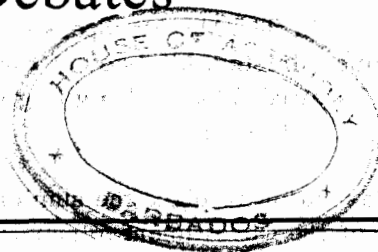


THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1966 - 71



HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 12th September, 1967

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12.00 o'clock (noon) today.

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., F.Z.S., (Speaker); Hon. C. E. TALMA, (Minister of Health and Community Development); Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (Minister of Trade, Tourism, Co-operatives and Fisheries); Mr. R. ST. C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; Hon. N. W. BOXILL, (Minister of Communications and Works); Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD, (Chairman of Committees); Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (Minister of Agriculture, Labour and National Insurance); and Mr. J. B. SPRINGER.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I am advised that the Minutes of the meetings of the 28th March and 18th April, of this year have both been duly circulated; if there is no objection, the Minutes of each of these meetings will be confirmed. (A PAUSE)

There being no objection, I hereby declare the Minutes of the meetings of the 28th March and 18th April, this year, to be duly confirmed.

LETTER FROM MARSHAL

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a letter from the Marshal of this House dated 11th September, 1967.

It reads as follows:-

St. Michael,
Barbados.
11th September, 1967

His Honour, J. E. T. Brancker, Esq.,
Speaker House of Assembly.

Dear Sir,

I respectfully beg to apply for one week's leave

of absence from my duties as Marshal, as I am out of the Island.

Mr. H. Lisle Thomas has consented to act for me during that time subject to the approval of the Honourable House.

I have the honour to be your humble servant,
G. W. BRATHWAITE,
Marshal.

MARSHAL GRANTED LEAVE

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, before the business of this House commences, I would like to make a motion that the Marshal of this House be granted one week's leave of absence with effect from today.

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

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

DEPUTY CLERK APPOINTED TO ACT AS MARSHAL

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Deputy Clerk be appointed to act as Marshal of this House in conjunction with his substantive duties as Deputy Clerk for one week.

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

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

PAPERS LAID

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister of External Affairs, I am commanded to lay the Customs Duties (Garment Manufacture) (Amendment) Order, 1967;

Also, the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No.4) Order, 1967;

Also, Statement Showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for five (5) months ended 31st August, 1967.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the Report of the Public Utilities Board for the year, 1966.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

A Resolution to place the sum of \$21,666 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1967-68 Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1967-68 No. 20 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution;

A Resolution to place the sum of \$224 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1967-68 Part II Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1967-68 No. 21 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution;

A Resolution to place the sum of \$80,000 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1967-68 Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1967-68 No. 22 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution;

A Resolution to place the sum of \$52,750 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1967-68 Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1967-68 No. 23 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution;

A Resolution to amend the Note to Capital Estimates Head 102, Item 8 - Additional Roadworks in the Approved Estimates 1967-68.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On behalf of the Hon. Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, and Minister of External Affairs, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Public Loan Act, 1961.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, in respect of the first two Resolutions which I gave notice of - Resolution for the sum of \$21,666 and Resolution for the sum of \$224 - I am asking for leave to deal with these two Resolutions in all their stages later today.

In the first place, these are as a result of anomalies which have occurred; but mainly they are for money which was voted for people who are entitled to it.

I am asking for leave to deal with these two Resolutions in all their stages today.

NOTICE OF ORAL REPLIES

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, and Minister of External Affairs, I beg to give notice that Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 84 asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, is now ready;

Also, Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 64 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter, is now ready;

Also, reply to Parliamentary Question No. 32 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter, is now ready;

Also, reply to Parliamentary Question No. 35 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter is now ready;
12.25 p.m.

Also Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 36 asked by the same hon. member is now ready.

Also, on my behalf I beg to give notice that the Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 48 asked by the same hon. member is now ready.

Also Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 58 asked by the same hon. member is now ready.

Also Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 59 asked by the same hon. member is now ready.

Also I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to deal with the money Resolutions of which notice was given today. I refer not to the first two, but to the others.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S NOTICES

YOUTH TOWN

Mr. Speaker: The hon. senior member for St. James has a Question about Youth Town.

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

Is it a fact that Youth Town has been closed through lack of financial support?

2. If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister use his good offices to have this Centre reopened with the least possible delay?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member has a Question about a Playing Field and Community Centre at St. James.

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

Is the Government aware that there is need for a Playing Field and Community Centre at Orange Hill in the parish of Saint James?

2. If the answer to the above is "Yes", then will Government take steps as soon as possible to provide such a Playing Field and Community Centre?

SELECT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, I wish to present a Report of the Select Committee appointed to consider and report on a Bill to revise the statute law of the Island by repealing obsolete, spent, unnecessary or superseded enactments.

BILL READ A FIRST TIME

On motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, the Bill to amend the Public Loan Act, 1961, was read a first time.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

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

Committee of Supply

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

Mr. Speaker: Will the hon. Minister first ask leave to permit him to take charge of the Order?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I have been instructed to deal with this Order. I 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 Committee to consider the Resolutions for \$21,666, and \$224 of which notice has just been given.

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

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

RESOLUTION FOR \$5,971: SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE NO. 18

Hon N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, Supplementary provision of \$5,971 is required to finance in part the provision of certain essential items for which funds were provided in previous estimates. These items are estimated to cost \$28,971. The difference of \$23,000 will be met from the provision for the redesigning of the Fountain Gardens which it is proposed to postpone.

What has happened is that in 1964, as hon. members in this Chamber will remember, the Financial Building was started. In November, 1966, the sum of \$434,000 was voted by the Legislature by way of a Supplementary Estimate, No. 37, to provide funds for the completion of the Financial Building. The sum of \$434,000 was required to complete the work, and the Financial Building is estimated to cost \$1,260,000 on the basis of plans prepared in January, 1964.

In consequence of the increase in wages, the cost of materials and services, changes had to be made in the original design to meet future demands. The Financial Building is now estimated to cost \$1,694,000. This estimate also includes the cost of redesigning and finishing the Fountain Gardens and re-aligning the roads in that area.

I think that hon. members should listen very attentively to me. Although I am dealing with a matter of figures, I know that hon. members will get up and ask me questions which I am prepared to answer, provided they are within a reasonable context of the matter before us. I am not prepared to get up in this House and answer any hon. member who repeats himself or asks irrelevant Questions. (Hon. members: "Do not anticipate us.") I am not anticipating anybody; I am just making things clear. I am prepared to give the necessary information, and I hope that hon. members will listen attentively in order to avoid asking a lot of superfluous questions, because I am not going to answer them.

12.35 p.m.

In the Estimates for 1967-68, the sum of \$316,000 of the \$434,000 has been revoted for the continuation of the work. At the 24th June, 1967, a survey of outstanding work to be done was taken, and the uncompleted work was estimated to cost \$57,124.32. The balance available at the 24th June 1967, was \$34,384.45, and an additional sum of \$22,739.87 was therefore required to complete the project at that date. The reason for requesting the additional funds is on account of the expenditure incurred on items not provided for in the previous estimates as follows: Counters on second, third and fifth floors, \$8,816; Stayed partitions on first, third, fourth and fifth floors \$26,463.20; facing first floor with arborite, \$7,518; facing clay tiles to wash room floors, \$4,621; making a total of \$41,418.20. The difference between \$41,418 and the additional sum of \$22,739, required at 24th June, 1967, has been absorbed by savings on other items. Now that the building is nearing completion, the Heads of various departments which will be housed in that building have been requesting that certain provision be made for security purposes prior to occupation of the building. The estimated cost of this request is \$1,560. The amount of \$432 is also required to meet the cost of providing anti-slip material for the staircase, and it is estimated that the water-proofing of the roof of the building will require an additional amount of \$3,759.

The total cost of these essential items is \$6,231 made up as follows: (1) Waterproof roof, \$3,759; (2) the erection of partition on first floor, \$700; (3) the erection of counter partition for the Inland Revenue Department, \$860; (4) provision of anti-slip material for staircase \$432; (5) grill in vault for Accountant General, \$480; making a total of \$6,231. The total sum required at this stage is \$28,971. In order to meet a part of the amount of \$28,971 required to meet completing essential works on the building, it is considered that the funds available for redesigning the Fountain Gardens should be diverted for use on the building. The amount allocated for this purpose is \$23,000. It is recommended that the Fountain Gardens remain in their present form, and that the area between the car park to the West of the Financial Building and the Fountain Gardens be properly surfaced. Therefore supplementary provision of \$5,971 is required.

The reason why, as I have said before, we need this extra money is because of the fact that the rate

of salary and the rate in the price of materials were changed, and the redesigning of certain parts of the building taking place - all this accounts for this extra money. We are now asking for this sum of \$5,971. Another thing is that everybody wants some fancy gadget put in, and in order to facilitate them and make the working conditions conducive to the size and this type of building, we have decided to make one or two alterations. As a result of what I have said, I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the hon. member if he has a copy of those figures which he has read out to pass over to hon. members. If he has a spare copy of those figures, would he pass them on to hon. members? How could we, at the speed at which the hon. member read out those figures, be expected to ask questions on them?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, if the hon. member would tell me from where he got left in the lurch, I would go over those figures for him at dictation speed. I know that it is difficult for him to absorb all of these things.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I do not write shorthand. Surely the hon. member must have a copy of those figures which he can pass over here.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I have told the hon. member that I would call back the figures for him at dictation speed. Even a child attending a kindergarten school would understand that. I will call back the figures slowly for the hon. member.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: How can the hon. member ask me to call back something? I have "Estimates of additional building, present Estimates." I wrote as fast as I could and I missed a lot.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister has given us a breakdown of the expenses involved in the erection of this building. The Government has come down here today for a supplementary vote of \$5,971. In explanation of that, they have told us that there is a difference of \$23,000 which will be met from the provision for the redesigning of the Fountain Gardens which it is proposed to postpone. In other words, at one time they thought of redesigning the Fountain Gardens, and now they have altered that, and so, that expense of \$23,000 is not now necessary. They now want \$5,971. The Hon. Minister has read out information and has given this House figures dealing with the erection of this Building almost from the beginning. We have not got down the dates, but we will not quarrel about that.

12.45 p.m.

The Hon. Minister knows that by the way he read out those figures we could not digest them. As I understand him, the Financial Building has not yet been completed as far as erection is concerned. They may come down next month for more money to complete it; we do not know. The Hon. Minister did not say. I believe he said that \$300,000 had been spent in the

erection and it was estimated that another \$55,000 was needed.

The Hon. Minister went on to say something about the Addendum and that \$5,917 was needed today. When it comes to the erection of the Financial Building, the Minister has not explained to the satisfaction of this Hon. House what is to be done because we have not digested the figures. We could not follow the Minister. I do not think this is the best way, as the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has said.

Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister anticipated that we would have read the Addendum. It is peculiar, Sir, that he anticipated that we would have read the Addendum. How could we note these figures as they were trotted out? It is all right to give notes and these figures, but they should have been given in a way that you could understand them.

I would like the Minister to do a little anticipation again. I want him to tell me how much more we are to have to vote for the building. He called out the figures of \$316,000 and then went on to call out other figures which we could not digest. We would like to have at all costs what the Financial Building would cost. When we come to the House, we expect to be told something. It seems to me that you would have to tell us a little more. We just do not know anything more than what we see in the Addendum. That is the position.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I am going to make another appeal to the hon. member. On any vote which comes before this House, every taxpayer is entitled to ask us: "Do you know how this cost took place?" I have seen in this House more than once that the Opposition made Government postpone a vote until they got the information. Not only are we entitled to get the figures, but we are entitled to have printed the information that was asked for. I suggest to the hon. member that he do so now.

As I have said, I have seen that done many times. The member asked: "What are they entitled to?" We have to answer questions just like any Minister. 12.55 p.m.

How did you know that the money was really needed? Why did you not point out that the money was wasted? How can we point out that the money was wasted, when we do not have the figures? I repeat that the information should have been circulated to hon. members. There could be a slight postponement of this item in order to have the information typed and circulated. I have seen this done more than once. Let us deal with something else and return to this matter when copies of the information are available. The Hon. Minister said something about children. He is not treating us like children; he is treating us as if we were in a ward at Black Rock where one gets injections. He is treating us as if we do not have enough intelligence to look after our rights.

I should like to remind the Hon. Minister that the members of the Opposition are entitled to have before

us the figures relating to matters on which we are asked to vote money. How can we vote money on an item when we do not know for what we are voting? He should be anxious to let us see that everything is clear and above-board, and that there is no extravagance. It is not fair to ask us to vote money for something when we have to rely on certain jottings and an imperfect memory. When one observes the manner in which the Hon. Minister gave us the figures, it is impossible for one to follow them.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, it is really the manner in which the Hon. Minister has approached the Resolution before this House. I do not know if he is excited, if he is a champion, or what he is, but he did not approach the matter in a proper manner. He told us that hon. members should listen to him, and if they asked him any question he would not answer them. That is the approach of the Hon. Minister who is piloting this Resolution.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, I said that hon. members should listen to me attentively instead of repeating themselves or asking superfluous questions which I would not answer.

Mr. SMITH: If the Hon. Minister is not excited, then he is playing the game of a boxer. I know that game very well. A boxer once told me "Mr. Smith, whenever I have a champion to fight, and I feel that he is going to beat me, I would rush out of my corner and knock everything out of him. But if he rushes back at me, I would fall even before he hits me". The Hon. Minister is a boxer of that kind; he is always excited.

I want to tell the Hon. Minister that the members of this House were elected by the people of this country to represent them in this House, and we have the same rights and privileges as anybody else in this Chamber. When he is in here as a Minister, I care no more about him as a Minister than I do about any other member. He is a member of this Hon. House in the same way as I am; so he should drop his Ministerial powerful-foolishness outside and come in here as a member of Parliament. He can show off his Ministerial powerful-foolishness when he is in his Ministry.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have never shown mine.

Mr. SMITH: You will soon be a Minister, and I will shake your hands and remind you of this incident. What is for a man he would get, even if it is the gallows. Do not come here to bully us because you are a Minister. You can do that sort of thing in your office to Your Private Secretary, but you cannot behave in that manner in this House. You must get that straight; you are doing the people's business as well as we on this side of the House are doing it. Whenever you start wrong, you will always end wrong. The Hon. Minister says that he is not going to answer questions. I am not surprised at this, because he never answers any questions. I am accustomed to this sort of behaviour. However, this is the people's money that the Government are spending. He is paid to do work; he

is the servant of the people, and he must take his place as a servant here and not as any Minister.

Anyone sitting in this Chamber would be surprised to hear what the Hon. Minister had to say. Now the addendum states:

"Supplementary provision of \$5,971 is required to finance in part the provision of certain essential items for which funds were not provided in previous estimates. These items are estimated to cost \$28,971. The difference of \$23,000 will be met from the provision for the redesigning of the Fountain Gardens which it is proposed to postpone."

First to begin with, the Hon. Minister should tell us the reasons for the postponement of the work on the Fountain Gardens. I am saying how I feel about this matter. Before he took it upon himself to tell us that he was going to use funds from Fountain Gardens, he should have asked this House's permission to do so. When funds are voted for a particular Head, this Government or any other Government have no right to take it upon themselves to take funds from one project and spent it elsewhere.

In other words, I believe that we are only being told about the Fountain Gardens because the Government want more money to spend, and, rather than asking for a full amount to finish the Financial Building, this is an attempt to whittle things down instead of making the matter look like a mountain.

As far as the Financial Building is concerned, I am not questioning the matter. I am not a builder or a contractor. The building must be completed; and if the Government come back here next Tuesday and ask for more money to complete the building, your humble servant will be prepared to vote for it.
1.15 p.m.

We want it done and it must be finished. If it is taking the cost of ten Financial Buildings, what are we to do? We are not building it; we are not supervising it. I know nothing about it; I cannot say that it is taking too much. That is as far as that is concerned. Do you know that you make me feel that you are pinching this \$23,000 from the Fountain Gardens, and the postponement of the work on the Fountain Gardens is only for the purpose of using this money to finish the Financial Building? The Hon. Minister has not told us the reason for the postponement of the work on the Fountain Gardens, and since he has not disclosed that to us, I believe that they want to utilise the money here so as to finish the Financial Buildings. When you are asking us for the green light to spend money, you must remember that it is the people's money that you are spending, and we are the representatives of the people. We are of just as much importance as, or of greater importance than, the Government. In other words, we are friends of the Government; but if you are not prepared to take us as your friends and you take us as your enemies, we will fight it out.

They are asking us for this money in a very smart way. This is only five lines for an addendum

to a Resolution - in fact, it is not quite five lines - to explain the reasons for an increase of over \$5,000. This is not good enough. I hope that the Hon. Minister will define these words "Certain essential items" I cannot understand that. The Addendum to this Resolution states this: "Supplementary provision of \$5,971 is required to finance in part the provision of certain essential items for which funds were not provided in previous estimates". What are these items? Are they a bottle of rum, bread and fish, an easy chair, a desk or what? Now we should have a breakdown about that. I am not blaming the Minister for that; I would rather blame his Ministry because whoever is responsible for providing these Addenda should be clear about them. However, I will still blame the Minister because I believe that he should have seen this Addendum before it was printed. He should have seen it in copy form and then say: "We do not have any ten-cent boys to deal with now; give them a breakdown so that I can stop their mouths." I do not know if the Minister has seen it, but I have seen it. It is not fair to the people of this country to be spending money in this way. If I am an Attorney for plantations, and if every Friday morning the manager is coming to me with his abstract, would I only sign the cheques for what I see? He is going to bring the matter to me in such a form that I can sit down and go through it and know what is happening; otherwise, I will not sign the cheques. I do not mean the cheques at the Barbados Marketing Corporation; I am talking about cheques at the bank where honest money is going to be paid out.

I am saying, Sir, that this Addendum should be made clear. The Minister must remember that they had the opportunity of seeing and knowing everything, but we only see it when it is delivered to us; and more light should be shed upon it, so that when we say "Aye" to it, it is from our hands. We should not say "Aye" to it without knowing anything about it. As to the way in which the Hon. Minister started out with this Resolution, he made me feel very suspicious. He felt that by hitting left and right he would be able to get through with this Resolution. I think that you would have a better chance to win a fight if you feel that you are weak. I am saying that the Addendum to this Resolution is really too vague, and from now on the Ministers should see to it that these Resolutions have more information in the Addenda. If people in the office are told: "Don't mind them; the least information you give is the better", - I have no doubt that the people in the office are being told so. I feel that there are some officers there now as were there when the other Government was in power. If they are not all there, there are some of them, and as far as I can remember we never had Addenda as vague as this one is. I believe the officers are told: "The least information you give, the less talk" and the officers obey their instructions. I do not believe that when you have people drawing \$700 or \$800 a month they would give us this sort of information. If they give us this information without instructions, then something is wrong. It is time that this sort of thing should be stopped and the Ministers must tell these officers that they want more information. I do not think that you could carry this information to the Auditor General. I believe that

the Auditor General would have things in his office for some time and he would be asking for information. I believe that the Auditor General would want more information on this matter. We can afford to term ourselves as auditors; we are "O.Kaying" his accounts and we want more information. I know that it will be said, in fact, it was said on the floor of this House already, that I always try to undertake what I cannot manage.

1.15 p.m.

Therefore, I would not doubt that it has been said of all of us on this side of the Table. But, as regards the individual who has said so, I have shown him that I can manage him and will continue to manage him.

Now, Sir, we are the servants of the people and I am not going to sit here all the time and allow the Government to do all these things just as it likes. I am going to vote for the Resolution today; but if I say that I am not going to vote for it because I want some information on it, nobody can blame me because that is my duty; that is my democratic right.

The Addendum to this Resolution consists of five lines and it says:-

Supplementary provision of \$5,971 is required to finance in part the provision of certain essential items for which funds were not provided in previous estimates. These items are estimated to cost \$28,971. The difference of \$23,000 will be met from the provision for the redesigning of the Fountain Gardens which it is proposed to postpone."

Sir, I am asking the Hon. Minister to let me know what are the essential items. When you say "essential items", that is very elastic. It can mean even a penny. It can mean official staff because what is to be in the office is essential. It can mean a light or the electric bulbs. Rather than leaving me in doubt, wondering what are the essential items, I would be glad if the Hon. Minister would define a few of them. I am not asking him for all; I know that questions of this sort can be very embarrassing. Anyhow, it is my duty to ask and it is his duty to answer. I say that although the Government does not like to answer my questions. If you look at Questions on the Order Paper you will see that Question No. 1 which I enquired of the appropriate Minister since December last year has not yet been answered. Somehow or the other, they would not answer my Question. I wonder if my Questions are too hard to answer, or too biting.

Sir, I cannot understand what you mean by essential items; kindly let me know what you mean by essential items which you are asking us to vote for today. I want the building to be finished and the workers to move into it. There are some workers who are to move into that building who now are working under some very embarrassing conditions. I was more than glad to hear that it would be opening today. I repeat, let me know what essential items are for. Sometimes you can take gold and buy brass too dear. Come, but come right. Let me know what it is for; let me know what this "essential item" is for.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, there should never be any muddling on the finance concerning the building which is supposed to be concerned with the housing of people to do with financial matters. The Hon. Minister was good enough to give us the original estimates concerning the Financial Building. However, we do not know if there has been any change in the original purpose of the building. After all, we are told of essential items. Essential items have been mentioned in the Addendum. These may be for the purpose of building an arena because we cannot guess, when this institution is finished that the Hon. Minister who is in charge would not be the first to put on a show there.

Sir, we must concern ourselves with any Resolution of this sort, and when expression is made of the limited information, it has caused us to be totally suspicious.

The Addendum to the Resolution reads as follows:-

"Supplementary provision of \$5,971 is required to finance in part the provision of certain essential items for which funds were not provided in previous estimates."

The words which are a bit confusing to us are that there are to be other financial considerations. They say that there is provision of certain essential items for which funds were not provided in previous estimates. In other words, the sum of \$5,971 which we are providing is only for part payment.

The Addendum goes on to read:

"These items are estimated to cost \$28,971. The difference of \$23,000 will be met from the provision for the redesigning of the Fountain Gardens which it is proposed to postpone".

The Hon. Minister told us that a kindergarten child can understand this. This is really a lot more than this. This means that if you subtract \$5,971 from \$28,971, the difference is \$23,000. That is all he told us.
1.25 p.m.

It goes further and brings in the point of the redesigning of the Fountain Gardens and makes mention of the proposed postponement. Looking at this Addendum, we are not merely voting for \$5,971 to finance, in part, certain essential items, but we are also sanctioning the proposed postponement of the redesigning of Fountain Gardens. That is what we are doing. We are also agreeing to take \$23,000 from the funds voted for the Fountain Gardens. On the face of it, we are merely asked to vote \$5,971 in figures. It is not good enough merely to tell us about the provision of certain essential items and stop there. We might be asked to provide this \$5,971 to pay for essential items which were at some time or other on the premises of the same Financial Building. That is what we are interested in finding out.

We are now asked to vote this sum of money, and mention has been made of certain essential items. We are therefore within our rights to ask the Minister to give us more details. If certain items were at the Financial Building before and are no longer there, then we should be told something about them.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, the time used by the last two speakers was more than enough time for the Minister to have copies of the information typed and circulated to hon. members. He gave us some figures; he spoke quickly; we do not have all the figures, and out of sheer politeness the Minister could have circulated the information. How can we debate this matter without wasting time? A typist could have made fifty copies of the information we required during the time we were debating this matter.

I move that consideration of this Resolution be postponed until later in the session after members have before them copies of the figures for which we have asked.

Mr. HINDS: I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the negative, the House dividing as follows:-

AYES: MESSRS. LYNCH, HINDS, CRAIG, J. M. G. M. ADAMS, SMITH, HUSBANDS, St. JOHN, Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS - 8.

NOES: THE HON'ABLES E. W. BARROW, C. E. TALMA, G. G. FERGUSSON, A. DaC. EDWARDS, N. W. BOXILL, Messrs. LOWE, CORBIN, SPRINGER, SARGEANT, WEEKES, HOPPIN - 11.

Mr. HINDS: The Hon. Minister told us, in introducing this Resolution, that on the 24th June, 1967, a survey was carried out in relation to the work done or to be done on the Financial Building. It is strange that the Hon. Minister did not find it possible to have this survey carried out in time to meet the end of the Government's financial year. Something must have gone wrong between the end of March and the 24th June, or up to the day when the Hon. Minister ordered the survey to be carried out. Something must have gone wrong with the Financial Building or with the money the Government intended to spend on the Financial Building. It is for these reasons that we cannot allow this Resolution to be passed without demanding that the members on this side of the House be presented with certain information that seems to be reposed only in the files of the Hon. Minister. We have asked that copies of the figures be made available to us, but it looks as though we are not going to get them. We will have to abide with that decision.

However, I will ask the hon. minister, in his reply, to give us what information he has in his possession. What are these certain essential items, and how does he propose to finance the rest of the construction and other work to be done? We know that certain people have to be paid, and the building has to be completed. We know that the original intention was to house all of the institutions and the Federal Parliament there, but, since certain hon. members of the

Government are no longer Federal-minded as they were at the time, the building, apparently, will only be housing the offices of our present Government. That being the case, we must ask the Hon. Minister to give us what information he has at his disposal.

Mr. St. JOHN: After listening to the hon. minister, one must come to the conclusion that he is in great difficulty in his Department and, perhaps, that is the true explanation as to why he decided, together with the people in his Department who are responsible for writing the Addendum which has been presented to this House, to treat us with contempt.

1.35. p.m.

On more than one occasion we, on this side of the House, have had to make it positively clear to those who are responsible for writing Addenda that we, in this House, are entitled to adequate information: and if they do not do that, in this House on every occasion that they fail to measure up to the standards which we feel we are entitled to, we shall have to register our protest as vigorously as possible. The truth of this matter is that if one looks at the Resolution, one sees that something has gone wrong at the Financial Building which the Minister does not want the public to know about. They are changing the plans of the Financial Building with respect to the work to be done around the Fountain Gardens. An additional \$23,000 has been diverted. Why did the Hon. Minister not tell us the exact purpose for that, instead of calling out the figures as fast as possible? This matter goes further than what the Minister realises. If people who are in charge of Departments conduct the business of the Departments in such a manner as to make other people feel that something is wrong, how can they maintain any kind of discipline in the Works Departments? Unless there is a proper attitude at the head of a department, you will find that the people who have to work under the supervision of the head, will regard it as an organisation where stealing and crookery are going on, and they will want to participate in it themselves. That is the psychological attitude which will be created if you do not give a free and frank disclosure to the public. I would like to hear the Minister's reply to this. In his Department, more people have been laid off this year than before. Let him deny that on the floor of this House. At the Financial Building the work has been slowed down and I repeat, more people in the Public Works Department in the Department of Highways and Transport, and in the general programme of the Works Department, have been laid off than ever before. People complain that they cannot get any work at these Departments. Let the Minister see that there is a slackening down of the work of the Public Works Department and the work which the Ministry is responsible for as a whole. It is no wonder that the Minister comes in here and in company with other people, tries to conceal information from this House because they know that if they made a free and frank disclosure where people would be able to look at it, they would know that there is slackness going on at the Financial Building, that the productivity was low, that the taxpayers have

to pay for it and it is time for a thorough enquiry to be going on.

