

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1966 - 71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Friday, 17th November, 1967

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

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., F.Z.S., (Speaker); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. E. STA. HOLDER, J.P.; 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. BONILL, (Minister of Communications and Works); Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD, (Chairman of Committees); Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (Minister of Agriculture, Labour and National Insurance); His Honour G. E. SARGEANT, (Deputy Speaker) and Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P.

Prayers were read.

Messrs. HINDS, LYNCH and Hon. E. W. BARROW entered the House and took their seats.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of certain meetings which were not confirmed on Tuesday of last week in order that hon. members, as they were so many of them, might have a further opportunity of perusing them, will now be put before hon. members for their confirmation or otherwise. They are the Minutes of the Meetings of the 2nd, 23rd, 25th, and 30th May; of the 13th, 20th, 27th and 30th June; of the 4th, 18th and 25th July; of the 1st, 8th, 15th and 29th August; of the 5th and 12th September, all of this year. These are eighteen sets of Minutes. If there is no objection, I will declare each of those Minutes duly confirmed. (After a pause). There being no objection, in respect of these eighteen sets of Minutes, I hereby declare each and all of them now duly confirmed.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the following:-

Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for seven months ended 31st October, 1967.

The Public Officers Loan and Travelling Allowances (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations, 1967.

PETITION

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I beg to present a Petition on behalf of the Association of Mentally Retarded Children praying that their Association be incorporated.

Mr. SPEAKER: Do I have the assurance that the wording of the Petition is respectful, temperate and decorous?

Mr. LYNCH: The Petition is respectfully worded and I ask that it be taken as read.

The Petition was taken as read.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

A Resolution to place the sum of \$57,198 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1967-68 Part 1 - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1967-68 No. 27 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$400,000 at the disposal of the Government from the Public Treasury for the purpose of making advances of salary or wages to persons in the employ of the Government.

In respect of the Resolution for \$400,000, I should like to give notice that I intend to ask the leave of the House to deal with this Resolution in all of its stages today during the time allotted to the Government. This Resolution is one which is popularly known as the making of Christmas Loans to employees in the Public Service.

I also beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Income Tax Act, 1921.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Order 1967.
2.55 p.m.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I rise to present a petition from the Members of the Association of Mentally Retarded Children praying the House to pass a bill to incorporate the Barbados Association of Mentally Retarded Children.

QUESTIONS

Mr. HOLDER: To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware that the poultry disease known as "New Castle Disease" has wrought havoc and caused heavy losses to the poultry industry in this Island?

2. Will the Minister investigate the matter thoroughly and indicate what aid Government intends to give in order to help the said industry?

Mr. HOLDER: To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware that the post box which was formerly sited at Orange Hill, St. James, and which serves the needs of such surrounding districts in the said parish as Bay Woods, Gilkes Village, Whopping, Taitts, Apes Hill and other villages has been removed?

2. Will the Minister have a post Box erected immediately at Orange Hill, siting same in one of the columns of the gate at the entrance leading to St. Silas Junior School or at such other site as the Minister may deem fit?

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Income Tax Act, 1921, be now read a first time.

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

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

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Bill to incorporate "The Barbados Association of Mentally Retarded Children" be now read a first time.

Mr. HOPPIN: I beg to second that.

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

WEST INDIES HOSPITAL FUND LIMITED ACT, 1964

Mr. SPEAKER: I understand there are no replies ready to Questions, and in that event the House proceeds to Private Members' Business.

The first Order of Private Members' Business is to resume debate on the second reading of a Bill to repeal the West Indies Hospital Fund Limited Act, 1964.

On the 7th November this year, the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister was speaking at 4.30 p.m., until Private Members' Time ended at 4.30 p.m. The hon. member may now resume.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Now, Mr. Speaker, when the House reverted to Public Business on the last occasion on which I was speaking on this motion, I had begun to outline the background against which the Legislature in 1964 assented to the passing of the West Indies Hospital Fund Ltd. Bill. I think that what the Government is concerned about here is the fact that a lot of unsubstantiated allegations, detrimental to the undertaking, but in the final analysis detrimental to the island, have been levied in various sections of the Press and by members of the Opposition.

The Government is satisfied that if these were *bona fide* criticisms, we would begin to understand - I would not like to say the fear - but certainly the reservations of the hon. members on the opposite side with some degree of seriousness; but it has become a popular sport in Barbados in the political field that anything which the Government is for, whether it is beneficial to the Island or not, it seems that there is God-given decalogue come down from Mount Sinai that "Thou shall not support it", even if it is for the benefit of the Island. It is all very right for people to talk on the individuality and people have been deprived of their rights, but let us under this Constitution go very carefully.
3.05 p.m.

Both Houses of the Legislature, without any division but with certain reservation - particularly, let us say, from the hon. senior member for St. Joseph and the hon. junior member for the City - passed this Bill. It is their duty, of course, to have reservations, and if they think that there is a possibility that something may go wrong, to voice their reservations at the time when the matter is debated. But neither one of the two members - one of whom has been extremely vocal in his attack on the West Indies Hospital Fund - carried his reservations to the extent of voting against the implementation of the measure.

Now this is very important: neither in this Chamber nor in the Other Place - it is true that the composition of the House was not exactly as it is today, for better or for worse. This is a matter which history will be able to judge, and the untampered records of the proceedings of this Chamber will judge whether the House was better composed in 1964 than it is now.

But what is significant about the Bill which the former Leader of the Opposition now seeks to repeal? In this, as in every other aspect of public life in Barbados today, the Conservative Opposition has allied with the so-called Labour representation on the opposite side. Two parties with but a single thought, that is, the destruction of this Island and anything that

is good for this Island: the lowering of the standards in the community; the disbasement of every single possible value that we have nurtured and cherished in this Island for such a long time. But that is the identity which we had predicted and warned the people in this Island of: a community of interest and an identity of purpose.

But it is significant that in 1964 the facts of the negotiations between the Government and the Company were laid fairly and squarely before the House. As I said before, certain members legitimately - the hon. senior member for St. Joseph and the hon. junior member for the City - both expressed certain reservations, but they did not carry their reservations to the extent of a withdrawal of support of the measure.

Therefore, on the base of the proposals and on balance, both sides of the House, as it was composed at that time, and the Other Place - could be taken as having supported the Bill. Therefore what we have to examine now is not whether the sweepstake or the lottery which has as one of its main provisions the payment of a part of its revenue into the Public Treasury, whether that is a thing which can be supported on ethical grounds or not - because clearly they would have no case because we have all supported it, and we had to support it because if we did not support that we would be against the construction of St. Michael's Cathedral which, in the nineteenth century, was built out of the resources raised from a lottery, and we would also have to close down the activities of the Barbados Turf Club.

So the question of whether a lottery should be supported by the Legislature is not in dispute at this stage. What the hon. senior member for the City wishes the Legislature now to do is to go back on a solemn commitment given to the people who have invested money in the Company that is running the operation, on the basis that the Company has failed to live up to its obligations. That is what we have to examine. It is as simple as that.

Among the criticisms which have been made on the opposite side by members is a criticism that, in failing to meet the prize money which ticket-holders are supposed to have won, the Company is letting down what they chose to describe as the fair name of Barbados. It is doubtful since the return of certain elements, who had gone into hibernation for a period of four years, to politics in this Island, that this Island has had a fair name. If this Island has had a fair name, certainly the systematic attempts of the persons on the opposite side and in the political parties on the opposite side - their exhibitionism of destruction from 1965 onwards to the present day, their attempts to subvert and overthrow parliamentary institutions, to break the law in every possible way - the statute and common law of this land - such fair name as Barbados has had is not being destroyed by the West Indies Hospital Fund, but by the actions of the people on the opposite side and the political parties opposed to the Government.

They have done this by deliberate attacks in newspapers abroad; they have taken every possible public opportunity to bring Parliament into disrepute, and then we have the mealmouthed hypocrisy of people getting up in public and saying that the West Indies Hospital Fund, by not paying the full amount or, as they claim, any amount at all to people who have been indulging in gambling, is bringing down the fair name of Barbados. It is a system of logic, Mr. Speaker, to which I am completely unaccustomed and to which I could never be persuaded.

A careful examination of the transactions of the West Indies Hospital Fund, the operators of the lottery which has the approval of Parliament, discloses two things: the proposal originally, Sir, was that tax at the rate of 20%, calculated on sales of tickets less prize money, should be paid by the Company. This is much higher than the tax paid by the Barbados Turf Club. A tax at the rate of 20% of prize money should be imposed on prize winners, and that the tax payable in respect of the licence should be \$500,000. Those were the main financial provisions.

Now if the Company only operated for one year, it has been of benefit to the Island of Barbados because at the time of the passage of the Bill we were already in receipt of the first deposit of \$125,000 (Eastern Caribbean Currency) in connection with the payment of the licence fee of \$500,000 in four equal instalments. So we started off with a credit of \$125,000. That is more money than all the tax paid by all the members of the Opposition for their complete lifetimes into the Treasury of Barbados. Before the Company had even begun operating, they had discharged a responsibility financially to this community which exceeds the sum total of taxes paid by, I venture to say, all the members of the Opposition - some of them do not like to pay tax at all.

3.15 p.m.

The people therefore who talk about doing damage to the economy of the island and that sort of thing - and I see that somebody in the Hotel Association has now joined in this assault ghost-written by a newspaper Editor - they should realize that their first obligation is to see that we can so manage our economy, that we do not have to rely on the Turf Club, the West Indies Hospital Fund, Casinos or anybody else. Even the advanced countries and now in the United States this year five or six States have now had to supplement the income they receive in their Treasuries from the licensing of gambling operations. If people in the community were willing to discharge even their current obligations in respect of the payment of taxes, no Minister of Finance would have to come to the House and ask the approval of the Legislature to license any kind of gambling operation, because it would be unnecessary. You could issue day to day licences for subsidizing charitable purposes to supplement the efforts made on the welfare levies by the Government. Let us examine the position. There were a lot of crocodile tears shed over the demise of Local Government; but what has not been said up to now is that not only were the three Local Government Councils over \$2 million in debt

without any proposals for the liquidation of that debt, and of this amount the Bridgetown City Council was well over \$2 million in debt without any plans for recovery, and they are subsidizing the banking institutions by laying a rate for the taxpayers in Barbados to pay interest of over \$1 million.

I can make some rough calculations, but it is about \$80,000 or \$90,000 interest paid in respect of the Bridgetown City Council alone which would be equivalent to a rate of almost 5¢ in the dollar. Therefore instead of their rate being 14.7, it should be 9.7, and all the financial geniuses they have on the Bridgetown City Council - a clean bill of Conservative businessmen who, they always tell us, know how to run things better than Civil Servants or any Socialist Government - could have so managed the affairs of the Bridgetown City Council of which the introducer of this legislation or the mover of the motion, was a member, that they can absolve the taxpayers of this country - of the area over which they preside in the Bridgetown City Council - of the payment of 5¢ in the dollar of their rates. It goes further than that. You heard me say, Sir, during my Budget proposals that the Government would collect \$52 million a year, or proposes to collect that; but with \$52 million a year in revenue, over the past fifteen years there were arrears of payment of taxes of just over \$2 million. Let us say it was \$2.8 million. We set up proposals for the collection of the arrears of these taxes. We will not get back all, because Barbados is a particularly liberal place. Anybody, and fly-by-night operator, can come here, set up a business, give a concert and fly out the next day without getting tax clearance from the Department of Inland Revenue. Anybody can reside here for a period of years - apart from a fly-by-night operator - and accumulate a backlog of arrears of taxes, if this is not tautology, and emigrate to Canada, the United States of America or to any part of the British Commonwealth where they will let him in, without a tax clearance from the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. As a legislator and barrister, if I went to St. Lucia for one day to work, before I got on the plane, on the same afternoon of the day on which I landed, I would have to get a tax clearance from the Treasury in St. Lucia. This whole system prevails throughout the West Indies even in what we choose to call the Lesser Antilles, which are not supposed to be as administratively advanced as we are here in Barbados. But notwithstanding these defects in our legislation in that regard, over the past fifteen years, people owe the Government of Barbados, as far as I can remember, an accumulated sum of arrears of taxes of, let us say, \$2.8 million. That is in a budget of \$52 million. I said earlier that the Local Government Authorities were in debt to the Banks to the tune of \$2 million, but it is also interesting to note that the uncollected tax under the Local Government system from 1958 has accumulated over 15 years to \$2 million. The total budget is about \$3.5 million. I have not looked up these figures recently, but certainly it is in excess of \$3 million. Assuming that the Councils collected, let us say, \$3 million; contrast that with \$52 million with the Government. With a budget of \$3.5 million, they are not only \$2 million in debt, but they have \$2 million worth in ar-

rears. So the arrears plus the debt is more than the total budget, and these are the financial geniuses who know how to manipulate and run and manage the affairs of this country. In other words, all three Councils were not on the verge, but they were deep down in the morass of bankruptcy when the Government had to step in, and now we have to pay off these debts and try to collect these taxes which they neglected or omitted or refused to collect. You will be surprised to know, Sir, that on several occasions, I have invited the attention of the City Fathers to the provisions of the Local Government Act whereby they could collect their arrears of taxes directly from the people who owe the taxes rather than employ a whole ripple of young people without administrative experience, laboriously to write out summonses and that sort of thing, and clutter up the Courts of District "A" particularly, with summonses so that the Writ Servers will have extra work, and so on. In Port-of-Spain, in each and every year, in accordance with the provisions which are similar to the provisions in our Local Act, they merely published the names of the people whose house they intend to levy on; but for political reasons a few honest people in this country have got to carry the burden of the Welfare State because the political geniuses and the financial geniuses particularly in the City area, who control the raising and the levying of taxes and the spending of that money refused, neglected or omitted to collect those arrears of taxes.

3.25 p.m.

They have left us to hold the baby. And they are the same persons personified by the senior member for the City who certainly had some time at his disposal to implement some scheme even if he rejected for political reasons the local legal requirements of the Local Government Act. If he did that, he could have, with all the wealth of business experience, with that claim he has on the Bridgetown City Council - he could have done something, first of all, to liquidate the debt which the Bridgetown City Council has left the Government to pay for, and to raise revenue by collection of arrears and by introducing economies which we are satisfied that they were not concerned about, but only the expenditure of these funds.

When the figures are published, they would be very revealing in what the expenditure on certain items were, and what they are now that the Local Government Commissioner and the Officers who now work under his guidance are controlling the finances of the Bridgetown City Council. But, up to a few weeks ago, I still had to approve the extension of the time for the payment of a loan to a Bank, and it looks as if that would have gone on in perpetuity because what any Government must realise is that banks do not plant yams, neither do they fertilize or irrigate the money deposited with them. They make money by lending other people's monies out, particularly where you are lending to a quasi-Governmental Institution where you are sure of the repayment of the principal at some time, but certainly of regular instalments of the interest on the loan which you made. Therefore, the banks would always lend a Local Government authority or any Government within limits.

It has come to the stage where the property rates - not the trade tax, because the people in the Local Government authority are people who are primarily concerned about trade taxes: so the law has fixed a trade tax by an Act of Parliament that cannot fluctuate - but if the expenses of the Local Government authorities go up, it is the property owner who has to carry the burden, and therefore, when you have to pay \$80,000 in interest, it means a rise in the rates of four cents in the dollar for the property owners, and not a rise at all for the people who are sitting in the Bridgetown City Council as merchants and businessmen because their trade tax is fixed. It is the rate which is affected.

Now, these are the people who are levying strictures against the Government. Firstly, we start off with our major premise that this is a Bill which did not bring about a state of civil unrest or civil war or commotion in this country. It was a Bill supported unanimously by all on that side even although, as I said before, with due deference to certain reservations put up by certain hon. members and certainly by members on the opposite side.

Let us look at the balance sheet as far as the Government is concerned. The sum of \$125,000 which this House was informed about was deposited by this company in the Treasury, and it has been spent in the service of the Government of this country in providing roads, schools, and whatever you can see around. Therefore, the company paid the Government \$125,000. The company was then dilatory in the payment of the other instalments, the residue of which amounted to \$375,000. They were dilatory in payment of the other instalments for the simple reason that they had been optimistic in their expectations in the receipts of revenue which they would get from the sale of tickets outside.

When anybody sells somebody else from outside a Sweepstake, money comes from outside. People talk about not paying people the money that was due to them. You know what the Barbados Turf Club authority says. They say that if you do not have a ticket, you do not have a chance. As far as I am concerned, I have never bought a race ticket. They owe no obligations to me, but even when you have a ticket, you do not have a chance. You only have a chance when your ticket number comes out of the machine, or whatever it is - from out of the hat, to use a metaphorical phrase. Therefore, when your ticket number comes out, you have a chance. Until you present your ticket and collect your earnings, it is clearly in doubt.

