf Club relied are to-day finding more attractions in which to spend their money than in buying sweepstake tickets. They have to pay for radio, television, washing machines and things of that sort which make for a happier and better home; so they are not in a position to spend that amount of money in tickets. You cannot blame them. They have Indians going to them every morning and receiving money for goods bought. You also have two organisations running bingo where one begins selling as soon as the other closes. They have it organised very well. You must know that every gambler would like to buy both ways; but where is the money to come from to buy these bingo tickets so regularly? Sweepstake tickets are 50 cents and Bingo is 25 cents. When they buy a Sweepstake ticket for 50 cents, they feel they have spent too much money, but when they buy ten tickets at 25 cents they do not count that; so the Turf Club would have to do something and sell 25 cents tickets to attract them, or the Government will have to stop one of these people if they want to help the Turf Club. People cannot live in a gambling den now. They cannot put a beer or a drink to cool in a sweepstake ticket and expect to get it cold. They cannot put their milk, especially the one they are getting now, in a ticket. You want two fridges for that instead of one.

Mr. Speaker, people want somewhere to keep their things fresh, and they want a wardrobe to put their clothes in, a radio and a television set, and the down-payment on everything is so low that you can carry home items on the first payment. You can invite your friends to come and watch T.V. The Government may feel they are doing the Turf Club a good turn now, but next year it will be worse for them, unless the Government is prepared to subsidise it. They should be prepared to subsidise the Turf Club with what they are getting from other games. I know it will be a hard job to stop one of the other organisations, but the Turf Club was there originally, and employs, as one speaker has said, a great number of people. They have the grooms, the horses and even the insurance on the horses. The Turf Club is doing a good job, and we should do everything to keep it; but do not be prepared to come back here next year again asking us to give off the tax if the tax is not sufficient. Some sort of figures should be given to us showing where the losses are, how many tickets were sold last year, how many were sold this year and so on. I know that the Turf Club is not doing what it was doing before from the sale of tickets. Formerly there used to be a lot of ticket sellers, but I met a female seller one day and I asked her if she was not selling tickets any longer.
5.25 p.m.

She said: "Well, the Bingo games got us going down the hill and I cannot sell two tickets on some days." She has dropped out. I missed her off the road because she is a woman. (Laughter). I do not know how many men sell these tickets; I am not interested in them. There may be a lot more men who have gone off the road. That means that the tickets are not being sold, and in my opinion they may be too dear. The Barbados Turf Club might have to reduce their rates, to reduce the price of the tickets from 50 cents to 25 cents and they may lose four cents. They must try it out and offer more prizes. Rather than giving a first prize of \$40,000, they should divide it up and try and attract more people. Whereas one man is holding \$40,000, another man is not holding anything at all. When you know that you have more prizes - and the Bingo game does not exceed \$7,000 per person - the Barbados Turf Club must try and work out something like that and they may be able to throw them overboard. Do not let them sit back and ask us to come to their rescue. I do not believe that this duty alone can save them.

I cannot tell the Government what they must do; but if I were in the Government, I know what I would do. They have just taxed Bingo and you cannot teach an old dog how to suck eggs. (Laughter) You may help other people when they have to buy these things, but not when they have to sell them. Let them get the correct figures and put before us. If the Barbados Turf Club wants to keep going, then