The Minister of Finance would be interested in this: when is the Financial Building going to be finished? The estimated cost is \$1.6 million and it is now near to \$1.7 million. I caution the Minister that if he persists in his attitude that he is entitled to conceal from the public of Barbados vital facts surrounding the circumstances of this building, then the Hon. Minister is only endorsing and condoning any kind of slackness which goes on in the department.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask the Hon. Minister what are the essential items we are voting for today?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, in listening to members on the opposite side of the House, one would come to the conclusion that we, on this side of the House, have something to hide. Before I complete my address, I would ask the hon. senior member for Christ Church if he cares to name the persons and the malpractices which are going on and which he knows of. I will give way to him and let him name them and then I will reply.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, I see another reason why the Minister adopts that attitude. He does not understand what is going on. I have not said anything about any specific people being guilty of malpractices. What I said was that the Minister's attitude is such that if you attempt to conceal these things, you will create a psychological effect or impression that does not exist. The Minister does not understand what is said in here.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: It may be that I do not. When the hon. member talks about giving an impression that somebody is condoning something, if that is my attitude, I am glad about it. That is what I will say to him. The trouble in Barbados is this: the moment that you try to discipline a worker or to have him disciplined, he runs to a lot of what the Hon. Leader of the House would say, dingy, water-washed politicians who come in here asking all sorts of questions, and giving the impression that the Head of the Department in the Works Department is trying to terrorise people. Those are the very people who are now today talking about honest people, who were in amalgamation with two former Ministers who have not driven one stroke of work up to this day. Yet they have retained their cars and they live in posh houses. 1.45 p.m.

We are aware that two former Ministers up to this day have not driven one stroke of work and are living in big houses keeping servants. How is it possible after all these years - six years - that these Ministers who have not driven one stroke of work since then can yet be living better than many people?

Now, Mr. Chairman, in respect of the question with which we are dealing, another thing which I want to say is this. After hearing the junior member for St. Peter, the senior member for Christ Church, the

junior member for St. Joseph, the senior member for St. Peter, the senior member for St. Joseph, one is at a loss to understand after I read out every iota on this file relative to the Financial Building how anybody in their right senses or even anybody with the mentality of a half-wit, could try to give the impression that I, or anybody on this side of the Table have anything to hide.

When the senior member for St. Peter first began to talk about the Financial Building you would have thought that he was trying to speak of it in a sarcastic manner because he talked about that edifice.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. When I used the word "edifice", I used it responsibly. The Financial Building is a place where it is hoped to house people of prestige. The Financial Building will be an office to house the Minister of Finance and other important financial advisers. When I use the word "edifice", I did not use it in any sarcastic sense whatsoever.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, the junior member for St. Joseph went on to say that he should have had a copy of whatever I read out although I specifically told him that I would read back the figures if he indicated. He said that I spoke quickly.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I rise on a point of order. I said that there were certain things which the Minister pointed out which we did not hear clearly. He said if there were any specific items which we wanted that he would give us.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: There are certain words in the dictionary like "congenital". We have "congenital" liars that I would give.....

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, is not the Hon. Minister referring to an hon. member of this Chamber?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I said that there are certain words in the dictionary like "congenital" and I am quite aware that we are impregnated with congenital liars. They cannot tell you the truth by accident.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, it is your duty, so to speak, to stop the hon. member. It is your duty to make the hon. member withdraw that remark. There is a Standing Order which says that no member should use offensive and insulting language about another member.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The hon. member has been away from this House for too long.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Those are insulting remarks. The hon. member has used insulting language and those remarks should be withdrawn.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, what is the hon. member speaking on? I am addressing the Chair.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Both hon. members are asked to sit. I rise to speak. I am going to give my ruling. The hon. junior member for St. Thomas was not referring to any member of this House. Will the hon. member continue?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I do not know if the hon. member is a congenital liar or any other type of liar.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. member addressing the Chair?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I have to contradict what the hon. member has said. Your Honour is lucky to be in the Chair; therefore make the members respect you. You do not speak to hon. members on that side of the House!

1.55 p.m.

I am correcting what the Hon. Minister has said about the information on the file. I said that I have taken down a number of figures that he gave us, and I have missed some of them. He then said he would give information at any time on any item that we asked for. My point is: How can I ask about an item on which I did not take down information concerning the figures? All that I can do is to ask for the figures and to point out that it is the practice of the House to adjourn a sitting for a short while in order to have certain information typed and made available to hon. members, when considering a Resolution of this nature.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I said I was willing to read back from where the hon. member had left off. He insisted in asking that the House be adjourned in order that we may circularise the information in the file. I ask that the Question be put.

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

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

The CHAIRMAN left the Chair and Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER: It now being two o'clock, this sitting is now suspended until 2.30 p.m.
2.00 p.m.

On resumption:

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, there is no quorum in the House. I am asking that the bell be rung.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the bell be rung.

The Bell was rung and a quorum obtained.

QUESTIONS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 60, page 8, in the name of the Hon. Junior member for St. Peter, was being dealt with by way of supplementary questions when Question Time at our last meeting came to a close. If there is no further supplementary question to that, I will proceed to call Question No. 32 standing in the name of the same hon. junior member for St. Peter. The question will be found at page 6, left hand column.

REFORM PROGRAMME TO ERADICATE POVERTY

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

Will Government seek to launch a programme of social and economic reform and betterment to eradicate poverty from the mass of people in this new independent nation, in the shortest possible time?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The Reply is as follows:-

The Government's plans which are presently being implemented with a view to improving the social and economic needs of its people are outlined in the Development Plan 1965-68.

IMPROVEMENT OF PURCHASING POWER IN ISLAND'S POPULATION

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 35 standing in the name of the same hon. junior member for St. Peter.

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

What are Government's plans, if any, for creating or improving where necessary, purchasing power amongst the island's population - especially amongst those between 18 and 49 years of age?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The Reply is as follows:-

The hon. member's attention is drawn to my Reply to Question No. 32 given today which also applies to this Question.

ASSISTANCE TO LOCAL COMMODITY PRODUCERS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 36 standing in the name of the same hon. junior member for St. Peter.

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

What are Government's plans, if any, for helping local commodity producers to produce more, so that they can consume more?

And what are the plans, if any, for helping those persons who earn as little as \$12,00 per week and not more than \$20,00 per week, so that they may be able to purchase the goods and services they need, but cannot now afford?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The Reply is as follows:-

The hon. member's attention is drawn to my Reply to Question No. 32 given today which also applies to this Question.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, may I ask whether all of these replies deal with the question of increased production? Every nation in the world has a Development Plan, and every nation says that it will start off at a specified time. I should like to know whether any concrete steps have been taken with respect to increased production.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the answer is in the affirmative.
2.35 p.m.

RATIO OF GRADUATES IN GOVERNMENT SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 48 also standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter. I am reminded that this question was put last week, but the answer was not then available in the files of the Hon. Leader of the House.

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

1. What is the ratio of graduates to pupils in Harrison College, Queen's College, Lodge and Combermere?

2. What is the ratio of graduates to pupils in (a) the remaining Government Secondary or other schools, (b) Independent Schools?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, the reply to the hon. member's question is as follows:

"(1) The ratio of graduate teachers to pupils in the Grammar schools listed is as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| (a) Harrison College | 1 in 20 |
| (b) Lodge School | 1 in 18 |
| (c) Queen's College | 1 in 24 |
| (d) Combermere School | 1 in 20 |

(2) (a) The overall ratio for Approved Independent Schools is 1 in 20. Fifty-eight teachers from Comprehensive Schools are now undertaking degree courses at the University of the West Indies and elsewhere. This training is designed to improve the graduates/pupils ratio in the Comprehensive Schools."

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, considering the fact that this question was asked in May, would it be right to take it that the present Minister of Education is very active?

JUDO GAMES IN SCHOOLS

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question to which the reply has been laid is Question No. 58, also standing in the name of the Hon. junior member for St. Peter.

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

1. At how many secondary and primary schools, if any, in this island is the game judo played?

3. Are there any Judo Clubs attached to any of the Government-owned or -aided secondary schools in this Island?

3. Does the Ministry of Education encourage Judo in Schools?

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

"Harrison College is the only school with a Judo Club. The Club is supervised by two members of the staff, and an old boy of the school, a medical doctor, is a visiting instructor.

The Ministry of Education has made no policy decision on the encouragement of Judo in Schools."

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Does the Ministry of Education consider that this is a useful thing, something which should be extended, and perhaps the hon. member will say whether it is expensive to get teachers or whether teachers are easily obtainable? I ask that question because I understand that there are grown-ups who have Judo Clubs and who might help in the schools.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has not got to explain why he has asked a supplementary question so long as it is permissible.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, that question has recently been raised and if submissions are made, I am sure that the Ministry will deal with them and take account of them.

Mr. HINDS: Will the Minister tell us how many boys there are at Harrison College who are members of the Harrison College Judo Club?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: That information is not at present forthcoming, but I will enquire into it and see that the necessary information is given very soon.

Mr. HINDS: I wonder if the Minister could tell us if there has been any request from the Harrison College Judo Club to the Government for financial support.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Certain concessions have been asked for where duty-free equipment is concern-

ed, but no application has been made insofar as financial assistance is concerned.

Mr. HINDS: Is the Minister in a position to tell us, or rather, would it surprise him to know that there are only five boys in the Judo Club at Harrison College?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: That is hardly a supplementary question. The hon. member has been given a reply to the question which was posed a few moments ago.

Mr. HINDS: Does the Hon. Minister know how long it takes before one can become a master in Judo?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The answer is "No".

Mr. SPEAKER: In any event, that does not seem to arise, even remotely, as a supplementary question.

Mr. HINDS: Has there been any request to the Government to supply Judo Equipment to the Club at Harrison College?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The answer is "No".

Mr. HUSBANDS: Will the Minister state how long this Club has been in operation at Harrison College? 2.45 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am not able to give that information.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Will the Hon. Minister say if the Governing Body of Harrison College has reported to the Ministry of Education on that matter?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On the existence of that rumour? It is well-known to the Minister of Education and to the Ministry.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Will the Hon. Minister tell me how long has it been made known to the Ministry?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the last question is put as a supplementary, and it may well be that if there are any further supplementaries, they would call for the hon. member to put substantive questions so that the Ministry would be able to get the necessary details.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Would the Hon. Minister say what is the fault that there is a certain lack of enthusiasm among the boys to take part in the activities?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. member himself intimated that there are only five boys interested and if that is an example of the enthusiasm, it well may be no fault of anybody. Do you want the boys to infuse that or express that?

Mr. HINDS: Will the Hon. Minister investigate the reason why with a school like Harrison College, only five boys remain members?

Mr. SPEAKER: It appears as if there are no more answers to that question.

Mr. HINDS: Will the Hon. Minister tell us if a former Headmaster, or a Headmaster at Harrison College, has ever made a request to Government for a supply of a large mat on which Judo is played?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, that would have to be the subject matter of another question to be put by the hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I would like the Hon. Minister to repeat that as I have not heard his reply.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I said that in my opinion, that would have to be the subject matter of another question to be put so that it could be answered in the normal way.

VICE OF HOMOSEXUALITY

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question No. 59 standing in the name of the same hon. member, the junior member for St. Peter.

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

Has the Minister any evidence of the presence of the vice of homosexuality and its evil tendencies amongst the school population?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the answer is "None".

PRIVILEGE TO WIVES OF U.S. NAVAL FACILITIES

Mr. SPEAKER: The next is Question No. 64 standing in the name of the same hon. member, the junior member for St. Peter.

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

1. Do the wives of personnel attached to the U.S. Naval Facility at St. Lucy enjoy any special privilege granted by the Government of Barbados?

2. If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, have any attempts been made by such persons to abuse such privilege?

3. If the answer to No. 1 is in the negative however, can the Government state if there is a possibility of such ladies depriving the Government of much customs revenue through exporting from this island antiques and other goods covered by Customs Regulations?

4. Will the Government seek to bring to justice persons found to be involved in such a racket?
2.55 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The Reply is as follows:-

1. Yes - the privileges which are granted to personnel attached to the U.S. Naval Facilities and their dependents are in accordance with the provisions of the United States (Oceanographic Research Station) Act, 1961.

2. The Government is not aware that any attempts have been made by wives of personnel attached to the U.S. Naval Facilities at St. Lucy to abuse any special privilege granted by it.

3. The answer to No. 1 is not in the negative.

4. All breaches of law which can be supported by evidence are dealt with by the Police and the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and are not subject to Government directive.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister tell us if any attempts have been made to find out whether breaches of the law have been made?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The police and the normal courts are there to prevent breaches of the law, but we do not go around pimping behind people to find out whether attempts have been made to breach the law.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, in that light of the answer to Part 4 of the Question and the answer to the supplementary question an investigation into the circumstances in which the Hon. Minister of Communications took a policeman to St. James Post Office on the 12th August and directed him as to certain actions he should carry out?

Mr. SPEAKER: That does not arise out of the answer given. (*Interruption.*) I trust that hon. members understand the reason why I have used this gavel.

LOCAL LOANS

Question No. 84 standing in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. Thomas.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: To enquire of the Minister of Finance:-

1. How many local loans have been floated by the Government in 1967 to date?

2. Have all these loans been fully subscribed?

3. Has the closing date for subscription to any of these loans been extended, and if so how much was subscribed before the extension and how much after?

4. What commissions, placing fees, brokerages or other like payments have been made in respect of any of these loans and to whom?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The Reply is as follows:-

1. One loan has been raised by the Government during 1967 to date.

2. No, Sir.

3. No, Sir.

4. Commission at the rate of 3% was paid to the Brokers who paid all expenses for placing and advertising the loan.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, who were the Brokers?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The Bankers of the Corporation of Toronto, Canada, and West Indies Stock Exchange registered in Trinidad.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Would the Prime Minister agree that 3% is an unusually large amount to pay for a loan that was not under-written?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is asking a question and making a statement at the same time. I can give a reply to the first part of the question. It is not our experience, from previous loans when all the other charges are taken into consideration, that 3% is an unusually high rate.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, since the Hon. Minister of Finance has said that I made a statement as well as asked a question, will he comment on the statement, namely, that the amount was not underwritten? In other words, Barbados has not received the entire amount originally asked for.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: If that is his interpretation of underwriting, then the answer is "Yes". Barbados did not receive the total amount asked for. We had asked for a loan of \$10 million, but we closed it at \$4 1/2 million.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The Hon. Minister of Finance has not answered my question. I asked him whether the loan was underwritten.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: It depends on what we think about underwriting. If Stockbrokers agree to take up a loan between a group of them, then they can guarantee that they can take up the full subscription; but in case they do not take up the full subscription, then the Government have no cause of action against them. They usually get the money from Insurance Companies and other traditional lenders, and they try to raise money elsewhere. They are paid a percentage for advertising, correspondence and so on.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Would the Prime Minister agree that the amount asked for was \$10 million.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: That is what we had authority to raise, and we tried to get as much as possible. We were advised that the money would have been made available.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Can the Hon. Minister say whether there was ever an occasion in the history of Barbados where the full loan asked for was not given?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I can only refer to things within my knowledge. The London Market was not available at the time when we were negotiating this loan and we had to turn to the local market.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Did the Brokers through whom you placed the loan agree to make up the balance, if public subscriptions were insufficient? You pay a larger percentage for such services than you pay for a loan which is not underwritten. It is possible to get loans at less than 1% under certain favourable conditions.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The hon. member has made several statements. If he can recommend to us tomorrow somewhere that we can get loans at 1%, then we would be very glad to use the services of his friends in order to get loans on payment of 1% interest.

3.05 p.m.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The Prime Minister has perhaps understandably not understood the question. I am talking about the brokerage, not the rate of interest. If he wishes a further supplementary question, is it within his knowledge that a broker made representations to the Ministry of Finance about this self-same loan?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: That is not within my knowledge.

Mr. HINDS: Does the Minister of Finance consider that paying brokers \$135,000 on a \$4 1/2 million loan is very high indeed?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I have already answered that question. Perhaps the hon. member could tell me what brokerage fee is recommended, but I have already answered the question. If the financial experts could provide me with better facilities at any time, I would be glad to avail myself of them. The amount of money which you can raise, the rate of interest and the brokerage fee which you have to pay, are contingent on the market conditions and the availability of money at any particular time. There is no such thing as a regulated broker's fee laid down anywhere or a rate of interest fixed at any time. All of these things the hon. senior member for St. Thomas should know.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Can the Prime Minister say how much the banks in Barbados have charged as fees for local loans which have been floated?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: We have not used the local banks as guidance for the placing of loans. I am not aware that this has ever happened. The banks themselves have advised that the Government of Barbados' debentures are available and the Accountant General possibly pays out a small sort of secretarial fee to the banks as agents, if they are the appointed agents. There are one or two business firms who are accepted as agents and if they negotiate with them, they get a normal fee; but this fee is not the same as the fee paid to the broker who has to be soliciting and

such things. The so-called broker or agent comes in merely as a secretary going to the Accountant General and getting certificates and matters of that kind. He is not concerned with promotion.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Will the Minister state whether any Government has gone to places other than those mentioned before?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: This is the first time that we have gone to this institution. We usually go on the London Market, but we were advised that the time was not appropriate for the issue on the London Market and therefore we went to the West Indies Stock Exchange.

Mr. HINDS: Will the Minister tell us who are the directors of this Institution?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I am sure that if the hon. member went to the Accountant General he would get this information.

Mr. HINDS: Does the Minister know that Mr. Bruce Procope is one of the directors of this company?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: He is a member of the West Indies Stock Exchange.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Is the Minister aware that the Financial Secretary refused to supply this information to me at the time of the Estimates?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I do not know that the Financial Secretary was acting under any authority, but he never asked for any permission to disclose that information. He could go to the Accountant General and get it. Whether the Financial Secretary said that or not, the hon. member is entitled to go to the Accountant General.

Mr. HINDS: With the files of the previous Governments at the disposal of the Minister of Finance, can the Minister tell us if he has found any previous Government paying brokers at the rate of 3%?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I do not possess all the files at the moment. I was at pains to explain that the brokers' fee payable is variable from time to time. If the hon. member wants me to bring a list of brokers' fee and charges paid by the Government from 1900, I can do that.

QUESTION

Mr. SPEAKER: Question Time has now expired, it now being 3.15 p.m. of the clock. Due to an administrative mishap in the office, a question which was vetted by the Clerk at the Table, standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James was not available. I undertook to allow the hon. member to give notice of that question at some stage today and therefore the hon. member may proceed to give notice of the question now.

GOVERNMENT POLICY RE WEYMOUTH

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister:

What is the Government's Policy with respect to the lands known as Weymouth situate at Roebuck Street, Bridgetown?

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: The time for Private Members' Business has now arrived. The first Order under this Head is to resume debate on the second reading of a Bill to repeal the West Indies Hospital Fund Limited Act, 1964. When Private Member's Business expired at the previous meeting, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph was addressing the Chair.
3.15 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday, when we were discussing this Bill, I was trying in a very small way to convince the Government that the Opposition had had a case and that the Company concerned should do so this afternoon because it is a fact that we of the Opposition have put up a case, but the Hon. Leader of the House has told the people that it is no case. Well, somebody is lying. It is not in any sense of integrity, honesty or something like that. Well, somebody is lying somewhere and I hope it is not the Opposition.

Before going further, I said last week that the then Premier or my Hon. Prime Minister was not at fault. Well, Sir, it was drawn to my attention by no less a person than one of my constituents after he read the newspapers that it would appear that my memory is short and that I am taking the D.L.P. too seriously. I asked him how; in what way I was taking them too seriously. He said "Do you forget that the Prime Minister was by Springer's Shop one day when there was a D.L.P. meeting being held, and he told the people that "You want to get up here and let Lloyd Smith fool you all, but you cannot fool me yet. The one who can fool me is not born yet."

Mr. SPEAKER: Standing Order 26 (6) points out that no Member shall refer to any other member by name.

Do not be unmindful of that.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I said what a man told me. I am referring to no member at all. I said a man told me so. He did not tell me at the time that the Hon. Prime Minister told me so. He was talking to me. His conversation made me go into research and I said, after all, this man has doubt. It is for that reason that I apologise for saying that the Hon. Prime Minister was fooled, because no man can fool him. Therefore, I withdraw that remark.

The man also said that he was not fooled; he was bought.

Mr. SPEAKER: No hon. member can use that kind of phraseography in this Chamber about another hon. member merely by saying he was quoting someone. Therefore, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph must withdraw. It is not permissible in respect of a member in this Chamber to say that you were quoting someone because at any time you will be able to say that so-and-so said that an hon. member said that he was this, that or the other. I am asking the hon. member to withdraw that statement.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, whatever you want to do this evening, I am going to do. The only thing which I am not going to do is to stop talking. However, it is a pity that Your Honour did not stop me just now; else I would not have gone so far.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would be unfair to the hon. member if I did not give him the maximum amount of latitude in making his speech.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I am going to tell you this. It seems as if, Sir, you have doubted my remarks. However, I am going to withdraw my remarks. I am going to obey your ruling; but you are telling me that you do not believe what I told you.

Mr. SPEAKER: There are lawyers who would advise a newspaper Editor that he just could not get away with it in a Court of Law by saying that so-and-so had told me so-and-so.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, this is not a newspaper; this is an honourable Chamber with hon. members in it. The electors of this country have voted for them and have elected honest and intelligent people. I use the word "honest" again with emphasis.
3.25 p.m.

When one finds himself in this House, and he was even a culprit outside, he must be redeemed and respected as an honest member. I do not feel good over the remarks that have been made. I have assured Your Honour that I am prepared to do anything you want me to do this afternoon except to stop talking. I will not violate the Rules of this Honourable Chamber, but I will try to prove my case. I will apologise and withdraw any remark I may make that Your Honour does not agree with.

Mr. Speaker, we are now dealing with the Government, and the Government is dealing with its people. When you are dealing with the Prime Minister, especially the one that we have here, you cannot talk about foolishness. This is the policy of this Government. It will be just in social relations; just in the sight of the law, and so on. This is the policy of the Democratic Labour Party, and the Hon. Prime Minister is its Chairman or boss. The word "just" is unblemished. Everything is just, and therefore nothing at all should appear to be unjust, although in my opinion it is beyond the Party to be just.

When I look at the way in which the Hon. Prime Minister conducts Government's Business in this House, I observe that he has made a lot of changes.

The Manifesto of the Democratic Labour Party states, "We now have a country". It means that Barbados was nothing at all before the year 1961. We now have a country. This seems to indicate that we now have a genius at the head of the Government, together with an economist who is also a genius. I am not sure what Barbados was before the year 1961, but we now have a country. If we are so fortunate in getting a country, then let us keep this country unblemished and on a high standard. Let us keep out the robbers and the wolves. We now have a country, and the Democratic Labour Party is in charge of the Government.

Do not tell us with one side of your mouth that we have a country, and with the other side tell us that you are going to allow the Company to take away all of our money. Let us keep the name of the country as well as the country clean. Let the nation thrive and grow up. I will not say all that I have heard about this Company now. I am saying, however, that this Company is depriving this Government from collecting revenue. The Hon. Prime Minister and most people do not know about this matter. When you get a Company of this sort where the Manager, Assistant Manager, or those responsible tell you that they will pay you as they go along, they will pay their dues to this Government as they go along, it means that as they go along the Government will get nowhere.

I cannot tell the Income Tax Department that I am going to pay my income tax according to how "Fix-it-right" goes along. I can tell that to the Officers in the Department, but would they accept it? I will either have to pay my income tax or the bell will ring and the Government will see to it that "Fix-it-Right" is in trouble.

Mr. Speaker, what has happened to the West Indies Hospital Sweep? Has the Queen Elizabeth Hospital received everything yet? Has the Barbados Turf Club received its subsidy? Has the Government collected its taxes? A Company with ten hundred thousand million dollars should be able to do a lot of things. Do you think it is fair for these people to hold on to this money without paying their dues? They will not pay the Government, they will not give the Hospital what they had promised, and will not honour their promises at all. Are we to sit here in this Hon. Chamber and say "No" to a Bill to get rid of such people?

Every living human in this country is taking this Company seriously I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, that the longest time a married man does not speak to his wife is when he holds back the coppers. They will agree with each other quickly on any matter except the withholding of money. Money makes the mare fly, and the money we are talking about belongs to this country.

We were promised that the Queen Elizabeth Hospital would be put right. We were told that the Barbados Turf Club would be put right, but the Government has not received any revenue and nothing has been done. Is this Government going to vote against this Bill in order to permit certain people to live smart? Is this Government going to encourage

smartness? This Government cannot allow a Company of this sort to remain in this island.

3.35 p.m.

If the revenue has been made right, and they asked us to give them another chance. I would say "yes" and the people will give them a chance too. It is not just a question of confusing the Government and not the people. There is a possibility of their paying the Government and not the winners but that would not be normal. If having a person at the head with the ability of the Prime Minister, I want to know - I will soon be sitting down because I am anxious to see how the tide will break with this Bill. If with the Prime Minister's ability as an economist, an aeroplane flyer, everything that is top-notch, and he is going to let it fall this afternoon that is his business. I hope it will not be as it was when you had some men coming around here. You have these people and you take into account their names alone - William Garner, and Mr. Herkes - coming into our little country with more papers than the Advocate. One was supposed to be teaching Physics at Harrison's College and the other Commerce at Combermere School. As to one of them, every morning you could find him with new things, but when we came to find out there was nothing. I hope my Hon. Prime Minister with his papers and all of these "Sc's" will not be like these two men. I am not thinking that at all; unless the Prime Minister says that everything has been fixed right - well, even that cannot convince me now. He has already convinced me that, at every race, the sum of \$125,000 will be paid out, and that has not been paid out yet. We will have to make out a very nice picture. After reading the Prime Minister's speech from the *Official Gazette*, if anybody reads that, I do not know how he will be able to get out of it because these people are too smart. I am going to tell you this now; these people are so much bent upon robbing the revenue of this country by the millions and not one of them passes through the Post Office or anywhere like that, so that you can get a berry? Where they are putting these tickets to be carried away? I look around there and I can tell you that they are putting these tickets wherever elastic is. These W.I.H.S. tickets are going out of the country. The young girls are doing it and how on earth will this Government get to know that these people are still working? If they are paying as they go along, something is wrong. Something is wrong if they can find the money to pay now.

These tickets are also going out in barrels and the heads of the barrels are marked "tamarind". Now they have started to ship tamarinds. The W.I.H.S. are now shipping tamarinds and are you telling me that we have not made out a case? I would be glad if the Minister in charge could tell me how many of these tickets go through the post office; I would be very glad for this information. When you get to find out that these people are living smart and they are bent upon tricking us - they can fool the Prime Minister, but not me. They are tricking this Government and still would not pay up this \$500,000

by way of a licence, and you are still allowing them to remain here. Barbados was living long before a company of this sort came to this place. When this Company came in here, our nose was above the water. If we could not swim, we still could not drown. They are doing us more harm than good because there is a possibility of their spoiling our good name.