It has always been printed on the tickets of the West Indies Hospital Funds Ltd., that the prizes would be in units of, let us say, \$300,000 and the first prize on every unit that is collected of \$175,000 (U.S.) or whatever it is (I am not reading: I am speaking from memory.) The prize would be paid out according to the units; so every additional unit collected, the prizes are then pro ratio. If only a half unit is collected, you would get half the prize money.

Now, the difference between the operations of the West Indies Hospital Fund Ltd., and the operations of,

let us say, the Barbados Turf Club, the Trinidad and Tobago Turf Club, the Arima Turf Club, and the Jamaica Turf Club is that when you buy a ticket from any of the clubs in these territories, you have a chance of winning an unspecified sum of money. You do not know the maximum of money that you can win on a 50-cent ticket from any of the clubs in these territories. You do not know the minimum either, not even if you drew the first horse. You do not know whether you are going to get \$10,000, \$25,000 or \$30,000. You only know that when all the tickets have been sold and after the expenses have been deducted, they divide up the prize money in certain proportions, - a certain percentage for the first prize, second prize, third prize, and so on.

That is where all the confusion started because if the West Indies Hospital Funds Ltd., operated on the same basis that you pay all expenses first and then what is left over - if any - they paid to the prize winners in certain proportions, no one would have any grounds for complaint.

But like the Irish Sweepstake which has been operating for a large number of years, the West Indies Hospital Funds Ltd., operates on the basis that you can win, let us say, \$250,000 for the first prize, but this is the maximum amount that you can win because on the tickets it is clearly stated what your winnings are on a pro-rated basis according to the units sold, let us say, \$300,000 against the given relative figure, and therefore, when a complete unit is not sold, your prizes are then pro-rated so that if \$150,000 is sold, although you can get the maximum of \$250,000 for the first prize - I am only giving relative figures, you can find it on the ticket itself - your winnings are pro-rated, and therefore, if he hoped - and they did hope and they still entertain expectations like the Irish Sweepstake - of selling even one unit, the prize of \$250,000 would be paid to some lucky person.

3.35 p.m.

But the Turf Club does not - I must emphasize this difference, because unless one understands the difference, one would fall into the same cardinal error as certain members of the Opposition seem to be falling into, provided that we accept their *bona fides*.

Let us review now the position of the Barbados Turf Club. Between 1945 and 1952, let us say, the Barbados Turf Club's first prize rose meteorically from around, say, \$11,000 to \$12,000 right up to, as much as I believe, \$52,000 at one stage when a gentleman down at the Fox Club was lucky enough to win that. I had a ticket, but I did not have a chance. I did not write any letter to anybody saying that I bought a ticket and somebody got \$52,000, because the basis of the contract, if it is a contract, is an illegal one, it is true. The basis of the contract between you and the operators is that after they have paid their expenses, paid the government tax and paid so much charity, whatever is left over would be divided up and you do not even know on the Friday

night when they draw the tickets how much the first prize is going to be.

It is very, very important to understand that. Now when you go and spend \$5 and you buy a ticket from the West Indies Hospital Fund, when you buy that ticket you have a possibility - there is no guarantee, there is no contract that if you spend \$5 you are going to get \$250,000. There is a possibility that you can win up to \$250,000, but on the same ticket it clearly set out that the prize will be pro rated depending - it sets out what a prize unit is, and in the event of a complete prize unit not being sold out for that particular event, then the prizes are pro rated downwards.

If they sold several prize units - suppose they sold \$3 million worth of tickets and a prize unit is \$300,000, it is then possible for them to pay out ten first prizes of the maximum indicated that you can win in the West Indies Hospital Fund. I see nothing fraudulent about that. I may consider that it is over ambitious, but certainly no one has persuaded me up to now that there has been anything fraudulent about that.

What happens in the first instance, in an organisation starting out? It was heavily capitalised, and the expenses of the distribution were very heavy and, therefore, the amount of money available was not sufficient to pay out the maximum prize that they indicated in their advertising splurges and so on of what it was possible for you to win as a maximum amount. The Ministry of Finance has had many representations made about not being paid out these amounts. We have in all cases contacted the West Indies Hospital Fund, and as far as we know, every single person who won any kind of prize has either been paid out on a *pro rata* basis what was collected at that particular meeting, or some other undertaking or agreement has been entered into by the West Indies Hospital Fund for the payment in shares or otherwise to the lucky or unlucky, as you, depending on your point of view, may term winners.

All of this misunderstanding arose out of the nature of the contract between the buyer of a ticket and the Company which is operating the sweepstakes. The motive which Government has in licensing an operation of that kind is very, very simple. The Government gets everything off the top; it has nothing to lose. Whether they are in arrears with their payments, or they are up to date, everything is net gain to the Government in strict monetary terms. This has nothing to do with the payments made to business firms in respect of printing of tickets, which were all printed here. I understand that this has amounted to something like \$60,000 - between \$60,000 and \$100,000 annually; an average of about \$80,000 annually to the Advocate Company.

I will go further and say that since the Advocate Company has stopped printing these tickets and it has been paid its money, all of the printers who were formerly employed by the Advocate Company on printing of these tickets and other similar operations have

been taken over by the Company and are currently employed by the Company which runs the sweepstake. We know how quick the Advocate is to get rid of its workers. So there are 26 persons currently employed - those are the invisibles now of the West Indies Hospital Fund. This is what they want to repeal - 26 people to be put out of work.

If the members of the Opposition are so concerned about the fair name of Barbados that they talk about - if you examine the careers - political and otherwise - of the people who talk about and are concerned about fair name of Barbados - why are they not concerned about the 26 persons who will be unemployed and for whom the Advocate has no work of any kind now? Why are they not concerned about the initial payment of \$125,000? Are we to hand that back to the West Indies Hospital Fund?

Now the Company defaulted because of lack of funds in the payment of the additional \$375,000 to the Government, and they were prosecuted. They were prosecuted and they paid \$84,000 in respect of the fine, that is, in respect of the licence fee by instalment of \$6,000, \$10,000 and up to within the past three or four weeks the Treasury received another \$10,000; so if we had repealed it when it was introduced, we would have been \$84,000 short in the Treasury.

Under what law are we going to prosecute them in future to make them come up to date with their payments of arrears, if we go ahead and repeal this? The Consideration under which they are paying this is to operate a lottery which brings in hard currency into the Island, because most of the tickets are sold abroad. The attitude in the U.S.A. towards lotteries is softening because at least, Rhode Island always had a lottery; but at least five States - including the State of New York will have, within the past twelve months, legalised the sale of lottery tickets.

So when the Company now is on the verge of take-off, it is at that stage that the people who are so concerned about the fair name of Barbados, want us to repeal a solemn undertaking given to this Company, that it should be able to conduct a lottery in the same way as the Barbados Turf Club operates one. Now this is where one begins to question the *bona fides* of the people who make these protests.

The Government of Barbados, therefore, on the basis of the licence fee, has collected something like \$209,000 from this Company that the members of the Opposition want us to close down. I would like to ask you, Mr. Speaker, whether you would consider that to be fair and honest dealing? We have the rule of law in Barbados, although they would like to destroy it; but what is clear is that in the same way as any debtor, whether he be a taxpayer or otherwise, whether it be income tax or whether it be property tax, we have a right to pursue our remedy through tax enforcement by the Courts.

3.45 p.m.

We can continue to exercise this against the West Indies Hospital Fund, and they have not gone on in their protesting or anything like that. They said: "Yes, we owe the debt; but the Company is a young Company, it has just been formed and we were not in a position to pay it; we will pay by certain instalments," which they are living up to. The annual wages paid is something like \$57,000 directly to their employees. I am not in a position today to give you any figures of postage by the Company, but I have every reason to believe that the net revenue of the Post Office will also be in five figures annually. I am not there when they buy their stamps and therefore I do not know if they use the Post Office all the time; but in the normal course of their dealings and from our increases since 1964 in post office revenue, if we take out the special issues such as the Independence Issue, and so on, of stamps which we put out from time to time and which we can calculate to a nicety, we are left with a net amount which, taking into account the growth of the economy and so on of this island, I still say that the Post Office benefits in five figures, and five figures would have to be over \$100,000 a year. What member on the opposite side as an employer of labour, has a wage Bill of \$57,000 a year? Some of them employ more than 26 people, but I doubt that they will get anything like \$57,000 a year out of the pockets of those members. They may get some of it from the Government, but certainly not out of their pockets, and this is money which is coming in from outside.

Another feature which I have been able to ascertain about the operation of the Company is this; I outlined a little earlier that the people who were the owners of winning tickets by the contract made between them and the Company which operates the West Indies Hospital Fund, would be entitled to prorating, dependent upon the proportion of the prize units sold at any one particular draw. What I have discovered from our making enquiries and on the production of receipts and documents and people who have written us back letters, a pile of which I have here, to the Ministry of Finance after originally making a complaint that the Company was a bit slow in paying the money is that some people have drawn their full prizes even right here in Barbados - people whom we know have purchased tickets - and people overseas have drawn their full prizes, and sometimes they have not even sold one fifth of a unit. This has been done in an effort to establish goodwill among the people who are accustomed to buying tickets, so that you will have a situation in which as much as \$100,000 in tickets may be sold and the first prize pro-rated down on the second prize may amount to \$200,000 and \$35,000 or \$40,000 has been paid. One third-prize winner right here in Barbados received \$16,800 when that third prize winner was entitled, according to the contract on the back of the ticket to a far less amount, and that has also happened in relation to people overseas, because I have been assured by the Directors of the Company that whenever it is possible to build up good will in this way, despite their legal obligation being considerably less, they have attempted to build up goodwill in this way. We also have the right of the Auditor General to examine the accounts of the Company because that is in

keeping with the provisions of the Act which the Legislature passed.

In addition to the payment of \$84,000 in respect of Court orders, in addition to the \$80,000 for printing which used to be paid to the "Advocate Company" and the \$57,000 in wages, the Commissioner of Inland Revenue has collected up to the last time I checked, \$56,000 in taxes from the Company. On the Government side, you have to add \$209,000 plus \$56,000 and that is \$265,000 which has been paid into the public Treasury either through the Law Courts or the Commissioner of Inland Revenue since the West Indies Hospital Fund was established. If you want to do a mathematical equation on this, you have to ask yourself whether, with this \$265,000, the Government has done nothing in return except to pass the legislation, or whether it is not of benefit to the community especially at a time when we had to relieve the Barbados Turf Club of the payment of something like \$130,000 last year alone, which they owed us in respect of the tax on the sale of the Sweepstake Tickets.

Now the distinction between the Barbados Turf Club and the West Indies Hospital Fund, apart from the distinction to which I have already drawn the attention of hon. members, the way in which the money is allocated for prizes, is that this money was actually collected from the Barbados Turf Club because they have to pay us, not a licence fee of \$125,000 or \$500,000, but they pay us a percentage of the gross receipts, from the sale of tickets, so that the Barbados Turf Club not only collect the money, but they spend it and this is money which should have been coming into the Treasury. That is the difference. Again, Sir, I am not using this as an attack on the Barbados Turf Club; I am stating the facts of the case. The Barbados Turf Club sell tickets for 50¢. They put up the price of the tickets when we put up the tax. By law, they are supposed to pay us - that is in our financial enactments - a certain percentage of the gross receipts, so that if they do not receive the money, they do not pay out the money, which is different from the West Indies Hospital Fund. 3.55 p.m.

They also allocated a certain amount of charity which is based on what they receive and not what they expect to get. That certain actuarial figure is for the expenses of the Turf Club and prize money for the horse-owners and so on. The prize money for horse-owners is dwindling and dwindling all the time, and it hardly pays a horse-owner, I understand, to enter a horse in a race except owners like certain members of this House who have good horses. The average race horse owners, the less fortunate ones, have to subsidize the Quaker Oats - and Rolston Purina Companies in order to enter in what is commonly known as the sport of Kings because horse-owners' prizes have been dwindling, fees for jockeys and grooms - those fees have gone up little extra - and a little extra fringe benefit that a jockey gets when he brings home a winner. You have to pay a little more now to get a jockey, but the prize money has been going down and down.

Now, with all that knowledge, here is the Turf Club which collects money for the Government in the same way as the Empire Theatre collects money for the Government; or as the Roxy Cinema, or what a friend of mine calls the Plaza Cinema, at the gate. But the Barbados Turf Club has been collecting the tax for the Government and has not paid it over to the Government. Nobody said that it was fraudulent.

Nobody said that in the interest of survival of the West Indies Hospital Fund Ltd., we should waive the payment of taxes - when the taxes paid in by this Company on two occasions were over \$1,000 on each occasion. Everyone joined in the chorus of saying that this Government was taking an interest in sport at last. So the Barbados Turf Club is therefore on the debit side and the West Indies Hospital Funds, Ltd., is on the credit side because over \$58,000 they paid either in the Courts or in the Treasury. Nobody has said a word of appreciation to the Government of Barbados for that.

We lease the Garrison to the Barbados Turf Club and hon. members say that we should continue all of that and we have to go on granting a dispensation to the Turf Club whereby the revenue of the country is depleted by the sum of \$130,000 or \$150,000 a year. That to me does not sound like good arithmetic.

I think that if hon. members are sincere about the financial situation of the Island, they have to give the West Indies Funds Ltd. a chance to establish itself; but right from the jump, whereas the people in Ireland gave the Irish Sweepstake the opportunity to establish itself - the people in America were throughout the period of the sale of Irish Sweepstake saying that it is illegal but they support it - the people in Barbados have been buying tickets on the Irish Sweepstake from time immemorial.

The Irish Sweepstake people is under no obligation to pay out anything like the things that we have exacted from the West Indies Funds Limited. I remember when I said that I listened carefully to what the directors of the Company had to say and I informed them that if they wanted to operate in Barbados, the Government had to make sure of getting something out of it and they would be charged a licence fee of \$500,000, a member on the opposite side said that I was unreasonable. It may be that I was unreasonable, but my unreasonableness paid off. I made sure of getting \$125,000 out of the \$500,000. If I had charged them \$5 like the Cable and Wireless licence, I would have got \$1.25 because they would have paid it in four instalments, but I got a cheque for \$125,000 deposited in the Treasury before I even came in here to ask permission for the West Indies Funds Ltd. to operate.

The members, particularly the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, who had spoken for such a long time on the provisions of the Bill, repeated that I was making it impossible for them to operate. I was making it impossible, but I was trying to make sure that it was not a fly-by-night operation and that the people were people of substance and they would not speculate on the economy of Barbados.

No one can accuse them of taking out money because they have paid out more in wages to the printers and given money to the economy of this Island. Nobody can establish that this Company has taken one penny out of the Treasury of Barbados. Everything this Company has done has been of benefit to the economy of Barbados, not only in terms of the Eastern Caribbean Currency, but in terms of hard currency and plant they are bringing into this country.

I daresay if the printing was given to the Advocate Company or if other people were given it, we would not have had this Resolution before us today. Or if certain people were made directors of the Company, no one would have said a word about it; but it is only a question of speculation of members on that side, and part of the vituperations which this Government has been subjected to yearly from the fact that these insidious and dastardly attacks on the Government stem simply from their printing text books, and exercise books for all these schools. That is what the hon. senior member for the City told me. One would have thought that no politics of the sort that if somebody does not give you something for personal gain, we must turn around and say they are the worst people in the world, would come into this. That is what we find here in politics. I have been in here for seventeen years trying to help people and trying to improve the economy of this Island. The national economy declining from the year before I took up office which is 1960-61. It has risen from \$21 million in 1960-61 to \$60 million in 1967-68.

Now what are they doing on their side? That is what I want to know. If the West Indies Hospital Sweep Fund Ltd. is of no benefit to this country, what are they on the opposite side offering except a smear attack on the Government? People should try to assist the Government in some way with the employment of the full man power of the country. No one on that side has said that the West Indies Hospital Fund Ltd., has collected a full unit, whatever the unit is, and has failed to comply with the conditions provided on the back of the ticket which is that if a full unit is collected, the first prize would be so-and-so.

Not one person has ever provided any evidence in Court in that case to say that they were illegally operating according to the conditions on the back of the ticket and that they failed to live up to that obligation, and therefore, they should be prosecuted by the Director of Public Prosecutions. Nobody has said that. This is the same general smear that has adumbrated every single thing that is going on in this community; somebody is representing somebody.

We still have the Law Courts. People still have rights, and what I find significant is all the people on the opposite side of the House are stating that somebody is representing somebody and all that kind of thing. What has this Government done? They just did not pay in time. We said that they should pay and we are collecting the money.