they will have to shake up too; but I say that the country is too small for so much gambling to be done. As to the West Indies Hospital Sweepstake, that is dead. We were told that this would never affect the Barbados Turf Club and we would be getting so much from them. We were told that we would get more money than I could mention, but I am wondering if the Government is getting all of this money. We have to be very careful about this matter. Everybody is getting wise and we must be wise too. When the matter of the West Indies Hospital Sweepstake came up, I took it upon myself to go to the Manager of the Barbados Turf Club and I asked him to give me some ammunition so that I could fight the Premier on it, because I thought the Premier was trying to draw something across my face. He said that he could not see where this West Indies Hospital Sweepstake would affect them; but something has gone radically wrong with the Barbados Turf Club since that time. I do not know if it is a question of a change in the ownership of the various racehorses or not, but there was a time when they did race in order to see who could produce the fastest horse and they did it to make money. I understand that you have to feed these horses so as to get some sport; and when people are going up there to spend money, they want to see the horses run. I wonder if it is that which prevents the money from coming in. It is not only a question of the selling of the tickets on the street. You get people going up there and getting \$200, \$300 or \$400 on a horse. I know a man who went up there and when he told me that he had thrown away \$3,000, I was surprised. It is the money which is paid up there. I did not know that a man could go up there and gamble away \$3,000. If you have so many horses running now, it does not encourage people to spend money. In the days when I was a boy, you could hear about Sir John Chandler's horse, and this and that horse, and when the horses came out they went around like electricity. I do not know if they are feeding these horses so as to make money especially when there are those who do not make much money.

If that is so, then I think the "H" might fall out of the word "horses". Starvation might knock the "H" out of "horses". (*Laughter and asides*). I do not know anything about any "Brushmaster." The Barbados Turf Club will have to look around and try to get some attractive horses, and when they have got these attractive horses, the owners will be attractive too because you have to pay for these horses. When you get a little "nay-nay" owner, you cannot expect to get any sport, and the people go up there in order to get sport. There was a time when you only had one race for a horse and then you put him back in the stable; but if you bring out one horse several times, then there will not be any sport.
5.35 p.m.

If you want to bring out a horse four times the same day, I will tell you that there will be no attraction. I am no horse man; I have not gone up at the Garrison Savannah to watch horse racing for the longest time. I am saying that we want attractive horses. If a man brings a little hungry horse up there to race, there will be no attraction. I want a good horse to run up there so that I can get my good sport out of horse racing.

A lot of money is made up there. I would like to say again that we would like to see them selling up there as many tickets as they sell otherwise. We would like to see them selling as many race tickets as they can on race days. Something is wrong.

I would like to know if the Barbados Turf Club made a statement on it or if the Government did not ask for it. I want to know whose fault it was. I want to know if they discussed it. I cannot believe the Government was so ignorant as to draft the Bill and not look up the matter of the finances of the Barbados Turf Club.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. In my second reading speech I said that the accounts were vetted by the Financial Secretary. If the hon. member wants me to tell him what were the losses on the sale of sweepstake tickets by the Barbados Turf Club, I have all the information here, and I can tell him.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. The hon. member can say all of that when he gets up to make his reply.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, in my opening remark, I said all of that. Do you want to tell me that the Hon. Minister has all those facts in front of him and heard me trying my best to get them and would not tell me?

I wonder if those accounts reveal anything about the horses. Let us know what has caused this bad state of affairs with the Barbados Turf Club. The Hon. Minister could have got up and stopped me earlier. It is the Minister's duty when he is presenting a case before this Parliament to give all details and not to hide back anything. Give us a breakdown of everything. Mr. Speaker, you know that they used to call me 'the breakdown man'. You know that I like to have a breakdown of everything. Let us know the reason for the sad state of affairs. This Government likes to hide certain facts from us. Let us know everything. It is your duty to tell us.

We would like you to understand that you were dealing with this Bill for the last six or seven months and you only passed it on to us last week. Therefore, do not expect us to be as perfect on it as you. It is for you to tell us what are the facts about it. Even if we ask you unnecessary questions, do not hide the facts from us. It is our duty to ask you questions. We have to give you the green light so as to pass this measure; otherwise it cannot be passed. You are telling the people that we are the biggest band of nit-wits, and you do not have to tell us anything about anything that comes before this Chamber. You would have to answer in some form any question which I put before you.