I know a man who has a sister in New York. She bought six tickets and won, and she sent the ticket to her brother here for him to draw the money. He drew, not the winning money, but his breath. He told me that the way in which his sister wrote to him, she got the idea that he had drawn the money and would not send it to her. A lot of things are happening from this Company. I am not against this Company; I do not even know where it operates. I am not against anybody who is trading, but I am against unfair dealings. I am told that one who is closely connected with this Company is putting race horses in the field, and he also has yachts. I hope that the Minister, who is in charge of the police, will keep his eyes on these boats, there is a possibility of these boats taking up tickets too.

3.45 p.m.

It is possible that these yacht boats can be taking out these sweepstake tickets. Keep an eye on these yacht boats. Sir, I am not going to sit here and misrepresent my people; I have to represent them.

Now, Sir, I understand that they are paying up. I was told not too long ago that these people are paying up; but even if they are paying up, how are they paying? If they are tricking us through the post and are shipping out these things as tamarinds, how are they paying up? There is a certain season for tamarinds, but they are still being shipped up to Canada - not tamarinds, but sweepstake tickets.

What must we do? Can I sit here and say "Yes" to keep these people?

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

Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am sorry that you are in the Chair because I know you would talk on this matter. Now, Sir, when things of this sort are happening, I wonder whether the Government members are going to vote against us to keep these people here, even if they were paying. They are getting away with murder. I am asking the Minister in charge to check up on the Post Office or the Customs Department to find out if the Company has paid in anything last year. Find out how much business this Company has done with the Post Office and the Customs Department.

We have just increased the Package Tax Act by twenty-five cents for every 56 pounds. Now, Sir, these people's business passes through the backdoor. When the Prime Minister thinks he is getting a Package Tax from these people, and these people can get away without paying taxes on their packages? If the Hon. Prime Minister did not think he would be getting a certain amount of revenue from this Package Tax, he would not have hit it.

Sir, this is a serious matter. The Government should find out whether these tickets are being printed in the Island. I think so, but the Government should find out. The Government should have an investigation carried out by the Police so as to see if they would hop on these things because if the Printery printed one thousand of these sweepstake ticket books and they do not sell any locally, what revenue do they get from these books passing through the Post Office? If they sold 500 books locally, then they should give account of the other 500 books which they sold overseas.

These people have confessed that the Hon. Prime Minister is a hard man. They have come to the conclusion that just as hard as the Prime Minister is, as soft they would deal with him. They knew that he was asking too much, but they could see through the position that if they did not agree with him at the time they would not be able to operate here; so they agreed because they knew what they would do later on. They told him "alright". They were honest enough to tell him that he was a hard man, but he did not know with whom he was dealing. There is the saying "Softly, softly, catchee monkey".

Sir, they are getting sweepstake books out of this country. These go out through the back door. I hope that nobody knocks me down tonight. As I have said, this is a very serious matter. Do you know what they would be encouraging? If they get away with sending certain things out of this country in a clandestine way and I know about it too, do you not think that I would seek to do the same thing too?

I do not know how the Government is looking at this matter. I do not know how the Government is taking this. Sir, does this mean that hon. members on the other side of the Table are continuing to keep this Bill on the Statute Book? This is something which can break our country, which can injure our good name. Everybody is looking up to us now. I do not want to repeat myself, not for one moment, I am making sure that when I say one word, I will not be repeating it; but how do I know that people outside are looking up to Barbados? A friend of mine took me to Grenada and introduced me to friends of his as Lloyd Smith from the House of Parliament in Barbados; and do you not know that after that I could not find the place at which I was putting up? The people there entertained me so nicely that I was overwhelmed. I can tell you, Sir, that when I found myself, a nice damsel carried me back to the hotel where I was staying.

Well, Sir, I want Barbados to keep that name. I want to keep Barbados on the maps regardless of which Government is in power.

3.55 p.m.

I do not like to blow my own trumpet. I was going around the Island for a few days with two members of the Government, and they told me that they had never expected to receive the co-operation I had given them. They did not know that I was a member of the Opposition. We live very well. However, just as the members of the Guyana House of Parliament behaved in their House, they behaved at the Conference which I attend-

ed. They Guyana Opposition gave the Guyana Government a lot of trouble at the Conference. This country has a good name, and we have the respect of people here and abroad. Should we allow people to come to this country and spoil our good name?

I do not know how members of the Government are looking at this matter, but I would advise them especially the back benchers, to say that something is wrong with their bellies and go home, so that this Bill may be passed. Anyway, the Government does not have any back bencher. I can say anything in this House. If it is unparliamentary, then I can withdraw it. If poor people outside of this House say what they have in mind, they would have to go before a magistrate. I can say in this House that if hon. members do not vote for this Bill, then they have been paid. I am not going to say so yet, but I may have to say so before I have completed my speech. If I have to say that they have been paid to do what they are doing, I will say so.

Mr. Speaker, time is going, and I want this Bill to be passed this evening. If I did not want the Bill to be passed, then I would speak on it until tomorrow morning. I have my notes here, and I have not yet looked at them. I want this Bill to be passed this evening for more reason than one. I do not want to detain the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, because I know that he is responsible for this matter. It is good for us to be jovial in a debate of this nature.

There was a man at Welchman Hall named Johnson. He had a wedding one day, and after the guests left he woke up the bride and told her: "Mary, get up and let us eat our cake." When he told her to get up, she must have thought that he wanted to do something else. I am now saying that the Government is responsible for whatever the people have done. The Hon. Prime Minister is responsible for everything, because he piloted the Bill. As I have already said, he wanted money to run the country. It might have happened to me, but I would not have accepted those promises. If he gets up here and tries to defend the Bill, I will get on the platform and say certain things. On the platform I can be my own lawyer.

Somebody was talking about lawyers, and I think it was Your Honour. I went to a lawyer the other day and he told me something; I went to another lawyer and he told me something else; I went to a third lawyer and he told me something different. I decided there and then to go to court and pilot my own case. I did not know the section to which I should have referred the magistrate, but I used what I had in my head. A lot of lawyers depend on what is written, but whenever any person reads something from a book it is not his knowledge. What comes out of your head is something that you cannot buy.

A little while ago the Hon. Minister spoke something about Judo. Judo cannot put anything in my head. (Interruption) The Hon. Prime Minister cares so little about this debate that he would not even listen to what I am saying. Anyway, one can talk and still listen. After what I have said here this afternoon, are you

going to tell me that these people are worthy to remain with us, when the Company have a licence to sell sweepstakes and they are now dealing in tamarinds? This is rank hypocrisy. The word "hypocrisy" has a very wide meaning and I had to explain it some time ago.

4.05 p.m.

I know that I will be asked: "How can you say that these tickets went out in a barrel?" This is my reply: go and find out how many have been shipped out of the island from the time that these people were here, or at least for one year. Find out how many of these tickets have passed through the Post Office. I sat here and I heard the hon. senior member for St. James, I think it was, say that he was asked to take away some of them with him. He is an insurance man, not a sweepstake man. I did not hear anybody get up to deny it; therefore it must be true. Leave out the matter of the barrels and the tamarinds! You hear an hon. member accusing another hon. member of taking along these tickets, and is that not enough to warrant dismissal with costs? Mr. Deputy Speaker, does not that warrant a dismissal? If nothing else warrants a dismissal, this warrants it.

The Minister of Communications went to the St. Thomas Post Office with the Police and arrested two hungry people and accused them of robbing the revenue. There were two or three newspapers at five cents a piece which do not have to pass through the post, and they are taken there. If they are taken to the Post Office by a van which is not the van belonging to the Post Office, the driver of the van is entitled to read a hundred newspapers. It is not the Government's van; it is the contractors' van, and I know that these vans take parcels for the public. They take my breakfast and all. This is the parcel of the van driver and a Minister who is working for a handsome salary and who should be doing the people's work, is smelling about with a policeman to arrest people! I grant you that he is doing his duty in trying to save the revenue for the country, but what about these people now? I say that these things were the perquisites of the van driver. He cannot get inside where the letters are; there is nowhere inside at all. The parcels are not insured, and if the van had caught afire, the owners of the papers are not insured. You have a Minister who is going down beneath the earth with a policeman; you cannot see him because he has gone so far down just to track down the newspapers of two or three persons, and he does not have eyes enough to see what is happening with the W.I.H.S. If they do not vote for this Bill and that does not cause that Government to fall, then I will resign from this House. I will not waste my time getting up in here pleading for the people for what is and for what is not; and if this Government agrees with these people and when they go back to the people, the people say that they will put them back, I will be finished. This is bound to bring down the Government.

I am going to put it to the people in a way different from how it has been put here. The people in St. Thomas are deprived of their little Saturday newspaper, and are you going to tell me now that these

people can do as they like? That they can ship out and ship in and nothing happens? I have to pay my taxes and everybody else has to pay his taxes. The poorest man in this country has to pay taxes, no matter who he is, and these big shots are not paying. These people with all of this money do not want to pay my Government their money. This is a very serious matter. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I can see it in your eyes, that if they can vote for anything of this sort it is against their wishes. I can remember when I was Chairman of Committees - I do not think you were born yet, Sir - but I was Chairman of Committees, and the present Government - or some of them - were in the Opposition, and they were against my Government subsidising the B.W.I.A. or something like that. The hon. senior member for the City was against my Government for it, and they were prepared to talk for hours, and your humble servant was in the Chair from 12 o'clock noon until 7.00 o'clock next morning. All through the night the Opposition was talking. The numbers of the Government were against them, and the only weapon they had was to talk and they talked. I compliment them. I now see when you are in the Opposition you must talk. I can tell you that they relieved me just to get a little cup of coffee and whilst passing, I heard one of them say: "We have got them, we will keep them until 7 o'clock in the morning." I said if that is so, I will go in, and I went in and threw a spanner into the works. Otherwise, it would have been history. There were only two members talking. There was a good Opposition. Well, Sir, those hon. members should not feel deterred if we tried to defend the people. They defended their people and they were right. I did not see it in that light; I thought that they were only punishing me.

4.15 p.m.

But, when you have a duty to perform, perform it. If you feel a man is wrong or the Government is wrong, let them know so.

Is the Government wrong? The Government has not done anything wrong. The Government tried its best, and is trying its best, to get money to run the country. I would not be so unfair as to get up and accuse the Hon. Prime Minister, or anybody else, for what has happened. I do believe that if the Hon. Prime Minister had known that this Company was switching from selling sweepstake tickets to selling tamarinds, he would not have allowed them to carry on.

I have a case which I can prove here from the hon. senior member for St. James. That hon. member was asked as an insurance man not to insure a lot of sweepstake ticket books, but to take them out of the island. That hon. member at that time seemed as if he knew that he was going to be a member of this House now, and that he should have refused to take out those tickets with him. He must have because if he had taken them out, I would have named him now for doing something which was wrong.

Now, Sir, you will know that any young man who likes to pose around with young ladies would know a lot of things. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition would not know now because he has passed that stage of life,

'but we would know. Well, then, how on earth did you know some special things were made for these particular girls to take away? I could not ask a servant of mine or anyone about it. I do not think any gentleman up Bay Street asked about that. Now, these people are asked to take these things out of the country without letting the Post Office get something out of it.

This is very hurtful. They are allowed to stay in this country. (A VOICE: Why?) Little Mr. Batchelor was not allowed to come in. He was not even allowed to get off the plane, yet these people must stay. Why? Because the good name of Barbados is drifting all the way down the line.

Sir, I do not like this gambling thing. For allowing them to operate in this country, they say that they will give the Barbados Turf Club a better type of horse. When it comes to horses for racing, there are some horses that even their names are too heavy for racing. Do you know that we had a race horse called "Sir Grantley" and that name was so heavy for it that he could not move? Even if you gave them a good, decent name, they just run around in the race with the others, but you always see them first from behind. They come first - you are going to judge from behind. Do you know that some horse-owners do not even bet on their horses? Now, think of it; you have a horse and you would not throw away a dollar bill on it!

Sir, we have to live up to this good name of Barbados. Let us live up to it; let us show the world that we can stand on our own feet. By your actions, you are making a lot of folks in the world believe that we cannot stand on our own feet. We can stand on our feet and still have that good, nice name.

Gambling is an unfair thing; you had better work hard to get money. If you buy a sweepstake ticket and you win, it is alright. I would almost call that honest gambling, but people who are buying these tickets are not winning.

Do you think that the Prime Minister can pass a law to catch these people when they are so smart? Every Barbadian is paying his full share of taxation and these people are getting around it.
4.25 p.m.

When these people were given a licence, I never expected that they were going to switch from sweepstakes to tamarinds. Several people have never thought of that, and I believe that several hon. members around this Table are surprised to hear about this. The members of the Government should know that something is wrong, because when the people in charge of the Company say that they will pay as they go along, there is a trick in that. They are still making money, and I know that they are not going to take one penny out of that \$10,000 million to pay Government unless they were getting money from somewhere. If they had intended to act in an honest manner, then the Government would not have had to sue them for taxes. If you do not spend \$1 and you are making \$10, then you are sure to have money. That is what those people are do-

ing to us, and it is the duty of every hon. member sitting around this Table to make sure that something positive is done in this matter.

When tamarinds are shipped away, sweepstakes and other things can be shipped along with them. A lot of things will leave this country illegally. When a barrel of tamarinds is rolled on the wharf, no one opens it to see its contents. Let us nip things in the bud. I was rather surprised when my attention was drawn to what was happening. It is possible to ship American money along with the tamarinds. The same way that sweepstakes can be sent out, then anything else can be sent out illegally. This is a serious question I am dealing with this afternoon.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: In accordance with Standing Order 18 (6), it is now time to return to Government Business.

Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: When the Sitting was suspended the House was in Committee of Supply.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1967-68 No. 19

Head 3 - Parliament - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is for the sum of \$16,450. Under Part 1 - Current Head 3 - Parliament, the sum of \$11,000 refers to Item 21 - Reporting. The sum of \$11,000 is being sought in order to increase the salaries of Parliamentary Reporters for the remainder of the financial year. The amount voted in the Estimates was \$21,696, and it is now necessary to provide \$11,000 to meet the revised salaries of Reporters. The salaries of Reporters and Typists have been revised in accordance with Government's policy, and we are asking that this sum of \$11,000 be voted under this Item to provide for the increased salaries to the end of this financial year.

With reference to Item 25 - Commonwealth Parliamentary Association - the sum of \$5,000 is required to provide a supplementary grant to the Barbados branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association to meet the additional amount of subscription to the General Council, and the commitments in respect of conferences and delegations for the remainder of the financial year.

I beg to move that Head 3 stand part.

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, we are not against the increase in salaries for the reporters in this House, and we believe that the increase is justified. We still want to make it clear that we are extremely dissatisfied with the manner in which the publications

of the reports of this House and *Official Gazette* are dealt with. It is time that we, on this side of the House, should make up our minds that we are not going to accept any "second best" system as far as the debates of this House are concerned.

Several months pass before one can get a copy of the *Official Gazette* or a copy of a report of the proceedings of this House. This is a matter of acute embarrassment to members on both sides of the House, apparently, because many people seem to feel that it is a subject that should not be raised on the floor of this House. I feel that a Special Committee of this House should be appointed to go into this matter, because the Debates Committee seems to be a useless institution. The Debates Committee sits, but nothing is done. In order to have this House functioning properly, it will be necessary to have the debates speedily done. It seems to me as though the Leader of the House together with the Leader of the Opposition or some other member on this side of the House should sit down together and arrive at some decision whereby things will be done properly.

Mr. HUSBANDS: My hon. colleague on my immediate right referred to the slowness in having the Hansard printed in the *Official Gazette*. This brings to my mind, Mr. Chairman, that some time ago the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, the Minister of Education now Minister of State, said - Speaking from memory, and I think I am correct - that it was proposed to appoint an Editor of Debates. I remember speaking on the subject on that occasion.

I wonder whether the Minister, who is in charge of this Resolution, can tell the House how far that appointment is being processed and what is the present state of things? If we had an Editor of Debates, who is competent, he would relieve us of the difficulty in which we now find ourselves. For instance, the debates of the 10th December may reach an Hon. Member several weeks afterwards.
4.35 p.m.

I think that that is the answer. What we understand is happening is this: the Clerk of the House does a lot of editing and he does not seem to be able to do that easily. I know that if some other arrangements were made, if we had our own Editor, the debates could be brought up to date. I would like the Hon. Minister tell us what stage has been reached as far as the appointment of an Editor of Debates is concerned. That is something which was brought forward in the House. Our Reporterial Staff is up to the strength of three and the Typist Staff is the same number. There is one Typist to each Reporter, but the Clerk of the House has to do a lot of proof reading and editing and that is a strenuous job. He has other work to deal with. The Deputy Clerk is not a whole-time officer of this House; but the Clerk is supposed to be a whole-time officer.

I know the conditions of service under which the Clerk works. I remember the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, the present Minister of State for Caribbean Affairs, stating that the Government had come to a de-

cision to appoint an Editor of Debates. If that has been allowed to hang fire for all of these weeks and months, I think that if that appointment is made as quickly as possible, then we will have our debates up to date in the *Official Gazette*. The House has been meeting for fairly lengthy hours, and we have been going rather steadily now and then and again we do not have any regular recess. I remember that the Reporterial Staff usually caught up with their work when the House was on vacation. However, Sir, I feel that part of the answer lies in the appointment of an Editor of Debates, the appointment of a competent man to whom a proper salary should be paid. If that were done, the Clerk of the House would not have to attend to so many duties as proof reading and editing. There was a time when some other Officer of the House was allowed to edit the debates, and that arrangement was sternly criticised in this House. If an appointment of an Editor of Debates is to be made, and the Cabinet has given its decision for that appointment to be made, let it be done; let this appointment be made and then we would know whom we have to blame. I know that in addition to his duties of editing and proof reading, the Clerk has to attend, *ex-officio*, meetings of the Select Committees and when he is absent, the Deputy Clerk has to do the job. I say that I would like an answer from the Minister, who is responsible, to tell me where we are not *vis-a-vis* the appointment of an Editor of Debates, which proposal I remember hearing in this Chamber from the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, who is now the Minister of State for Caribbean Affairs.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I do not want to repeat what has been said, but this matter has been mentioned long enough that it could be remedied. I have been asked as to what is happening, but instead of having a crash programme in one direction, why should we not have a crash programme to bring the debates in the *Official Gazette* up to date?

Everybody on this side of the House would be quite willing to vote the money necessary for having more Reporters at a higher salary, if necessary, if we could get to the standard and maintain the standard of the House of Commons where you can buy the debates on the day after the speeches have been made. The debates could be corrected by hon. members, and be on the streets on the day after they have taken place. There is no reason why that should not be done in Barbados. There are thousands of people in this island who would buy the *Official Gazette* and read the speeches and see the proceedings which took place on the day before. There has been a suggestion that the Debates Committee - or something has been whispered at the Debates Committee about bringing things up to the stage where we can have the debates published within three days of their taking place. If that is so, we can do some more pushing and get the debates out on the day after they have taken place.
4.45 p.m.

I am wondering and have been making enquiries of what has been done to tighten up things, and the answers which I got is that the Cabinet is holding up things. The Debates Committee has seen fit to make

recommendations for the printing of the Official Hansard of the Legislature within the shortest possible time, and it was thought that these recommendations would have been implemented at the opening of this Session.

I have asked that the system of reporting by Planatype be introduced here so as to speed up the work. We had reporting by Planatype in the Federal Legislature, and it is terrifically fast and you got your debates ready by the next morning. However, although Planatype seems to be the customary way of reporting nowadays, I asked the Clerk a few minutes ago about it, and I understand that you cannot make up your mind on it yet. These are matters which the Debates Committee of today were seriously concerned with, and have made recommendations to the Cabinet after giving careful consideration to the matter. The hon. senior member for St. Peter has told what had been effected in the past.

In so far as making provision for bringing everything up-to-date as regards the printing of the *Official Debates*, we would do everything possible to help. We would come back in tomorrow if you felt something should be done in addition so as to speed this work up. Briefly, Mr. Chairman, we would vote anything asked for if it is thought that it would help in getting these debates ready for publication at the earliest possible time. Of course, naturally, you would be asked to explain how you arrived at a particular sum. If you come for higher or better salaries in the hope that it would help in getting better production - and I am saying nothing in reflection of the present Reporters, some of whom have been Reporters in this House for over twenty-years - if it is necessary to get somebody else, do so. Above all, do not lose sight of the fact that the general public wants to read the debates of what took place in here at the earliest possible time. You can sell copies of the debates in the streets.

Sir, I do not think anything has been said that the Government could not actually work on it and follow it.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Sir, I have listened with a great deal of interest to the statements made on the other side of the House on the debates. It is unfortunate that the rules of this House as they stand do not permit members the opportunity of discussing the domestic affairs of this House without the employees of other persons present at the discussions, but there is a fantastic amount of inefficiency in the office of the Legislature and this is a matter of general knowledge.

I have been trying to get this matter regulated. As a matter of fact, as far as the Reporters are concerned, I should say that within the limitations of their work, they are doing a very good job, but I am referring to the printing of the debates and the general conduct of the Officers of the House. I have heard a lot of nonsense being talked about people in a certain walk of life. If a person is in a certain stratum of life, he is hounded down; but as soon as you move up the social ladder, you find more humanities are given to people who should set an example.

I am not going to sit here and see the Reporters being criticised. The general impression is that the Reporters are not doing their work. Regulations, or whatever they are, are laid down as regards their conditions of service, and you can come in here and find them doing their transcripts as laid down. I wish I could say the same thing of the other Officers of the House.

I should like the Leader of the Opposition as Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee to examine the way in which the accounts of the House have been handled over the year or during the period under review. Every member here knows what I am talking about. It does not mean that I am carrying out a personal or political vendetta against anybody, because Officers of the House are not supposed to have political views. And if I say the things that could be said, I do not think that two or three of the members on the opposite side would be living in Barbados. (A VOICE: Whom are you talking about?) I include myself as one.

The House should put up standards of conduct that we would like to see coming from the public outside. Why is it that the House of Assembly should be a depository of inefficiency?

When the Opposition talked about the greatest production, I asked the Public Service Commission for their recommendations as regards the more modern form of stenotyping. There is a modern form of stenotyping obtainable in other neighbouring territories.

4.55 p.m.

The reply I received was that the Debates Committee was not interested in stenoscrypt because it was thinking about some other newer system, but not one of us has seen the system and we are still waiting for several Debates. I would like to pick up some of the debates and the speeches that we have made, but I cannot get them. There are debates which are supposed to have been printed before 1958, and we have not yet received them, far less those for six months ago.

I want to let the members of the Opposition know that an increase in salary is not the cure for lack of production. I would never give an increase in salary to a person who is giving low production because he is not satisfied with his salary. I would give a man an increase in salary if he says that he has to work overtime in order to get work done, and he convinces me that his salary should be increased. It may be necessary to have an increase in the staff, but I do not see in this Resolution any cure for our difficulties.

Quite recently the Hon. Speaker made some remarks indicating that the Printing Office was responsible for inefficiency. I had the matter investigated and wrote a letter to the Speaker pointing out that, far from it being the fault of the Printing Office, the Printing Office had done work that should have been done by an Officer of this House. I do not know why this House of Assembly has to be the repository of inefficiency.

It is true that certain recommendations were made in February, 1967. However, the Debates Committee, because of personal reasons, is dragging its feet and refusing to take a firm stand in a matter which has reached proportions of public concern.

Mr. HUSBANDS: I am a member of the Debates Committee, but I have never attended any meeting where reports of disreputable conduct on the part of any Officer have been made. Nothing like that was ever brought to my knowledge at any meeting of the Debates Committee. If the Hon. Prime Minister knows of any disreputable and disgraceful conduct on the part of any Officer of this House, then he should draw it to the attention of Mr. Speaker who should bring it to the notice of the Advisory Committee known as the Debates Committee. Let me tell this House that the Debates Committee is merely an Advisory Committee.

I repeat that if the Hon. Prime Minister knows of any disreputable conduct on the part of any Officer of this House or of the Printing Committee, then it has not been officially brought to my knowledge and therefore, I cannot be charged with defending anybody who should be disciplined.

Anyway, this is not the place for dealing with such a matter. We have strangers in our midst, and this matter should not be discussed in this manner. I do not like to stab a man behind his back, or to talk about a man when he cannot defend himself. The correct thing for the Hon. Prime Minister to do is to draw the Speaker's attention to what he thinks is disreputable conduct on the part of an Officer, and the Speaker could take up the matter in the Debates Committee. I do not like this way of attacking people.

If it is necessary to have an investigation into the matter, that can be done in due course. I never listen to news, because when somebody comes to you and tells you something about Mr. Barrow and you do not examine the matter properly, you will become biased. I like to have proper evidence before me and to give a man an opportunity to defend himself. If he is wrong, then I will take the necessary action to have him disciplined.

Is it true or not that the Cabinet agreed to appoint an Editor of Debates? The Hon. Prime Minister spoke, but he did not mention one word about this matter.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: When was the last meeting of the Debates Committee that you attended? No recommendation of that nature has ever been made or sent to the Cabinet. As I said before, it is for the House of Assembly to make recommendations for the proper dispatch of the work of the House. It is not for the Cabinet to tell the House of Assembly how the work in the House should be conducted.

If the hon. member will recommend the appointment of a Special Select Committee to go into this question and examine all the proceedings that take

place and make recommendations of the proper printing and publication of Debates, I shall be glad to support that because it appears to me that the Debates Committee does not function, and even when it is functioning the hon. senior member for St. Peter does not attend the meetings.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Chairman, we know the Hon. Prime Minister and his weaknesses, and I object to his remarks. When I was the Speaker of this House of Assembly, I recommended that an Editor of Debates should be appointed. The Hon. Prime Minister seldom comes here, or seldom can come here, whichever is more parliamentary, but whenever he comes he gets muddled.

If you will peruse the Debates of this House, Mr. Chairman, you will find that the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, unasked and unprovoked, stood on the floor of this House and told us that the Cabinet had agreed to the appointment of an Editor of Debates. Do not tell me what the Cabinet can do or should do. I am not responsible for what goes on in the Cabinet. I know what the hon. junior member for St. Lucy said in this House, and when he made the statement it was unprovoked. I am not saying that it was a recommendation from the Debates Committee, because I do not attend those meetings regularly. I will attend the meetings as regularly as I want to.

5.05 p.m.