4.05 p.m.

I have not heard of a single case adjudicated in the Courts in this Island of anybody, who was owed money, suing the West Indies Hospital Fund for this money. If I were practising law, and people convinced me that they had evidence to prove that they were owed money, I would advise them to sue for the money.

Therefore this matter, as far as I am concerned, of people not being paid - the evidence is that the people have been paid; they were not paid promptly, it is true, at one stage, but the evidence is that the people have been paid. This is not a question for the Legislature; this is a question for the Courts. We went to Court, and they can go to Court, too, if they have a case. We collected our money, and they collect theirs. Our money was not in respect of a lottery ticket; our money was in respect of an undertaking given to the Legislature by the Agreement and the terms of the Act that they would pay so much money in respect of a licence fee, and they were only able to pay, without hesitation, the first 25%. But that 25% was not \$1.25; that 25% was \$125,000 which went into the revenue of this Island. They have subsequently paid us \$84,000 through the Courts, bringing it up to \$209,000 and another \$56,000 by way of a 20% tax of the prize money that they have paid out.

Now if they had not been paying people, by a process of deduction, they would be very stupid to pay us out a percentage of prize money that they have not paid out, because if they can pay us \$56,000 on the basis of 20% of the prize money, it means that the West Indies Hospital Fund has paid out \$280,000 in prize money up to the time they paid us the last instalment. If they owe us any of the tax, then they have paid out a considerable amount in excess of \$280,000 in prize money.

Let us get down to facts and figures now. The only authority being brought in here is the loudness, the vituperation and the vindictiveness in which members expressed themselves. That is something which is bringing this Assembly into disrepute; but if you bring disreputable people here you will expect the Assembly to be brought into disrepute.

I am giving you the figures now. \$56,000 as one-fifth, by my calculation, of the amount paid out would be \$280,000 in prize money, basing it on the amount of taxes which have been paid to us. But if they owe us any arrears of the tax - the tax fixed by the Legislature - then they have paid out more than \$280,000 in prize money.

As I said before, it is a matter of simple contract. If you do not have a ticket, then you do not have any quarrel, and you do not have a chance. If you buy a ticket and your ticket comes up as one of the lucky numbers, Mr. Speaker, then, according to the quantum of the unit which is being collected, they have entered into a contract to pay you a proportionate amount of that. The day when their sales between one event and the other amount to \$300,000, then the full amount of prize money will be paid. I do not see that this is something which is to occasion all of this controversy, heat and smear that have been going on.

Mr. Speaker, on the 21st January, 1964, a Select Committee was appointed by this House to go into the question of the West Indies Hospital Fund Bill as it was then. I would like to read out the names of the hon. members who were on that Committee: The Hon. W. A. Crawford; the now hon. senior member for St. Andrew; the mover of this Resolution, the senior member for the City; Mr. F. C. Goddard, the then hon. junior member for Christ Church; the "Sleeping member" for St. James, who has just left his place; the hon. Chairman of Committees as he then was, and the hon. junior member for St. Thomas. Like all Select Committees of this House, it was a multi-party Committee. It was not comprised of Government members; I was not a member of the Committee, nor was the Leader of the House, nor was the junior member for St. Michael, because he was not even a member of the House. That was on the 21st January, 1964.

Now, Sir, the senior member for St. Michael has already spoken on this matter. It would be a matter of considerable edification for those members, who want to hear the facts, to read the Report of the Select Committee, and I intend to do so. The Select Committee's Report, as far as I can remember, I do not have the date, but it will be on the record. The Select Committee reported this to the House:

"The Committee is of the opinion that there is nothing unhealthy or immorally wrong in seeking to provide funds for public purposes from this sort of endeavour. All over the world Governments have resorted for centuries to methods of this type in order to finance public projects of one sort or another and to relieve some of the burden of direct taxation.

The Committee particularly paid attention to the allegation: that the establishment of the West Indies Hospital Fund Sweepstake and lottery would be likely to arouse indignation on the part of the U.S.A. against Barbados with harmful effect on emigration from Barbados to the U.S.A."

Parenthetically, Sir, I pause here at the end of paragraph 2, and say, parenthetically, that the same people were saying that we would antagonise the U.S.A. That was in 1964. Since then we have joined the O.A.S., and they said that we are stooges of the U.S.A. Despite the fact that we have done something to antagonise the U.S.A. by passing the West Indies Hospital Fund Act, yet we have become stooges of the U.S.A. Parenthetically, I say that this is a clear absurdity, but this is the kind of illogical dishonesty that we have now to be subjected to in this Island of Barbados.

I have not called any names. Who have ears to hear, let them hear. There is another saying that whoever the cap fits, let him draw the string, if he is present to draw it. Now, it is difficult - I am going back to quote:

Mr. SPEAKER: Parenthesis completed.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Yes, Sir, end of quotation. It is difficult to understand the basis for this kind of

reasoning. The sale of Irish Sweepstake tickets throughout the U.S.A. has had no effect on the emigration prospects of the Irish to America. Stop here now again, Sir. I stop, Sir; I pause. I will now digress a moment. It is the same people, Sir, when during the Independence campaign we pointed out that we were restricted to 100 emigrants per year - we had already passed the Hospital Fund Act - and that on the 5th December, 1965 - I do not forget things like that - our quota would go up to 650 a year, but that with the attainment of Independence there would be no quota system for Barbados - nine of them either rushed down, or telephoned, to the U.S. Consul-General for him to refute the statement that I had made. They felt that it was politically unacceptable at that time for anybody to come out with a statement that our quota restrictions would be removed with Independence.

4.15 p.m.

And during that time in 1964 of the discussion of the West Indies Hospital Fund, they said that the Americans would restrict us; but far from restricting us, when Great Britain was closing the doors, the gates were wide open in the United States of America. In 1964 we were not sending domestic servants to the United States; in 1967 we are. The total quota at the time when we passed this Act was 100 and now - we are in the Western Hemisphere - it would be put to 170,000, if we had that many people to send and anybody would want their increased quota numbers and, of course, if the people complied with having a job and that kind of thing. The Officer at the time administering the Government of Barbados could not get into the United States as a permanent emigrant because the quota for the whole of Asia was 100 with about two thousand million, and he was born in India; therefore the quota was 100 for two thousand million people and we have 250,000. I have other friends who were born in India and who came under this kind of restriction. There were people in Trinidad, who were born in Trinidad of Hindu, East Indian and Moslem origin who could not get into the United States before Trinidad got Independence. You can go back and check on four of their newspapers, and you will find that because I made a pronouncement about emigration before it was released from Washington, and I did that with the advice and consent of Washington, of the State Department, they said I was telling lies. They held a public meeting and they were the same people who said that if we pass the West Indies Hospital Funds Act, the Americans would stop emigration against Barbados. There is hardly a family in Barbados today which does not have a relative in the United States of America, whether he be in New York, Boston or elsewhere. We have had a number of farm workers and now we have domestic workers. They have used arguments at particular times in order to suit their particular case at the time - the time of political opportunism, in the same way that this Bill to repeal the West Indies Hospital Fund Act is political opportunism. I am not afraid to say so because the same person who is introducing the Bill was a member of the Select Committee and he did not sign any Minority Report. Therefore I am going to read the Report which it must be taken he has signed at the time.

Paragraph 3 goes on to say that the Republic of Ireland, or Eire as it is called, enjoys an annual quota for entry in the United States of 17,000, and Northern Ireland shares in the United Kingdom quota of 60,000 per year. And in proportion to its population, it has the lion share of this quota. The West Indian Colonies have a quota of 100 a year - this is not myself, this is the senior member for the City, as a member of the Select Committee, reporting back to us in the House in 1964 - despite the fact that all of the independent Countries enjoy a non-quota entry into the United States. We are now part of that. The Walter McCarran Act of 1952, Section 101 (a) 27 (c) - I am giving chapter and verse. I am not saying that somebody told me that, "him say the senior member for the City bought a motor-car." I am not concerned with that sort of gutter politics. I make no apology for that. I am not accustomed to that and I do not want any of the younger generation of Barbados to be brought up in this atmosphere. I like to quote facts. Section 101 (a) 27 (c) of the McCarran Act provides that all West Indians emigrating from Cuba, Haiti and San Domingo, and even those from the West Indies who have been given Independence, are not exempt from quota restrictions. As a result, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago are the only independent countries whose emigrants move freely *non quota* to the United States of America. It is noteworthy that in May last year Congressman Emmanuel Seller, Chairman of the Congressional Committee having jurisdiction over emigration Bills, introduced a Bill H.R. 6238 to correct this iniquity. This Bill would grant non quota States to emigrate from all independent countries of the West Indies.

This is 1964. The senior member for the City was a member of this Committee and he had read this, but in 1965 he was still getting up on platforms and saying that I was telling lies when I said that Barbados would be on a non quota basis, although he signed this Report. I have his signature here. Eight months have now passed and the United States Emigration Committee has not even held a hearing on the Bill. The United States is fully aware of the impoverished conditions of the West Indian territories which are located at her back-door. If we do not help ourselves, who is going to help us? Not only Irish but also Maltese and Puerto Rican lottery tickets are sold throughout the United States of America. The Committee was informed that in certain States taxation is extracted by the State upon the sale of lottery tickets even although the sale is *prima facie* illegal.

I would like to pause here. Let us assume that a resident of the United States of America, even before New York legalised lotteries - it may still be the law in relation to foreign lotteries: I am not quite sure; but for the first time in the history of that State they have legalised a lottery. But let us say that last year a resident of New York had won \$100,000 from the West Indies Hospital Fund.

The argument at the time when I introduced this Bill, tentatively it is true, advanced nevertheless, was that he would so antagonize the United States of America that they would slam the doors of emigration and

that they would black-ball Barbados. That was the gist of what they were saying. They believed in the politics of fear and they would say anything to scare people that this is not anything good because of what the United States were going to do. We are the people whom they are accusing of being stooges because we joined the O.A.S., because their idea of America is United States. America stretches from the Arctic Circle to the Antarctic down to Tierra Del Fuego. We are part and parcel of America. We are in the Americas; because we joined the Organization of American States, that means that that is the United States of America. That is the kind of nonsense you get in politics today from the people who are dragged in here.

As I was saying, Sir, let us assume that a resident of the United States of America had won \$100,000. Although he can be arrested and charged with having a lottery ticket in his possession, as soon as the United States Treasury heard that he had won \$100,000 they would send him a Bill for \$56,000. As a matter of fact, I know people who have won sweepstakes like the Irish Sweep. I could mention one, a person who is well-known to us, very close to us, a Barbadian lady who won the Irish Sweep, and invariably they were informed by the Treasury that they had won. Even before the Sweepstake told them, the Treasury told them: "We know you won the Irish Sweep. Let us have the piece of" what the senior member for St. Joseph calls - they want a Government berry. (Laughter). 4.25 p.m.

Even before the people back in Ireland notified them that they had won, the United States Treasury was telling them that they had won money. "Although it is illegal" they say "I still want piece of that illegal money." So what kind of nonsense we are hearing now? The Barbados Government was getting that off the top; we do not have to send and collect it from the people because the West Indies Hospital Funds, Ltd., is under the obligation to pay us 20 per cent of the prize money and 20 percent of the gross profit, plus the licence fee, although they still owe that. Therefore, let us see this thing in its proper perspective.

The members of the Select Committee went on to report about the matter with regard to the competition with the Barbados Turf Club would be faced from the proposed lottery.

"The Committee was informed that the West Indies Hospital Funds, Ltd., has taken every possible step to ensure that the interest of the Barbados Turf Club would be properly protected.

"It has been proposed to contribute \$20,000 to the Barbados Turf Club as prize money for one race provided that a lottery was based on that race. The West Indies Hospital Funds, Ltd., has also offered to subsidize the Club not only for this stake money provided that the Company established that the sale of sweepstake tickets by the Club had been adversely affected by the sale of West Indies Hospital Funds, Ltd., tickets in Barbados."

Now the Club did not accept this proposal on the actual agreement made between the Barbados Turf

Club and the West Indies Hospital Funds, Ltd. They may well want to accept this agreement one of these days. I do not know if they thought they were better off. But as events have turned out now, I am sure the Company would have deflected some portion of their funds by racing in this Island. But the Committee was further informed of some of the difficulties which the Establishment of lotteries would mean to the Company apart from the financing of the Turf Club.

It is expected that over one hundred people would be employed in the Company's headquarters in connection with the distribution of tickets, the storage of tickets and the drawing of sweepstakes. Construction of facilities in Barbados, Sir, includes a Head Office building and the instalment of International Business Machines computerised equipment which Barbadians would be trained to operate.

We already have I.B.M. Equipment. As a matter of fact, Sir, we have in one factory in Barbados alone, 150 girls operating I.B.M. machines and it is accompanied with large scale operations. It is companies like this that have made it possible for I.B.M. to come into Barbados with a modern clean, congenial industry for our young girls who are leaving school. As a matter of fact, I believe that tomorrow fifty I.B.M. executives would be holding a convention in this Island, and the head of the Corporation itself was in Barbados two weeks ago.

Now, if I had to give a pronouncement at that time, I did not think we would have had so many of these computerised machines here. The only I.B.M. machines we had at that time were in the Statistical Department. Today in one room larger than in this House of Assembly and the gallery, you will see 150 girls sitting down at these modern computerised machines in an air-conditioned office. This is what the hon. senior member for the City, who was a member of that Committee, who signed the Report, and who did not dissent from any of its provisions, or propose a single amendment, has now come in today to repeal - he of all members.

I would understand if it were the member for St. Joseph because he is a man with a rustic freshness about him, unsullied by big machinations that you take as being part and parcel of his character; and if he says something, you know that the hon. member may be wrong, but at least you can say that he is sincere. Can we say that for the rest?

Mr. SPEAKER: The time for Private Members' Business has now expired. The House now returns to Government Business. The first Order of the Day is for the Leader of the House to move the House into Committee of Supply.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Before I move the Resolution for the House to go into Committee of Supply, it is necessary for me to draw something to Your Honour's attention.

Last week, we gave notice of a Resolution with respect to the Independence Celebrations to be done in Committee of Supply. It has since been discovered that it is in fact two Resolutions, one abstract and one which can properly be done in Committee of Supply. I am therefore with leave of the House withdrawing the one which was given notice of last week and substituting instead the two Resolutions dealing with the same subject in order to set it out in its proper parliamentary form.

I therefore ask leave to withdraw item No. 4, a Resolution to amend the Note to Item 22A of Head 22 of the 1967-68 Estimates, and to place the sum of \$25,000 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1967-68, Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1967-68 No. 28, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House for the reason he has given is seeking the leave of the House to withdraw that Resolution, and if there is no objection leave will be granted.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, there is obviously no objection to his withdrawing it, but I would just like to be confirmed about this. Is this the cyclostyled Resolution which we have received day before yesterday?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Oh, yes!

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Sir, I am now giving notice of two separate Resolutions which embody the subject matter of the original one. First of all is the Resolution "that the note of the Current Estimate under Head 22, Item 22A Independence Celebrations in the Approved Estimates 1967-68 be amended to read as follows:-

"Revote to meet outstanding claims and to meet the cost of the first anniversary celebrations," and that the Senate be invited to concur herein, and if concurred in,

RESOLVED that His Excellency the Governor-General be asked to assent and take the necessary steps to give effect to this Resolution.

And, also, to give notice of a Resolution that "the sum of \$25,000 be granted from the Consolidated Fund and placed at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1967-68, Part 1 - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1967-68 No. 28 which forms the Schedule to this Resolution, and that the Senate be invited to concur herein, and if concurred in;

RESOLVED that His Excellency the Governor-General be asked to assent and take the necessary steps to give effect to this Resolution."

Copies of these Resolutions are now available and with Your Honour's permission they are circulated

to hon. members. They deal with the same subject matter as the Resolution which was withdrawn from the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I ask if they are ready for immediate circulation?

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I now beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply and that it be an instruction to the House when in Committee of Supply to deal with the two money Resolutions of which notice has been given earlier today, one for the sum of \$4,000, and the other for \$25,000.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: 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 of supply, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

4.35 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1967-68 No. 26

The Resolution for \$4,380 was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: This Resolution asked the Committee to approve the sum of \$4,380 under Item 6 - Telecommunications. Some time last year at the Fourth Caribbean Regional Air Navigation Meeting, which was held in Mexico City - it was attended by the Director of Civil Aviation - it was decided that there should be set up a telecommunications channel in the Eastern Caribbean Islands, including Puerto Rico and Trinidad. The channel is to be used exclusively for meteorological information for aviaional operations.