Now, Sir, there are some turfites who would not like to see the Barbados Turf Club go out of existence. The Government too would lose money if the Barbados Turf Club was to go out of existence. However, the people who are supporting it now are not sufficient to keep it going; you want other people to be interested in it; therefore I would like to know the figures concerning it. I would like the Hon. Minister to give us those figures.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, there is still doubt that the Barbados Turf Club provides some entertainment for the people. We are satisfied that something has gone wrong with the Barbados Turf Club and we agree with your remitting the duty allowance on sales of tickets of the Turf Club, according to this Bill, between the 1st April 1965 and the 31st March 1967.
5.45 p.m.

We are satisfied on this side of the House that something has gone wrong from 1st April, 1965, and it is anticipated that this wrong will go on until 31st March, 1967. But if my memory serves me correctly, Mr. Speaker, I think the Hon. Prime Minister had told us in his Budget Speech that the Barbados Turf Club was going to form a new club. We would really like to know what progress, if any, has been made towards the formation of this new club, and what it would stand for. I think I can remember further that it was the same Prime Minister who made reference time and again to unclaimed moneys in the hands of the Barbados Turf Club. One would have thought, Sir, that this House would have been supplied on an occasion such as this with figures to show us if there still remains in the hands of the Barbados Turf Club any unclaimed prize money. These are things that we on this side would be particularly interested in, but there can be no doubt that the Turf Club has got to set out to re-organize its business. At the present moment they are conducting a sort of advertising campaign, and if we were to study what they are doing carefully - I have to study them because I am in the advertising business myself - they seem to be projecting their wares more to the classes than to the masses, and it is to the masses of people that the Turf Club must look for its support by way of purchasing the tickets that are hawked from street to street and from place to place.

You will see, Sir, that the Turf Club, as the Minister has intimated, has met with some losses. The Minister,

no doubt, will tell us about the losses, but there is no business that has losses all the time. What about the gains, the winnings, the profits? We ought to be told that they made profits, and as the hon. senior member for St. Joseph hinted earlier, we ought to be told what is done with the profits they make from time to time. This House has been called in at a moment when the Turf Club is in the hour of crisis, when they find themselves perhaps unable to balance their budget in the way that they would like; but we would like to know what they do when they make their profits in the same manner that we are now being asked to help subsidise their losses. The Turf Club is here being relieved of paying certain sums of money. My feeling is, Sir, that this is the thin edge of the wedge being driven in here this afternoon. My feeling is that there are other organisations which this House will be asked at a later date to legislate to relieve them from obligations similar to those encountered by the Turf Club, and I feel that we should be supplied with every bit of information regarding this matter before we are asked to vote one way or other on this very important matter. We do not feel that the Turf Club was set up to seek handouts from the Government at any particular time, or for the House to bring relief whether it is in the form of tax payments or otherwise. We have not been told what is a back all this, though this goes back from 1965. We know the type of business people who operate the Turf Club and look after the accounts, and they are not the type of people who will see something going wrong in respect of tickets sold from 1965 and wait to have this matter remedied by the House in 1967. A lot of water has passed under the bridge, and this House is not being told exactly what is wrong with this whole matter. It may be that some of the horses are really weak and not up to racing standards. I know that "Brushmaster" might not be amongst those. My information is that he is well looked after like the other horses, and the Turf Club would not have horses entered for races if the Veterinary Officer did not pronounce them fit. You can understand that a lot more has taken place, and we would like to be told something of what it is all about before we support this Bill.

Mr. HOPPIN: Mr. Speaker, I do recall hearing the hon. senior member for St. James refer to horse racing as the King of sports, but I know it by another name. Anyhow I have heard the Opposition asking for lots of information, but I think the Government has made a very fine gesture to the Barbados Turf Club by relieving them for two years - that is, from 1st April, 1965 to 31st March, 1967 - of any money payable to the Government. During that time I feel it is the duty of the Stewards who run the Turf Club to make it an attractive business so that they can progress and show profits. As a boy I was always very interested in horse racing, and even to the present day I follow it frequently; and I fail to see why the present Stewards cannot fall upon a plan by inviting new faces into the Club instead of having the old brigade who form the Stewards, whose only idea, I believe, is to make a certain amount of profit yearly.
5.55 p.m.