I am not saying that it was a recommendation from the Debates Committee. When a Minister makes a statement like that, I take it to be a serious one. The Hon. Prime Minister is talking at cross purposes. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition has said that this House will do all that lies in its power as far as speeding up the publication of the debates in the *Official Gazette* is concerned. I think that that would meet with unanimous agreement around this horse-shoe. Speaking of mechanical aids, I have seen certain machines in operation in Trinidad. I do not know if the Staff have ever rejected the idea of being trained to use these machines. I am ignorant of that, but I say this; I know that the answer can partly be in the provision for the appointment of an Editor of Debates. I am sure that there are other hon. members here in this Session who were here in the last five years. The question of the appointment of an Editor of Debates was mentioned here in 1967, and that is why I said that I hope that the Minister in charge would tell us how far they have got in this matter. I have nobody to defend when I am ignorant of a thing, but when I am posted with the facts, I remain un-biased. (*A Voice from the Gallery*). Mr. Chairman, I hope that you will spot that individual and have him removed. You are one of the guardians of the privileges of this House. (*ASIDES*).

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If the hon. member is drawing my attention to Standing Order 69, that Standing Order says this:-

"No strangers shall be entitled to enter or remain within the Chamber of the House or the precincts thereof without the authority of the Speaker.

If any member takes notice that strangers are present, the Speaker, or in Committee the Chairman, shall put forthwith the question 'That strangers do withdraw', without permitting any debate or amendment....."

MEMBERS: That is not the Standing Order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is the relevant Standing Order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Not for the misbehaviour of an individual.

Mr. HUSBANDS: I hope that on the next occasion you will really see the offender. We are in an unfortunate position today in that we have no Marshal. Mr. Chairman, I ask you to observe the sort of irregularities which take place in Parliament.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I heard a voice, but I cannot discover who the offender is. As I told hon. members, if notice is brought to my attention as to the misbehaviour of strangers, it means that Standing Order 69 will be put into operation. Let the hon. member proceed.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Chairman, as I was saying, Sir, I do not believe that an increase of salary for the Reportorial Staff is the answer. I think that the Servants and Officers of this House have recently had increases in their salaries; therefore there is no further increase due, nor do I think that additional staff is permanently needed. We can employ additional staff in an emergency for the purpose of speeding up the publication of the debates. Things have been so difficult that I remember that a President of the Other Place actually wrote off some debates; and if I, as Speaker of this House had done that, I would have come in for the greatest ridicule. I have had my difficulties as Speaker of this House with the publication of the debates and I did my best to get the debates out. As I have already said, with the apportionment of duties, when it comes to the proof reading and editing, the Clerk has those duties to perform. This matter will affect every single member of this House. The Prime Minister does not seem to remember that statement which has been made by the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, the Minister of State for Caribbean Affairs; he must have made that statement on his own back. *bat*
5.15 p.m.

I had hoped really that something would have resulted from that. I am sorry for that. It is very clear. However, Sir, I do not think that I should speak any more on this matter. I have asked a question which remains to be answered.

Mr. St. JOHN: Sir, I am not going to let this occasion pass without expressing my opinion on this matter because we might not have the opportunity to speak on it in the near future. The fact that somebody happens to be present is of no concern to me because I feel that this situation has been allowed to

continue for too long; so much so, that it has reached the stage where it is scandalous.

The position is that under the Rules at the opening of each Session, a Committee should be formed of members of this House for the purpose of selecting and arranging reports, and members should meet and discuss all matters connected with the comfort and convenience of members of the House. The Committee shall have power to send for persons, papers and records, and to report from time to time.

I understand that this so called Debates Committee is appointed under these Rules. I go further and say that the official report of all speeches shall be prepared under the supervision of the Clerk. As I see it, the responsibility is clearly set out, and I am saying that the Speaker and the Clerk are responsible for this bad state of affairs. The rule says that it is the Clerk's duty under the supervision of the Speaker.

Let us have a proper report on this matter before the House. We cannot go on with this situation continuing because somebody would open his mouth. You cannot go into the Lobby of this Assembly without seeing left there a lot of broken furniture. I would like to see how some people who are responsible for this keep their households. I do not care whom I offend by saying this. These things must be said. The responsibility for this must lay primarily with the Speaker because he is the Chairman of this co-called Debates Committee. The Prime Minister and/or the Leader of this House actually hand-picks the members of the Debates Committee.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I rise on a point of order. The hon. member gets up and say that I hand-picked this Committee. The Printing and Debates Committee has been comprised of the senior members of the various constituencies and there is no question of the practice of anybody in this House appointing this Committee. The position is that the senior members of the various constituencies are appointed to this Committee.

Mr. St. JOHN: I see Mr. Alkins is on it, and I do not know which constituency he represents that he is on it. I also see the junior member for the City of Bridgetown is on it. The situation of appointing the senior members of the constituencies to this Committee may have been the practice in the past.

Sir, I am concerned with the state of affairs of the debates. Why must we be cowards in here? All kinds of things are allowed to go on in this House. You find people getting on as they like in the Gallery. Mr. Chairman, as long as I am here I shall talk my mind freely; I do not care who speaks to me afterwards. I say it is scandalous.

The Debates Committee was appointed behind the backs of the Opposition. It is time to fire that Committee. (A VOICE: It is a Standing Committee.) It is time that we draft a fresh set of rules for that Committee. Nobody can say that it is comfortable

and convenient to go into the Lobby. There is broken furniture all around and dust. Members sit down and get their clothes dirty. We should make a firm decision on this matter. On every occasion that I get, I am going to speak on this matter.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Now, Sir, we have no axe to grind for anybody. Sometime ago, the Debates Committee was summoned and met under His Honour's Chairmanship and made certain recommendations with respect to the keeping of the outer rooms of this House. Among the recommendations was the appointment of a Maid.

Well, Sir, as a member of the Debates Committee, I know of the working of that Committee and, Mr. Chairman, the Chairman of that committee is Mr. Speaker. If we are going to charge him for any neglect of duty as the Chairman of that Committee, let us do so; but that is not what we have come here to do. I speak of what I know and do not mince matters. We have come here to deal with a money Resolution making provision for the sum of \$11,000 to be voted for the purpose of meeting increased salaries of the Reporters of the House. I do not see it is necessary in a debate on this, even if it is a fact, to mention how much cobweb or dust that you see around the place.
5.25 p.m.

It is either the Speaker's responsibility or the delegated responsibility of the Clerk. You should do things in a lawful and proper manner instead of in this slipshod fashion.

The question that Head 3 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 43 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Head 43 - Ministry of Health and Community Development was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in moving the passing of Head 43 - Item 159 - Furniture and Equipment - 450, I wish to mention that this sum is required to meet the cost of a refrigerator for the storage of perishable drugs and Vaccines at the Oistins Public Health Clinic. The Public Health Clinic needs its own storage facilities, whereas in the past it shared storage facilities with the District Hospital. Owing to the increased number of attendances - probably the highest in the Island - we need a refrigerator for storing certain perishable drugs, vaccines, etc.

I beg to move that Head 43 stand part.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that this Resolution for the sum of \$16,450 do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1967-68 No. 20

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman the next Resolution is for the sum of \$21,666. As the Addendum sets out: All arrears of salaries and wages resulting from the 1966 Salaries Revision were not paid or accounted for by 31st March, 1967.

It is therefore necessary to provide the sum of \$21,101 to complete payment of arrears, and a sum of \$565 to pay honoraria to six (6) officers who were required to do special work outside normal working hours in order to effect payment of the arrears.

I may mention that because of certain anomalies certain workers were not paid on time. The Department of the Ministry of Communications and Works and certain other Departments have gone into the matter to find out anomalies and who were not paid on time in order to see that everyone gets his just due. It was rather difficult to secure the necessary information. This will, we hope, bring this matter to a close and ensure the payment of the officers concerned.

I beg to move that the Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1967-68 No. 21

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is for the sum of \$224, and it concerns the Prime Minister's Office. All arrears of salaries and wages resulting from the 1966 Salaries Revision were not paid or accounted for by 31st March, 1967. It is therefore necessary to provide the sum of \$224 to complete the payment of arrears. In other words, this is to regularise the position and to see that the payment of arrears is completed.

I beg to move that the Resolution be passed.

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

Mr. HUSBANDS: The amount is very small. What is this money really for? How do you arrive at this \$224?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The position is that certain officers were seconded to another Department to do work.

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

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

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

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

5.35 p.m.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that these Resolutions be now read a first time.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that these Resolutions be now read a second time.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I must draw to Your Honour's attention that when the Committee was dealing with the Resolution relative to the debates of this House, Your Honour's name was called, and I am quite sure that the House would benefit considerably if Your Honour were to make a statement as to the position of the Debates Committee and especially with regard to the lateness of the publication of debates. Some statements were made which were found to be subsequently incorrect. I have asked that for the enlightenment of the House, not necessary now because Your Honour could not possibly have known what was said, but at some time I am asking that Your Honour make a positive statement as to the position of the debates.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am grateful to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition for drawing to my attention that something was said about that. I more than welcome the opportunity of presenting a statement to that effect at the very next meeting of this House.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I hope that your statement will not be limited to the printing of the debates. I think that the general feeling is that the House is concerned over the staffing position, and not only the quantum of salaries but the allocation of duties and the discharge of those duties by the Officers of the House and whether the present arrangements are entirely to Your Honour's satisfaction. I would not like Your Honour to go away with the feeling that we are merely concerned with the production of the debates, because we have had that problem from time immemorial. There does not appear to be any solution for it unless we have a drastic revision in the physical appearance around here. I do not want to say anything more.

Mr. SPEAKER: Lest the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister think that I may not make my report as extensive as possible, that I will have no hesitation in doing. It is time that we come to an end of the frustration from which we have been suffering since December, 1961.

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

On the motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, the Resolutions were agreed to.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (No. 10) ORDER, 1967

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister:- To move the passing of the following Resolution:-

A Resolution to give effect to the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 10) Order, 1967.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as the Addendum to the Resolution sets out.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the Hon. Minister asking leave to take charge of this Order?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Yes, Sir, I am asking leave to take charge of this Order.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Health is asking leave to take charge of this Order which stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted. *(After a pause)* There being no objection, leave is granted, and the Hon. Minister may proceed.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as the Addendum to the Resolution sets out, the order provides for the following adjustments to the establishment structure of the undermentioned Departments, namely, the Audit Department and the Economic Planning Unit. It is felt that in the re-organisation of the staff structure, these adjustments are necessary and in future there will be a Deputy Auditor General and not an Assistant Auditor General, that the work will be better facilitated and there will be more responsibility in having a Deputy Auditor General as distinct from an Assistant Auditor General. The reasons for the re-adjustment and re-organisation generally are set out in the Addendum. Hon. members will see that the senior Examiners have to perform very important work. Experience is required by these officers, and it is felt that the salary structure should be brought into line in accordance with their responsibility and experience.

As far as the Economic Planning Unit is concerned, that is a separate and distinct Department, and it is felt that there should be real scope in that Department so as not only to attract but also to retain the services of professionals who will regard it as a career and not merely a question of rendering assistance. We want to keep people with the vast knowledge and experience gained there. It is not only a question of attracting the material but retaining it. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, as to the Economic Planning Unit, I wonder if the Hon. Minister could tell this House what is the position now in view of the fact that the Director of the Planning Unit is out of the island - if the senior Economist has been appointed

to act as Director, or is it a case where an officer from another Department has been seconded to the Planning Unit to act as Director. If that is the case, I wonder if the Hon. Minister would have any explanation of it. You will appreciate the fact that if such a situation were to exist it must be taken that there would be an area of discontent existing in the Economic Planning Unit at the present moment. I am sure that the Hon. Minister would not like to have such a situation obtaining there.

5.45 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I do not think some hon. members understand what their functions are. As far as the Government Service is concerned, recruitment is done by the Public Service Commission, as well as matter of discipline. When it comes to the question of who is to act as Head of the Economic Planning Department, I am in a better position to say what should be done and I do not want any two-by-three journalists dipping their malicious fingers into any department and suggesting that such-and-such office is not important.

There is no Director of the Economic Planning Unit at present. One of the Officers who had a lot to do with economic planning has left that Department. We had an Economist in the Planning Unit, but he has been appointed somewhere else and he is no longer there.

In so far as the policy which I have in mind is concerned, it is a policy of appointing the person who has been there in Washington and, therefore, it is a question that the present Financial Secretary is to be transferred to supervise the Planning Unit. The Economist was acting as Director, and there has never been an individual there from the time of the institution of the planning Unit to act as Director. There was one from Germany and one from Australia and we had one from Barbados. There was one from Germany whom the hon. member did not know of. I myself supervised it. Before that, it was a section of the Ministry of Finance.

The Director of Economic Planning Unit now is directly responsible to me and he does not have to go through the formalities of reporting to me through the Financial Secretary. Therefore, there is no intermediary, and any dissatisfaction or matters relating to discipline is reported to me; so the Public Service Commission or the Civil Service Association does not exercise any discipline on the staff.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is -

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of explanation. I was attempting to say this. An hon. member who spoke on the Resolution said something about two-by-three journalists.

In the Prime Minister's remarks, some malicious remarks must be drawn in. The trouble is that the Prime Minister has neglected his own father and that is what is worrying him. He is very ungrateful.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: This is my ruling, so far as an hon. member who has already spoken concerning a matter is concerned.

Standing Order 28 (b) says:

"No member shall interrupt another member except - to elucidate some matter raised by that Member in the course of his speech, provided that the Member speaking is willing to give way and resumes his seat and that the Member wishing to interrupt is called by the Chair."

The Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, as I understand it, had completed his speech. The hon. junior member for St. Peter rose on a point of explanation. There is only one other point on which the hon. member may rise, that is under Standing Order 26 (16) which says:

"A Member who has spoken to a question may again be heard to offer explanation of some material part of his speech which has been misunderstood; but he shall not introduce new matter."

If the hon. junior member for St. Peter who had spoken on this question is rising on a point of explanation, he can do so, but he must only offer explanation on that material part of his speech which has been misunderstood.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I only rise to offer explanation on that part of my speech which seems to be misunderstood by the Prime Minister. The thing is that the Prime Minister has accused me of -

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member just make his explanation, not in respect of the accusation.

Mr. HINDS: I am just stating the case as put by the Prime Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member proceed according to the Rule?

Mr. HINDS: The Prime Minister talked about Department under his control.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I never said that any officer was under my control. Because the Leader of the Opposition thinks it is right to introduce low morals into the debates of this Chamber -

5.55 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: If the hon. junior member for St. Peter is proposing an explanation of a material part of his speech, and he is also explaining what the hon. Prime Minister is alleged to have said, then I can see that something is about to happen. *(Interruption)* I hear a remark by a member that "journalists are dipping their fingers".

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order. Did the Prime Minister not make reference to the Leader

of the Opposition who, unfortunately, is not in his seat, about introducing low morals? Will you not call upon the Hon. Prime Minister to withdraw something that is out of order?

Mr. SPEAKER: When the Speaker is on his feet, so far as this Speaker is concerned, there may be unseemly interruptions; there may be unseemly behaviour or grave disorder; but I take not the slightest cognisance of what is said in the House when I am on my feet because everyone is presumed to --

Mr. St. JOHN rose.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for Christ Church rose while the Speaker was on his feet and he made a remark.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: You have said that you do not take cognisance of remarks made in this House when you are on your feet. *(Laughter)*.

Mr. SPEAKER: I shall have very little hesitation in clearing the Gallery. The hon. senior member for Christ Church rose when the Chair had already risen. I take no cognisance of anything that was said, ignorant or otherwise, but I take cognisance of the fact that the hon. member rose when the Chair had already risen. It is even worse than remaining standing after the Chair had risen. Does the Hon. Member express any sort of regret at all for rising whilst the Chair was standing?

Mr. St. JOHN: I apologise for rising whilst the Chair was standing.

Mr. SPEAKER: I accept that.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The remark made by the Prime Minister, as I recall it, was not made while Your Honour was in the Chair. Perhaps you can correct my recollection, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not concerned with correct-int members' recollection, but with going by my own. *(Interruption)* Will the hon. senior member for Bridgetown refresh his recollection of the Standing Order which regulates the conduct of members not speaking? It is Standing Order No. 29 (6):

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

(Hon. MEMBERS: That does not apply.) If hon. members are saying that it does not apply, then may I remind them of Standing Order No. 34:

"Speaker to be heard in silence"

Whenever the Speaker rises during a debate, any Member then speaking, or offering to speak, shall sit down, and the House shall be silent so that the Speaker may be heard without interruption."

Now, in respect of the hon. junior member for St. Peter, I do not regard that which he has intimated; he is making a lot of explanations. I regard Standing Order No. 26 (16) as being valid as a point:

"A Member who has spoken to a question may again be heard to offer explanation of some material part of his speech which has been misunderstood; but he shall not introduce new matter."

The operative phrase is "some material part of his speech."

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I want to offer an explanation on more than one point made by the Prime Minister. With Your Honour's permission, I want to make an explanation on a material part of my speech which is misunderstood.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. junior member for St. Peter state the material part of his speech in relation to which he wants to make an explanation?

Mr. HINDS: Yes. The Prime Minister referred to the Acting Director of the Planning Unit.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member merely state what he said, so that it can go on record as being misunderstood?

Mr. HINDS: I never suggested that there was dissension or dissatisfaction, but only a person with a warped mentality would -

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member may not comment. The hon. Member has stated what he said which he thinks was misunderstood.

Mr. HINDS: I have not completed my point which has been misunderstood. The Prime Minister accused me of being ignorant.

Mr. SPEAKER: Even if there was an accusation of being ignorant, there can be no reply to it now.

Mr. HINDS: If I were ignorant, according to the Prime Minister's brand of economics, I would not have paid \$135,000 from the taxpayers' money *(Interruption)*

Mr. SPEAKER: May I suggest to the hon. member that he should not allow himself - I would not say - to be led astray - to be prompted by an hon. member who is seated and who probably knows so much less of the Standing Orders than the hon. member on his feet.

Mr. HINDS: So far as the Standing Orders are concerned, from what I have seen and heard of Your Honour's Rulings, and I have to abide with them, they do not -

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is not speaking on any material part of his speech. Let us endeavour to abide by the Standing Orders; otherwise we can never get anywhere.
6.05 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: It is just at this point that the question of low morals has been introduced into this House. It is the lowest morals that any hon. member could be possessed of.

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

RESOLUTION TO ADJUST RATES OF INTEREST
CHARGEABLE TO THE BARBADOS
MARKETING CORPORATION

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture:- To move the passing of the following Resolution:-

A Resolution to adjust the rate of interest chargeable to the Barbados Marketing Corporation in respect of loans of certain sums of money from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce and the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on the 18th November last year, this Chamber passed a Resolution in respect of \$125,000 to be borrowed from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce; \$275,000 to be borrowed from the same bank; \$175,000 to be borrowed from the Bank of Nova Scotia and \$137,000 to be borrowed from the same Bank, and approval was given for the guarantee by the Government of the payment of the principal sum and of interest on those borrowings of the Barbados Marketing Corporation for the purpose of meeting the obligations and discharging the functions of the Corporation. At that time the Resolution made provision for the rate of interest to be paid at one half of one per cent below the prime commercial rate at the date of borrowing. We have had to deal with a similar Resolution some weeks ago in respect of the Development Board. The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce has requested an amendment to the Resolution which is more in keeping with the standard practice, and that is, that the rate of interest should be one-half of one percent below the prime commercial rate quoted to the public from time to time. This Resolution is similar to the other Resolution which was brought before this House in respect of the Development Board.

I should like to be brutally frank. I know that this is a Resolution which deals with the Barbados Marketing Corporation, and I know that hon. members will take the opportunity during this debate to tear holes in the Barbados Marketing Corporation. I should also like to say that I am aware of the fact that there have been irregularities taking place at the B.M.C. As far as I am concerned, that is history. The position is, that it is pointless for us to harp over the faults of the B.M.C. in the past. We all know that there were faults, and we know that there is an attempt being made to solve the problems of the B.M.C. We know that people have been worried over what went on in the Cold Storage section, and we have taken care of that. People have been worried over what went on with the dealings of the B.M.C. There are certain irregularities taking place where the Board is concerned; and we have got out of them. We have discovered that the management of the Barbados Marketing Corporation

was faulty and we have more or less solved that problem to the best of our ability. (Mr. ST. JOHN: Tell us what you did about that.) I am coming to that.

The position is that we have found that the Barbados Marketing Corporation was faulty from the top. We have begun to make changes and we intend to carry out further changes. Hon. members will soon be seeing advertisements in the Press in respect of people to take care of the management of the B.M.C.; but before we did this, we have been in touch with experts in marketing - marketing consultants who are currently in Barbados advising the B.M.C. on proper managing methods of administration. As I have already said on the floor of this House, it is my intention, as the hon. senior member for St. Joseph uses the phrase "to raise the head of the Barbados Marketing Corporation above the water." We intend to do that and we will do it in six months' time. I give hon. members this assurance. The position is this; I do not want hon. members to come here this afternoon and talk about what all of us know. Do not let us criticise the Barbados Marketing Corporation. I would like suggestings from hon. members as to how I can be assisted in making the B.M.C. perform the functions for which it was established.

6.15 p.m.

We have a policy of agricultural diversification in this country. The only way we can diversify agriculture is by making proper use of the Barbados Marketing Corporation. How can we go to the farmers and tell them that we want you to do this or that; we want you to grow these things; unless we provide a market for those things?

We are not sure what the future will be in respect of our agriculture. We are an agricultural community. We have, therefore, to depend on the land. We know where we are for the next six or seven years with cane, but after that we do not know and we cannot wait until then to change our agriculture. We do not know what is going to happen to us after 1974.

We are making provision for that; therefore, we cannot wait until then to know what we can do. We can plant something other than sugar-cane. There are many other agricultural crops. As I have said, we know that we can sell sugar up to 1974. After that we do not know; therefore, we want to encourage agricultural diversification in all forms.

Two or three weeks ago, when we were dealing with the Pine Hill Dairy, I pointed out to this Chamber the importance of agricultural diversification. I am pleased to say that as a result of the appeal which I gave on the floor of the House, some of the members on that side have changed their attitude to the Milk Plant. I should like to be able in another two or three weeks to see something happening to cause members in like manner to change their attitude to the Barbados Marketing Corporation.

The position as regards the B.M.C. is that we have had to keep it going. It has had its teething troubles. I am therefore appealing to the Opposition to

share my views. Let us make sure that when we go to the farmers, we have an institution there into which their products can be channelled.

Some of the things which have been responsible for the failure of the B.M.C., in the first place, is that there was a lack of experienced personnel there. It is true to say that we had an Agricultural Economist, but an economist may not necessarily be an administrator when it comes to experience and things of the like to administrative ability. Because of the unavailability of personnel to call upon with experience to conduct the affairs of the B.M.C. we have had our failures.

We have just provided another Agricultural Economist who is in the position to advise farmers when they bring in their products and they are not up to standard. We believe it is going to pay off. These consultants will be here for eighteen months. They themselves are actually looking after the management, and conducting the affairs of the B.M.C. They are also training some of our people to do their job so that at the end of their term of office, we would have some of our people well trained and equipped in the art of marketing so as to put the B.M.C. on the right path.

Mr. Speaker, with these few remarks, I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. ST. JOHN: There is one thing which I want to say to the Hon. Minister; when he is not defending the Pine Hill Dairy, he is defending the B.M.C. He can play that part very well. Nobody on this side of the House would wish the Barbados Marketing Board any ill, having Barbados at heart. Therefore, what we wish to see in their operation is evidence of a change in their perverse policies, and seeing that the affairs of the B.M.C. do not continue as they were in the past. We have heard that steps have been taken to right the wrongs at the B.M.C.

I hope that the Minister will see to it that the tendency which is still in existence by Ministers in this country to use Statutory Boards as a basis for rewarding their political friends will not prevent the full implementation of the suggestions made by the consultants to the Barbados Marketing Corporation. The Minister has not disclosed who the consultants are, but I believe they are Canadian farmers, and they have an association with the local farmers in Barbados. One of the things I would advise the Minister to guard against is to resist the temptation of using political supporters of the Party. I say that because even since the difficulties at B.M.C., we still see the case where a former Alderman of the Northern District Council has been appointed to the position of Market Instructor of which he has no knowledge or experience. Perhaps he is there as watchdog.

The particular point which I want to make is this. I want to say a number of things on the statement by the Minister that the Manager of the Marketing Corporation is Head of the Corporation. I do not think

that is a fair statement because, as I understand the position, he must be an executive Officer; but the responsibility for the supervision of the Marketing Corporation must lay with the Board that was appointed by the Cabinet of Barbados.
6.25 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. I would like to correct the hon. member on one point. The Manager of the Statutory Body is the Adviser to the Board and it is on his advice that the Board should act.

Mr. St. JOHN: That is why you have an ignorant Manager. The Manager is the servant of the Board. I want the Minister to keep that clearly in mind, because there has been a change only in the Chairman. It is the same Board that was in existence before. If I am wrong, I would be glad to be corrected by the Hon. Minister.

We want the Hon. Minister to advise the Cabinet that the Board is still not representing certain interests and people who ought to be in the Marketing Corporation. You will find people in the North of Barbados, in particular, who have done a wonderful job in trying to help solve some of our fish-processing problems in Barbados. I recall that the Government gave a young man a scholarship to observe fishing and marketing in the Maritime Provinces, and representation had been made that a person of such a calibre should have a seat on the Board. I hope that when there is a vacancy, the Hon. Minister will make use of the services of this gentleman who has the knowledge and is interested in this matter. He should appoint Mr. Hinds who knows what he is doing.

The Government will sooner or later come to the conclusion that certain losses at the Marketing Corporation will have to be written off. Look at the Corporations that were started in England some time ago. Look at what happened to the B.O.A.C. in England and see what changes have been made in their operation.

This Government was lucky to get back \$14,000, but it will not get back the \$85,000 or the rest of the money that is missing. I hope that proper systems will be established at the Corporation. I have no doubt that this firm of Marketing Consultants will establish proper systems, but we want to be assured that the Board will see to it that the systems that are established are carried out. Can we be assured that there is not going to be any perverse policy decision on the part of the Board?

Instead of using the cold storage space for storing certain people's vegetables and meat that are imported into this country, will the Board see to it that fishermen are treated fairly in this country? As the Hon. Minister of Trade and Fisheries should know, the Marketing Board does not treat the fishermen fairly. When they take fish there, they are told that there is no room because the space is filled with pork. If this sort of thing goes on, then something will surely happen. The fishing boats will soon be coming

in for repairs, and a major overhaul will be necessary for most of them. Many people have repaired their fishing boats already, but other boats are still to be repaired.

It is said that when fishermen bring in fish they cannot get a reasonable price for the fish. The fishermen are not satisfied. *(Interruption)* We do not have to come here to make capital out of the B.M.C. We have made capital already by getting the Government to confess that it has appointed people who are blatantly incompetent and dishonest. I say that the Government has appointed people who are totally incompetent on the Board. We hope that conditions will improve, and the new policies or measures taken will be successful. We want to let the Hon. Minister and the people know that we are watching operations, and, if we see any evidence of inefficiency and dishonesty continuing, then we are going to expose it as ruthlessly as we have done in the past.