It was also decided at the Sixth meeting of the Caribbean Meteorological Council, held in Barbados in December last year, that this recommendation should be approved and that the cost of it should be carried among the members of the Caribbean Meteorological Council as follows:

Barbados to pay 1/5 of the cost;

The Leeward and Windward Islands to pay 2/5 of the cost.

In the Light of that opportionment - it was satisfactory to all the Governments concerned - the additional cost to Barbados worked out, in the six-month period as from October 1967, to March, 1968, as follows:

The sharing of the Channel at the rate of \$430 a month (Eastern Caribbean Currency); rental of the teleprinter equipment \$200 a month, and the operational cost at \$100 a month.

That makes a grant total of \$4,380. I must warn the Committee that the cost of this meteorological channel will be an annual recurrent expenditure. I beg to move that the Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: We have no objection to this Resolution. I want just to make a remark about the way things are presented. It is a time-honoured practice to describe the explanatory note in the financial Resolution as the Addendum. I do not know the basis of this practice. An Addendum means something added, rather than something explained; nevertheless, it is something to consider. So far as "aviational" is concerned, I am sure there is no such word. I do not know why Civil Servants allow this sort of thing to happen. The Civil Servant responsible for putting this down should be given a good dictionary - in order that he may learn the use of words. There are numerous other words which would explain what is meant by "Aviation". That is something that does not exist.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The hon. member for once is right. He will notice that I had some difficulty in calling the word myself. The word "aviation" is a correct word, but "aviational" is a different kind of word. Obviously it does not prevent what we are trying to explain from being understood. It is merely a matter of choice.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1967-68 No. 25

A Resolution for \$1,335 was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Supplementary provision in the sum of \$1,335 is being sought under Head 4 - Auditor General to increase the votes under items 11, 12, 13 and 14 respectively in the current Estimates. The Auditor General's Department is involved in these expenses, and it is necessary to have equipment and furniture. I beg to move that the Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1967-68 No. 24

A Resolution for \$99,767 was called.

Head 6 - Legal - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Supplementary provision is asked for, under Head 6 - Legal, Item 17A (New) Expenses - Temporary Specialist Draftsmen.

I think hon. members are aware that the Government have secured the services of professor O. R. Marshall and Mr. Keith Patchett, and they have been assisting with the drafting of legislation in the Legal Department. The fruits of their labour have, in some measure, been before the House before the recess.

The Government thinks this work has improved considerably, and I am fortified in this opinion by the comments made on their work by the Attorney General.

4.45 p.m.

The provision required is \$7,480.20 to meet the expenses in providing the return passages to the United Kingdom of Professor Marshall and Mr. Patchett and their wives, \$4,400.20; in connection with local travelling, \$1,080.00 and an honorarium of \$1,000 each to them. That makes a total of \$7,480.20.

I beg to move that Head 6, as amended, stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, we, in the Opposition, have no quarrel whatsoever with the amounts set out under this Head 6 as the expenses for the payment of temporary Specialist Draughtsmen. I say at once that I regard an honorarium of \$1,000 as being eminently reasonable, and perhaps Dr. Patchett and Dr. Marshall have given quite a bargain in accepting such low fees. I am quite sure that if any Counsel practising at the local Bar in Barbados had been asked, for the amount of time that these legal gentlemen had to spend in this work, they certainly would have been asking for much more substantial fees. I am especially glad that the fees are so low, in view of the fact that at least one of the gentlemen concerned is a professed supporter of the Democratic Labour Party and his

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On a point of order. I do not know about any reference to what he is saying, but I think it is quite obvious that to make the remark which he has just made - whether it is true or not, I do not know - but it certainly cannot be proper for him to say with respect to a technician who has been asked by the Government to do a certain type of work in the Legal Department and who, on his admission, is eminently competent to do it - he would admit that it would not be proper for him to say that one person is a supporter of the Democratic Labour Party. That cannot be relevant here.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I thought that the Hon. Leader of the House would have been glad to hear a legal gentleman was a supporter of the Democratic Labour Party. I cannot quite see what his objection is, but the facts are that professor Marshall has signed letters in support of the Democratic Labour Party which have been sent to an English Newspaper. If the Minister wants a copy of the "Times", he can contact the Clerk of the House.

The only other remark which I would make relevant to this item is that professor Marshall and Mr. Patchett, in their law revision work, have set an example which I hope the drafting Department here in Barbados in the Department of the Attorney General would follow. The standard of work which has come from the pens of those gentlemen is of a higher quality than that of the drafting for the last two years in

Barbados. Their Bills very seldom have mistakes in them, and on very few occasions have their incorporated revisions in the law which are irrelevant in Barbadian circumstances, as far as we can judge. They have done the work of law reform very efficiently, and I would like to say here and now how glad we are for the assimilation of the laws of Barbados to the laws of England as modified, because it makes our work much easier when we have to follow the English textbooks and revisions. Certainly professor Marshall and Mr. Patchett have assisted us in this respect. I feel that all Barbadians owe them thanks as far as that is concerned.

I do not recall exactly what fees were paid for advising the Democratic Labour Party at the Independence Conference in London, but if that was the scale of fees, we would have no complaints with the amount of money which these gentlemen have drawn from the Barbados Government over the last few years. As far as we in the Opposition are concerned, politics or no politics, D.L.P. or no D.L.P., professor Marshall, as long as he gives the services to Barbados which we expect, we will look to him for assistance of this sort. We will not be shifting on political grounds. Both sides of the House will agree and get together on the ground that these two gentlemen have done a good job, and they have been paid a reasonable amount for the work which they have done. The Opposition would like to make those remarks while agreeing to the passage of this Resolution.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, we do seem to be entering into the atmosphere of the sweetness of life. I am at one with the hon. member except that I have taken a slight difference with him. He has rightly praised the high standard of professor Marshall's and Mr. Patchett's work, but he has informed the House that there is some connection between professor Marshall and the Democratic Labour Party. I do not know if that is so; but if it is, that has had nothing to do with the work he has had to do. One other point of difference is that the hon. member speaks in somewhat prophetic vein suggesting that when the B.L.P. is returned to power, they will retain the services of professor Marshall. I do not wish professor Marshall to be having high hopes and then to experience the pages of disappointment. We completely agree with the high quality of the work done by professor Marshall and on the merits of this very distinguished Barbadian whom I am sure that we are all very pleased to have the opportunity of having him working for his country.

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

HEAD 24 - LANDS AND SURVEYS

Head 24 - Lands and Surveys - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, under this Head, there are two new items: one is item 18 - Printing Machine - and the other is item 19 - Motor Vehicle - and the respective amounts required are \$2,878 and \$5,011.

4.55 p.m.

The note to the first Item states that the amount required includes a revote of \$2,878 to purchase a

printing machine and accessories for the Lands and Surveys Department. The note to the next Item states that the amount required includes a revote of \$5,000 to purchase a Land Rover for the Lands and Surveys Department.

I beg to move that Head 24 stand part.

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

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

HEAD 35 - PUBLIC WORKS

Head 35 - Public Works - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Under Head 35 is the new Item - Item 5 - Sea Defences for which the sum of \$35,600 is required.

This arises out of some considerable damage which was done along the South Coast some months ago by the sea and the prevailing weather conditions. This amount of money is required to meet the cost of repairs and to make provision for repairs to be undertaken, should further damage be sustained during the current financial year.

The estimated cost is as follows:-

Graves End	\$22,320
Esplanade, Bay Street	1,100
Deep Water Harbour	2,180
	\$25,600

The additional \$10,000 is required for unforeseen works.

I beg to move that Head 35 stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, this is a item in which we feel that what is needed is not this sort of piecemeal approach to a matter of this sort, because you will see at once that Government views this matter as a seasonal one in view of the fact that this House is being asked to vote a sum to carry out any further damage that might be done by the sea to the sea coast during the current financial year.

What is further necessary to my mind is this. Groynes have been constructed at the Hilton, and a survey ought to be carried out to determine what these groynes have done to change the tides and currents and sea movements in the particular area. As you know, Sir, it has happened since the building of the Deep Water Harbour that areas around there where the seacoast is and where you never have seen high-tide to cause any anxiety for many years - since the building of the Deep Water Harbour, there has been a shifting of water courses, water pressure and tides.

We feel that it should not be a case where a Resolution of this sort is brought before the House merely to repair damage on the South Coast, but you might go to the West Coast as well and have a survey to

see what damage is done and get an idea of what is likely to occur in the future. I myself know that there are some properties which have been damaged on account of these strange tides which we have not experienced over the last twenty years, but which have definitely occurred since the building of the Deep Water Harbour along the West Coast. We have been having this experience here and I am sure that at the Esplanade, for instance, we have seen the sea throwing its waters into the Esplanade, but we have not seen such considerable damage being caused along that area for some time as we have seen recently. If we find now that since the laying of the groynes at the Hilton you have to face a Bill of \$25,600 to carry out immediate repairs and then there is a total amount of \$35,600 - there is a plan to set aside \$10,000 - to carry out work in case of a recurrence of this high water damage, then a survey is an ideal thing to my mind at this particular time.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, before you put the question, I would just like to say that what the last speaker who sat down said is not exactly true. I would wish that he would spend some of his time in minding the people's business, instead of minding his own business and paying attention to some of these things.

If he had done that, he would have noticed that this is a supplementary Resolution, and the financial year will not come to a close before the 31st March, 1968; therefore we have to put in this amount of money to last until then. When we come to the House with the annual Estimates, there would be inserted an amount of money to look after the sea defences of the whole Island.

What has happened is that Barbados, as we all know, is the most easterly Island in the Eastern Caribbean, and we have never been known to have suffered from these tides as badly as we have suffered now. It is very rare to find such damage being done to the West Coast. It is something which nobody has ever heard about. It is very rare to find tides coming from the East. I would say this to anybody, archaeologist or anybody. Nobody at this moment knows what causes scurrilling. It is quite likely that it may be caused by the laying of the groynes at the Deep Water Harbour and the Hilton. The trouble is that you may erect a groyne here and you get this scurrilling down at the North Point. Nobody can say if that is true or not.

What we are asking is that the House give approval to this supplementary Estimate. We are mindful of all these things. It is because of the unusual weather that we have had this trouble at the Deep Water Harbour when we had these cross swells, and we had to act expeditiously.
5.05 p.m.

We are asking the House to vote this money because we have to go on with the work we have started. If you go to the beach as far as "The Pebble", you will see that there is erosion taking place up there. We will have to put in piles in order to protect the wall. You will notice that nature has provided Barbados

with reefs all around the coast, and they probably, serve as a sort of buffer. So far as the Deep Water Harbour is concerned, at one time we had Pelican Island to help us. At the moment no one has been able to come out with a complete answer to this matter. It will take us about ten to fifteen years to find a proper solution. Maybe as time goes on the Research Institute in St. James may be able to tell us something, but at this stage nobody can give us the correct answer.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I have listened with interest to the two hon. members who have just spoken on the question of the movement of sand on the groynes. It is certainly true, as the hon. Minister said, that a study starting from scratch will take about ten to fifteen years. I remember as long ago as 1950, when I was working at the Gulf Oil Company, a geologist of the Company had to examine the aspects of the movement of sand on the West Coast of Barbados. There was a sand movement, within a period of 15 to 20 years, which left from Chancery Lane right to Harrison's point. You will find that at certain times Rockley Beach will be only 10 yards wide, and at other times, it will be 30 yards wide. It was not a question of the sea receding; it was a sand movement up the coast.

At Worthing a sand wave is subject to the movement of sand. The effect of the groynes is to fix the sand. The Deep Water Harbour has a sand fixer. With the 90 acres of the Deep Water Harbour, the sand waves find it impossible to pass the Deep Water Harbour on the way North. The groynes at the Hilton had not been built six months before the coconut trees at the back of St. Anns started to fall down. The coconut trees did not fall as a result of high seas; it was the result of the sand being fixed between the Hilton groynes and the other groyne. If you went there, you would see all the evidence of moving beaches, and what took place after the Hilton was being built.

I am of the opinion that the reason why "The Pebble" and other parts of that area between the Hilton groyne and the Deep Water Harbour are more subject now to washing away than they have been in the past is that there is a moving of sand between the groynes and the Deep Water Harbour. I would suggest to the Ministry that it would not take 10 years to examine the matter. This is a matter which people, from an ordinary every-day examination, can tell whether the sand has ever been as far as "The Pebble" as it has been this year. Whether it is due to the high seas or otherwise, everybody knows that the sea has reached the road.

A hotel has been built at Accra Beach now. In order to avoid a recurrence, I would suggest that the Ministry go into the matter with the assistance of the Bel Air Institute and also with what geological assistance they can get. It is known to me that the Gulf Oil Company Geologist had made an examination of sand movement on the West Coast. I hear an aside. The Minister seems to be questioning this. I mean the West Coast starting from Harrison's Point and going down to Chancery Lane. Perhaps this is something

to be delegated to the Beach Control Authority when it is properly working. Subject to that, we have no objection whatsoever to repairs being done to Graves End. It was our impression that work had already been done.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The hon. senior member for St. Thomas mentioned something about Palm Beach. Does he mean Palm Beach, or Cooper's Beach? There are no coconut trees there.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I meant Cooper's Beach.

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

Head 41 - Ministry of Education - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: With reference to Item 10 - Electricity, water and gas, we are asking for \$4,797. Hon. members, I think, will remember that during the last financial year a sum of money was voted in connection with the extension of certain facilities for schools where it was decided that the Mobile Dental Clinic should operate. At the end of that financial year only \$503.46 was used, and the remainder of the vote lapsed. The work has now been completed, and we are now asked to vote the remaining sum to take care of the work which has been completed in respect of these 21 schools. I beg to move that Head 41 stand part.

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

Mr. SMITH: This note reads:

"The sum of \$5,400 was provided under Supplementary Estimates 1966-67 No. 40 to cover the cost of extending the electricity supply to twenty-one schools to facilitate the operation of the Mobile Dental Clinic."

5.15 p.m.

"This Resolution seeks the supplementary provision of \$4,796.54 to settle the claims for completing the extension to improve the supply of electricity at these schools."

Now, Sir, I would like to hear from the Minister about these twenty-one schools.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: *(After a pause)* The question is...

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No, Sir.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, did you or did you not hear me ask for an explanation of this note? While the Minister is trying to find it, I forgot that this is not the Minister for this particular matter, and that will tell me right away that, in truth and in fact, as far as this House of Assembly is concerned, we do not have a Minister of Education. I do not think that it is fair to this Committee or this House to have a Minister, who is supposed to be responsible to the people of this country, out of this House. That is not fair to us and it is very embarrassing to the present introducer who is now having to fumble about. I am

sure that if he were still the Minister of Education, he would not have to be fumbling to try to give me a reply or a breakdown as to these schools. Right away this means that we are of no use in this Ministry by way of a representative of the people. As to the Minister wherever he is, I am sure that he is not embarrassed now; he does not care what becomes of us here. We have no one to reply to us in the right and proper form. The Minister is responsible to this House and where is he now? I have always said that when you know too much, you do not know anything at all. It should never be so that a Minister could be appointed and be responsible for a portfolio and be out of this House. You might just as well appoint any ordinary Civil Servant and let him be out of this House to be the Minister of Education. This is not fair to us or to the hon. member who is now having to give replies to questions when he is not responsible for the particular Ministry. Suppose he was to have St. Bernard's School, Holy Innocents' School or Lodge School in front of him, and in truth and in fact they are not really and truly on the list in the Ministry! They could give him something false and he would be telling us something false through no fault of his.

For what little I know, this Resolution might have been pitched at him to come in here and give us replies to questions. This is not his Ministry, and even if he had it before, he is not supposed to give it any thought. He can give us a reply as he likes. You are calling upon us now to pay the cheque but the person who is responsible for the spending of the money or the particular allocation is not here to tell us where it is and how it is. Where are we heading? Where are we going to end up? We are ignorant as far as this Ministry is concerned. We do not have a Minister in here to answer or to give us a breakdown or anything. We are custodians of the public purse and we cannot say "yes" to the spending of money when we do not know where it is to be spent, whether it is to be spent at a particular school or what. You do not even have a parliamentary Secretary who would be more closely connected with the Ministry. He might be able to say something even if it is not true and we would have to believe him; but we have no parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry in here. The people of this country are paying a parliamentary Secretary and a Minister, and yet we cannot get the service to satisfy ourselves and the people whom we represent.

This is a real fowl-house top, especially when the rain falls. This is taking us for a ride, taking the Prime Minister for a ride, ignoring everybody and doing as they like. Who is responsible now? Not a Minister. If I were the Minister I would say: "I cannot do any better," and sit back down. The Minister may try to fix-it-right but it has been already fixed wrong. We should have the Minister or his Parliamentary Secretary in here to answer us. The Minister of Education is not supposed to answer us anything. He could meet me tomorrow and say: "Smith, man, I do not care anything about you." We do not have a chance to drop some lashes on him with our

mouths. We cannot criticize him. Where is he now? He may be at home for all we know.
5.25 p.m.