We know that the Barbados Turf Club is a private enterprise and we see that it has to make contributions to charity. However, Sir, I feel that if the present Stewards would invite some new faces and give this sport new blood, then horseracing in the Island could be maintained on the high standard which existed years ago. They have asked that even the betting pools which operate in this Island be closed during their days of racing so that people can attend the sport. Well, Sir, if the Government has seen fit to legislate that the betting pools, which also pay their taxes, be closed on the days when the Barbados Turf Club are holding their meetings, I think it lies in the hands of the Stewards to improve the standard of racing in Barbados so that we will continue to have this sport, and the tourists who come here could enter into it.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, I am interested in this debate not for the main object as may be found in the Objects and Reasons of the Bill, but in order that I may be able to follow certain trends. This is not the first occasion on which we are rushing to the aid of the Barbados Turf Club. Some time ago, I think it was last year, a measure

was introduced into this Chamber dealing with these pool betting shops around Bridgetown and it was hinted then that these shops should be further taxed because it was found that they brought in some sort of competition, and that competition affected adversely the business of the Barbados Turf Club. I remember that the particular measure was introduced by the Hon. Prime Minister, and I remember stating that there was no altruistic motive from which this thing was being done and that it would not hurt the Barbados Turf Club. I think it was done because it was discovered that less revenue was accruing to the coffers of the Barbados Government as a result of the Turf Club losing business. Therefore the money was leaving the Barbados Turf Club and was finding its way into the pockets of those who control and operate these pool betting shops. The thing was to tax where the money was now going.

Now, Sir, we are being asked again to come to the rescue of the Barbados Turf Club, and they are to be given a release of duty over a period of two years. It is thought that if horse racing in this Island - I am not saying that it is the sport of Kings or anybody else - but if horse racing is liked by the masses of this country, if it can be attractive to tourists or if it can be of any material benefit to any part of the population of this Island, if you feel it worthwhile that there is some gain in it, then we are here to subsidise it. We may be doing the right thing, but it is a question of how far and how often. Mr. Speaker, I am watching the trend. If what we are doing here today is rehabilitating the business and some day, I hope in the near future, the objective is reached, then we are doing a sensible thing. If, on the other hand, we relieve the Barbados Turf Club and then within a reasonable period of time we discover that the position is not what we thought it would be, then the reverse will be the case. I welcome the remarks of the hon. member who has made his maiden speech. The imagination of the Stewards has got to come into play. They have got to help themselves. We can be offering what is a sop now. It may be more than a sop; but if what we are doing fails to rehabilitate the business of the Barbados Turf Club and within a year or two from now the Barbados Turf Club comes in for more, we have got to wonder if the subsidisation which we are going to make is really worth it.

What I understand is that what we are doing now is trying to rehabilitate the business of the Barbados Turf Club. I am not quarrelling with it, but we ask the Hon. Minister to keep on the lookout because the criticism of the hon. member is showered upon us on both sides of the horseshoe. When we subsidise a concern and keep on doing it, until we get a very adverse balance sheet and eventually you have to let everything go down the hill like the business of the Transport Board - well, I am watching the trend of events with this Barbados Turf Club. The Government has come once already and I told them that they are not doing anything in any altruistic method. It was just a plain business method. They were following where the money was going according to the new trends of betting. People realise that they will get easier returns from other sources of betting. People are realising today that the business of the Barbados Turf Club is flopping. You come now for a decrease and all we have done so far as taxing the pools is concerned has been a boost or a refund of a boost to the Barbados Turf Club.
6.05 p.m.

Now, when the two year tax holiday finishes, we have to watch it very carefully. It was stated on the other side that this was the king of sports. This is not the king of sports; it is the sport of kings.

I do hope the Hon. Minister would give us a reply to those things which we have questioned him on. We hope that this Bill would be of help to the Barbados Turf Club so that they can put their house in order.