Mr. SMITH: There is one point made by the hon. member who has just sat down with which I am not in agreement. The Good Book says: "The soul that sinneth shall die." He says that the Government will write off some of this money at the B.M.C. I term the B.M.C. as the "Brutal Marketing Corporation". There is so much money missing and you are asking the Government to write it off! Lock up somebody for the money that is missing. After somebody has gone behind the walls and spent a few months, then you can write off the balance. The moment you write off this sum of money, you are encouraging the others who are employed there to do the same thing. You have to drive a certain amount of fear into these people. Are you going to write off \$195,000 without sending somebody behind the walls? As soon as you arrest one or two people you may consider writing off the balance. *(Interruption)* I am going to remind the hon. member that the Hon. Minister was born in St. Joseph and St. Joseph does not produce idiots. He would have to play it cool or soft this afternoon. I had intended giving him a rough time, but he came out like a proper Minister. He did not come out like the hon. junior member for St. Thomas. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I have nothing to hide; I came out fighting.) - I am now being interrupted, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: I invite the hon. member not to listen to such remarks.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, you must learn to listen to common dogs.

Mr. SPEAKER: Outside of this Chamber, yes.

Mr. SMITH: My colleague said that he was going to use a phrase of mine, and that he was going to try to raise the B.M.C.'s head above the water. If he does not raise its nose above the water, it will still go down. It cannot swim if he fails to raise its nose above the water, and he will be wasting time. I want the Hon. Minister to answer the question I asked one of the "big wheels" of the B.M.C. which I knew he could answer, but he told me he would investigate the matter.
6.35 p.m.

I have the same rights and privileges, in any department in so far as a member is concerned, as the Prime Minister. I am sure that if the Prime Minister had asked him that, he would not have tried to bamboozle him by saying that he would have to investigate. I asked him if the Barbados Marketing Corporation imports milk and he said that he would have to investigate. I think that the Minister in charge should call up these people and tell them that they must give the same respect to any of us so long as we are not rude. Some of us can be very rude and foolish. I know that a member went into an office and before he said anything, he said: "I am a senior representative of the parish." Well, Sir, that is the wrong way to approach a person. I say that the junior must be warned to give the same respect to any member of this House as they would give to the Prime Minister. I have no more use for that gentleman when he says that he would have to investigate. I am asking if the Barbados Marketing Corporation imports milk.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Minister in introducing this Resolution reminded this House of the history of the Barbados Marketing Corporation, but I am saying that the history of this Corporation seems to be a much longer one with many more intricacies and irregularities than the Hon. Minister cares to tell this House about, or more than what the Minister seems to know himself. As long as the Barbados Marketing Corporation continues to function as it has been functioning in the past, and the Minister seems not to tell us that the Board has altered its policy in dealing with any matter whatsoever, we are satisfied that the Minister or the Government proper is just making a mockery of the whole situation. You will agree that the Minister ought, by now, to have been able to convince the Cabinet of the necessity of having an honest investigation carried out into the Barbados Marketing Corporation. I am keeping before my mind the remarks of the Hon. Prime Minister which he used here today. The Prime Minister used words similar to these, that the higher the social strata, the greater there seems to be some sort of immunity from some people being pursued and hunted down and prosecuted, or words to that effect. Those were the words of the Prime Minister made in this Hon. House today; those were the words of the Prime Minister with the Barbados Marketing Corporation presenting a situation which must make those very words come spiralling back down in the Prime Minister's face.

What has the Government done to show to the public that they really want to see the affairs of the B.M.C. administered in an upright and honest manner? What have they done? The Minister has told us of the irregularities there. He was good enough to say that things were bad, but the Prime Minister ought to know that the Chairman of the Corporation was able to execute many irregularities by making others under him believe that he was getting his authority from the top. The Minister said that something was wrong at the top; I do not know if the Minister means the same top that the Chairman of the Corporation was referring to. Top is top and in this particular matter..

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. I said that something was wrong at the top of the ad-

ministration of the B.M.C. I was quite clear in what I was saying.

Mr. HINDS: Sir, if the Minister said so, he said so; but let the Minister take just a few minutes to examine some of the situation at the Barbados Marketing Corporation in connection with which the Minister said that he would welcome suggestions from this side of the Table to help him. We are willing to do all we can to help the Minister. The Minister said that he would like to be frank, and we want him to be frank on this occasion. Between the months of May and August last year, the Barbados Marketing Corporation bought pork from a firm in Bridgetown at 95¢ a pound and at \$1.05 ¢ per pound. The pork disappeared but, Mr. Speaker, the Minister must be told that not one pound of that pork was sold by the Marketing Corporation. The pork was bought at 95¢ per pound and at \$1.05¢ per pound. One of the senior salesmen from the firm walked into the office of the Marketing Corporation and he received a cheque there. It was not sent to his firm. He received the cheque in the office of the Barbados Marketing Corporation. As I have said, the pork was bought between May and August last year and not one pound was sold by the Corporation.

6.45 p.m.

Now, Sir, things have been very bad and they reached such a pitch that a man called "Bolden" - not the lawyer - was shot at on the premises of the Barbados Marketing Corporation: and this happened, Mr. Speaker, after it was discovered that he was so indiscreet as to have his name signed for receiving pigs and even for money too. The name "Bolden" was signed for receiving pigs and the name "Bolden" was signed for receiving money. The man who was shot, or fired at, was in a most appropriate place - the slaughter room.

(A VOICE: Give the date.)

(ASIDE)

I hear the Hon. Prime Minister talking about Combermere; let the Hon. Prime Minister do some at Combermere too.

Now, Sir, the Marketing Corporation signed a contract, or have entered into a contract with a firm known as Barnes and Company. I want the Hon. Minister in charge to investigate this so as to find out if this was during the time of the former Chairman. This contract was signed with Messrs. Barnes and Company and at the time it is said that this Chairman was indebted to Messrs. Barnes and Company. This whole thing stinks.

Now, Sir, the Marketing Corporation also bought fish from a firm in Trinidad.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Sir, I rise on a point of order. There has been no contract between the Barbados Marketing Corporation and Messrs Barnes and Company. A representative of Messrs Barnes and

Company had been trying to get a contract and as a result of his failure, the firm then demanded payment for the *inter.com set*. The Barbados Marketing Corporation never entered into a contract with Messrs. Barnes and Company.

Mr. HINDS: The firm of Burnup and Sims also tendered for this job. Let the Hon. Minister tell us now if Messrs. Burnup and Sims did not tender for the job. Let the Hon. Minister also tell us if Messrs. Barnes and Company has a adjunct to it to do the job. In other words, the Hon. Minister seems not to understand that you can act in one office in Bridgetown for another somewhere else and they can import in one name and export in another.

Let us get on. The Barbados Marketing Corporation bought fish from a firm in Trinidad and this is what I want to tell the Minister. It is the same Chairman that they have failed to prosecute, who walks about here and makes his boast that he had money and spent it in St. John and that is why the Government cannot do him anything. In other words, the man is making his boast that in order to get that Party returned to power, he spent money to buy votes. Bear in mind that they are all honest men on that side of the Table.

When the Marketing Corporation bought the fish from the Trinidad firm, the then Chairman of the Corporation was at that time \$10,000 in debt to the Trinidad firm. Do not get Claddie Clarke or Harte or Big Smith or Milton Bonnett from Baxters Road because they do not know anything about it. The Prime Minister knows what I am talking about. They are honest men over on that side, and incidentally, when the hon. junior member for St. Joseph was addressing the Chair, they chose him to attack. The Prime Minister is corrupt. We would let them pass on the other side.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I am not objecting to the diatribe of the hon. member who has just sat down. I would not like to disturb him but I am afraid that he is abusing the privilege of this House and I would suggest that this debate be kept on the level of this House.

Mr. HINDS: Sir, I cannot for the life of me understand how the hon. member can stand and say that I am abusing the privileges of this House. How am I abusing the privileges of this House? With the diatribe to which he was referring? That is what he is made up of. I would tell the House that the Prime Minister is corrupt.

6.55 p.m.

At the Marketing Corporation business is presently being done with - I do not know whether you call it a firm, but it is a business named Home Products Limited. Now, Home Products Limited sends supplies to the Marketing Corporation, and it so happens that at the Marketing Corporation somebody, who is financially interested in Home Products Limited, is always present at the Marketing Corporation's Office

to receive the supplies. That person decides what prices should be paid to Home Products Limited for such supplies.

Mr. Johnson, who was the Chairman of the Barbados Marketing Corporation, also has an interest in this matter despite the fact that he was managing the Corporation. Quite recently we have seen the Marketing Corporation dealing in fish and selling it hither and thither. They have been sending it to the hotels. Some hotels have bought as little as 10 lbs. Some private consumers have also bought 10 lbs. or more, but it happens that fish will be sold cheaper to the hotels than to the general public. Let the Hon. Minister deny that. It is not a case where a hotel is buying such a large quantity of fish that it is permitted to purchase it at a reduced rate or a cheaper price. Why should a hotel pay less for fish than an ordinary consumer?

Mr. SPEAKER: This sitting stands suspended until 7.45 p.m.
7.00 p.m.

On re-assembling, Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER took the Chair.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, there is no quorum and I am asking that the bell be rung.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let the Bell be rung.
The Bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: On the suspension the hon. junior member for St. Peter was speaking.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, no one could be as anxious as the Hon. Minister in seeing that the finances of the Marketing Corporation are kept within certain respectable limits. That, for one reason, is why we are here at this hour looking into the matter. We see the various sums that are set out in the Resolution: but what the hon. Minister has to do is to look into the matter and he will see a few things that have certainly made history. One such thing would be to inquire into the system that has been employed at the Marketing Corporation.

From what I can gather, the Marketing Corporation had a Chairman whose idea was - I do not know whether it was the idea of the entire Board - to take over all the business from the commercial firms in Bridgetown. If he were able to fool the economist in the Democratic Labour Party that this was something practical, then I think he has seen by this time whether or not this Chairman was acting in the interest of the Corporation and of the public, or in his own interest and, perhaps, in the interest of some of his friends in the Democratic Labour Party.

So far at the Telex system is concerned, my information is that it is a very costly piece of equipment, and it is used by large concerns which have or expect to do considerable day-to-day business with overseas firms and do not want to rely on Messrs. Cable and Wireless. We are sure that the Hon. Minister intends to be fair.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. Is the Hon. Member speaking of the Telex System, or of the Radio Telephone system?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, as soon as I am ready to speak about the Radio Telephone system, I will do so. Let the Hon. Minister tell us what is the cost of this piece of equipment. How often per month has it been used? What savings, if any, have been made through having this expensive piece of equipment on the premises of the Marketing Corporation? I am in a position to tell the Hon. Minister that there is nothing - no business whatsoever - that has been conducted through this expensive piece of equipment that could not have been done through Messrs. Cable and Wireless.

7.50 p.m.

As we know, the Barbados Marketing Corporation had taken on this expensive exercise not for the benefit of the Corporation proper, but when these new ideas, as they may appear to some of the members of the Corporation, are brought to them, they just become over-eager and they support them; however, in the long run, the Hon. Minister must know that it is a complete waste of money, and it is an exercise which is much more costly than bigger Corporations in this country of ours have been engaging in. We have seen enough to tell us that when the Government could condone so much when some little black boy is to be dragged before the Courts of this island

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. You are aware that this matter is *sub judice* now, and therefore it cannot be dealt with in this House.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Barbados Marketing Corporation should be *sub judice* but, unfortunately for this House, the Prime Minister was not a member of the Corporation. The Hon. Minister was not a member of the Corporation proper and it is unfortunate for us that the Marketing Corporation is not *sub judice* as the Minister has said. It is about time that the public begin to name every hon. member on that side of the House Geoffrey Johnson. That is what they should be called. You will understand that we are here today trying more or less to do something to save the Corporation, so to speak, because we all know that the banks of this island will not advance loans to the Corporation or to any of these Statutory bodies without the necessary guarantee from this Hon. House; but, Sir, let us ask ourselves what purpose is to be served from the good that we may be doing today, tomorrow or any other day if we are merely to find that somebody in the person of Mr. Geoffrey Johnson is allowed to take the Corporation's funds, \$14,000 at a time? And that is not all! The same Chairman took the Corporation's money and went on an overseas trip, and do you want to hear something more, Mr. Deputy Speaker? It was not in the interest of the Corporation's business at all, but the taxpayers' money financed his trip.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker. The taxpayers money does not run the

Corporation. What we are asked to do here is to guarantee the payment of a loan from the bank for the administration of the Corporation, but no vote is being passed by this House asking for money to pay for the day-to-day running of the Corporation or to pay for anybody's overseas trips.

Mr. HINDS: If that is the explanation from the Hon. Minister, a lot of us would never crave to be Hon. Ministers. If we are told today by the Minister that some of the losses have got to be written off, who is going to pay for that? Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Corporation has nothing to lose now. Everything has gone and Geoffrey Johnson has carried away some. And that is not all. The more we go into this matter, a lot of people besides Mr. Johnson seemed to have tried to excuse themselves from the squandering of the Corporation's money. Because the Minister has now told us that the taxpayers money is not put into the day-to-day running of the Corporation, he ought to be glad that that is not so. I will tell you this: if the taxpayers of this country knew that we had a Government, with a Minister of Finance at its head, that will take up \$135,000 only to pay - for what? For negotiating a loan of \$4 1/2 million. Suppose it was a \$10 million loan! It would mean \$300,000. 8.00 p.m.

It would have been \$300,000; but, Sir, it seems as if it pays to be a friend of a Prime Minister at times.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, what have we got before us? The Barbados Marketing Corporation with its affairs that spell out corruption in capital letters. You find that the Government is hob-nobbing with Geoffrey Johnson who confiscated the finances of the B.M.C. I wonder what the Director of Public Prosecution is thinking. Have his hands been tied?

(ASIDES)

A bunch of green bananas may produce at some time; but a bunch of bananas is one thing, \$135,000 is another.

(ASIDES)

Before you carry away a boy's lunch at school, you must be at the school.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is to be regretted that the Hon. Prime Minister did not see the low level when he was speaking of lowering the morals of this House.

(VOICES FROM GALLERY)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, we are now hearing voices from the Gallery and I am sure that you know your duty. It would seem as if some of the women folk think that because they are in the ranks of the D.L.P. that that entitles them to come in here and interrupt hon. members. But regardless of whatever may be the tactics -

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Resolution deals with the Barbados Marketing Corporation. Would the hon. member deal with that?

Mr. HINDS: Is Your Honour drawing my attention to something? What I am saying is that regardless of the tactics employed by the Government benches and Government supporters, the affairs of the B.M.C. remain the same, and they will come under scrutiny of hon. members on this side of the House. If hon. members on that side find that the blows which we deal out are all head blows and are very telling, they must be prepared to expect this will go on for some time despite the fact that this is not the taxpayers' money.

The Hon. Minister said that this was not the taxpayers' money. It would appear to me that hon. members expect that I stand up here and teach the Minister something on this Resolution. I cannot expect to do that. The Hon. Minister must know that if anybody backs a note for him at the bank, if he gets the loan and he is unable to pay the bank, the person who backed the note must pay. It is for that reason, and that reason alone, that this Resolution is before the House.

The banks mean that if they are to loan this money, they must know that the person who guaranteed to back this note, will be called upon to pay the loan when the whole Marketing Corporation goes down the drain.

The Hon. Minister can tell us of his plans about diversification of agriculture and what not. What is required at the B.M.C. is honesty in dealing with the taxpayers' money. That is what is wanted. You will find that the Minister told us about expert advice which he expected to receive to assist the Corporation. It is all well and good to have expert advice. I will tell you, had the Corporation had expert advice on the debt, they would have known when the \$14,000 and \$5,000 cheques were advanced and by whom and without the knowledge of the Board. And better advice still is that when there was a likelihood of the Minister standing up and demanding that the Police be brought in, it should have been done. Somebody should have been prosecuted. The man was there. Do you want better advice than that?

I repeat, if the members of the Government can condone all of this, it is high time that they be named individually, Geoffrey Johnson. It is scandalous what is going on at the Marketing Corporation. You will find that Mr. Johnson took the Marketing Corporation's money to pay for something overseas when we were made aware that the Corporation purchased these goods. These goods were consigned not to the B.M.C., but to him. The Hon. Minister should have called on the Prime Minister and other members of the Cabinet to support him in bringing Geoffrey Johnson to justice to make him a public example. Why are we to understand that the white man in this country can do nothing wrong? Are we to understand that? 8.10 p.m.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I made reference elsewhere to the Marketing Corporation borrowing money from

the Port Department. The Hon. Minister in charge of this Resolution will know that all is not well. It is for that reason that the Corporation has not been able to continue borrowing money from the Port Department; so you will find that the Corporation is blackening its name with the Port Authorities as well. That is the position today.

I therefore challenge the Hon. Minister to deny anything that I have stated here, and I am saying that he should not deny it in the hope that somebody is going to believe him because he is a Minister. He must support things with facts. I have my facts, and one fact remains outstanding about the Barbados Marketing Corporation: the Chief offender, Mr. Geoffrey Johnson, has not been hounded down and prosecuted for all the things he has done. For some time after he had committed several offences such as holding big splees at the Corporation's expense, taking trips overseas buying this and that, he was still a member of the Senate. He gave cocktail parties and things of that sort. Surely the time will come when the Geoffrey Johnsons on the other side of the House will be brought to judgment, maybe *en bloc*.

This Resolution, as the Hon. Minister says, is like the one which came before this House quite recently to regulate the rate of interest in respect of loans to the Barbados Marketing Corporation. I am not altogether nervous now, but I have reasons to recall the expertness of the financial wizards on the Government side, especially the Hon. Minister of Finance who is prepared to pay out \$135,000 to his friends. Bruce Procope and the boys have got the \$4 1/2 million loan. Today we know that the Hon. Minister of Agriculture has been brought up at the foot of such a Minister of Finance, and we know what to expect in the long run.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I have very little to say on this matter, but there are one or two questions I would like to ask the Hon. Minister. The change which is being made in borrowing money is merely to put in the words "from time to time." I would like him to tell us what was the rate of interest at the time when the money was borrowed, and what will be the rate of interest after the amendment is made? If it is going to be a floating loan, I would also like to know the position. The maximum interest which has been charged is 8%, and I know that the maximum interest charged by commercial banks is in accordance with an agreement with the banks.

The Hon. Minister was courteous enough to make the point that all was not well in the state of Denmark. If all was not well in the Marketing Corporation, can the Minister tell us if, after the Cabinet appointed the Members of the Marketing Corporation, it has directed as to what the Corporation should deal in?

I believe that the Marketing Corporation is a very fine idea, and it could serve a useful purpose in this country, even if it does not make a lot of money or just comes out even. I am asking the Minister to give me certain information because he said that the responsibility of running the Corporation was that of

the Executive Officer and not of the Board. We differ very much in this respect for the simple reason that I understand that meat, fish and sugar were supplied by the Corporation to the Hilton Hotel. That is bad management, because when you want a bag of sugar for the Hilton Hotel, you will have to provide a porter and a van to send it.

I agree that the Marketing Corporation should have people on it who know what they should do. I do not agree that the policy is for the head or the Executive Officer to initiate. The Cabinet must have something to do with the question of policy. If the Corporation is to deal in milk, sugar and so on, let us know. Who gave the instructions that the Marketing Corporation must sell and supply all Government or quasi-Government institutions with whatever they want? That seems to be a stupid idea.

8.20 p.m.

He could turn to his immediate left and he will find out that this has been happening. I am not surprised, because you had a stupid man at the top boasting that within five years he would be responsible for all the exportation of sugar and the importation of flour. It seems to me that the only thing you could do is to lay down the policy. If you deal in sugar, you will lose a lot of money.

There is just one last word which I would like to say. As to the matter of refrigeration, that is a good idea; but you must get really trained and experienced men to do that properly. The Cabinet must keep track of it, because you do not want the Party hacks you put on the Board. I have heard the Prime Minister say that politicians should not be put on the Boards. You have people in Bridgetown who have no Party allegiance, people who will vote for any Party, and so long it is for the good of the country, you will get somewhere. As to this floating loan, if you borrow money at 6 1/2 % and because the interest rate went up, you carry it up, you will not get anywhere.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, before the Hon. Minister replies, I want to say that he must put the good name of Barbados as an image which any Government should put to the world, not only as a member of the Cabinet, but as his individual conscience should lead him. It is obvious that the Prime Minister has attempted to keep the Minister quiet a few minutes ago so as to prevent him from replying, but I would appeal to the hon. member to see the stench with this Corporation, apart from the West Indies Hospital Sweepstake Fund. We used to talk about Trinidad's "Bu-ball" and we are millions of miles below Trinidad as regards the accusations made against Barbados. Sometimes hon. members speak of our appearing and trying to give a bad name to Barbados, but nothing is further from the truth. What we do say is that the Government have it in their power to let the outside world know that all that you hear is not true. I have been in politics for over forty years, and I have never heard in my life so strong an attack on the morals of Government or of people as I have heard today. Either the hon. member should be forced to go outside and say the things which he is

saying, and if they are wrong he should be punished for it, or, on the other hand, the Government should call on the Director of Public Prosecutions to investigate the charges which have been made on the floor of this House. Sometimes I am afraid to think that I am a Barbadian when people refer to things that happen in this House. There is no smartness in this; I appeal to the hon. member to ignore his Prime Minister and let his conscience lead him. He is going to be stained with the brush more so than the Prime Minister. A man is a man when he can tell the Prime Minister: "I cannot associate with you in this affair; it brings our country into dispute." If the hon. member is the man he should be, he will get up in here tonight and refute -

At this stage, it being now 8.30 p.m. of the clock,

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is the moment of interruption.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am asking hon. members on the Other side to indicate whether the business before the House should continue or not.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Can hon. members inform me if there is any opposition to the matter which is before the House?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: We agree to go on with Government Business.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: It is not a question as to whether the hon. member agrees that he will continue with Government Business; it is a question of whether it is opposed or not. He has got to state specifically whether the matter is controversial or not, and whether any of the other outstanding matters on the Order Paper happen to be controversial. There are two other Bills, there is Order No. 4, then there is Order No. 5, which is the Report from the Select Committee. Order No. 6 will not be dealt with because we are still trying to ascertain the wishes of Her Majesty's Government with respect to this lease. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition, after further consultation with his colleagues, can decide whether this matter is controversial, whether they consider it controversial or not.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I will not make the silly mistake which the hon. member has just made.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Standing Order 5 (4) says this:-

"At 8.30 p.m., hereinafter referred to in these Orders as "the moment of interruption", the Speaker shall interrupt the business under discussion. If the House is in Committee at that time the Chairman shall interrupt the business and shall leave the Chair forthwith to report progress to the House and ask its leave to sit again. Any other business, if unopposed shall then be disposed of, and the Order Paper for the next sitting fixed.....

The Hon. Leader of the Opposition can inform me if there is any opposition to these matters on the Order Paper.

8.30 p.m.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: We are voting for this Resolution but that does not prevent us from attacking things with reference to it. It is not controversial.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There is no other business and I take that nothing more can be done on the Order Paper.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Opposition can say quite firmly that we would be voting for this Resolution, but there is nothing on the Order Paper to prevent us from criticising anything within the bounds that arise in the debate. What I was saying at the moment is that this should be something above Party politics. If the Government has sense, it would see that the Barbados Marketing Corporation is bringing the Statutory Bodies into disrepute. It would see that an individual can act in accordance with his own individual desires. If the Hon. Minister believes the attacks made by the hon. junior member for St. Peter to be just only strong, slanderous statements, well, he should even take note of such statements; but if any of these statements are true, then it is a smear on the fair name of Barbados to be condoning such acts of the Corporation.

It is up to the Hon. Minister who is responsible to take the necessary action to see that this Board works in accordance with established practice. People have resigned from Ministries when they refused to take part in filth.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, on what motion is the hon. member speaking?

I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until 11 a.m. tomorrow morning.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is -

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, how can you put that motion?

(LOUD ASIDES).

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, in view of the grave disorder that has arisen I am suggesting that His Honour the Speaker be called.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Are we still in the House of Assembly or have we taken on a dictatorship to deal with war?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: You must know your place.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is that this sitting do now stand suspended until tomorrow at 11 a.m.

Hon. members in favour will please say "Aye" and those against will please say "No". I think the "Ayes" have it. This sitting now stands suspended. 8.35 p.m.

On re-assembling, Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the suspension of Standing Orders Nos. 5, 14, 16, 18, 19, 40 and 45 for the remainder of today's sitting.

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

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

**RESOLUTION TO ADJUST THE RATE OF
INTEREST CHARGEABLE TO THE
BARBADOS MARKETING
CORPORATION**

Mr. SPEAKER: Immediately before the suspension of the sitting yesterday, the Hon. and Learned Leader of the Opposition was addressing the House on the Resolution to adjust the rate of interest chargeable to the Barbados Marketing Corporation.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, there is not very much more that I wish to say on this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: I must apologize for the noise kept by these electric fans, and I hope that the Public Works Department will be able to remedy this within the near future.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I join in having that wish. I did wish specifically to comment on the rate of interest, and the points I think that the Opposition wished to make have really been made. I do not think it is necessary for me to repeat what has already been said. The members of the public with whom I have talked and who are interested in a matter as serious as this are very concerned and are glad to know that loans are now being taken from more than one bank.

I do wish, on behalf of the Opposition, to stress that the attitude sometimes shown by the Government in replying to the Opposition shows a lack of understanding of what the Opposition is aiming at. Some Hon. Ministers wish to explain things in a few words, but the members of the Opposition would like to know everything about certain matters. The Government should be glad to know that the members of the Opposition have studied a Bill that comes before this House, and that they do not ask unnecessary questions save for the sake of information.

I am fully aware that it is stupid for members of the Opposition to ask questions merely for the sake of opposition. We ask questions because we do not know what is taking place and we need information. After all, every one of us is answerable to the electorate and not merely to our own followers. There are times when members of the public ask us for the details of a Bill, and we should be in a position to

give them the information they seek. It is true that sometimes a Minister will give us more information than we thought he would give. Not that he said anything that he should not say, but there has been a tendency on the part of some Ministers to deprive us of information.

For instance, the point arose yesterday where a Minister did not see his way to set the wishes of members on this side of the House by having certain information circulated. I know that the Addendum is for the purpose of explaining and giving details of things. The Addendum is not intended to be a complete Minister's speech, but certainly more details should have been set out in the Addendum we were discussing yesterday.

As I said, there is not much more I would like to add to what has already been said. We would be silly to give the public the impression that our contribution to the House is merely to quarrel. People will ask the members of the Opposition for information, and we should be in a position to give it to them. Hon. members on the other side of the House must see that it is their duty to the people of Barbados to set out things fully and plainly, and to answer legitimate questions as fully as they possibly can. Look at what happened here yesterday! How easy it would have been to send the figures to a typist in the office and give us copies of the information for which we asked! I suggest that the members of the Government should do that in future.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I cannot recall, in this Honourable House, ever having risen before to talk about the affairs of the Barbados Marketing Corporation. That has been done by able and better informed speakers on this side of the House and, indeed, some members on the other side have dealt with the shortcomings in the past of B.M.C. more than I have done. But the Minister who, I believe is as aware of the evil wind blowing through these musty corridors as any other man in Barbados, is asking us to forget the past, and to make a new approach to the B.M.C. We are willing to do the best we can to forget the past, and to approach the B.M.C. from a new basis.