I dare suppose he must be at home now and we are inside here and the hon. introducer of this matter is fumbling and fumbling to find it. I hope he will find it to tell us the number of schools that have been concluded or fixed. This is not good enough, and I sincerely hope that the people of this country are taking this thing seriously. We have been taken for a ride.

Sir, members of this House have had to pay for disregarding the Chair. Now, who is to pay for disregarding us? We are paying for a Minister and Parliamentary Secretary of Education, and still we cannot find him to do his work this evening. Is the Minister in the Senate today? The Hon. Minister of Communications had to get up just now and do his work. He had to give an account of his stewardship, and there is no Minister around to tell me something about education. Where is the Minister of Education? One of the most important Ministries in the Island is Education, and we do not have anybody who is answerable to us for Education this evening.

No one would take money out of his pocket and give to another without knowing how it is being spent and where it is spent. If you ever ask a question, you cannot get the answer. It is a very embarrassing position. I believe everybody in here is being embarrassed because we should be able to get a breakdown and know what is happening.

(NOISES)

There are voices which I am hearing coming from down there. They are interrupting. I am going to quote the rule. When a member is on his feet, no one is to talk in here. He can only do so in undertones. Do not let any Minister interrupt me when I am on my feet.

I am saying that the Minister of Education this evening is like a ship without a captain. There are storms. The winds are blowing strong, and it is possible that we may drift this afternoon because the captain of Education is not in here to steer his own ship. No money should be paid out. What is happening to us this afternoon? No salary should be paid to the Minister of Education because he is not here to perform his duties as far as the Barbados House of Assembly is concerned. I would say that he is drawing money which he is not working for. I would say that it is not fair.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, some twenty-one schools stand to benefit by having a supply of electricity, and the Note before us says that it is to facilitate the operation of the Mobile Dental Clinic. Now, Sir, the member who just sat has enquired where these schools are because evidently he would like to know that the parish of St. Joseph is amongst those where some of these twenty-one schools are

situated. On the other hand, I would like to know that the parish of St. Peter stands to benefit from a supply of electricity, whether there is a school to accommodate the Mobile Dental Clinic or not.

But, Sir, it is about time that the Government consider having electricity installed in every school of this Island. This Island is a mere twenty-one miles by fourteen miles. I am not saying that you should have electricity at the school, leaving private homes unattended or anything of the kind; but, in taking it at the schools, the possibility would be opened up for residents in the area to benefit by having the current carried near their homes.

Electricity at the schools today is a means of enriching the cultural life of the children who attend the schools, and to the adults in the area where the schools are situated. One has just to picture in one's mind at this time that a school without electricity cannot and does not offer any encouragement to persons who would benefit from after school activities.

(NOISES)

We have noises coming from around here. I would ask that the Marshal, or at least the Police Officers sitting around be instructed to clear the Gallery.

Mr. Chairman, I was saying just now what benefit could be derived by having a Mobile Dental Clinic going to the schools whereby the Government would have the opportunity of extending, in areas where there are no Domestic Science classes, such a class. We are to wonder if it is not time yet for Government to consider making the lease of this Mobile Dental Clinic available to all schools, whether Private Secondary or else, so long as the Children are the sons and daughters of nationals who attend these schools. Our view is that the activities of the Mobile Dental Clinic should be so widened as to include all schools where there is at present a supply of electricity, or gas, or both, or what is necessary to facilitate the use of this Mobile Dental Clinic.
5.35 p.m.

We feel that not enough is being done in a matter of this sort. It is stated here:

"On account of the shortage of special fittings to meet the specifications of the van the extensions were not completed by the end of the financial year, and as a result only \$503.46 of the provision was expended. The work has now been completed and the remaining sum of \$4,796.54 which lapsed at the end of the financial year, is required to meet the cost."

In view of the fact that the Clinic was not equipped so to speak, to cater to the needs of the schools, there has been, perhaps, delay or unnecessary sufferings by children who might have needed the services of the Clinic. They have had to wait, and they might have been undergoing pain for days until the Clinic could reach the area.

We want to see something more being done for the children at these various schools. I am hoping to hear from the Minister that the 21 schools that are now to have electricity will include schools which are in parishes other than those that demonstrated support for the Democratic Labour Party at the last elections. Time and again we have seen the Government doing work on a partisan rather than a national basis. We hope that the Minister's revelation of the 21 schools and their locations will give us an entirely different story from what we have been hearing in the past.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I think I had better deal with the comments made by the hon. junior member for St. Peter first. I hope he will not think that I am flattering him. His contribution bore slightly more relevance to the senior member for St. Joseph, who, I must submit, was not in his best form this afternoon. First of all, there are some facts to be understood. The Ministry of Education is not now putting electricity in 21 schools. Of the 122 primary schools which there are in this Island, certainly up to the time I left the Ministry, nearly sixty of them had electricity. I am certain that by now, due to this and other recent developments, the number must be nearer 80. It is not a question of starting from scratch and putting in electricity in the schools of this Island. Much as we thank hon. members for telling us what our duty ought to be, I must, nevertheless, say that such advice, though welcome, is thoroughly gratuitous.

The second point I want to make is this. It is not a fact that the Mobile Dental Clinic was not equipped to extend its services to more schools. When the Clinic first started to operate, it could only operate at four or five schools because the electrical equipment in the Clinic itself requires that certain attachments - I cannot explain it technically, but I know what I mean - in the electrical wiring of the buildings had to be connected and adjusted to the Clinic before the machinery in the Clinic could work. It was necessary to modify the phasing, I believe it is called, in the wiring inside the buildings so that it would mesh with the power flow into the Mobile Dental Clinic.

As I said, when the Clinic started at first, only four or five schools could provide the required type of phasing. What we have been doing recently is to provide this type of phasing in other schools, so that there are now 21 schools which could be serviced by the Clinic instead of four or five at the beginning.

The hon. member also raised the question that he would like to see electricity in every school, but he spoiled the effect of the very sensible contribution he was making. I do not say this to flatter him, but I am very pleased when remarks are made on the other side of the House that are really quite properly the subject of parliamentary debate. He spoiled the effect of what he was saying by expressing the hope that the schools which had been given electricity are in parishes other than those which supported the D.L.P. My answer to that is that this is certainly the case; the spread is all over the Island. No member of this Government - certainly no member that I have been associated with in this Cabinet since 1961 - would

demean himself by proposing that any partisan, one-sided or biased approach should be made in a matter of this sort.

We have heard just now that there is nobody in this House that can reply for the Ministry of Education. I will come to that specifically in a minute. Had it not been for the activity of the Ministry of Education in this respect, there would not have been electricity in several districts of the Island today. In 1963 it cost the Ministry of Education \$12,000 to lay on a high-tension wire from Spring Hall to St. Clements Junior School in order to service the Kitchen there. But because it is not St. Peter or St. Lucy what do you expect?

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: St. Clements School is the school at which the greatest number of votes ever cast for anybody in a country district was cast for His Hon. the Speaker at the last elections.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I do not know whether that is a relevant question.
5.45 p.m.

The Government goes to that kind of expenditure; the people in Pie Corner have electricity and that has been repeated about twenty or thirty times in various places, in St. Simons, in Chalky Mount, in Boscobelle and other places too numerous to mention; but that is the kind of policy which has been pursued by the Ministry of Education over the past three or four years. My colleague has reminded me of St. Saviours. However, Sir, that is the policy in which the Government has contended itself to bear its just portion of the possible capital costs of extending electricity all over this island. That is what the Government has done.

To answer the specific question posed by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, I wish to say this: the hon. member is known in this House for his fair-mindedness, but he has slipped up very badly this afternoon, because obviously, he has nothing to put out or he believes that it would be impossible for me to answer a simple question of fact. After all, I can read: even if I am not the Minister of Education, I can still read and, after all, I am the Leader of the Government's Business in this House; therefore, it is my business to be familiar with the work of every other Minister, no matter what portfolio I may hold. The hon. member does not care whether there are twenty schools or forty nine schools; what he wants to put out is just what he feels because the Minister of Education is not a member of this House. If you want to raise that kind of question, you can raise it anyhow; but I certainly do not agree that anybody has been embarrassed this afternoon. Immediately as the hon. member asked this question, I searched for the replies and was on the point of giving him the answer when you, Mr. Chairman, started to put the question. I remonstrated with you because I was ready and willing to answer the question. The hon. member did not give me the opportunity to decide whether I was refusing to answer the question or not, but he launched into his strictures about the weaknesses of the Government.

I want to speak on this matter dispassionately, because it is very difficult to get me offside or to make me contribute to disorder in this House; and so it is easy and possible for me to answer the hon. member's question while, at the same time, ignoring his motivation.

The Government of Barbados, like any other Government, enjoys collective responsibility. The Constitution of Barbados provides that there are two Chambers of Parliament and that Ministers, with the exception of the Prime Minister, may be members of either or of both Houses. That is the Constitution. In accordance of the Constitution of this Island, which everyone has had a chance to read and study, the Cabinet has directed that some members be Ministers in this Chamber and some be Ministers in the other Chamber. Nobody would expect that a question asked in the other Chamber would be unanswered because the Minister, say, of Communications and Works does not sit in that Chamber. It would be expected that the Leader of the Senate or any other Cabinet Minister present in the Senate, would be so conversant with matters of policy as to be able to answer the questions asked. Similarly, it should not be expected that a question addressed to a Minister in this House should go unanswered merely because the substantive Minister is not a member of this House. If I had said that I cannot answer the hon. member's question because the Minister is not here, that would be the greatest possible reflection and deserving of the greatest possible censure. But that is not the case. The hon. member has done the Government, himself and the Minister less than justice by trying to make it appear that members of this House have been short-changed in parliamentary courtesy. That is not the case. Any question which is addressed to a Minister of Government in this House will be answered in this House; and any question which is addressed to a Minister of Government in the Other Place, will be answered there as coming from the Minister or Ministry.

The Schools are: St. Augustine's Boys', West St. Joseph Secondary, Holy Innocents Mixed, St. Silas Senior, St. Clements, St. Christopher Girls', St. Marks Senior, St. George's Boys', St. John's Mixed, St. David's Boys', Providence Boys', St. Patricks Girls', St. Catherine's Girls', Ebenezer Mixed, St. Jude's Mixed, St. Luke's Boys', Mount Tabor Mixed, Welches Mixed, St. James, St. Boniface, St. Lucy, Boscobelle Boys', Indian Ground Girls', St. Andrew's Boys' and Christ Church Boys'.

If that is not the widest possible spread all over the island, I would leave it to the hon. junior member for St. Peter to say which parishes, looking at this list, did not vote for the Democratic Labour Party.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, you cannot always sit down, you have to slip up sometimes. What made me begin to speak in the way I spoke was on seeing the length of time which the Minister took to find his notes. You know, Sir, that I very nearly got to sleep and to prevent myself from dropping to sleep, I had to get up and talk. However, Sir, I am sure that if the Minister were the Minister of Education, he would

not have taken so long to find his notes, because he would have had his facts before him. It makes me believe now that in the way in which he read it out - I am not imputing any improper motives, but I may feel that he has called out a few schools which already have electricity. As far as the Constitution is concerned, we are just as much in fault as the Government where a Minister is concerned, we are out of this House and elsewhere. I am not going any further on that, but I am saying that any Minister should be answerable to us here in this House.
5.55 p.m.

It is not a question that you do not have the material to do the job in this House and that you have to go outside. You only should go outside if you cannot do better. I feel the present Government has the material inside here and it is not fair to the backbenchers for the Government to pick a Minister from outside. I am saying that it is not fair and if I were a backbencher I would resign right away. I say that it is unfair to the hon. member over there that you have to go outside of this House and appoint a Minister of Education. I am saying that because the present Minister of Education cannot come inside here. I am saying that it is not fair to the hon. members on the other side. You have members inside here who are just warming the seats. They should be given a chance to do the job. I do not know how they are taking it. It is an insult to them. If I were one of the backbenchers over there, I would have walked out long ago. It is an insult to the whole House, and for that reason I am going to move a reduction of this particular vote by \$1 as a mark of protest that there is not at present a Minister of Education in this House.

Mr. Chairman, I respectfully beg to move that Head 41 - Ministry of Education - 15 schools, under which the sum of \$4,797 is voted be reduced by \$1 making it \$4,796 as a mark of protest through the absence of the Minister of Education to this ancient and Honourable House.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I beg to second that. Mr. Chairman, in rising to second this motion for the reduction I want to also emphasise the Constitutional aspect of such an important Ministry, the greatest money-spending department of Government and the biggest Ministry in terms of money being spend not being represented by an official spokesman in this House. It is clearly a constitutional error of the grossest magnitude. It goes without saying that in the British Parliament a Ministry of this size, if it were represented in the House of Lords by a Peer as Minister, would be represented by a Parliamentary Secretary or Under Secretary of State in the House of Commons. It goes without saying that if you have a Minister of Education, who is spending a quarter of the Budget, in the Senate then, Mr. Chairman, you should have at least the Parliamentary Secretary to that Ministry in this Honourable House accountable to this House for the Ministry.

Mr. Chairman, I have a grievance at the moment against the Ministry of Education. On August the 12th this year I submitted a letter to the Ministry of Edu-

cation which was sent to me by a number of ladies resident in the Redmans Village area of the parish of St. Thomas, calling for classes to be resumed at Welches Mixed School; last week I sent a reminder and I have never had an acknowledgement from the Minister of Education up to now. Who am I to quarrel with in this House? I do not think it polite to indict the Leader of the House for what the Ministry of Education has done since his departure from that Ministry. It is clearly abominably bad manners to the members of the House of Assembly not even to acknowledge the receipt of this letter in the Ministry, and any Ministry that does that deserves in my submission the contempt of the House. You must pay respect to the people's representatives. That is point number one.

It is bad manners to a member of the House because at least he can hit you back. It is bad manners that ladies from Redmans Village who have gone to the trouble of signing their names to a petition and who have asked that something should be done for them - that so many months have passed without any acknowledgement to their letter. If it were in the ordinary way, I could question the Minister and point out to him that he should take disciplinary action against whoever is responsible in his Department for this thing. But I cannot do it here because there is no Minister of Education to question. It cannot be done in this Honourable House. Under Education, there are many schools, and there is an enormous part of the Budget to be dealt with, and there is no representative of the Ministry in this House of Assembly.

Mr. Chairman, it is clearly a constitutional impropriety of such great scale that I must urge on hon. members of this House who are not members of the Government to support this amendment. I would particularly address my remarks, Mr. Chairman, in other words, to the hon. senior member for St. Michael and the hon. junior member for St. George and were the circumstances different. I would invite you, Mr. Chairman, to support this amendment because it is upon the three of you - and to some degree the Deputy Speaker - that the main weight of the constitutional impropriety is falling.

The people sent the hon. senior member for St. Michael and the hon. junior member for St. George here to carry out the people's business; they do not expect the people's business to be done by a favourite, by friends at court, by pampered darlings from the back room of Roebuck Street and Government Headquarters. We all who had gone on the platform and were elected by the people have the right to come in here. We put our hands in our pockets to fight the elections to come in here. We are the people to whom the electorate looks as their representatives, and it is from our ranks that the electorate expects to see the most important Ministry filled. It cannot be filled from the ranks of members on this side at present, because we are the Opposition. They expect it to be filled from the ranks of hon. members on the other side, and every Ministry which is filled by a member in the Senate is an insult to this Honourable Chamber.

Mr. Chairman, every departmental Ministry that has public spending of money to undertake should be represented in this Chamber. It is all very well to put the Minister of State in the Senate where he has not got a Department to administer, but the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Education are vital and important Ministries. They are Ministries that deal with the day-to-day life of our citizens. They are Ministries with which, perhaps, the ordinary citizens come into contact not only here, but in other parts of the Commonwealth, and they are far more important than the Ministries of Agriculture. The Ministry of Education deals with the education of our young. Half the population of Barbados is under the age of twenty-one. The Ministry of Education deals directly with a third of the population of Barbados. Yet here in this House we cannot address our remarks to the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary of Education, and I am sure that a good Minister or Parliamentary Secretary should want to be addressed, should want to be kept on his toes, because it is by the pressure of the Opposition that a Minister is forced to do his best for the people and for the Departments which he heads. It is the Opposition which makes Ministers carry out their functions properly. It is well known that in the country where there is no Opposition, that country falls into a state of corruption and misgovernment. Here in this House we have had to stamp out corruption with the aid of the Minister in charge of the Barbados Marketing Corporation. We have attacked inefficiency wherever it was.