Mr. LYNCH: Any company which is operating as a virtual monopoly and yet losing money is a company which would fail.

It is known for years that people go to the Turf Club and get sweepstake tickets just for the asking.

It is not too much to ask or at least pass on a hint to the people who run the Barbados Turf Club that they need an infusion of new blood. For many years the Barbados Turf Club has been known to have in its personnel certain people who are drawn from a certain section of the community. What is needed is an infusion of new blood if the Turf Club is to compete successfully with the Service Clubs which are composed of competent and resourceful young men. When this is done, no longer will we have to listen to the last sad echoes of the complaints of a dying race.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I rise to reply to the points raised by the hon. members on the other side. I will deal with the points raised by the hon. members on the other side. I will deal with the points raised by the hon. member for St. Joseph first. We have got those statements of the Barbados Turf Club for the years 1962 to 1965 and in those statements they all point to the losses of the Turf Club.

The position is this:-

In 1962, the Turf Club's amount of expenditure over Revenue was \$9,817.10.

In 1963, the amount of Expenditure over Revenue was \$23,952.64.

In 1964, the amount of Expenditure over Revenue was \$44,012.37.

In 1965, the amount of Expenditure over Revenue was \$68,743.32.

Now, Sir, how does the Turf Club get its revenue? The backbone of the Turf Club's Revenue is the 50 cents Sweepstake tickets.

In 1962, the amount of tickets sold was 1.5 million tickets.

In 1963, it was 1.4 million tickets.

In 1964, it was 1.3 million tickets.

In 1965, it was .98 million tickets.

As can be seen, the selling of these tickets is on a downward trend.

The position in Barbados is that only a certain amount of money is available for gambling. We estimate that the amount going into gambling is one million dollars or just over that amount. The position is that this amount of money has got to be shared over bingo, the football pools and other pools, the competing racing pools and the Barbados Turf Club.

The position is that Bingo provides a weekly winning to several people for a matter of 25 cents a ticket. My personal view is that the Turf Club would have to get together with Bingo promoters to see if the runners of Bingo can insert a certain number of Turf Club Sweepstake tickets to be given to the winners of Bingo so that they can "win now and win later."

The position is that the Barbados Turf Club depends on the sale of its 50 cents sweepstake tickets. If these tickets were sold, we would not have been asked to do this. It is because of the shortfall of these tickets that we are asked to do this. For example, to this month, the Turf Club has only reached as far as the letter "S" in their sale of sweepstake tickets, whereas at this time, they are accustomed to reach the double letters.

The hon. member for St. Joseph seems to think that the money made by the Turf Club is made on the days of the races at the Garrison. I think that the organization which they have there is too large.

The situation here in respect of the Barbados Turf Club is different from that in Trinidad. In Trinidad, the

volume of trade is done on the grounds while here it is done in the selling of Sweepstake tickets.
6.15 p.m.

There is not a big volume of betting at the pools, as the hon. senior member for Christ Church is well aware. The number of people who have got to be employed in administration and so on on race days is perhaps, in my opinion, a bit too many for the volume of work which has to be done, but the position is that this is not where the money is made. The Turf Club makes its money from the Sweepstake tickets. Trinidad on the other hand makes its money on the forecasts and parimutuel tickets, and therefore the situation in Barbados is slightly different from the position in Trinidad.

I do not have to refer to "Brushmaster" or "Mad Oliver" because the Turf Club does not buy horses to race. We are dealing with the Turf Club, not with horse owners, and therefore I do not have to deal with "Brushmaster" and "Mad Oliver", because we know that "Brushmaster" wins with Jockey Belle on the back, but "Sir Grantley" falls with Husbands on the back.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is not referring to any hon. member in this Chamber, I hope!

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I am referring to a race horse called "Sir Grantley" which was owned by a former member of this House, and it was ridden by a jockey called Husbands, and everytime Husbands got on "Sir Grantley's" back, it refused to start. They had to get a fellow called Brown to start it, and even then it only ran two feet. I think a Smith rode it on one occasion, but it did not face the tape. When Jockey Belle is on "Mad Oliver" he runs well, and "Brushmaster" does likewise. But let us get back to the Turf Club.