I am sure that, like members on the other side of the House, we are willing to do the best we can in that direction. The Barbados Marketing Corporation can have a great future. If it not too visionary to say that at some time in the future, the Marketing Corporation may find its marketing activities very widely extended indeed. It may find itself not only marketing diversified agricultural products in Barbados, but, perhaps, it would be in a position of having a body which the Government may be forced to employ to market Barbados' main crop - sugar.

I do not think it is too visionary to say that if the Government of Barbados should ever be called upon to guarantee the future of sugar - I am thinking of 10, 15 or, perhaps, 20 years to come - it may well insist in marketing sugar through its own constitution and not leave it to traditional hands or absentee own-

ers. I am sure the Minister responsible will be aware of the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement and the history of the Sugar barons in this country. We know what has happened to colonial territories where the marketing of sugar was left in the hands of the private and traditional plantocracy or absentee owners who were sugar producers. They made a big profit on sugar and they were given preferential prices.

With this background in mind, we have to consider how far we have gone with the Barbados Marketing Corporation. I think the Minister would be the first to agree that we are not satisfied with the present image of the B.M.C.

11.10 p.m.

The Chairman is regarded by many members of the Public, indeed by the overwhelming majority of the members of the public, as a corrupt vagabond walking about the streets in freedom, when in fact, he has done things that would entitle him, were he less a friend of the Democratic Labour Party, to be locked up, and that is the judgment with which many of us in here must agree. There are other Chairmen of Statutory Corporations who make extensive journeys at the expense of the public - and the Chairman of the Tourist Board comes immediately in mind, and it would be interesting to see how much time was spent in this direction on procuring the Manifesto of the Tourist Board's Business. Probably this is a little outside the scope of the instant Resolution, but the journeys of the ex-Chairman of the Barbados Marketing Corporation merely remain a public scandal. The very reputation of the Democratic Labour Party itself is at stake when the Chairman says that he would tell exactly of the gift of money and in what constituency it was spent for the benefit of the Democratic Labour Party. There are those who remain in posts without punishment, except that the removal of the possibility of further corruption is regarded as punishment, while others who the public regard as less sinners are currently pilloried on charges arising out of the Barbados Marketing Corporation.

It may well be that there are forces at work which are too strong for Mr. Johnson to be prosecuted; it may well be that enough evidence has not yet been uncovered for public prosecution. It may well be that Party loyalty - and it cannot be forgotten that on election night when all fled from the burning ship following the results from the constituencies of the City, St. James and St. Peter, Senator Johnson was still at the Prime Minister's side in the hope that the ship of state would come home.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that the hon. member is going far outside the question of these loans to the Barbados Marketing Corporation.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The persons who were responsible for the guidance of its destiny are a matter for comment.

Mr. SPEAKER: Not as to their movements on election night and things of that kind.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Demonstratively it is shown that the Chairman was in favour of the Minister. It may be that the Minister is trying to erase things which were not so marked. It is rumoured that he was more concerned with the spending of money on the senior member for St. John during the election. (ASIDE). I agree with the aside of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas. (ASIDE). I notice that Your Honour has difficulty here. The hon. member cannot be controlled; but when you are in the Chair, he should respect you.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member proceed with the substance of the Resolution.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: In short, just talking about erasing the past is bound to be insufficient. The Corporation itself will have to become a Corporation whose members are persons that can command public respect and not merely persons who enjoy temporarily or otherwise - the favour of the D.L.P. It is a matter of expression both in actuality, and in potentiality, and a great repository for the ignorant Party followers who are put there to satisfy them for the services which they have rendered to the Democratic Labour Party in the past. We do not want any Michael Adamases or Tom Wilkinsons on this Corporation. Whether you pay \$15.00 or \$40.00 to persons who would otherwise be deprived of their employment, the Corporation is not a place to put people to make a living where they cannot aspire in any way, but they have to make a living by being available hounds of a political party.

The Corporation needs to be revamped and given an appearance that the public can respect. We have heard in here that a member of the Corporation - I imagine that this may be at the top - was questioned by a member of this Hon. House as to whether the Corporation was importing milk and he replied that he could not say whether that was so. If a newly appointed Chairman of the Corporation thinks that he has something to hide from members of this Hon. House, then his fitness for that position must be an issue at the very start. If it is well known that the Barbados Marketing Corporation is importing milk, and the Chairman chooses to talk in public about the activities of the Corporation and he cannot answer any questions as to whether the Corporation is importing milk, and he says that he has to make enquiries (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: He did not refuse to answer you). Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, I did not catch the hon. member's aside. Did he say that he would produce an answer?

11.20 a.m.

I thank the Hon. Minister for pointing it out and I congratulate him. What I want to do is to invoke that spirit of charity. Even the hon. junior member for St. Thomas deserves respect.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. The senior member for St. Thomas said that even the junior member for St. Thomas deserves respect. I take objection to that statement.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not regard the phrase as unparliamentary, although one may want to deprecate it.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. junior member for St. Thomas is so vainglorious that such a remark has caused him to take umbrage. He has never given us reason to believe that his hide is not that of a rhinoceros. He knows the word: so I am referring to the easiest way by which to refer to him.

Mr. Speaker, if the Minister of Agriculture wants us to erase the position at the B.M.C., he must assure us that commercial practices are going to be carried out there. He is merely asking us to give the Marketing Corporation a chance. A chance cannot change the working of the Corporation. We cannot be partners to giving the Corporation a blank cheque.

However, if the Minister wants us to give him credit at all for the Barbados Marketing Corporation, he would have to show over a short period of time that he is determined to raise this Corporation from the bottom to a little nearer to the top of how Corporations or Statutory bodies should perform.

There is one other point, and the Minister knows about this. It is not outside of the Resolution for the Minister to tell me how the Marketing Corporation is going to be financed in the process of its future activities. Has the Government thought of wiping off the losses of the B.M.C.? Let us hear at an early date what balances they now have. Let us know if we have to approve the allegations of certain loans. Tell us if the loans have to be repaid or if they are going to ask members of the Corporation to repay them. It is a question of the taxpayers' money being closely involved.

Sir, we do not intend to vote against this Resolution. We hope that this would be a means of getting rid of the past misdeeds and mismanagement of the Marketing Corporation. If the Government is attempting to restart the Barbados Marketing Corporation, say so at this stage. I am expecting an answer from the Hon. Minister because we have been asked to give our support to the B.M.C. We therefore have to know how the Corporation is behaving, who are its members, and all of that. We have to see into the working of it and what is happening at the Marketing Corporation; he must be free to express his views. He must tell us how it is that the Marketing Corporation failed to live up to certain standards.

We are looking to the other side to satisfy us that the Corporation has conducted its affairs in such a manner that the Minister has been able to make his weight felt against the forces of the Marketing Corporation of which it is known he has been complaining.

Mr. Speaker, I await a reply from the Hon. Minister. Technically, the Resolution has nothing in it from a financial point of view. It cannot be said that it is an unwise financial arrangement. We have some

hope in the Hon. Minister giving us this information and they are going to be amendments from time to time. Sir, from a financial point of view, the Opposition has no objection to this Resolution.
11.30 a.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, in replying to the questions raised by the Opposition, I should like to start off by advising members of the Opposition and particularly the Leader of the Opposition that the Prime Minister did not try to stop me from replying, because he would have known better than that. Neither the Prime Minister nor any other Minister can stifle me in the execution of my duties. I would just like to get this point clear. I think I would be the last person the Prime Minister would try to stop from replying to any Resolution which I brought into this Chamber and which the Opposition or anybody else queried.

I consider it a matter of courtesy to reply to any query or queries made by the Opposition because, were I on the side of the Opposition, I would expect replies to any queries I had made. The Opposition can rest assured that whenever they come here, and queries concerning my Ministry are raised, so long as I am sitting in this chair, no one can stop me from answering the queries. (An Hon. Member: "You cannot stop the current.") The hon. junior member for St. Andrew says that you cannot stop the current as long as you need it. You cannot rush the brush. The Prime Minister knows me very well, and he would never suggest to me that I should not reply.

I think what the hon. members on the other side of the House were worried about is that they observed a conversation between the Prime Minister and myself. That conversation had absolutely nothing to do with my not replying; it was in connection with the length of my reply. We would have liked to see this Resolution and other business of the House passed yesterday, so that today we would have been able to look after our business.

For instance, three meetings which I had to hold in my Ministry have had to be postponed for another day because I am here today. We want to get through with the business of the House, and it was suggested that I be as brief as possible in my reply. On the question of my not replying, the Prime Minister cannot tell me not to reply.

I should like to start from top, and reply to each member in that order. I should like to warn them that I am replying to the points that I consider worthy of a reply. If the query is a reasonable one I will reply to it, but I am not going to reply to anything scandalous because I am not interested in going down in the gutter with certain people. I will reply to what I think is reasonable.

The first thing I should like to mention is the question raised by the hon. senior member for Christ Church about the appointment of supporters at the B.M.C. There are people employed at the B.M.C. who are supporters of the Democratic Labour Party. That

is true; but at the same time there are people employed at the B.M.C. who are supporters of the Barbados Labour Party. As a matter of fact, there are more supporters of the Barbados Labour Party employed at the B.M.C. than supporters of the Democratic Labour Party. Ask the hon. junior member for St. Peter where he got his information from?

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order. Has the Minister access to the files of the Barbados Labour Party to know how many of our supporters are employed at the B.M.C.?

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The Minister does not have access to the files of the Barbados Labour Party, but the members of the Barbados Labour Party have access to the files of the Democratic Labour Party. I am saying categorically that there are more members and supporters of the Barbados Labour Party employed at the B.M.C. than there are supporters of the D.L.P. today. Not only today, but from the time it was established. The people were not employed there on a Party basis. We looked upon the people as Barbadians who were looking for jobs and if they were capable of doing a job they were employed.

If someone who is capable of doing a job and who is doing a good job, and with whom the entire administration of the Barbados Marketing Corporation as well as the Consultants who have just been brought in are satisfied, regardless of his political persuasion or political ideology, I see absolutely nothing wrong in employing such an individual. So far as Party issues are concerned, if you want to criticise people for using their Party members, I can think of people who have made a complete flop of places like the Housing Authority. I refer to the Chairman of the Housing Authority before this Government took over, and several other people. People who have made a complete flop of things were executive members of the Barbados Labour Party.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Will the Minister give way to a point of elucidation. Will he be kind enough to say who is the ex-Chairman of the Barbados Housing Authority who is a member of the B.L.P.?

Mr. SPEAKER: That is not a point of elucidation. Standing Order No. 28 (b) states:

"No Member shall interrupt another Member except -

- (b) to elucidate some matter raised by that Member in the course of his speech, provided that the Member speaking is willing to give way and resumes his seat and that the Member wishing to interrupt is called by the Chair."

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, before I am finished, there will be a lot of interruptions. I am bringing over my hand, and I am a good bowler.

I am saying that it is unfair for the members of the Opposition to criticise the Democratic Labour Party for using its supporters on these Boards, because the policy example was established by the Barbados Labour Party. Since that is the case, we do not see what is wrong with the Democratic Labour Party placing its members on Boards. This sort of thing is done all over the world. I think the supporters of the Democratic Labour Party are the best people to have on our Boards. If the Barbados Labour Party should have an opportunity of taking over the Government again, then it can do likewise. It is a world-wide pattern.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of explanation, Mr. Speaker. How can the Minister say that it is a world-wide pattern? He merely has to look at the appointments in Great Britain to see what is happening there.

11.40 p.m.

The appointment of Lord Hill of the Conservative Benches, as Chairman of the B.B.C. That is not an appointment on a party basis.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is making a speech, and he is not entitled to make a second speech.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: There will be a lot of interruptions, but I am still maintaining that the matter is world-wide. There are a few isolated cases where people are not ostensible supporters of the Government, but that does not mean that the question of taking people from the opposite side is the pattern in these places. The Government of Great Britain may not have found any supporter of theirs who is competent enough to do the job. We have already selected people on Boards, people who are the Chairmen of Boards, and I can think of one. Could anybody say that the Chairman of the Transport Board is a supporter of the Democratic Labour Party? The position is that you look around, and if you look at the composition of these Boards, you will see that there are members of these Boards who, in many instances, are not supporters of the Democratic Labour Party. There are people who are prominent members of the Tourist Board, people who, for years, have been supporters of the Barbados Labour Party, and who are still supporters of the Barbados Labour Party. (ASIDES). I do not pay any attention to asides.

Mr. SPEAKER: Exactly; the hon. member should not pay any attention to asides.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I will give way to the hon. senior member for St. James to call the names of the members of the Tourist Board, and he cannot call them.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, there is Mr. Marcus Jordan. (ASIDES).

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member proceed with the substance of the Resolution and the reply to the points which have been made.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The hon. senior mem-

ber for Christ Church raised a salient point as to the question of representation on the Barbados Marketing Corporation of a member of the Fisheries Co-operative Movement. That is a salient point and it is well taken. There is presently a vacancy on the Board of the Barbados Marketing Corporation, and I will promise the hon. member that in making the appointment to this Board, I will take into consideration a member of the Fisheries Co-operative Movement. I am appealing to hon. members that instead of criticizing the Corporation adversely, let them make constructive criticisms and not destructive criticisms. The hon. member has made the best contribution to this debate, because he has raised a point which, honestly, I did not think of; and now that he has raised this point, we have actually discussed it outside this Chamber after he raised it, and I will promise him that I will give favourable consideration to a matter like this. That is what I would like to press on the Opposition today. Perhaps some of them are incapable of doing it, but I would still like to see them make an effort so to do.

The hon. senior member for Christ Church also spoke of the perverse policy decision, and he mentioned that the cold storage should be used for the purpose for which it was established. I am in agreement with the hon. member. About two weeks ago I held a meeting, or rather, the Minister of Trade and Fisheries held a meeting of the Barbados Marketing Corporation. There is provision for 200 tons of cold storage at the B.M.C. The Shrimp Industry is the most paying concern where the B.M.C. is concerned, and that has provision for 80 tons of cold storage. What do we find? I am going to give credit where it is due, and I will attack when I should attack, even if I am attacking members of my Party. I have no axe to grind for anyone, and if I have to criticize, I will do so. I want hon. members to understand that not even the Ministry of Agriculture could be held directly responsible for the acts of the Barbados Marketing Corporation because they knew absolutely nothing about them.

I heard hon. members say that the Board should resign. The people who were responsible for more than one-half of the failure of the B.M.C. were the Chairman of the Board and the Manager of the Board. The Corporation did not hold six meetings last year. Everything was done clandestinely by the Chairman and the Manager.

(Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Did they draw their fees?) If you have meetings, you are paid for them. If there are no meetings, there is no payment. The only persons who were paid monthly and who had these secret meetings, were the Manager and the Chairman of the Board. The Ministry was ignorant of what was going on and we cannot even blame the Ministry. 11.50 p.m.

It is true that you may put your own people on the Board, but then you cannot come and accuse the entire Board. When you look at the personnel of the Board you find that they are members of integrity and are knowledgeable. They cannot be questioned. Who can go and question Mr. Prince Walker and Mr. Michael

Simmons - the Deputy Chairman? As a matter of fact, who calls the meeting of the Board? No member of the Board calls meetings of the Board. If he felt he should have called a meeting and run the Marketing Corporation to suit himself, who can be responsible for that?

I want this to be clearly understood by hon. members. This man was not known by any member of the Board or even by the Parliamentary Secretary. No one knew about him until after the actions came out. We cannot blame the Board for this. The only person who should have seen is God. The position is that he is there no longer.

I pointed out to the House that it is the duty of the Manager of a Statutory Board or Corporation to advise the Board, and I feel that the Manager is as much responsible for the irregularities as the Chairman. If I have a cheque written in my name, am I not going to check it? An hon. member on the other side talked of one cheque. This money came out of the Corporation from March last year - between the 2nd May and the 3rd June.

Why should the people try to scandal the Democratic Labour Party? As far as I know, I spent my own money on my campaign expenses, and there are other members of this Party who have spent their own money.

Mr. St. JOHN: That is a joke.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the position is that this was done without the knowledge of the Board and all the remarks which we hear is only because somebody tried to save his face. They said that the money was spent in campaigning for their friends. They could have used the money for financing a company. On one occasion I understood that I had the money.

Mr. SPEAKER: All we read about in the Resolution is rate of interest. What the hon. member is talking about is not rate of interest.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to explain to the hon. senior member for Christ Church that I myself have been very much worried, as much as he has been, over the storage facilities at the Marketing Corporation. When I took over the Ministry, I discovered that the B.M.C. had made arrangements with a Company known as Food Co. to let them have thirty tons of cold storage space at the B.M.C. The Hon. Minister of Trade and Fisheries who was the then Minister in charge knew nothing about it. The Board knew nothing of it. Two people knew and they are the Manager and the then Chairman.

The Minister never agreed to Food Co. taking up thirty tons of cold storage space, and after I took over the Ministry, I told the Corporation that they have to get Food Co. out. I discovered what was happening around May this year. I am proud to announce today that because of a certain instruction which I gave, Food Co. has moved out of the Corporation, leaving

the space. Food Co. would have had to pay more money for that space; and I know that the currency which I agreed to, they would not agree to pay and they have left.

I have promised the Hon. Minister of Fisheries who is very much concerned about the storage facilities at the B.M.C. that by the beginning of the next fishing season, instead of having forty tons of storage space for fish, the B.M.C. must have to allocate to the fishermen in this country one hundred and forty tons of storage space for flying fish.

12.00

On the question of the shrimp industry, the 80 tons of storage space which we have at the B.M.C. for the storage of shrimps will be made available for the fishermen by the 1st October, and I hope that this step will satisfy the wishes of the hon. senior member for Christ Church.

Now I come to the hon. senior member for St. Joseph. I would not refer to him as 'Boy Child'. He said that somebody should be locked up. As the hon. member is aware, the Police have carried out certain investigations and certain things are *sub judice* and should not be discussed. We cannot discuss that aspect of the matter at the moment. The hon. member said that the Corporation is currently importing milk. The answer to that is "No." A licence to import milk was issued to the Pine Hill Dairy. That is the only Corporation importing milk in this country. I do not think that this is a matter over which the hon. senior member for St. Joseph should be worried about. If the Chairman did not give him the information, he would have called the Ministry concerned as he has done on many occasions. Even the Leader of the Opposition can tell the people in this country that he gets maximum co-operation from the Ministry of Agriculture.

As a matter of fact, on every single issue that any member of the Opposition has raised with me, by way of representations through my Ministry or through personal representation, he has received satisfaction. The hon. junior member for St. Peter can substantiate that. Only a few weeks ago he raised a question at the Labour Department and he got satisfaction. The hon. senior member for St. James raised an issue with me and he got maximum co-operation.

I appeal to hon. members not to criticise the issues but to make suggestions. They know that their suggestions will be appreciated and that some action will be taken on them. I do not see the reason for such a lengthy debate on a matter of this nature. As a matter of fact, the Leader of the Opposition can tell anybody what action was taken. My Secretary was advised to write the hon. member so that he would know what action was taken. That is the way I operate in my Ministry, whether it is a member of the Opposition, a member of my Party, or a member of the general public.

I think that I should leave the hon. junior member for St. Peter for the last because he has raised

the most points: some worthy of a reply, and some I do not consider worthy of a reply. Those that are worthy of a reply, I shall reply to.

Now, the hon. senior member for the City wanted to know what rate of interest the B.M.C. was paying when we borrowed the money. The rate of interest was 7% - 1/4% below the usual rate at the time. The rate of interest today is 6 1/2%. Actually the passing of this Resolution cuts down the rate of interest payable by the Corporation by one-half of 1% even today.

The hon. senior member for the City also wanted to find out what was Government's policy in relation to the supply of commodities from the B.M.C. to the Government Institutions and the Hilton Hotel, and he mentioned sugar. The answer to that is "Yes". One point on which he slipped up was whether we were making any profit on the sugar sold to the Hilton Hotel. It is a small profit, but let us bear in mind that if we supply the Hilton Hotel with one local commodity it is our policy to supply it with everything. It is not the profit which we made in selling sugar to the Hilton Hotel, but it is the overall profit that counts. We supply the Hilton Hotel with any local commodity it buys.

The position is that we buy sugar from D. V. Scott and sell to the Hilton Hotel at a small profit. At the same time this small profit must be taken into account with the large profits we make on vegetables and other things supplied to the Hilton Hotel. I hope that the hon. junior member for the City will make a note of these points and pass them on to the hon. senior member for the City when he arrives.

I now come to the points raised by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas. He raised the question of sugar, and I think in my introductory remarks I pointed out that I am somewhat worried as to the future of sugar. I also pointed out that the B.M.C. is there and it has been established. I look forward to the day when it will be performing the functions for which it was established, that is, the marketing of all locally produced items, whether it is sugar, bananas, cabbage, cauliflower, etc. I am looking forward to the day when the B.M.C. will handle all of our locally produced agricultural commodities.

On the question of projecting a new image of the B.M.C., that is what I ask hon. members to assist me in establishing. I do not ask hon. members of the House or of the Opposition to give me a blank cheque. I merely ask them to assist me in any way possible in getting the Corporation to a standard to which all of us would like to see it.

The last point raised by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas was the question of the Shrimp fleet, and the threat which was made by the Company to leave the island. I have heard of that threat, and I think that the people in that company were justified in making that threat. However, a satisfactory agreement has been arrived at. The position is that there were delays in the plan of the work by the contrac-

tors; therefore, when the shrimp fleet thought that it would have had the new premises in January this year, it found that months had passed without a completion of the job. It was then promised the new premises in June and then July. However, it has been agreed that the facilities will be made available by the 1st October, and that consideration will be given to the extension of berthing space in the Carenage.

12.10 p.m.

That is what the Shrimp Industry wanted, and that is what we have agreed to give them. Hon. members may be in a position to know that we are not only considering the matter of extension of the berthing space in the Carenage, but the business at the Port has grown to such an extent that consideration is being given to the extension of space in the Harbour. Mr. Speaker, I think that I have dealt with most of the points raised by hon. members. I have dealt with the points raised by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition who only spoke on the question of replying. I assure the hon. member that as long as I feel that a question raised by the Opposition merits a reply from me, they may rest assured that they will get a reply although they may not agree with it.

Now I come to my hon. friend, the hon. junior member for St. Peter. He began with the question of fish being sold at hotels at a cheaper rate than that at which the consuming public in Barbados is able to buy it. That is true. It was done without my knowledge in the first instance; it was done in the interest of the Consultants here who felt that we were trying to get the hotel business and therefore we should give them some sort of incentive. Just as the Supermarkets may use a certain commodity as a lever, the B.M.C., on the advice of the Consultants, used that as a lever to get into the hotel trade. I do not see why any hotelier should get a pound of fish cheaper than the average housewife here can get it. I have advised that if they want a lever for the hotel trade, they should try and get another commodity. Although we appreciate their buying things from us, we do not feel that they should be entitled to buy fish at a cheaper price than the average housewife in Barbados can buy it. The Barbados Marketing Corporation began by selling fish on a wholesale basis to people who sold it at about 75% higher than the average housewife could buy it from the Corporation. I have stopped that. Anybody can go down there and get fish at a whole sale price when the boat comes in. We have three vans, and when the boat comes in, one goes to the Northern area and they distribute the fish. The policy is that we start from Half Moon Fort, St. Lucy, then go to Belleplaine, St. Andrew; Bath, St. John; then to St. Philip, and we come in. If we run out of fish, a telephone call comes in and the van goes to the area. That is my view. In that way, the average housewife can benefit from good and reasonably-priced fish; but when you allow the hucksters to buy fish at 35¢ a pound and they sell it at 60¢ a pound, then we are accused of carrying up the cost of living. That is no fault of ours. Although the profits will not be as big for the Barbados Marketing Corporation, it is my view that the Corporation is not a profit-making concern. It has been established to deal with agricultural

diversification in this country and to assist in keeping the cost of living as low as possible.

I want hon. members to know that this will be my policy, and it will continue to be my policy even if I have to come to this House and ask for a grant to subsidise the B.M.C. when we have done all that can be done. I do not share the view that the B.M.C. can make high profits. Let us take the Abattoir. That is operated at a high loss. Before the B.M.C. was established, the then Government were subsidising the Abattoir. Now it is expected that all the weight of the Abattoir should be carried by the B.M.C., and therefore we are losing money at the Abattoir. We are also losing money in the Wax Product plant. It is true that we have some stealing, but we have cut down on that. We did some firing. These are people whose trustworthiness, in our opinion, was questionable. We have some more to get rid of, but the time will come. We have even tried to reduce the staff when we found that we could operate without the high number of staff. Even when people went out to other jobs, we have refused to fill the posts. That is in order to try to reduce over-head expenditure and put the B.M.C. on its foot again.

On the question of Sea Food Co. I said that the hon. member could get some information from the B.M.C.

12.20 p.m.

I know this. Some of the information which he got was correct. In some instances, he was misinformed. The Tele-com system was not bought by the B.M.C. What happened was that when they drew up this agreement with Food-Co, before they agreed to rent this Tele-Com system, they arranged to contribute to it on the 50-50 basis. This is mainly for the use of putting through orders for Food-Co.

Now, Food-Co., is out and the tele-com system would be out soon. Already, they have seen people from whom they rented it and told them that they do not want it after this month. Therefore, it is not a question that they were buying a Tele-com. system. The position is that we do not have any further use of it in any way.

All of the liabilities we are getting rid of, even the personnel liabilities. As to the question of the B.M.C. purchasing any meat, a check has been made. I am not saying that it is not true; it may be true. All that I am saying is that the check has not revealed that the B.M.C. has signed any meat orders which were consigned to other people. The hon. member spoke of meat, but it is nothing which has been the concern of the B.M.C.

I am going to give all the facts as I get them. If I found that the Chairman made slips, I would say so. Anyhow, a check has revealed that this did not happen. The Chairman went to St. Lucia in connection with the purchase of turtles for the Marketing Corporation. I do not know what the turtles were used for, but this was during the time of the preparations for Independence. I think that was the purpose of his visit.

I think there were trips to Trinidad on a visit by two members of the Board. Those trips were made in connection with the Food Processing Plant. Therefore, I cannot say that the members of the Board travelled at any time on personal business which the Marketing Corporation paid for and which was not connected with the Corporation. If I had any evidence of it, I would say.

The hon. member challenges me for a denial of the fact. I am not denying that because it is true.

The Barbados Marketing Corporation is asking for a guarantee of this loan by Government. It would be expected that we have to get money for this Corporation to carry out its duties. The only reason why the Government comes to the House for a guarantee of a loan for any corporation is because the banks demand a guarantee.