6.05 p.m.

But what use is it for us to make speeches about the misbehaviour of the Ministry of Education, if the Minister can relax in his office at Government Headquarters, or relax in the rarefied atmosphere of the Senate where there are only two people who will ever say anything to give him cause for concern? What is the use of our coming to the House to talk about the mismanagement of the Department when we know that the Minister will feel he is immune, and is away from the parry and thrust of strong parliamentary debate?

I urge hon. members, who are not bound to the question of collective responsibility to which the Leader of the House has referred, to support this amendment to reduce the vote by a token dollar, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman, in supporting the amendment, I would like to say that I am particularly concerned because at some time in the very near future I propose to bring forward a Resolution about the Ministry of Education to which the reply will have to be given, perhaps, by a former Minister of Education. Quite easily it would have been a simple thing for us to have, at least, a Parliamentary Secretary in this House to whom we may direct questions on Education. I will not suggest his name, but there are certain gentlemen who are neither Ministers nor

Parliamentary Secretaries in this House at the moment. It cannot be the paucity of members or the lack of ability. We have seen them at work. There must be certain individuals here who could fill this post to the satisfaction of members of this House.

The Ministry of Education spends a great deal of money and is, perhaps, as close as any other Ministry to the people, if not closer. Most parents in Barbados think very highly and keep a close watch on the Education of their children, and how such education is administered. When, in an elected House, there is no one who can be said to be responsible for education, then that must be regarded as a definite inadequacy in the field of Government.

It would be of great benefit to this honourable House if we had, at least, a Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education to whom we could direct our questions, or a Parliamentary Secretary at whom we could aim our criticisms, when such criticisms are due. Those who have given this matter considerable thought must support the amendment for the reduction of the vote by \$1 purely as a mark of censure at the inadequacy of the Government which the absence of a Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary in this House displays.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, under other circumstances it would have been purely a pleasure for me to treat the remarks we have just listened to with a disdainful silence, but more is at stake than my own personal sensibilities, and, for those reasons, I must examine, with some diligence, what is being said against this Government, who is saying it, and on whose behalf.

Now, to hear members of the Barbados Labour Party talking of their concern for education in this country, and to hear the rattling of the churns as they stir the milk of human kindness, when they talk about their solicitude for the Ministry of Education and for the young people, if you were not a person like myself who has been listening to them for quite some time and is familiar with the ups-and-downs of politics you would, Mr. Chairman, I think, be somewhat impressed.

Mr. Chairman, they have suddenly discovered that the Constitution is being overturned, that something is wrong in this country merely because there is not a Minister of Education in this House; yet not a single one of them has brought any concrete evidence known to other members of the House - and accepted as such - to show that he is inhibited in his representation of the people merely because there is no Minister of Education in the House.

The hon. senior member for St. Thomas did, it is true, contend that a correspondence addressed to the Ministry some three weeks ago has not been given the dignity and courtesy of an answer. If this is true, it cannot be defended. But he would be a bold man, indeed, who could argue that, because a letter addressed to the Ministry of Education from some

worthy people in St. Thomas has not received a reply, this is due to the fact that there is no Minister of Education sitting in the House of Assembly.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I am very sorry the Minister could have taken my meaning to be that. What I am saying is that if we had a Minister of Education sitting in this House of Assembly, he could be taken to task for this. I am not saying that the fact that there is no Minister of Education in the House is the reason why the letter was not answered. Not for one moment would I suggest that.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: That is just the point, Mr. Chairman. The membership of which House the Minister enjoys is irrelevant to the issue. If your constituents have written to the Ministry and have not been treated with the courtesy of a reply, lick the stuffings out of the Government; the Government is collectively responsible. Any member of the Government ought to be able - provided it is desired and even justified - to give me fullest possible apology and satisfaction for such an appalling lapse. It is not in this area at all that I wish to deal with this question.

It is clear that the hon. members on the opposite side have discovered, or thought they have discovered, a new tactic of dividing the Government. They say: "They could have asked this member; they could have asked the other member." Mr. Chairman, thank them for nothing. It would be an arduous task for them, supposing they had a Government, to make up and construct it properly. When that rapture is upon them, let them enjoy it; but Cabinet-making is now our function and has nothing at all to do with them. They can certainly spare us, I dare say, and themselves all the trouble of wondering which of our back benchers is or is not eligible to be a Minister. This is a matter which we are perfectly capable of settling among ourselves, when this has to be done, and it is only gratuitous interest on their part to involve themselves in a matter which, if it concerns them at all, can only concern them through disappointment, and through interest.

6.15 p.m.

Lastly, I wish to say this: the Barbados Labour Party ought to be the last Party in any part of the world to criticize the Government where education is concerned, because of all political parties known to me in this region, it has the most appalling record as regards education. Who it was, which political party was it which sent out a directive in 1953 to the Governing Bodies which said that whenever vacancies occur on staffs they will not fill them with the best qualified persons, but with the least qualified persons? And what Party was it that introduced the five pound bond? Which party was in in 1959 - the hon. junior member for St. Peter, I think, will support me on this point because it was he who drew it to my attention at the time; but who was it in 1959, that sat down and did nothing in this island when a whole sixth form at St. Michael's Girls' school was not entered for a public examination because the two persons responsible for processing the entries was too

drunk to know what she was doing? Mr. Chairman, I will stop speaking and I will challenge the hon. junior member for St. Peter to get up and contradict me, and, if he is in a position to contradict me, the Speaker of this House can have my resignation from membership of this House forthwith.

Mr. Chairman, I do not rise to attempt to contradict the Hon. Minister

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Very well, Mr. Chairman, I only gave way for that. I am grateful to the hon. member for saying that he did not rise to contradict me because he had prevented me from submitting my resignation. (*Laughter*). Anyhow, you can be opposed to a Government and you can say the worst things about its Head, its Ministers and the people who support it; but it is certainly unfair to refer to my colleague, the Minister of Education, as the favourite of anybody at Government Headquarters. If the Minister of Education had not been associated with us, but had been - however, misguidedly associated with them, he still would have been one of the most distinguished young men that this island had produced; but he has become a Senator and Minister of Education. I would not say of any distinguished person who happens to be associated with them, even when they were in power, that that person was a favourite merely because I was opposed to him in politics. There must be a certain amount of fairmindedness. You may not like the Prime Minister, and you may not like to see him in politics, but you are not going to reduce the vote by one dollar when you want to see more dental services provided throughout the island. You want more facilities, you want more electricity in schools and at the same time you want to reduce the vote because you say that you are not satisfied with the Ministry of Education. When they move a substantive motion, it would be for the Government to defend one of its Ministries. While I understand and approve the force of it, the contention is not nearly as serious as they would have us to believe it is. There are territories in this region and in the Commonwealth where a Minister is not a member of the House of Representatives. I would hesitate to go further afield because I have not checked this, but my colleague tells me that the Ministers of Education in the provincial Parliaments in the Dominion of Canada are frequently members of their Senates or Upper Houses. I am grateful to my colleague for bringing this to my mind. The day when you ask a question of the Ministry of Education in this House, and an answer is denied or refused such is the day when you can raise a constitutional issue as to the propriety or impropriety as to which House or Chamber a Minister should belong or not belong. But as long as the Government is showing courtesy to hon. members by answering questions, however provocatively they may be put, there is no reason why, under the very Constitution we have - which is the Constitution which the Barbados Labour Party says is theirs, because they went up to England to ensure that the country got this kind of Constitution so that we would not be dictators in this island. It is their boast that the Constitution of Barbados is their handiwork because they made sure that the dictatorial attitude of this Government is that which they could

avoid. You cannot agree to a Constitution which allows Ministers of both Houses, and because the Government obeys the Constitution, argue against what the Government has done. I do not bear any illwill, or I cannot agree in any way with hon. members in the motion they have made. It is proper parliamentary tactics that when you want to censure the Government, you move a reduction in the money vote. That is all right; I have no quarrel about that; but I have to defend the Government and put the record straight. The Opposition Party has such an appallingly bad record with regard to education that I think they should walk delicately like Agag lest they be cut in pieces.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, such a hypocritical speech I have never heard. I say it is hypocritical.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I leave it entirely to you.

Mr. SMITH: I say it is a hypocritical speech.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am asking the hon. senior member for St. Joseph to withdraw the word "hypocritical".

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, why should I withdraw it?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Because I deem it to be unparliamentary.

Mr. SMITH: And the Hon. Speaker of this House deemed it not to be unparliamentary. Who must I go by?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The Chair.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: For the second time I am asking the hon. senior member for St. Joseph to withdraw the word "hypocritical".
6.25 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, you deem it unparliamentary. In my opinion you have done so because you do not know the meaning of it.

Anyhow, I respectfully beg to withdraw it because I can say that you should be the other way around. I have said what I mean now. Rule me out of order now. You know, Sir, that you should be the other way around.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Let the hon. member confine his observations to the subject matter under discussion.

Mr. SMITH: We observe our Rules over here by saying that the two of you should resign because we feel that the Minister of Education should be in this House. That is how we feel. You now feel that "hypocritical" is unparliamentary. We feel that the Minister of Education should be inside here and the Hon. Introducer is talking about a five-pound bond in his trying to defend his Government's parliamentary right. He has the right to do that. He has accused us of trying to throw a spanner in the works.

I am not trying to turn the mind of any backbencher. I do not feel all the members of the D.L.P. would want to be members of the D.L.P., but I am one who would not ask him to join my Party. I have to represent the people of St. John, but I would not say that the same member should resign from it. If an amount of members are desirous of saying: "Here you are, we have to go around all night and day to beg people for votes; we have to do everything to form a Government; it could not be a Government without us; if the same two members were to withdraw from the Government over that matter, what Government would it be? They fail to realise that the Government rests in the hands of both of them, or the three of you. There would be no Minister, no Parliamentary Secretary, no Prime Minister, no nothing at all. I am saying that a great injustice is done to both of them.

I did not expect to see the present Minister of Education's photograph in the newspapers. I have nothing against him, but it is my democratic right which I am expressing here now. The Minister has accused me of throwing a spanner in the works. He has no right to say that I have no right to influence the minds of the members.

Since he has accused me, let me start and fix-it-right. It is a disgrace to the electors that these members should ask them for their vote. They are going to say that the electors sent them here to represent them. The opportunity came along for you to give them a chance to help their children, but you have not given them a chance. Whatever the electors asked them to do, they did; they were not too great to do it. But others of them would not sit down under a man that faced the fight; they would not do that; they are too great; but they would still like a seat in this House. If you did not face the music, if you did not face the tape, you have no right to be in such a position.

I say again that it is an insult to the backbenchers. I do not know how they take it. I know that they cannot take it nicely. If they had got up and said: "Well now, there are two, three, or four of us; there is one berry which you have to share away; give it to either one of us; if you go outside, I am going to go outside, I am going to break chinaware," it would be different. If they had made friends with the Prime Minister, one of them would have had that berry. This is an insult to them.

Since the Minister has accused us of trying to throw a spanner in the works, I am saying that we here are members of the House of Assembly and we are reporting to the people. The people do not go to people in the Other Place when they want anything. They do not know that they exist. They did not face the electors as we have. The electors have something to do with their representatives. Next month is gift time, and everyone of them is going to find his representative in the House of Assembly. They are not going anywhere to people in the Other Place.

Why should the Government disregard the electorate by denying them a Minister of Education from

this House: We passed a Bill in this House with respect to our responsibility for the Constitution of Barbados. I blame myself for it. Although I am no lawyer, I hold myself responsible for it. I know that one lawyer would look at this thing and argue that it is a glass, and another lawyer would argue that it is a piece of paper; therefore, I do not take chances with lawyers. I take chances with my commonsense. If I were a backbencher, I would cry out for all the murder in the world on each occasion they tried to make a Minister outside of this House the Minister of Education.

When one is a member of this Chamber, one has to do a lot of things to get inside here. I see what people have to do in order to get the electors to vote for them; therefore, when we get inside here, we must be respected, and anything which you have, you should give it to us. I am saying that the Minister of Education should be inside this House tonight. By saying that, the Minister has accused me of throwing a spanner in the works. I tell my own Leader of the Opposition here what I like. I can read and write; I am different from those hon. members on the other side. 6.35 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the motion for the reduction of the vote by \$1. I am quite ready and willing to accept all the charges that may be laid against my Party on matters of education by the former Minister of Education. This is our point: if we accept that mistakes were made on such matters, evidently, another Minister coming afterwards should have a foundation on which to build because he would have seen the mistakes. One would think that, in the interest of education and of the nation as a whole, he would first set about correcting those mistakes, if he wanted to talk about them afterwards.

We have been told tonight of the £5 bond. Has the Minister who told us about it done anything at all to remove this £5 bond? As far as we know, it was never brought into operation by anybody. We on this side must draw to the Government's attention the necessity for having somebody, either a Minister of Education or a Parliamentary Secretary, in this House to speak on education. I can say that the Government has made a mockery of every form and every sort of institution that we can think of.

You are the Chairman of Committees. The Government made you the Chairman of Committees and we have seen you at work. They have back benchers; and I am saying that if the Government put you in the Chair as Chairman of Committees, they might as well put the junior member for St. Andrew as Permanent Secretary for Education. We will see him at work as well.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I do not wish to interfere with the control of the House, but the hon. member must know that he is not to speak about the Chair in that way, especially if what he is saying is meant to be ironic or offensive. The hon. member does not mean to flatter either yourself or the hon. member with whom he is comparing Your Honour.

As I said, Mr. Chairman, it is a matter entirely for Your Honour, but the hon. member ought to be, I think, warned that this is not at all necessary.

Mr. HINDS: The junior member for St. Andrew is a Parliamentary Secretary. Would I be out of place, if I were to suggest that he should be shifted from Agriculture to Education? The hon. Minister who has just sat down has already talked himself out of a job.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will the hon. member confine his observations to the subject matter of the Resolution?

Mr. HINDS: Yes, we are supporting the reduction of this vote by the sum of \$1. Why do we have to adopt this attitude? Education is something that must be near to the heart of, above all persons, the Hon. Minister who has just sat down. One would have thought that on any occasion that he stands on his feet he would have been in a position to give you, Sir, as Chairman of Committees, gratuitous advice. What has he just tried to do? He has tried to make you believe that if I were to suggest that you be shifted to the Ministry of Education —

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I think that is irrelevant to the subject matter under discussion, and I am asking the hon. member to stick to the subject under discussion — the reduction of the vote by \$1.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, is it that I am embarrassing the Chair? In our schools, what do we find? Throughout the length and breadth of this Island, our primary schools are filled to overflowing with children. Some of them have to be taught under the trees. The Hon. Minister of Education admitted here some time ago, in reply to a Question tabled by me, that there were only 250 children. I had asked whether 300 children were being taught under the trees. The present Minister of Education said there were 250 children. What do you do in these schools where there are children and no teachers to teach them?

Head Teachers have made requests or requisitions to the Ministry for teachers; they cannot get them, and when they get them the teachers have to be taught because they are not qualified. Are you going to tell me that we on this side of the House should not try every means possible to query the Government and press them into service to have someone here who can be criticised for this position?

With regard to the situation of the teachers, it is the policy of the Ministry of Education, when they get a teacher who would, perhaps, be glad to make a contribution that when pay day comes the children have to be left unattended and the teacher has to spend his time journeying to the Ministry of Education to find out if anybody at the Ministry has anything for him.

6.45 p.m.

Some of them have got together on two or three occasions. They are being twisted and turned about and ignored. But what do you find? They are still ex-

pected to go back to the schools with hungry stomachs and teach the people's children. There are other teachers who have instructed the Ministry to deposit their pay cheques at the end of the month, at the various city Banks. Many teachers have complained to me that they have left the country on the day after pay day to find that it takes more than a day for a pay cheque to reach from the Ministry of Education to Broad Street. Do you think that these things are right? Do you think that teachers should be subjected to that kind of treatment and they have nobody to whom they can go? The Hon. Minister was at pains to tell this Hon. House something about drunkenness in years past, and what not. We need a Minister there now to answer a query which I certainly would like to address to him. Right now we have it in one of the leading Secondary Schools in this island that boys are given alcohol to drink by a master. I am sorry that the Prime Minister is not in his place on this occasion. I will tell the Minister this. A boy at Harrison College has recently disciplined the Headmaster. It is an occasion where a prefect found it necessary to take disciplinary action against a boy. The boy refused to write lines given, the prefect reported him to the Form Master, the Form Master felt that he should recommend him for some lashes and when the boy went to receive these lashes he warned the Deputy Head Master: "Do not strike me." The Deputy Headmaster stood off and said: "I am going to take it to the Head." When he got to the Head, the Head said: "I will write to your parents." The boy went home and he is back in the school today. He has not apologised to the prefect, to the Form Master, to the Deputy Headmaster or the Headmaster. Do you tell me that we should not be pressing for a Minister? If you could give any service in that Ministry we would welcome you, Sir.