I do not know if the hon. member wants a break down of the sales of consolation tickets and the 50 cent tickets, but over the years sales have shown a downward trend. Hon. members will notice that even in 1959 the first prize for the Sweepstake was something like \$40,000. We have even gone up as high as \$52,000. Recently the first prize reached the low of \$15,000; so you can see the effect which this would have on the Turf Club. With respect to the Field Sweep, people seldom worry with those today. I remember that five or six years ago the Field Sweep used to pay \$1,000 as first prize for the last race; today it cannot reach \$300. The position depends on the volume of business done by the Turf Club, and the only salvation for the Turf Club is if it can sell more sweepstake tickets than are being sold now. How can this be done? It is for all those involved in organised gambling in this country to get together and see what can be done to help the Turf Club, not as the Turf Club itself, but as an industry in this country employing over 500 Barbadians, and this is where the Government comes in.

The hon. member talked about money which is unclaimed. There is unclaimed money, but that money can only be used by the Turf Club after six years. That is, in 1965 or 1966 they could only use money unclaimed from 1959; but unclaimed money must remain there for six years before it can be used. This money is placed to a sort of deficit account, and it is out of unclaimed money that over the past years the Turf Club has done renovations to the property, and brought in stallions to improve breeding in this country. A stallion costs in the vicinity of \$32,000. Hon. members would have heard of a stallion called "Elco". This is an expensive stallion that was brought in out of unclaimed money. The question of keeping the various paddocks, the buildings and the premises in sound repair had to come from unclaimed funds. At present, I think unclaimed funds amount to \$138,000 from 1959 to 1965, but this cannot be touched under six years, because within six years you can go and claim your money.

I think I have given a breakdown of how the Turf Club makes its money, and how they have been losing money. Hon. members raised the question of the West Indies Hospital Sweepstake. This has absolutely nothing to do with

the deficits of the Turf Club. That started in 1964 and had no effect whatsoever on the Turf Club, because Barbadians do not buy these tickets. I would like any person to bring six Barbadians who have bought these West Indies Sweep-stake tickets recently. The hon. senior member for St. Joseph says we should stop one of the organisations operating Bingo. This is not the answer to it. The answer....

Mr. SMITH: On a point of order, I did not say to stop either one. I did not say so.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, maybe my memory does not serve me correctly, but I understood the hon. member, and I think other hon. members in this Chamber also did, to say that the Government should stop one of the organisations operating Bingo or the Government would have to continue subsidising the Turf Club. I made a note when the hon. member made that statement. The answer to that is for the Club to be properly organised, and as the hon. junior member for Bridgetown pointed out, we want new blood. I understand that by June there will be new blood in the Turf Club.

The hon. junior member for St. Peter referred to the Stewards running the Turf Club. The Stewards do not run the Club; they look after the race meetings day after day. They are appointed to look after the actual administration of the race meeting, but there is a Committee running the Club which in my humble opinion is not a well organised Committee, and they have been advised to put their house in order. They have consulted their solicitors, a Constitution has been drawn up, and my latest information is that it is expected that by June the Turf Club will be properly organised as a membership club. We do not want any more "Closed Brethren".
6.25 p.m.

The position is that it will not be any longer a closed shop after June, as far as I understand. I understand that it will be run on democratic lines and that members who are interested in racing can make their contribution; hence there will be new blood. I feel that the Barbados Turf Club is now trying to solve the problem, but I feel that this two years' rebate which is offered will assist them considerably and we are looking forward to the day when the Barbados Turf Club will be able to stand on its own feet again.

The hon. senior member for Christ Church referred to the question of organised gambling in this country. That is an appropriate point made by the hon. member, and I feel that the Government will give consideration to the matter in the near future. I do not remember any further questions raised by hon. members which really merit an answer and I therefore commend this Bill to this honourable House for its second reading.