The Act gives the B.M.C. the authority to borrow money; but what we are asking is for permission to guarantee the loan and to borrow at a rate of interest of one-half of one percent below the prime commercial rate quoted to the public from time to time. All we are asking for is authority to borrow this money. There is nothing wrong in these banks lending this money to the B.M.C. These banks are not only lending money to the B.M.C., but to the Transport Board when they had the problem of paying increased wages. They have also borrowed money from the Port Department. I would like to get that fact cleared up for the purpose of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

The hon. member mentioned that I should try to convince the Cabinet that there should be an investigation into the affairs of the B.M.C. I have already stated my position as regards that when I answered the question raised in this House by the hon. senior member for Christ Church. I have already said that I do not see any reason for an investigation. You will only be paying out money for what you know already. It is better to spend the money with the engagement of a Consultant. When you have an investigation, you would only be discussing what we know is wrong. We need somebody to get at the root of the troubles and remedy them for us. We do not want any further investigation.

We do not know how to solve the problems; so we are providing people to help us to solve the problems. There is nothing for us to enquire into which we do not know already.

The hon. member mentioned that the Board bought pork at \$1.05 per pound and he said that it happened between May and August last year. I would like to inform the hon. member that as a result of a check which I made, it has not revealed this. The B.M.C. bought pork from Messrs Bryden & Sons and this pork was paid for around May, as far as I understand, at 45 cents per pound. There is nothing in the accounts to say that the B.M.C. bought pork at \$1.05 per pound. The only other thing is that Messrs A. S. Bryden & Sons only have pork that is imported, and no licence for the importation of pork was issued

last year. We stopped the importation of pork last year.

The standard of pork produced in Barbados is higher than what you get from other countries. If this was for pork imported from Messrs. A. S. Bryden & Sons last year, it would call for investigation. The hon. member was also misinformed by his informer or informers. This was before we stopped importers from importing pork from outside.
12.30 p.m.

With regard to the other question raised about the shooting incident with Mr. Bolden, I can say that the hon. member got some information; some was misinformed, some was almost accurate, and some was inaccurate. The question of the shooting of Mr. Bolden and his name being signed for having sold pork is not absolutely correct. Mr. Bolden's name appeared on the vouchers for having received pigs for the Corporation. It is one of the names which appeared with a fictitious signature, but Mr. Bolden's name was used for having received pork, which pork he did not receive and which signature was not his.

Now one day a gun was used in the Abattoir for destroying animals was being "messed around with" by an authorised person in the Abattoir. Mr. Bolden advised the person that something should not be done in that manner, and in the knocking of the gun, it went off. Mr. Bolden was injured slightly, but there was no real shooting incident. That is my information.

With regard to the question of the contract with Barnes & Company, there has not been any contract with Barnes & Company. Barnes & Company did the drawings for the plans to establish shrimp facilities. Barnes & Company were anxious to get the contract for the buildings, which was given to Burnip, Sims & Company. That is my information.

Then came the question of electrical fittings which Barnes & Company wanted to sell the B.M.C. Because they did not get the Contract, they charged the Corporation for the drawings which they had done. The difference between Barnes & Company's quotation and the quotation of the other contractors was \$30,000. Therefore Barnes & Company threatened to sue the Corporation for the cost of the drawings. The legal advisers of the Corporation advised that the Corporation was not liable and should not pay one cent. In the circumstances, not a cent was paid to Barnes & Company. Barnes & Company had done the drawings in the hope that they would have got the contract for the job.

The hon. member raised the question about Home Products Limited. There is not such a name as Home Products Limited in Barbados. We know of Home Industries which is not a limited liability company. It is not even a registered company. It is a group of housewives who have got together to make things like pepper sauce, ginger sauce, etc. In order to encourage catch industries in this country - you have people in the Social Welfare Department doing smocking - and to assist housewives in augmenting the in-

come of their husbands, we encourage them to remain at home and make things which we buy from them. Even the 4-H Clubs are taught to do these things.

The hon. member said that somebody connected with the Corporation is interested in this matter. Let us say that somebody connected with the Corporation is interested in this matter. Is there anything wrong with that? If I am working at the Corporation, and my wife makes things and sends them to the Corporation, is there any reason why I should not receive the things from my wife? Should we send to Jamaica to buy sauce?

I want to be brutally frank in this matter. Certain people connected with the Corporation have wives who are members of Home Industries and who send things to the Corporation, but that does not mean that their wives get any preferential treatment. They got the same price as anybody else for what they send to the Corporation. They are Barbadian housewives, and I think they are quite justified in trying to raise the economy of the country by making things in an effort to reduce the amount of money which we send out of the country for similar goods. Because Mr. X's wife may be involved in this matter, what is wrong with that? Absolutely nothing.

Mr. Speaker, I think that I have, at least, tried my best to answer all of the points raised by the hon. members on the other side of the House. I should like to assure them that, if at any time they find something going wrong at the B.M.C., they should not go on the political platform with it. They should not wait until the opportunity arises in this Chamber to make adverse criticisms about the B.M.C. The doors of the Ministry of Agriculture are always open to this young nation in general and to the members of the Opposition in particular.

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.

Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER the passing of one Resolution in Committee of Supply.

Mr. SPEAKER took the Chair and reported accordingly.

On motions of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, the Resolution was read a first time and passed.

AIRPORT SERVICE CHARGE BILL, 1967

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am asking for leave to take charge of the next item on the order Paper: A Bill which stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. the Acting Leader of the House is seeking leave of the House to take charge of Order No. 4 standing in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, and unless there is any objection he will be granted leave. (A pause) There being no objection, I declare leave to be granted to the Hon. Minister to proceed to move the Second Reading of a Bill to provide for the imposition of an Airport Service Charge on persons travelling out of Barbados from Seawell Airport for the Collection of the imposed charge and for matters incidental thereto or connected therewith. 12.40 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as the "Objects and Reasons" set out, this Bill seeks to provide for the imposition of an airport service charge on travellers leaving Seawell Airport for places outside Barbados. The charge would be two dollars payable by each traveller on each occasion he leaves the Airport, though certain persons would be exempt therefrom. The persons who would be exempt therefrom are clearly set out in Clause 3 (2) of the Bill. Every carrier transporting travellers from the Airport would be required to collect the charge and pay it over to a Collector who would be a public officer designated as such by the Cabinet. Carriers would be entitled to a commission of fifteen cents on every charge collected. Clause 5 would define certain offences in connection with the charge and Clause 6 would make provision for enforcing payments thereof. Clause 8 would provide for the refund of amounts overpaid and Clause 9 would enable Regulations to be made by the Cabinet in respect of matters relating to the charge.

This is, in truth and in fact, one of the proposals in the 1967 Budget Speech, which is now being implemented. The decision was taken since 1st July, 1967 that such a charge should be imposed along the lines indicated in the Bill. Since then, a charge has been fixed at \$2.00 per passenger and the airlines are requested to collect the charge and be paid at the rate of 15¢ for each charge collected. Passengers travelling in Private planes should pay the charge to the Director of Civil Aviation, and the category of persons exempted would include the Governor-General, his wife or children under the age of twenty-one years; members of the House of Assembly or the Senate; wives, husbands or children under the age of twenty-one years of members of the House of Assembly or the Senate; United Nations Personnel; Civil Servants of Barbados travelling on official business, children travelling under the age of twelve years and intransit passengers remaining in Barbados for a period not exceeding one day.

This is a means of receiving revenue and it is just a question of implementing one of the proposals in the Budget Speech. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, I would like to give my support to the Government on this Bill. I will

remember that on the last occasion when this matter was discussed, and it was suggested by me that we should have such a tax, I was subjected to an attack from the opposite side from which it was said that I was trying to destroy the Tourist Industry. Members on the Government benches will remember that occasion. I am very happy to see that the Government has at last come to my way of thinking, and I am sure that the money which is derived from this tax will do a great deal to ameliorate the conditions in many areas of this island as it has done in other countries where such a tax has been adopted.

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

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

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

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

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

Clauses 1 to 10 inclusive were called and passed.

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

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

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

12.50 p.m.

The CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, the Bill was read a third time and passed and the title read and agreed to.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the hon. junior member for Christ Church, the Hon. Minister of Health and it is to move the third reading of a Bill to revise the Statute Law of the Island by repealing obsolete, spent, unnecessary or superseded enactments.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I would like to proceed with a Bill to amend the Public Loan Act, 1961 which was given notice of yesterday and of which copies have been circulated to hon. members.

I am going to deal with that Bill as the next item of the day; so I am therefore asking leave to deal with it.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Sir, much as Government is entitled to do its own business just as it pleases, this Loan Bill strictly involves the Prime Minister, and I think the Prime Minister would have to be here to see after any answers to questions.

I think we could proceed with Order No. 5 on the Order Paper, as I do not think it would take very long.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister if he expects the Prime Minister here today. Of course, if the Prime Minister is not expected today, well, it would clearly make no difference. It only will be left to hon. members to think of what the Prime Minister thinks of the House of Assembly that a Minister can introduce such an important Act.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The position is that I would have dealt with the Bill which revises the statute laws of the Island by repealing obsolete, spent, unnecessary or superseded enactment, for which we have received the Report of the Select Committee which was appointed to deal with it; but I have understood that certain checks are being made in this connection, and so at this moment we were quite prepared to deal with this Bill.

Owing to that situation, I ask that we deal with the Public Loan Act which does not appear to be very controversial at all. The only thing is that, I take it, it is not on the Order Paper and I am asking leave to deal with it in that it is considered urgent. As I understand it, the Hon. and Learned senior member for St. Thomas is objecting to our dealing with it.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Sir, the Hon. Minister said something which is very interesting. In respect of the Bill to amend the Public Loan Act, I would like to know in what respect the loans are being considered urgent.

Mr. SPEAKER: What is before the House at the moment is a request by the hon. junior member for Christ Church for leave to proceed next with the Bill to amend the Public Loan Act.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Sir, what I am trying to express is that I would be glad to hear before we have any discussion on it if the Prime Minister is coming to the House. I am worried by it being dealt with at this stage. This is a Bill which was introduced by the Hon. Prime Minister of Finance, and I would like to know if he is coming to the House to deal with it. If he is coming, I would like to know why we are dealing with it in his absence.

Mr. Speaker, what I would like to know first is if the Prime Minister is coming to the House.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: As I understand it, the Hon. and Learned senior member for St. Thomas has certain queries, or would like to seek certain information. He would like to know the Prime Minister is able to handle this matter personally. So far as I am informed, the Hon. Prime Minister is concerned now

with other business and I am primarily making an investigation to find out if he can come to the House now. Normally, he comes if required.
1.00 p.m.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order. May we not adjourn for lunch at this stage? We are an hour earlier than the fixed time.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am advised that we merely adjourn for lunch time.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I understand that the hold up of the Bill to revise the Statute Law is that the Minutes for one day of the Committee's meeting have not yet been circulated. We have the Minutes of the proceedings on the 8th September, but there was another meeting of the Committee. As at present advised, several members on this side of the House have not yet had an opportunity to study the Minutes of the second meeting. In the light of the Hon. Prime Minister's reply yesterday, it would be almost impossible for us to go through the Minutes before lunch and do justice to the Bill. On the other hand, the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister and Minister of Finance is not here, and we may have to object to that. I think we could go with other business and adjourn for lunch later.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, we are willing to accede to the request of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition now that we have all of the papers appertaining to the Bill before us. We have the minutes of the Select Committee, and we can proceed to pass the third reading of the Bill. I suggest that we proceed with the Bill now that we are in a position to deal with it. I would like to have the Bill dealt with and passed. Let us proceed with the normal Order Paper, and this will give the members of the Opposition an opportunity to study the Public Loan Bill, which they may not yet have studied fully.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, we have been circulated only with the Minutes of the meeting of the 1st September. It is quite clear that there was a subsequent meeting, and we have not yet been circulated with the minutes of the 8th September. We do not have a full report before us, but I do not know what is the position on the other side of the House.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I have actually seen the Minutes of the second meeting, but they have not yet been circulated to the members on this side of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Or the Chair.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, at this stage, I beg to move that the sitting be now suspended for one hour.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: In view of what Your Honour said earlier, I would move an amendment so that the sitting be suspended until 2.30 p.m. instead.

Mr. HINDS: I beg to second that.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: While I can well appreciate the fact that certain very busy practitioners may want to check on their office work, we are very busy and have had to postpone a lot of important meetings in order to remain here today, and it is for that reason that I am seeking an adjournment for one hour. I have other duties to perform at the Children's Home in St. Peter this afternoon and other Ministers are involved. For that reason we seek the adjournment so as to be in time to perform other duties in the northern area of the Island.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, last week the Hon. Leader of the House informed us that if this House did not complete certain business on Tuesday, then the hon. members should be prepared to come back today. That statement was made from the Government side; so they had no right to make appointments or to arrange to hold meetings today. They suggested the time, place and hour for this meeting. The Hon. Minister for Agriculture said that he had to put off two meetings scheduled for today. They must not come to this House to fool us. They decided to sit for two days.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, that is meaningless. What the hon. member fails to realise is that the appointments were not made the day before; some of these appointments have been made two weeks in advance. It is not a question of pulling a fast one on the hon. member. It is a question of getting through the Business of this House.

Mr. SMITH: The Hon. Minister says that the meetings were fixed weeks ago, but this meeting was fixed only last week.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment will be put first.

The question that the sitting be suspended until 2.30 p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. SPEAKER: Accordingly, this sitting stands suspended until 2.30 p.m. this day.
1.10 p.m.

On re-assembling,

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, there is no quorum present, and I ask that the bell be rung.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. member for drawing that to my attention. Let the Bell be rung.

On the Bell being rung, a quorum was obtained.

LAW REVISION (MISCELLANEOUS REPEALS) BILL, 1967

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the Hon. Acting Leader of the House indicate which are the two matters he elects to proceed with now?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, now that the Minutes of the meeting in connection with the Report

which has just been submitted here relative to the revision of the Statute Law of the island by repealing obsolete, spent, unnecessary or superseded enactments have been circulated. I would like to proceed with the consideration of the Report and the third reading of this Bill at this stage. I am referring to Order No. 5 on the Order Paper, and I am asking leave to deal with it.

Mr. SPEAKER: In respect of these Minutes as circulated at the first meeting, in the fourth paragraph below the list of names of persons present in the second line, the word before the last appears as "preferred". I am advised that this word should have been "referred". I do not know how many other copies of the Minutes have this typographical error in them.

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of this Committee, the Report has been laid, the Minutes have been circulated and hon. members will notice that the members of the Committee studied the entire Bill. I therefore beg to move that this Report be now adopted.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, first of all, I would like to thank, on behalf of the Opposition, the members of the Select Committee for the skill and speed with which they were able to conduct the proceedings, since we were able to get through our work at only two meetings. I would also like to thank the Government members for the ready acceptance which was given to the arguments of the Opposition. From the Minutes, hon. members will observe that there were Opposition members who were objecting to particular enactments being repealed and certain Government back-benchers were also among those who found that the provisions in the Schedule of the Bill were rather too wide. Hon. members will observe that nearly all the matters raised on the second reading of the Bill were considered by the Committee and that the Three Houses Spring Act, 1713, for example, has been preserved in the interest of the land owners. The Springs will be retained in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

I know that certain hon. members, who were members of the Select Committee, were very worried about the two Compensation Bills relating to the Rector of St. George and the Rector of St. Philip. It will be observed that their privileges under this Act have been preserved, pending the financial arrangements between the Church and the State. These two particular Acts were certainly two Acts on which the members of the Opposition felt strongly, and I am glad to say that hon. members have agreed that it would not be right to deprive the Rectors of St. George and St. Philip of the provisions contained in these Acts. These Acts were being administered by the Local Government Councils in the last years of their existence.

There is one particular matter which I recall the hon. junior member for St. Philip and the hon. junior member for St. Joseph felt strongly about, and

that is the Streets (Sitting of the Legislature) Traffic Act, 1909. Hon. members expressed the view that the relationships between the Houses of the Legislature and the Commissioner of Police in respect of traffic matters were not so cordial, especially when we think of what happened to Your Honour's own vehicle and your employee at the foot of the steps of this Hon. House, and we felt that a Statutory direction would be more appropriate to the organising of the traffic around these buildings, than merely leaving it to the discretion of the Commissioner of Police. The Attorney General gave the assurance that regulations were being drafted to incorporate the provisions of this Act which it was proposed to repeal, and it was on that assurance that I, for one, and other members of the Select Committee, withdrew their opposition to the repeal of that Act. We hope that when these regulations are drafted, a general look will be taken to the regulations relating to the powers of the Police in the precincts of this House, the yard and the streets adjoining the Public Buildings, so that we will not have any more of the state of affairs which we had in which Your Honour's chauffeur was arrested.

We have had a fair amount of Law Revision Legislation, and I gather that there may still be one or two pieces of legislation or amendments to legislation which we will have to consider. Although we agreed to delete the Three Houses Spring Act from the Schedule, it was thought by Mr. Patchett that the Three Houses Spring Act should not be published with the other Acts. I have no doubt that we will have another Act to deal with that in due course.

On the question of the Local Government enactments, it was a question as to whether we should take out all the sections of the Act or not, but we were told that new Acts would be printed with a special title dealing with Local Government alone. I hope that this will also be fulfilled and that we will not find that we have merely taken away eight or nine sections of the Local Government Act. I hope that we will not have to wait for years before anything is put in their place. Perhaps we may have to wait for a Party which is more responsive to the reasonable aspirations of Local Government positions in this island to return to power.

There is just one thing I would like to say about the Law Revision work. Many people have regretted that the Old Laws of Barbados will become more and more difficult to ascertain because the old editions of the Law have fallen into disuse. Certain Acts will be kept in force although there will not be any authorised copies of these Acts. The new Acts are being printed in such a way that there will not be a whole volume to be set aside because it is being printed in loose-leaf form, and there will be no incentive to keep the old Acts of Barbados up to date. In forty years' time it will be very difficult to find out what Acts have been passed and at what time, and Mr. Chandler has pointed out that it would be impossible to have a complete set of the Laws in Barbados passed and printed. It would not be possible to get a collection of future laws in Barbados together for Library and other

purposes for which these laws will be needed. There will be laws in force, but they will not be printed. I hope that the Law Revision Committee will bear this in mind.
2.40 p.m.

Let us hope that we shall not have to involve the Prime Minister. I do not want to go into the provisions of this Bill. As a matter of fact, there is little which I want to make objections to on this occasion. We can see nothing that anybody would take objection to Government's policy in connection with this matter, but we must be conscious of the fact that the draft constitution of the Democratic Labour Party at the Constitutional Conference in London was amended, and I hope the Commissioner of Laws would be able to carry out his work with ease and that there would be no accusation in this House of party politics in this. Sir, we see no evidence of this on this occasion.

The question that the Report be now adopted was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that this Bill be now read a third time.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that this Bill do now pass.

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

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

ORDER No. 6 POSTPONED

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, it is not proposed to deal with Order No. 6 for the reasons which the Prime Minister said on a former occasion.

I am asking for leave to deal with the Bill to amend the Public Loans Act, 1961, of which notice was given yesterday. This is an urgent matter. I have been so advised by the Ministry of Finance.

I do not know if the hon. senior member for St. Thomas would approve of my dealing with the Bill. he said that he would prefer the Minister of Finance to deal with it. I do know that he wants certain information or has queries to make, but I think with a certain amount of ingenuity I am able to answer the questions.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of explanation. I never said for one moment that the Hon. Leader of the House is unable to deal with it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that leave be granted the Hon. Minister of Health to take charge of the Bill.

There being no objection, leave is granted the Hon. Minister of Health to take charge of this matter

standing in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

It is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Public Loan Act, 1961, to increase from twenty-four million dollars to thirty million dollars the limit on the amounts which the Government is authorised to raise by loan under section 2 of that Act.

THE PUBLIC LOAN BILL, 1967

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for reading out the Objects and Reasons of the Bill. That being so, I do not have to read it again.

The position is that the Public Loan Act, 1961, gives the Cabinet authority to raise by loan the sum of \$24 million either locally or in the United Kingdom to finance the development spoken of, or which may be approved from time to time.

Under this Act, amounts of \$85 million have been raised to finance projects including development under the development Plan of 1961-65 and 1965-68. At the beginning of this financial year there were no loans funds taken up and expiring also on that date. The amount of loans needed for capital expenditure in the past year was \$15 million. It was estimated that another \$9 million capital expenditure would be needed to be financed by loan funds apart from loans raised under the Development Loan, so that the total amount to raise to meet capital Expenditure up to the end of March, 1968, would be approximately \$34 million.

The Public Loan would be raised annually to allow for the raising of funds required under the Development plan and it is recommended that this Act should be amended to authorise the borrowing of an additional \$6 million.
2.50 p.m.

If that is done, the amount of \$24 million will be increased to \$30 million, and it is for the purpose of granting Government the authority to raise the additional \$6 million that the Public Loan Bill is being amended today. Those are the reasons, and I beg to move that this Bill be read a second time.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The members of the Opposition have been taken a little more by surprise in this matter than they should have been. As I recall it, we have studied the Estimates to see how far along the road we have gone to raising the \$24 million permitted by the Public Loan Act, 1966. I looked at the Capital Estimates, and it was clear to me that the Public Loan Act required an amendment to take care of any discrepancy. In the same way the Hon. Leader of the Opposition had seen it, the Minister of Finance and the members of the Government could have seen it, because they are more intimately connected with the loans.

If there is a need, which suddenly becomes necessary, to amend the law to enable the Government to

increase the permitted limit under the Public Loan Act, 1961, then there has been adequate time for the Bill now before the House to be presented in good time for all members to study it carefully. I will explain some of the problems that we face with an Act such as this which is brought before the House. We heard only yesterday, in a series of answers to questions, that a local loan of \$4 1/2 million was raised when \$10 million was asked for. This was raised with the aid of the West Indies Stock Exchange Limited and a Canadian Corporation. A cursory glance at the relevant legislation will tell any hon. member who understands public finance that the Laws of Barbados permit money to be raised only in Barbados and in England. That is the effect of the 1933 and 1935 Acts. Section 4 of the 1961 Act states:

"The loans authorised by this Act, or any part of them may be raised either -

- (a) in the United Kingdom by the Crown Agents under the provisions of the General Loan and Stock Act, 1935; or
- (b) in the Island under the provisions of the General Local Loan Act, 1933."

There is no authority to raise money in Trinidad or Canada. Now the Hon. Prime Minister said that they attempted to raise the loan locally, but before the 20th March, which was the closing date, I went to all the banks in Bridgetown and asked if they had any brochure available for the local loan. At one bank a Trustee Adviser told me that he did not know of the loan. (A VOICE: Do you want to subscribe to the loan?) I was going to the banks not as a member of Parliament, but as a potential subscriber to a Barbados loan. I wanted to know whether they would take \$1.00 or \$2.00 at a time - and I had my \$1.00 or \$2.00 ready if the banks would take the money from me, but they disclaimed all knowledge of it.

The Minister said that he would answer all questions. I would like to know if the Minister is really prepared to answer all the points that can be raised on the issue of this loan, which no member on this side has ever seen advertisements for in Barbados. Does the issue of this loan conform with the provisions of the 1933 Local Loan Act? If it does not, then it means that the \$4 1/2 million is potentially illegally borrowed, and \$135,000 illegally paid out of the Barbados Treasury; and we are not, by any means, achieving the upper limits of the Public Loan Act, 1961, as we have seen.

We are in a great deal of difficulty. With the best will in the world, even practising barristers in daily receipt of the *Gazette* cannot always keep their Acts of Parliament up to date with the amendments. I have most carefully studied my copy of the 1961 laws of Barbados. I have the impression that I have entered all the amendments to be entered, and I observe that you can only raise money under the 1961 Act for expenditure on works and services, set out in the Island's Development Programme for the period 1960-1965 as approved by the General Assembly by

Resolution No. 69 of 1961, and so on. It is my view that the Act, as amended - I refer to the 1961 Act - only authorises the Government to spend money on the Barbados Labour Party's last Development Programme: I mean any money spent under that Act, or spent on the Development Programme, which was authorised before the Party came into power.

The Minister said something about the Development Programme for 1962-68. If the Minister knows that the Act was amended, I should be very glad if he would tell me under which Act it was amended and what authority he had to spend the money? I cannot believe that the Ministry of Finance and other Ministries connected with the spending of the money of the Treasury of Barbados could be so careless as to leave the Schedule to this Act unamended and yet spend the money on projects which were outside the purpose mentioned in the Act.

In keeping with the 1961 Act this matter has been dealt with without any authorisation of this House. I have seen no communication in connection with this matter. If the Minister knows that there is statutory authority to spend \$24 million on a Development Programme later than the 1960 Programme, then I should be very glad if he would interrupt me and prevent me from dwelling on this point any further.

With a Bill such as this which is brought before the House, it is the duty of the Minister who is introducing it to give us the fullest possible detail of all loans that have been raised under the Act which have brought us so near to the upper limit. Appendix L of the Approved Estimates reveals that only \$13,976,250 or about \$14 million was borrowed under the authority of this Act as at the end of the financial year 1966-67. 3.00 p.m.

In other words, the money which the Minister is talking about must be some part of the remaining authorised \$10 million, and I would take it that they are trying to get the money all in one. If the closing date for the loans is 20th March, I think that it would have some relation to the previous year. I do not intend to question the Accountant General; I take it that the loan which we are talking about is this loan which was described in my question, which was answered by the Hon. Minister of Finance, on the basis of its being a local loan. I take it that the \$5 1/2 million is the short fall on the amount of the local loan asked for on whatever date this last loan was launched; therefore we must, of necessity, be very closely concerned with the terms of this loan. For the benefit of the Hon. Minister of Finance who has just entered the House, I might mention that we are anxious to know if this loan was within the definition of the Local Loan Act of 1933, and if the provision which dealt with the advertisement has been amended.

Mr. Speaker, the West Indies Stock Exchange Limited is a Company originally registered in Trinidad, and the Toronto Company to which the Prime Minister referred earlier, is a Company registered in Canada. I actually made unsuccessful efforts to obtain in Barbados the prospectus of the loan so that

I could see if my one or two dollars would be acceptable. Therefore this is not a completely Local Loan. Quite apart from the terms and conditions and the assistance given to the pockets of Mr. Bruce Procope and Mr. Ken Patrick, quite apart from the \$135,000 which has been paid out, did this loan satisfy all the provisions of the Local Loan Act?

A short time ago I invited the Hon. Acting Leader of the House to interrupt me if he could tell me where I could find the amendments to the Schedule of the 1961 Act which permits money raised under the authority of that Act to be spent for purposes other than the Development Programme for the period 1960-1965. I will repeat that question. I would be most obliged if I could find out when that Schedule was amended and what would be the authority for spending money other than for the purposes set out in that Act. I distinctly heard the Hon. Leader of the House discuss the Development Programme for the period 1962-1968. It is very difficult sometimes, especially at such short notice which we have had, to extract from the old volumes of published Estimates the cost of each loan. You could look at Appendix "L" on loans and never find out anything about their cost. You will find the amounts raised, and when they were raised. It is very difficult, I repeat, to find out the cost of each individual loan and I would have to ask the Prime Minister to supply us with the information as to the cost of the loans which are set out in Appendix "L" of the Estimates, as having been raised under the authority of the Public Loan Act. If the closing date was the 25th March, I would be glad to hear from the Hon. Minister what exactly is the accounting system which permitted sums to be raised and to be excluded from the Estimates for the Financial year. The Financial Secretary has assured me that I would find these details in the Estimates. We need an explanation as to that. It does not mean that you must not ask for an explanation as to why loans can possibly be raised in the circumstances, and the explanation which may follow them can be given in the form of a Ministerial answer to a Supplementary Question. I may say that the sum of \$135,000 would wipe out a great deal of the indebtedness of the Barbados Marketing Corporation. That is the amount of money which we have to put up to remedy the tarnished happenings at the Barbados Marketing Corporation. It would also have made a great deal of difference when the Transport Board was short of money. Presumably, these charges will be reflected in the amount of interest which we will be called upon to pay. We are now being asked to increase this loan limit to go on the West Indies Stock Exchange Ltd. and to give these people the opportunity to make more money out of the Government of Barbados. The Prime Minister has said that he could not tell off-hand what brokerage is paid for loans, and that if we ask the question, he will have it answered.