I share the view of the hon. senior member for St. Joseph. It is merely a question where he has got the interest of this nation at heart. Many a day it has been said of the member: "If he had the education of some of the other people." So he knows what it means. That is why he has got to press now that hon. members of the Government Party who happen to be backbenchers and know that they are worth their salt — in other words, he just cannot help thinking of any hon. member who knows that he can make a contribution whether it be in the Ministry of External Affairs, in the office of Deputy Speaker or in the Office of Chairman of Committees. If he feels that he can make any such contribution, I cannot for the life of me see how he could possibly sit down and allow exhibitions of what we have seen here last week, go on when he very well knows that there are backbenchers who sit back and say of themselves: "This is what I feel; is there anything wrong with me?" There are backbenchers of the Government party who have seen a Minister go to declare open a shed at a bus stop and he had to read his speech.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Again, I will remind the hon. member that that is irrelevant to the subject matter which is under discussion.

Mr. HINDS: I am dealing with educational matters, and I am sure that you can very well appreciate anything that is said on a matter of education. I have every confidence that you can appreciate it. What I am saying is this: we do not want this House to be denied the presence of a Minister of Education or of a Parliamentary Secretary from the Ministry of Education, so that in the next 20 years we might find our children growing up - in other words, we do not want to witness in life again what went on here last week. I am sure, Mr. Chairman, that you know what I mean because I know it will hurt you. That is why we have to see to it that education is not neglected at any stage.

6.55 p.m.

Sir, it is all well and good for the Leader of the House to tell us that as Leader it is his duty to familiarize himself with what goes on in every place. That is all very well; but he knows as well as I do that a Minister comes inside here and the first time he sees the file is after it has been put in his hands. Education calls for much more than this, and we feel that hon. members should know how to value education.

Remember, Sir, all of us cannot, and will not, put the same values on people or their actions, and that is why we are very careful to move the reduction of this vote. I am appealing to the Government backbenchers to show for once in their life and to let it be seen and be known that they are not afraid of anybody, whether it be the Prime Minister, the Leader of the House, or the Captain of that side of the House.

We are asking them to vote with us at this time for the reduction of this vote, and you need not think anything about anything coming out of their hands, or about the balance of power between this side of the House and that side of the House, and that and this. On a matter such as this, they have to prove their mettle.

This is not a case where we have a Parliamentary Secretary for Education and a Minister of Education or either in this House. They are both in the Other Place. As an hon. member has mentioned earlier, what is wrong with the backbenchers' heads? Do you mean their heads are hard? What can be wrong?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Is the member likely to conclude within ten minutes?

Mr. HINDS: I would want to do so. Mr. Chairman, we are appealing to hon. members from the Government benches to vote with us on the \$1 reduction and we are asking them to support the amendment.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is that Head 41 be reduced by \$1. Hon. members who are in favour will please say "Aye" and those against will please say "No".

Mr. HOPPIN rose to speak.

NOES: Hon. J. C. TUDOR, Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, Hon. N. W. BOXILL, Mr. LOWE, Mr. SPRINGER, Mr. SARGEANT, Mr. WEEKES.

Mr. HOPPIN (*Sitting*): Mr. Chairman, before I vote I would like to say something. Am I permitted to say it now?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If what the hon. member has to say on a point of order is arising out of the division.

Mr. HOPPIN (*Sitting*): I would like to say that as a member of the Government and a backbencher, no prompting from the Barbados Labour Party members can make me do what I do not want to do. I want it to be known that I am dedicated to my Party. I wanted to say that just now, and it seem that members of my party was preventing me from making my speech.

NOES: Mr. HOPPIN - 9.

AYES: Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SMITH, Mr. J. M. G. M. ADMAS, Mr. HOLDER and Mr. SMITH - 5.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question has been decided in the negative five hon. members voting "Aye" nine hon. members voting "No".

The question is that Head 41 stand part. Hon. members in favour will please say "Aye" and hon. members who are not in favour will please say "No". I think the "Ayes" have it.

1 ANNEXED ESTIMATES - POST OFFICE

1 Annexed Estimates - Post Office - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The next Item is Item 25 - Postage Stamps.

The amount of \$44,000 is required to supplement Annexed Estimates - Post Office - Item 25 - Postage Stamps. The provision is to meet the cost of the two commemorative issues to mark the Harbour Police centenary and Independence Anniversary.

I beg to move that 1 Annexed Estimates - Post Office - stand part.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The time according to my watch is five past seven and I may be speaking for some time on this measure.

Mr. CHAIRMAN left the Chair and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

7.05 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now after 7 p.m., and I have no reason to believe that an extension of the sitting until 7.10 p.m. will permit business to be resolved.

Accordingly the sitting now stands suspended until 7.45 p.m.

On re-assembling,

Mr. SPEAKER: At the suspension of the sitting the House was in Committee of Supply. It may now resume Committee of Supply.

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: What about the Mace?

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS rose.....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Sit down and get up again.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: It is very gratifying to find that the traditions of the House are being kept. I am obliged to the hon. member for St. Thomas and the Minister of Agriculture for their indication that the correct procedures be followed in Committee. I trust that their services will long remain available to you, Sir, as well as other members.

Mr. Chairman, this Resolution for \$44,000 which is required by the Post Office is related to postage stamps, and it is one which will be warmly welcomed by both sides of the House. The Hon. Leader of the House could have told us - no doubt he was leaving it to the other Minister to tell us - that the Post Office would, presumably, make very much more than \$44,000 from the sale of the postage stamps in question.

There is a question standing in my name addressed to the Minister of Communications and Works, Question No. 111 on the order Paper, and it may very well be that all the matters raised there in will be canvassed in my speech. Perhaps if the Minister is equipped with the information at the present time, he can give us a complete answer now. I am going to comment in advance, rather than wait until the Minister of Communications and Works replies. My comment would be this: if the Minister has come to this House with the kind of information needed to justify this Item, then, of necessity, he has come to the House with sufficient information to answer the question.

Mr. Chairman, you have had the advantage of going to a Parliamentary Course at Westminster where you have had an opportunity of seeing the House of Commons at Work. I would suggest that some of the Ministers - indeed not some, but all of the Ministers - should be sent to London to get a little training in answering Parliamentary Questions. Parliamentary Questions are put down in Westminster on the Monday and answered on the Tuesday or Wednesday. A Minister would very soon lose his place, if he left a Parliamentary Question from December to the following November to be answered.

I do not think that a Minister could survive in Parliament if he took nine months before he could answer a Question. (Mr. SMITH (Seated): "A real

Minister".) One of my colleagues, in an aside, says "A real Minister."
7.50 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, this Resolution calls for the sum of \$44,000 for stamps for the Harbour Police centenary and the Independence Anniversary. Postage Stamps, as I have said before in this House and as many persons must have advised the Minister, are a way of making money for the country as well as a way of discharging the ordinary functions of the Post Office of delivering letters and collecting pre-payment for the same. Independent countries generally have a more expansive attitude towards the issue of postage stamps than Colonies which are governed by departments in the Colonial Office that advise them as to how many issues are appropriate. The Minister gave an answer which was extremely satisfactory to members of the Opposition almost a year ago when he indicated that he would not be putting the business of the Post Office into the hands of the International racketeers of Stockholm and New York who have been touring the Caribbean with assiduity trying to involve the Ministers who held the self-same portfolio as the junior member for St. Thomas, involving them in stamp rackets and in the case of a Minister in a country hardly far removed from Barbados, involving him in going to prison, because the Minister of Communications and Works in the Cook Islands recently had six months in jail for accepting money from international staff in return for giving them a licence to print stamps for the Cook Islands. I do not think that there is any danger of this happening in Barbados, and I have already expressed congratulations to the Minister concerned outside the House, and I am glad to take this opportunity of expressing my congratulations again to him in this Hon. Chamber for a sane and balanced stamp-issuing policy. But the fact that the stamp-issuing policy is sane and balanced does not mean that that has been the best. I think that the Government and this Ministry in particular, should look at a number of things in the Post Office, and I think that they should establish a coherent policy, if possible. For example, at the start of a year they should make up their mind as to how many stamps they are going to issue, how they are going to be spaced, and what special arrangement, if any, will be made for first issue servicing, philatelic orders and like matters, because our stamp-issuing policy particularly in respect of these two issues, the Harbour Police centenary and the Independence Anniversary, appears to have been hurried too much. What the stamp-buying public go for these days is good design and good theme. There is the policy in the United States of America, the European Continent and among young stamp collectors everywhere. Some issues of stamps deal with fishes, as our present definitive issue does, other deal with aeroplanes and others with paintings. That is what is called thematic collecting. I gather that the Post office in Barbados in 1965 was advised that the fish issue would be popular and they issued the fish issue for Barbados. That is one way of appealing to the public. Another way is the top-class design. We find that in European Countries, that is the particular attitude taken up by Governments, for example, France, Holland, Denmark, not so much Germany,

perhaps, but a number of European countries aim at well-produced stamps which will appeal, by their appearance, to a large circle of stamp collectors. I am suggesting that due perhaps to hurrying about numbers and inadequacy of planning, the Barbados Post Office has fallen down upon this question of design.

When you issue stamps of the Harbour Police, that is not exactly a popular theme. As far as I know, they are the only stamps ever issued for the Harbour Police in any part of the world. Now in its first year of Independence, Barbados has made a number of firsts. The stamp showing the Pine Hill Dairy is the only stamp ever issued in the entire world showing a dairy, and the stamps of the Harbour Police are also the only stamps ever to be issued showing the Harbour Police. I cannot find any other stamp that has ever shown the Governor-General, but apparently, search as I may, we are the first to show the Governor-General on December 4th. It would be interesting to see how the stamp sells. Of course, we are the first country ever to issue a stamp showing a live cricketer, a real cricketer. The other stamps involving cricket have only shown imaginary figures, but this question of design is one which I want the Post Office to bear very closely in mind.

Barbados stamps are not now designed as a result of public competition, or designed as a result of employing a top-class designer particularly to do that job. You have Victor Whitely working for Harrisons over High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire. Victor Whitely is a very good stamp designer. He is the sort of man who, every week, may have ten or twelve stamps to design and he sits down at his drawing board and draws them out; but working under these conditions is not necessarily giving the best. When Whitely has to submit a design for a British Commemorative stamp, he probably spends three or four months thinking about it. When he is given only three months in which, not only to design the stamp, but to hand it to the firm in time to be printed for Barbados' first anniversary of Independence, all he can do is to take a photograph of the Governor-General, draw a square around it, use the same blocking that he uses for the Barbours Police and for the first Independence issue, write on 25 cents and go on to the engraver. He has no time left to do anything else, and the result is that you get a stamp which, although it will sell because all Barbados stamps have a public in the stamp buying world, it will not attract a wider stamp-buying public by reason of the quality of its production. Harrisons, who do our stamps, print 40 million stamps a day; every day they print 40 million stamps; they are so over-worked that they have not had a chance to replace the printing machinery which they bought in 1922 and 1923. When you give people short notice for stamps like the Harbour Police and the first Independence Issue, all they can produce is a little simple issue - one design in the middle, as I say, just blocked around. The engraver spends a couple of days and the plates go on, but one of the earlier machines can run off some Barbados stamps. They have not got the time to produce the high quality engraving, but they are forced to it by the very much

higher standard of the British Post Office. For example, if you look at the modern British Commemorative stamps printed by Harrisons, and the Barbados stamps also printed by Harrisons, you will see at once that the work, the energy and the trouble, and indeed the very processing which has gone into the British stamps has not gone into the Barbados issues.

This need not be so. It can be avoided by giving longer notices, by insisting on higher standards, and by the Post Office here in Barbados taking a greater interest in the design of the stamps. I have suggested in my Question to the Minister that he appoint a Committee which will examine and study the different subjects of commemorative stamps. I think that the present authorities in the Post Office, who are responsible for stamp work, are not themselves terribly interested in stamps. I believe that the Minister is more interested in stamps and stamp-collecting than his Permanent Secretary. I believe that the Post Office deserves a higher amount of dedication on this particular aspect of its work than it is at present getting.

8.00 p.m.

As I have said, you need a plan. How many issues do you plan to have? How many stamps are you going to have this year? Do not have too many; do not have too few. Space them out over the year. I want particularly to urge on the Minister the possibility of an issue of charity stamps. Barbados has never had a charity stamp issue. The first charity stamp issue that I can recall in the British Empire, as it was then, was the Kingston Fund of 1909 when the four cents stamps were over-printed with an additional penny. The four cents stamps were sold at six cents, the extra penny going to relieve suffering from the Kingston earthquake.

There are countries in the British Empire, like Fiji and New Zealand, which have a Christmas issue of stamps that carry a small surcharge. All these surcharges are used for Health Clinics and matters of that sort. The stamps are only to be used for four cents postage, but each costs six cents. You may get stamp collectors buying these stamps, and they will help finance your Mobile Dental Clinic. I will urge that on the Minister.

Something else which I would urge on the Minister are Independence anniversary issues. The Independence Anniversary falls close to Christmas when there is a big boom in the stamp market. All Christmas issues are well supported. We have for example, St. Lucia, where a Christmas issue of 159,000 sets were issued three weeks ago, and already there has been such a demand for them that in England instead of the twenty-seven or twenty-eight cents on the face value of the stamp, they already have to pay two shillings for that stamp that is printed in St. Lucia. That set was sold out within a week.

I think you can very well aim at something like that in Barbados.

Mr. Chairman, I also think we do not get sufficient publicity for our stamp issues. I do not know if the Minister is a television performer: but if he has television qualities as the Prime Minister who many of us would remember what he did in introducing the new flag on television before Independence last year. Perhaps the Minister can go on television with the four stamp designs and explain to the people why on the stamps there are first anniversary heralds and so on. That is one of the ways you sell stamps.

At the present moment, you are relying on the Crown Agents to publicize your new stamp issue. It is only by a Crown Agent advertisement in magazines such as this which I got today from London that I got to know of a new Barbadian issue. We are depending on what the Crown Agents wish to spend on advertising Barbadian stamps. We in Barbados have got to create more interest in our selling of stamps. I discovered in this magazine that I was talking about, that the three cents Barbados stamp - the ordinary common three cents Inland Revenue stamp - which is known for two years as having a mistake on it - it shows a sea horse and the name is spelt "hippocampus" instead of "hippocampus". We have known it to exist and that it was going to be corrected as soon as supplies had exhausted; but I discovered today by getting this magazine from London that the corrected stamp was placed on sale in London.

Not a word of that has appeared here in Barbados. All this should be the responsibility of the particular department of the Post Office.

I can assure the Minister that if an advertisement on the front page of the "Advocate" or of the "Daily News" was printed to the effect that the Latin title of the sea-horse which had been wrongly spelt was now correctly spelt and that the stamps had gone on sale, you would see large numbers of people in the Post Office buying first day covers of the three cents stamps - and of course, buying it only for three cents, you would get people buying one hundred covers spending three or four dollars just for the sake of getting the new issue.

Therefore, Sir, this is a section which I would urge on the Minister, and that is to give more publicity and spend a little more time and energy on the three cents stamp. I do not think that more money would be required on publicity.

Mr. Chairman, I have already dealt with having a uniform programme of stamp issues. We have passed the whole of this year, from January to October, without an issue of stamps. We ought to have an entirely new issue of stamps for tourists. Other countries issue stamps for tourists. I observe that the Minister is seeing reason in what I am saying. In that case, why does he not have a stamp issue for tourism? If there were a reasonable stamp issue policy for a country of this size, I would say that there should be a new issue every three months.

I only hope that the Minister would ask the Home Office to get from Messrs. Harrison copies of some

of the new stamps which they have printed of High quality photoengraving so as to give him an idea of what can be produced in the way of attractive postage stamps in the philatelic market. I do not think that Barbados stamps are entirely been living up to that ideal because in the Harbour Police issue you had somebody pointing a gun at a low angle. Mr. Chairman, if you pardon me it looks like Jesus standing against a Cross. That is a mistake, of course, clearly the design just shows the hands to come up in line with the anchor. By the time it was realised that it was looking like a Cross and a man standing up against it with his head back, that stamp was on the roller and it was too late to do anything about it. That was not the sort of stamp that would have been produced if it were examined from all angles and worked out for any undersirable aspects in the overall design.