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that you do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on this Bill.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: 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.

The two Clauses of the Bill were called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

CONTROL OF BOXING BILL POSTPONED

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 7 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: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Health and Community Development:- To move the second reading of a Bill to regulate the holding of boxing contests in the Island.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, before the Hon. Minister introduces this Bill, I want to let him know that I only received my copy of the Bill this morning. It was left at my office yesterday afternoon, but I was out; so I only saw it this afternoon when I went to the office. In other words, I had no time to read this Bill.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, if I may add to what the hon. member has said, a number of hon. members on this side of the House are likely to oppose this Bill on the second reading and they will be speaking at length, but we would like to have an opportunity of considering the Bill and its provisions and all legislation dealing with these matters.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I got my copy of this Bill yesterday along with an amended Order Paper.
6.35 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am advised by the Clerk at the Table that certain Bills went out on Saturday, but he is not aware which went out on Saturday and which went out yesterday.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: In view of the fact that the Bill is of a controversial nature and in view of the fact that it was in the hands of the Government during the last session and in view of the fact that it was engaging the minds of the public for quite a number of years, we therefore agree with the application of the Opposition and not to deal with it until Tuesday of next week.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES OF THE PORT DEPARTMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 6 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: This Resolution stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works: To move the passing of the following Resolution:-

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, the sum of \$13,644.00 is required to supplement item 25 - Unestablished Staff, to meet the payment of wages to the Unestablished Staff of the Port Department to the end of the financial year 1966-67.

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

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I was saying that the sum of \$13,644.00 is required to supplement Item 25 - Unestablished Staff to meet the payment of wages to the Unestablished Staff of the Port Department to the end of the financial year 1966-67.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I will give a brief resume of what happened at the Port. Under the Annexed Estimates, Port Department, Item 25, Unestablished Staff, provision in the Approved Estimates for 1966-67 was \$157,084. The present wage bill per week averages \$320.

The sum of \$20,000 was provided under Item 48 - Contingencies - to meet expenses which may be incurred without the consent of the Cabinet. Because of the urgency of this matter, we have paid the wages out of this Contingency fund and we have done so because we do not want it being said, as it was banded about, that this Government has no money in the Treasury.

We therefore decided to pay this money out of the Contingency vote. We are therefore now asking this Chamber to approve this sum of \$13,644 in order to pay the Unestablished Staff.

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.

THE MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT, VALIDATION AND INDEMNITY) BILL 1967

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 6 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. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The next Order is Order No. 6 which stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister: Second reading of 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. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, hon. members are aware that The (Letters Patent Consolidation) Order of Barbados, came into being on the 9th April, 1964. Apparently, there was no provision in the 1964 Order with respect to the issue of marriage licences. In the light of the foregoing, there may have been some doubt after 9th April, 1964, as to the power of the Governor to issue marriage licences under and by virtue of section 11 of the Marriage Act, 1904 and there may likewise be some doubt now as to the power of the Governor-General to issue such licences.

This Bill is to vest this power in the Minister concerned to issue Marriage Licences. In this case, it would be the Minister of Home Affairs.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second that.
6.45 p.m.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Deputy Speaker, we do not oppose the principle of this Bill, but the only point I would like to ask the Hon. Minister is which Department of Government does he envisage will be responsible for granting these licences.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The Ministry of Home Affairs.

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

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

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 were called and passed.

The Schedule was called and passed.

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this concludes Government Business for the day, but perhaps hon. members opposite might wish to revert to Private Members' Business, I do not know.

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn

Mr. SMITH: If the hon. member wants to revert to Private Members' Business, I am willing to.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I can prove the hon. member was not listening; I did not say I want to.

Mr. SMITH: Well, Sir, I want to.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: In which case he should have stated that before I made the motion.

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 14th March, 1967, at 2.30 p.m.

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

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

6.55 p.m.