Therefore, Sir, I do hope that the Minister would answer the remarks that I have made today in such a way that would make the answers to Questions 110 redundant.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, first of all I must say that I am a bit annoyed with myself that I have to agree with 99 percent of what the senior member for St. Thomas has just said. He is a philatelist. I am not, but I collect stamps.

I would like to set a few worries of his at rest. He asked about issues. It is only recently, I would say, that we on this side or I have been mindful of the amount of money that can be made from the sale of stamps.
8.10 p.m.

It is only recently that I have been very mindful of the amount of money that can be made from stamps. As he has said, I told him some time ago in this House that we would try to make money for Barbados by way of stamps, but I still have to keep my eyes open and my head in the right place because we are both aware of the fact that some sharks - I do not mean sharks in the sea - stamp sharks would put not only me but this Government in serious jeopardy, if one does not keep one's head on when dealing with them.

I can refer to several instances. I have a collection of stamps, and I find that some people are preying on the emerging territories mostly. You will find some legitimate ones. A few of them have made representations to me. I have made checks with the State Department and the Crown Agents in England.

I know of a case that took place in the British West Indies. I do not want to name the Islands. I know that after their celebrations they were taken for a ride. There were about 50,000 4¢ stamps, 120,000 1¢ stamps and a couple of other denominations that were deliberately misprinted in order that the ordinary set of stamps that would have cost about 1/6 was eventually sold for about £2. What the people did to the Government to which I have referred was to deliberately misprint the stamps and then purchase them from the Minister in charge. When a Minister agrees to print so many stamps and sell them to one person,

his country will soon be written off as far as philatelists are concerned.

A number of people in Barbados look at a stamp as something to put on a letter. The Post Office makes money from philatelists; they buy the first cover stamps and send them to their friends and make money. We have had offers from one or two people. I can say that I have even sent as far as Israel to see whether we could have stamps printed there. We have considered the prints in Holland. I have discovered that Harrisons have been doing so much other work that the machinery has not had a chance to be renewed for the last 40 years.

With reference to the new issue of stamps for the Centenary of the Harbour Police, what has happened is that we took pictures here and sent them to the Crown Agents in England. They, in turn, would look at the pictures, and, if they looked reasonable to them, they would decide to print them. I agree that something should be done in this matter. I agree that we should set up a Committee to deal with it. We have agreed to bring out four issues. We have discovered that money can be made from the sale of stamps.

I will tell you why we did not send out a tourist stamp this year. A stamp is one of the best pieces of advertisement that any country can get. It is cheap and it goes all over the world. If it is an attractive stamp, then people will fall for it. According to the information we have received from the Crown Agents, stamps that carry portraits, such as the one for Garfield Sobers, were bringing a higher value than the other stamps. That is one of the reasons why we decided to risk one with the portrait of the Governor General. We are just not printing stamps to push up somebody. I have the idea that stamps are one of our money-earning sources.

We have to send our stamps all over the world. In the U.S. we have a legitimate firm and we have the Crown Agents to look after us in England. I am not committing myself or the Government at this stage, but we are considering the fact, as the hon. senior member for St. Thomas has said, that the hands of the Crown Agents are filled not only with stamps, but with machinery. When we put out a new stamp, the Crown Agents do not push the sale of stamps as they should. They just insert an advertisement in a newspaper, and that is the end of it. We need somebody to push our sales for us, and we need to stretch far afield. I do not think we are tied to the British as far as the sale of a stamp is concerned. We want to go further afield so that one issue of stamps can bring in \$120,000 to \$150,000 in hard currency and not in sterling.

I must tell the hon. senior member for St. Thomas that we have four issues coming out. I asked the Cabinet only a few days ago for permission to issue four definitive issues, but if something of importance comes up we will still try to accommodate it. If you were to put too many issues on the market at one time it would not improve business. A representative of the British Post Office came to this Island

last week. I will show the hon. senior member for St. Thomas an album the next time I come to this House.

I notice that the British people have gone away from the one portrait that they were using, and are now using birds and so on. The hon. member must remember that Barbados, being a small Island, does not have as many things of interest as some of the big countries. Take, for instance, Guyana. Guyana could afford to go on issuing stamps with birds for the next 15 years. If Barbados issued a stamp with a bird, it would have to be a sparrow or a Black Bird. The other day we concentrated on sea life. We also want to set up a Philatelist Bureau. Right now the Post Office is depending on Mr. Bayley. The day Mr. Bayley decides to stop working, the stamp trade will go through the eddoes. I wish to remind the hon. member that we are not unmindful of the money we can make in stamp industry.

8.20 p.m.

The reason why we did not think it was necessary to put out the Tourist issue was because we had a number of important issues, such as the Police issue, the Girls' Guides, the United Nations and the Economic Commission for Latin America. We have joined the O.A.S. and after all, a fellow has to get a stroke off his own pump.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, this is a matter which is dear to the heart of the Barbados Labour Party. The Economic Commission for Latin America is nothing to do with the O.A.S.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I am aware of that. You can eat bread without calling it biscuit, but it is made with flour. The reason why we did not bring out the Tourist issue - we spend a lot of money on the Tourist Board and any stamp could be a Tourist Issue. The moment a stamp comes out, suppose you were to send a stamp to Germany, you will always look at it, and although it is not a beautiful stamp, it comes from Barbados. You ask where is Barbados, and you like the stamp. It speaks for itself. The best advertisement which any country can get is from the sale of stamps. That is why we did not decide to bring out a Tourist issue. I have said that we are bringing it out in quarterly issues. I must also tell the hon. member that I have had the pleasure of going to Pitcairn on several occasions and I believe that I have stamps from Pitcairn. It is the smallest inhabited country in the world. It was the country that Fletcher Christian was near by when he put Captain Bligh off the "Bounty". The people there have no natural resources, but they make their money in stamps and the little trinkets which they make of wood, fish and so on. I am not unmindful of that. I would point out that Harrisons is renowned throughout the world. Even in Holland they apparently get Harrisons to do some of the work, but they also have their own engravers. In Israel we have been exploring the possibility of seeing if we could get this work done any more cheaply. As far as Barbados is concerned, I want the hon. member to rest assured that as long as I am the Minister holding this portfolio of the Post Office, I will do everything within my pow-

er to make sure that if the sale of stamps is not our highest money-making concern, it will not be very far below that.

The question that 1. Annexed Estimates, Post Office, stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that a Resolution for the sum of \$99,767 do now pass.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if hon. members opposite would indicate to me at this stage before the moment of interruption comes, as to what they regard on the Order Paper as being controversial. As you know, Sir, there are two more Resolutions which I indicated I would like done at this sitting for obvious reasons. One Resolution is the Christmas Loans Resolutions, and the other one is the supply which is to be voted for the expenditure on the Independence Celebrations. Those are the two items with which I would like to deal.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The Resolution in respect of the Christmas bonus is not controversial. The Resolution in respect of the Independence Celebrations in a sense is controversial in so far as I understand that there are one or two bodies who are waiting on the Resolution, and I will certainly be drawing the attention of the Minister to the lateness of its presentation to the House. It is controversial in terms of the time which it has taken to get here, but nobody would oppose an amount for the Independence Celebrations.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the hon. member would consider this expedient. Allow me to report progress (*ASIDES*) It all depends on whether they think that between now and 9 o'clock we can finish them.
8.30 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The moment of interruption has arrived. If there is any non-controversial matter before the Committee, it may forthwith be proceeded with without any debate. Can I have any information on whether or not any uncontroversial matter may be disposed of?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes, Mr. Speaker, when the House was in Committee of Supply, it had not finished its functions. There are two Resolutions to be considered, which as I understand are considered to be uncontroversial.

Mr. SPEAKER: These matters being considered uncontroversial, let the hon. member proceed.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: These matters are a Resolution for \$25,000 to supplement the Estimates 1967-68 - I think it is Head 22 - and a Resolution for \$400,000 with respect to salary advances.

Mr. SPEAKER: Then I declare the House may resume in Committee of Supply forthwith.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed in Committee of Supply, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

RESOLUTION FOR \$400,000

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, this is the usual form of Resolution which has been running for some three or four years now.

"RESOLVED that a sum not exceeding FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS be advanced from the Public Treasury and placed at the disposal of the Government for the purpose of making advances of salary or wages to persons in the employ of the Government."

It is for the purpose of making Christmas loans. There are certain provisoes which have been taking place since 1965 and these provisoes have been adopted again. These advances are to be paid by the end of the financial year.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1967-68 No. 28 INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, hon. members would see from the Addendum the sort of programme which is planned on a national scale for the celebrations of our first anniversary of Independence.

Hon. members would also see that the celebrations extend over the course of a week. They are a variety of entertainment, and it is also proposed to provide the Old Age Pensioners as we did last year with a dollar to mark the occasion.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, it is getting a bit late, but I do not think that I would speak as long as I intended to on this Resolution.

Now, Sir, as the note reads here, you will be providing \$24,000 for the Overseas Receptions in Britain, Canada and the United States, for Barbadians living in those countries.

Now, Sir, here in this breakdown, you are allocating \$11,150 for the Old Age Pensioners, \$11,500 mainly for labour for the erection of decorations and illuminations, \$24,000 for the Overseas Receptions and \$25,000 for the Local Community activities.

Now, Sir, we are called upon to vote \$24,000 for Overseas Receptions. As I mentioned last week, I could not give my whole hearted support to this Resolution for \$25,000 when in truth and in fact people in St. Joseph are suffering from lack of water, electricity and somewhere to live. The Government is finding money very quickly today to do most things, and at the same time they are not prepared to do first things first.

According to the programme \$25,000 is to be spent on local Community Activities. Well, I understand that part of the \$100,000 is to be spend on these activities also. You are to spend \$24,000 on Overseas Receptions and \$25,000 for local Community activities. I am not told the nature of this Reception; I am not told if there would be any entertainment for the children overseas. I want to know if this \$24,000 is to be spent on the big shots, if it is to be spent on people who can spend on themselves. I am not told the nature of these receptions.

I remember that there are other children here. You will notice that they have a Needy Children's Fund on Rediffusion.

8.40 p.m.

You will notice day in and day out that they have a Needy Children Fund here. I am wondering whether part of this \$24,000 could be turned over to these people to include a lot more needy children. The lady says that several more children are in need of attention, but she needs money. If we were going to pass on some of this \$24,000 to the Needy Children Fund, we would be sure that several children would get a chance to have a good time.

I am not sure that any of this money to be spent Overseas will go to needy children from Barbados. In my opinion there are so many of our natives in Britain that \$24,000 will not be sufficient to treat them properly. We are going to treat people in Canada, Britain and America. In my opinion these people stand a good chance of helping themselves much more than the children in Barbados.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I do not know whether the hon. member will give way so that I can give him the explanation he is seeking.

Mr. SMITH: Yes.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The position is simply this: as is customary with all Independent countries, whenever the celebration of National Day comes around, it is usual for the occasion to be marked in those countries in which the country is represented diplomatically and where it has nationals of its own living and working.

Secondly, since we have large numbers of Barbadians in the United Kingdom - about 65,000 - we also have large numbers in two or three cities of Canada, and a sizable Barbadian element in certain Cities of the U.S.A., obviously the occasion of the National celebration has to be marked in some way.

Consequently, it is proposed, on the recommendation of the Overseas Mission that diplomatic receptions and receptions of Nationals should be held in the United Kingdom, Ottawa, Toronto, New York, Chicago and Boston. That is for the entertainment of Barbadians and their families who send back about \$8 million every year to support the Government of this Island. The money will be spent on our own people abroad, and the reception is organised for them because they desire to participate in the National celebration as much as those who are at home. This is a means of encouraging them to maintain contacts, and make them send back, perhaps, \$18 million if their prospects are good.

Mr. SMITH: I thank the Minister for his information, but up to now I cannot hear what is going to be done for the people in St. Joseph. Sir, we are suffering; I am suffering daily for the want of a little water in my pipe at home.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: On a point of elucidation. If the hon. member will give way, I should like to explain something to the House. He says that he is suffering for water at his home. The hon. member told me about his water problem, and I have already given instructions to assist him. I mentioned it to him as we were coming to the House today. I want to make it clear that I have told the hon. member that he will get the water soon, D.V.

Mr. SMITH: The Hon. Minister told me I will get the water soon. Do not tell me that you will give me food soon, while I am still starving. That is something that was going on for a long time. We want a bigger reservoir at Castle Grant. When I was a boy, that reservoir used to supply the surrounding areas. They have increased the capacity of the reservoir, and it has to supply other areas. I am suffering for water; I have no right paying one cent to the Water Works Department, because I do not get any water.

I am not going to accept the Minister's promises any more. I have been in the Promised Land too long. I have to drive from St. Joseph to Gravesend in order to get a bath. That is not good enough. I understand that it is only a question of money in order to relieve the suffering people up there who need water. Now I am told about instructions given by a Minister.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I do not understand why the hon. member is getting on so. It is nearly nine o'clock. As an Hon. Member of this Chamber, who was elected, I have given the hon. senior member for St. Joseph my word that I have already given instructions to have the matter remedied. How can he say that he does not want to hear anything from any Minister? It means that he does not believe me. He must accept my word.

Mr. SMITH: The Minister can get up and talk, and I can get up and talk also. I have been fooled too long. Promises were made to me on the floor of this Chamber relative to roads, bridges, water and everything but nothing has been done. I have been promised things since November last year. We are now passing pro-

visions for a big spree. I have nothing to do with the spree. If I want a spree, I can have my own spree. Provision is made for a spree, but no provision is made for the people in St. Joseph to get water. Nothing has been done to move out the people.

Do not talk to me about Soil Conservation, because I am getting to believe that it is only an obeh name. Every excuse is given and everybody talks about Soil Conservation.

8.50 p.m.

From December they took until last Tuesday to tell me that the Soil Conservation work is now going into a different area. That is fooling me because I am one of the sufferers. It is preventing us from getting water in St. Joseph. I am suggesting that they pass the money and let the engineers do what they have to do. They are finding all sorts of money to spend anywhere and everywhere, and I must suffer along with the people. It was my intention to give some trouble with this matter of the expenditure of this \$25,000. However, I cannot worry with it. I intended to keep you here until morning on this Resolution. I have to do something to bring those hon. members over there to themselves. Why do you not bring in Lammings and relieve the people up there? There are those who are saying that the people are asking too much money for it. You do not want to pay for this place, but you can bring down a Resolution for money to fritter away. They are sheltering behind the excuse that the owners of this land are asking far too much money for it, but it is not too much to come down here with this Resolution for \$25,000 for having a spree. I am suggesting that that money should be spent on Lammings and leave out the Independence Celebrations because we are independent already. The people are suffering, and I am suffering, and what is the Government doing about it? You are going around with your "Nay Nay" offerings asking where the money is coming from. If you want £80,000 for the O.A.S. you will find it, but you cannot relieve the people in St. Joseph.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I regret that I have to delay the House on this matter, but if the delay is until Tuesday I do not think that it would do much harm. That is unfortunate, but before giving my support to this Resolution, I want to say that these celebrations are for Barbados and we are all Barbadians. If the House falls down, it will fall down

on all of us because we are all Barbadians together. The first point I wish to make is that the members of the Opposition should be consulted and associated with any celebrations that are carried on for Independence. That is commonsense and it is common decency. If the often quoted expression of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas means anything, it means that there are certain moments when we must get together for celebrations, and if Independence Celebrations have not got that meaning, then I cannot imagine what else. As I have found out, there will be celebrations in St. Thomas as well. I was not happy about the position; not one official intimation has been given that there will be a dance taking place at the Social Centre in St. Thomas for Independence.

Mr. Chairman, that is not the way to handle a function which is the celebration of all Barbadians. I do not know whether the Hon. Leader of the House has a Committee for Independence Celebrations and he has not done members of the Opposition the courtesy of telling us what is going to happen. It may be that we will be all named for Independence and, for all we know, that is the surprise we have to face. I am very sorry, Mr. Chairman, that I have to speak to delay the passage of this Resolution. I understand that applications have been made by people in St. Thomas for grants for certain activities. I am shocked to think that this is now the 17th November and all of these functions will be started in a little more than a week's time, and the organisers do not know if they are going to get money to carry out these functions which the Committee is trying to arrange. It is regrettable that we have to wait for so long when we have in mind to celebrate Independence in this manner.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution deals with something called Independence. I think that it gives an opportunity for us on this side of the House to carry out an examination of what has gone wrong during the past year. In other words, it will give us an opportunity to look into what it is really going to be celebrated. That being so, Sir

At this stage, it now being 9 p.m. of the clock, Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER: It now being 9 p.m. of the clock, this House is automatically adjourned until 12 o'clock noon next Tuesday. This House now stands adjourned. 9.00 p.m.