3.10 p.m.

I have no doubt that the Prime minister will get the answers for us gladly. I did not know this matter would be coming up today and I do not think his move in changing his officials will prevent him from giving us the information. There must be some good cause and reason for him to do so.

In respect of this particular loan, three percent is a lot of money to give to a man to borrow money for you. It is acquiring a loan at a rate of interest of almost half the same as what you have to pay in interest on the whole loan. You are paying three percent just to borrow the money. It means that you are getting \$97 for every \$100; so you are paying to borrow - by a quick calculation of mine, a sum that brings the interest to about one-fifth percent away from eight per cent.

Now, when you borrow, you are borrowing at an apparent rate of seven and one half percent - indeed, you are borrowing it at nearly eight per cent. All of these are things which the Minister of Finance must tell us in this House something about.

I do not know the advice the Government had to make them come to the conclusion that it would be better to bring in an amendment to the 1961 Act, rather than to have a new Act. Of course, we have numerous Public Loan Acts on the Statute Book. There is the Public Loan Act of 1961, the Public Loan Act of 1955, and the one before that was in 1953. These were when the Government was under the direction of the Barbados Labour Party.

By this Act of 1961, the largest amount ever authorised for the Government of Barbados to borrow at any one time was \$24 million, and one wonders why it has been increased to \$30 million; if there is going to be a requirement of money from time to time, I would suggest that we should have a series of Acts rather than a series of amendments. It is preferable to have a series of Acts.

I wonder by way of reply if the Minister of Finance would give me an answer. Mr. Speaker, we must ask whether this new increase of \$6 million is going to be a series of \$50,000 debentures in the books of Mr. Procope and Mr. Patrick; or whether the Government has in mind a loan, properly carried out by respectable firms long established in lending money. I say that because I do not know that Port-of-Spain is recognized on the Loan Market; nor do I know whether that territory is already a leading banking centre; nor do I know if we have power to borrow money in Trinidad.

It may be that the Hon. Prime Minister can tell us, and he can tell us at what interest he expects we can get this. The time has been too short for us to make all the necessary research. Any broker in Britain would know the current rates for raising money for an Urban Corporation in the United Kingdom. I have searched a business paper to get at what rates corporations pay their brokers for getting money for them. A copy of the "Times" newspaper which the hon. senior member for Christ Church had yesterday would have given us some idea, but he does not have it today. This copy has been misplaced. I think it contained an advertisement showing that one quarter of one per cent was being paid on the Manchester Corporation loan. Because of the short space of time, a comparison of matters of this sort has not been prepared by us. We only had the Bill yesterday.

There is a lot of explanation which the Prime Minister will have to give, and I hope that he would do so on the second reading, so that when we go into Committee we will be able to take up points one by one and satisfy ourselves thoroughly as watchdogs of the public money over here. I say so as a member of this honourable Chamber.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, the fact that we find ourselves today in the position in which I have to make a request of the Hon. Prime Minister of Finance and our Leader of the House with respect to the exact situation, and the authority by which loans are made, and the purpose to which they can be used is no fault of ours because this Bill had not been circulated yesterday.

We see that it is an amendment to the Public Loan Act of 1961, which refers to the General Loan Act and the Local Loan Act. I have been able to find so far as possible, despite the fact that the laws of Barbados are not put up in a better form and are not up to date today that there has been an amendment to the Public Loan Act in 1965 and that deals with the establishment of a Supplementary Sinking Fund. It does not touch the point which at first sight it seems to support, the amounts carried in the Schedule to the Public Loan Act of 1961. Perhaps the Minister of Finance would tell us why that Schedule was amended, if it were amended at all.

3.20 p.m.

In the absence of an amendment to that Schedule, it would appear that the purposes for which the loan was raised under the authority of the Public Loan Act should be confined to those set out in the Schedule.

Another point that we must raise, arising out of the answers which we received yesterday, is that in his reply yesterday the Hon. Minister of Finance stated that one of the reasons for the Government accepting the conditions demanded by the two Companies which had agreed to underwrite the last loan of \$10 million was due to the fact that they had undertaken to accept the expenses incidental to the raising of the loan - such expenses as advertisements and things of that kind. That is the point that I want to make positively clear.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I do not necessarily accept the hon. member's interpretation of what I said. It appears to me that they feel that the fountain of all wisdom resides on the other side of the House by the way they pontificate on matters coming before this House. I am saying that the hon. member is prone to get up and make statements on which he appears to be in deep water.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I ask you to rule that this is not a point of order. This is merely an attempt on the part of the Hon. Prime Minister to heckle people.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thought from yesterday the hon. senior member for Christ Church would know better than to remain standing when the Hon. Speaker is on the floor.

Mr. ST. JOHN: It is obvious that the Minister of Finance in this House has something to hide, for Mr. Bruce Procope who is connected with the West Indies Stock Exchange is the same man who negotiated the Hilton Hotel deal. Now when the Hon. Prime Minister comes here and talks about people in deep waters, he must understand that we are in deep waters because we do not think the same corrupt way as other hon. members.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I object to the hon. member referring to hon. members having a corrupt mind. Whether he refers to a particular member or not, he should be made to withdraw the remark.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the hon. member referring to a member of this House?

Mr. ST. JOHN: The only person who thinks so is the member who got up. This cheap jibe about people in deep water! What the Hon. Prime Minister is trying to say is that we do not know anything about finance. He went to England to study economics, but his special subject was industrial law. He wants to make people believe that he is an economist!

Hon. E. W. BARROW: That is absolutely true, and I do not know that it is something to be ashamed of. I did nine subjects. What was your special subject?

Mr. ST. JOHN: The Hon. Prime Minister came here and said yesterday that 3% was given to the West Indies Stock Exchange and some Canadian Corporation for advertisements and so on. I challenge that, and I say that neither the Canadian Corporation nor the West Indies Stock Exchange has placed one advertisement in any newspaper or in any other publication in Barbados inviting subscriptions to that loan. When the Hon. Minister of Finance gets up to reply, let him deny that fact and indicate the date and name of the newspaper in which such an advertisement appeared. Let him tell us of any newspaper where an advertisement was made inviting the public of Barbados to subscribe to the loan. There was a cheap cyclostyled or printed circular sent around Barbados, and that is the reason why the \$10 million was not raised. Let him deny these indisputable facts.

Mr. Speaker, the \$10 million was not raised because of the fact that the people who were raising the money and who had agreed to underwrite did not have the confidence of the general public. When you agree to underwrite, you mean that you will take up the whole amount of the loan. That is the meaning of underwriting in this context. Let the Hon. Minister of Finance deny that fact. I challenge the Hon. Minister with this. He said that the West Indies Stock Exchange and the Canadian Corporation had agreed to underwrite this loan, and that caused the Barbados Government to pay them 3%. What are the expenses they incurred in Barbados? Let the Hon. Minister of Finance tell us about these expenses. The Canadian Corporation is a nondescript firm in Canada. Let him bring any Journal in this House to prove that it is among the leading and reputable ones.

When the Hon. Prime Minister comes here with his cheap talk about people operating in deep waters, the depth of the waters in which he is operating in, I have absolutely no desire to get in there. I do not have the kind of friends the Hon. Prime Minister has. When he comes talking in here, he must first look at his own copy book. The Hon. Minister mouthed it around Barbados that local people should invest in the Capitalisation of the development of Barbados. How can they do that when the Minister of Finance has under his control the means to encourage people to use a nondescript organisation to obtain \$10 million? The general public in Barbados have no confidence in the West Indies Stock Exchange or the Canadian Corporation. What was the commission paid to the banks in Barbados? Was it the usual commission? It is known that fees are passed back to banks and other institutions through which you get loan?

Let the Minister of Finance tell us whether the banks have confidence in this loan. The fact that it was not raised is a clear indication that the manner in which it was raised was incompetently handled. There was a deal, and the Hon. Minister of Finance knows what is meant by a "deal". There was a deal between the Hon. Prime Minister and some persons who were associated with the Hilton Hotel. When you talk about the Hilton Hotel, every living person in this Island knows what went wrong with the Hilton Hotel.

If the Hon. Minister of Finance had his Financial Department properly organised and this was a local loan, the responsibility for raising the loan could have been assumed by his Department. All they had to do was to issue an advertisement in all the newspapers in Barbados and pay the usual discount to bankers, brokers, accountants and solicitors, and they would have raised more than the \$4 million that the West Indies Stock Exchange and the Canadian Corporation raised.

3.30 p.m.

Many loans have been raised in Barbados and it would never have cost the Barbados Government any 3%. It is no wonder that the Minister of Finance has attempted to bring down this Bill today, circulate it today and think that we would sit down here and do nothing about it. The Minister pretends to be the "know-all" and he attempts to make cheap insinuations and to talk about people being in deep waters. We are in deep waters, it is true, to know what the Minister is talking about. What is the West Indies Stock Exchange? Has it got a branch office in Barbados now? This firm is in Trinidad trying to get its fee, but the Ministry of Finance, in their wisdom, decided to give them a helping hand out of the taxpayers of Barbados. How long has this office in Barbados been in existence? What is its history? Has it raised any loan for any other company in Barbados? What about the Toronto Firm? Has it got any connections in Barbados? If you had to use them, would you have to go to Canada to sue them? These are indisputable facts.

The position is that with the amounts raised so far, they have not yet taken up the full amount, if that

were so, you would have found that the authority to raise the \$10 million would have been illegal. You have only raised \$4 million and you have \$6 million more to go for. We know about the reckless expenditure on the Hilton Hotel for which, no doubt, some of this money will be used. We know that the Contract negotiated with the Hilton Hotel is not written in the interest of the public of Barbados. In your own financial projections, you said that you do not expect to earn any revenue from the Hilton Hotel; and when you talk about people being in deep waters, my waters may be shallow, but they are clean. What is the authority for raising this loan? Everybody would like to see Barbadians taking a keen interest and would like to see the encouragement of savings in Barbados, but you do not encourage savings in Barbados by employing institutions of no repute, institutions which have no experience of Barbados, which have no knowledge of its financial background or anything of the kind. That does not generate confidence, and it is a great pity that, for the first time for a very long time, a public loan of the magnitude of \$10 million was issued locally in Barbados, and you did not get even a 50% response from Barbados. That is an indication of the lack of confidence in someone. To say that the loan was closed at \$4 million is not an excuse which any hon. member can take seriously. If you only wanted \$4 1/2 million, why did you ask for \$10 million? The only reason why you closed it at \$4 million is because the public had rejected the idea that you needed \$10 million. These Corporations which raise money are Corporations which the public knew nothing about. You tell the public of Barbados that this is an amendment to the Act; tell the public of Barbados about your association with the Hilton Hotel and your friendship with Mr. Procope. Go tell them about these matters. *(Cheers from the Opposition.)*

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, after that eloquent speech by the hon. member, I hope that the Hon. Minister of Finance will greet it in polite language and not be constantly sneering. Imagine the people of Barbados ever reaching the stage that they have no confidence in the financial stability of Barbados! The Barbados Labour Party has been sneered at. When we had to deal with the loan for the Deep Water Harbour, within a minute that we asked for \$10 million, the money was subscribed. I said in public that the money was subscribed within a minute and somebody said that it was subscribed in 37 seconds. The *Advocate* Newspaper made some comment and I spoke of the stability of Barbados. The confidence which the English people had in Barbados was so great that in 37 seconds this money, \$22 million, was made available to this island. That is a reputation to be proud of. Today anything which goes to bring down the community or to lower the reputation of Barbados is a grievous thing. It does not hurt "A" or "B", but it hurts the reputation of this island which hon. members on the other side of the House are so prone to talk about, this great independent nation.

3.40 p.m.

Is it in their rights to bring the rights of this nation down to the muck and mire any more?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker I think that I have been in here for a sufficiently long time to know that all the hon. members on that side want to do is to engage in their customary recriminations and to take every opportunity they can to fulminate and to appeal to the Gallery as they are accustomed doing. When we are discussing the serious business of raising a loan, we are making provision to raise money to be spent on things of a recurrent nature from time to time, the building of roads in villages and anything of a financial nature in this country that has taken place within the last six years.

Any act which has been carried out during my term of office has been done with the full authority of the law, and it is necessary for you to understand the foul accusations and the smears by the hon. senior member for Christ Church, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, and the hon. senior member for St. Thomas which is an indication of the low level to which the affairs of the people of this Island have been directed.

The hon. junior member for St. Joseph is unable to find out whether he has done industrial law or not. I happened to do mine at the same time; but I am not here to advise them as to how to get through theirs faster.

Mr. Bradshaw, the person who has been one of the most amazingly loyal to the former Federal Prime Minister, the junior member for St. Joseph claimed was brought from being a cane-cutter and made a Minister of Finance by him. I wonder if he was in this Island if he would have appointed him to the portfolio of Minister of Finance.

I should like to point out to Your Honour three things. When I took over the Government, there was no Minister of Finance before December 18th, 1961. The Public Debt of this Island was already of very great dimensions. (A VOICE: How very great?) Look in the Estimates and you will see, if you want to know what the Public Debt was.

On page four, you will see in the statement of Public Revenue where the Public Revenue in 1960-61 was \$26 million. In the five years period from 1956-61, the Public Revenue had risen from \$19 million to \$26 million, an increase of \$7 million.

The Government's Revenue in the following five-year period had risen by \$25 million as against the \$7 million in the first five years when the affairs of this country were under the direction of the member who did industrial law.

I have nine subjects in economics. The fact that the hon. senior member for St. James is walking about in a Combermerian blazer does not make him a Combermerian. I did not set myself up as a Minister of Finance. I was the first Minister of Finance.

The others were like Mr. Bradshaw, the erstwhile Minister of Finance in the Federal Government who was appointed by the Leader of the Opposition. He

is rejecting him now he is in trouble. What else he has done? Mr. V. C. Bird wanted something proposed. He tried to get his Estimates passed that he could send home, and the Prime Minister would not arrange for Mr. Bird's Estimates to be passed.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Can you understand in the name of Heaven what the Antigua Government has to do with this matter which we are considering? All that the Prime Minister is doing is making wrong accusations.

Mr. SPEAKER: But no member has the right to accuse another member of making wrong accusations.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: He called Bustamante a village idiot!

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The Prime Minister said that someone called Bustamante a village idiot. What relevance has that got to the business before the House? Are we passing a Resolution on Bustamante?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is not making a point of order, but I would counsel the Hon. Minister of Finance to deal with the Bill.
3.50 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: In dealing with a Bill of this kind, some hon. members like to make a long speech. I sat down and I did not interrupt them except once when I had to ask the senior member for Christ Church not to misquote me. Now several members of the Opposition have been screaming that the Speaker is a villain, and making all kinds of accusations against the members of the Government and so on.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the Hon. Prime Minister ignore the asides and get along with the business of the House.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The Bill before the House is to amend the Public Loan Act, 1961 to increase from \$24 million to \$30 million the limit on the amounts which the Government is authorised to raise by loan under section 2 of that Act. This amendment is to enable us to carry out Government's Development Programme, and we asked that loan funds of approximately \$24 million be raised either locally or in the United Kingdom for Barbados to finance the Development Programme from 1960 to 1965.

We are now in the process of drawing up a new Development Programme, and it is correct to say that there is authority to raise \$5 1/2 million under the same Loan Act. In view of the fact that we have had advances pending the raising of loans, the total requirements under this Development Programme should be in excess of the \$5 1/2 million; so we are amending the 1961 Public Loan Act to extend the authorised borrowing from \$24 million to \$30 million.

Any previous borrowing, therefore, which has been made under the Development Programme has

been by virtue of the authority vested in the Government to raise this money by way of the Public Loan Act, 1961. The total amount of funds raised locally and overseas has not yet exceed \$24 million. When you get a lot of snide remarks made here by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas who thinks he is the son of God - an atheist like him.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Do you want me to confess that I am an atheist?

Mr. SPEAKER rose.....

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I am saying that calling me an atheist is an insulting word, and the Prime Minister should be asked to withdraw it.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I did not call anybody's name. If I were referring to the hon. member, I would have said 'a self-confessed atheist'.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: That is a lie, and I will not withdraw the word "lie" if your Honour does not ask him to withdraw the remark. Is he above reproof?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I say he is an atheist.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I have never confessed to be an atheist.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The hon. member also said that Stalin was the greatest man in the world.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that we are rapidly approaching a climax of great disorder.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: That is your fault, because Your Honour will not rule against the Hon. Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the Hon. Prime Minister proceed.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Proceed without withdrawing the remark?

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not want a lecture from the Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: How can people respect the Chair? Here is the Hon. Prime Minister calling me an atheist; I ask Your Honour to call on him to withdraw the remark, and you will not do so. If you would rule when there is a ripple, then there will never be a stream.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I want to get on with the business of the House.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, an atheist is thought to be a bad person.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is nothing worse than a member of Parliament who stands while the Speaker is on his feet.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: If we have to stop here until midnight, I will do nothing until the Speaker rules

whether the word "atheist" is an insulting word. I insist that the Hon. Prime Minister should withdraw the remark.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have no objection to staying here until midnight.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I am not a lawyer; I will never in this world try to defend lawyers; I am a layman, but in order to preserve the good name and the rights and privileges of this House I decided to rise. In my opinion I feel that the remark made by the Hon. Prime Minister is against the Rules of this Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, I am addressing you, and you are talking to the Clerk! I reserve my right to be heard in this House. As I said in my opening remarks, I am not competent to defend lawyers. You are a lawyer, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition is one, and the Hon. Prime Minister is one. I rise as a member of this Hon. Chamber, and I can say that this matter is drifting completely out of order. The members of this Assembly are misbehaving. I do not hear such behaviour even at the Trade Winds.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is not making a point of order.

Mr. SMITH: I am saying that the Hon. Prime Minister has used offensive words, and he should be asked to withdraw them.
4.00 p.m.

The hon. member rose and asked you to rule. I heard you say in reply to the hon. member, that you are quite willing to sit here until the morning, but I am not; I will not be sitting here until morning. If it is within your knowledge that the Prime Minister has used offensive language, you should call on him to withdraw the words. That should be done, regardless of whom he may be. The Prime Minister is a man and I am one. You are a man and he is nothing more than that. He has broke the Standing Orders of this House and you are the Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Joseph has made his point. He is proceeding now to make a speech, but he will not be able to make a speech. I understand that exception has been taken (Mr. MOTTLEY: You are causing this House to degenerate into a row.) (After a pause) I was saying that exception has been taken to the use of the word "atheist". I have sent for the Official Report as taken down by the Official Reporter in the context in which the word was used. I am awaiting that.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: In any context it is offensive.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is a matter of opinion, and mine alone counts. (ASIDES)

Hon. E. W. BARROW: At no time have I been allowed to speak since the hon. member made his objection. I do not agree that the words are offensive. If

a man says that he is an atheist, Your Honour will rule. If he says that he is a christian or an atheist, he is entitled to say so. If the hon. member thinks that it is offensive, that he is deemed to be an atheist, I am glad to hear that he is a Christian but he is, however, objecting to being called God. I withdraw whatever he calls offensive. (ASIDES) The hon. member is always a Christian. It is not necessary for Your Honour to rule because if the hon. member says that he considers the word offensive and it is not true, then it is not so. I withdraw it for the purpose of the record (MEMBERS: No, no.) Personally, I withdraw it.

Mr. SPEAKER: Nowhere in the list of words which are regarded as insulting or offensive does the word "atheist" appear. I rule from the parliamentary standpoint that the word "atheist" is not offensive or insulting. Therefore it does not contravene Standing Order 26 (5) which says: "It shall be out of order to use offensive and insulting language about Members of the House."

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Does the words "bloody fool" appear in that list?

Mr. SPEAKER: I have ruled already. As I understand it, the word has been withdrawn very clearly by the hon. member who used it. I have ruled that that word, as such, is not offensive. "Bloody fool" are not words in the list.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: "Homosexual" is not a word in that list. Is that offensive?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not giving a lecture on what words are offensive.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: The word "Bulling", does not appear in that list. Is that unparliamentary?

Mr. SPEAKER: I say that the word "atheist" is not unparliamentary.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I very much regret that representation in the House of Assembly today means that one must be exposed to a form of abuse by the hon. members on the other side. For the whole period that we have been in here, never has the standard of conduct been dragged so low. (Noises from the gallery)

Mr. SPEAKER: Before the hon. member proceeds, let me remind strangers that in respect of their behaviour, no stranger shall be entitled to enter or remain within the Chamber of the House or the precincts thereof without the authority of the Speaker. Strangers are here only on sufferance and they must not make any demonstration of approval, disapproval or otherwise. Otherwise the gallery must and will be cleared.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: If I may resume the debate, Sir, it is clear to everyone outside this Chamber and to us on this side of the Chamber, that the purpose of the Opposition, who are bitter with disappointment, is that they will try to impede the people's

work and not hasten it. I do not intend to be obstructed in my prosecution of the island's affairs. Now, under the Act of 1961, Section 4, it has been said:-

"The loans authorised by this Act, or any part of them may be raised either -

(a) in the United Kingdom by the Crown Agents under the provisions of the General Loan and Stock Act, 1935; or

(b) in the island under the provisions of the General Local Loan Act, 1933, as the Governor-in-Executive Committee or the Crown Agents acting on his behalf may decide."

And the General Local Loan Act, 1933, Section 2 states this:-

"This Act shall be applicable only to loans raised locally in the island."

And Section 3 of the Act says this:-

"Whenever by an Act authority shall have been given to the Governor-in-Executive Committee to raise any sum of money for the purposes mentioned in such Act the Governor-in-Executive Committee may from time to time as he may deem expedient raise such sums by debentures issued under the provisions of the Act."

4.10 p.m.

Section 4 goes on to say:-

"The principal monies and interest represented by such debentures are hereby charged upon and shall be payable out of the general revenue and assets of the Island."

Then Section 5 says:-

"Such debentures shall be issued in the Island upon the best and most favourable terms that can be obtained and shall be signed by the persons holding the offices of Financial Secretary and Colonial Treasurer for the time being or by any other person or persons thereto specially authorised by the Governor."

Then you have in the other sections what should be the amount of each debenture; how the debentures should be for payment of interest on debentures and for contributions to sinking fund.

Then it goes on to make provision for the creation of a sinking fund for redemption of debentures payable on a fixed date; the cesser of sinking fund contributions and the disposal of a sinking fund when debentures are redeemed by purchase or by annual drawings, and so on.

Section 17 says that all expenses of or incidental to the redemption of the debentures and the costs and expenses of all notices required by this Act to be given may be paid out of the sinking fund.

The first point asked by the senior member for St. Thomas relates to this section.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of explanation. I wanted to know from the Hon. Minister of Finance how much of these loans were met under the 1961 Act.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I was under the impression that the substance of the remarks of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas was with respect to how much of the cost would be taken out of the loan and I was pointing out the authority under the Act when loans are made.

It was specifically pointed out in Section 4 that the place where loans are raised is something for the Executive Committee to decide. The function is delegated to me as Minister of Finance, but the actual day to day management of the finances is something which is vested in the Ministry of Finance. We did not have a Minister of Finance before.

Now, Sir I had consulted first my officials. I have had advice from the Crown Agents, and then from the bankers in this Island and it is my view that I have a very impressive list of persons whom I can have recourse to advice from time to time.

The hon. junior member for St. Joseph made some statement to the effect that in 1959 the loan that was taken up then on the London Money Market was raised in thirty-seven seconds. It is quite possible to draw out figures like this. It takes three and a half days in order to make all the manipulations necessary in raising a loan.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of explanation. I specifically said that the loan was oversubscribed.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I was told that he said it was raised in thirty-seven seconds and it was oversubscribed by \$22 million. The junior member for St. Joseph had nothing to do with the raising of loans. The first thing is that they never used to have a Financial Minister before 1962 and everything used to be managed by the Civil Servants. Every single loan raised since 1961 by me has been over subscribed. We knew from the day before that it was going to be over subscribed.

The flow of capital out of the United Kingdom is carefully controlled. Loans are also very strictly controlled. It is not possible for Ministers to sit down here or in any country of the Commonwealth and say it is really possible for us to raise a loan on the London Money Market.

I have spoken to the Prime Minister of Great Britain myself when the Barbados Light & Power Company wanted to raise a loan on the London Market last year of \$500,000. They did not come and have discussion with me or the Financial Secretary or anybody in the Ministry on the matter before. They went up to the United Kingdom, issued a prospectus and

went to obtain a loan on the London Money Market for the expansion of the company.

This loan was not sanctioned by the Capital Issues Committee and they sent to me to know whether the Barbados Government had sanctioned this loan. My reply was "No", and the Barbados Light & Power Company did not get this loan sanctioned in England.

That is very closely tied up with the loan which the hon. member referred to. If you wanted to get the approval of this loan, we could have backed it up by saying it is necessary for the people of Barbados that the Light and Power Company should have this loan. Therefore, to be able to carry out development in the territories, we must go to the Capital Issues Committee.

In 1966-67, market conditions in the United Kingdom were extremely difficult and money was unavailable. Trinidad did not succeed in getting a loan on the London Money Market. We have never had a loan which was not fully subscribed. The Capital Issues Committee did not give us permission either to raise a loan on the London Money Market.

The reason why this Bill is before the House now is because we have recently been told that we can come up to the London Money Market for a loan and we would have a reasonably good chance. Negotiating it is something which is rather unpredictable, but what we pay for our loans depends on the market conditions at the particular time. Development in Barbados is also dependent on the loan which we can raise in the country. I understood the hon. senior member for Christ Church to say that solicitors here can raise \$10 million.

4.20 p.m.

Mr. St. JOHN: I never said in here that the solicitors in Barbados could raise a loan of \$10 million. I said that the Ministry of Finance could have issued the advertisements and given the banks, financial institutions and solicitors' offices the usual commission that they get from people who work through them. The Prime Minister knows that.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I am not going to waste time over what my Hon. Colleague thinks the hon. member said. I am just giving the history of this matter. The Barbados Light and Power Company could not raise a loan in London, and they asked for my permission to try and get the money in Barbados early in the year. The Barbados Telephone Company had gone shortly before seeking a loan of \$500,000. The Barbados Light and Power Company said that they wanted some money, but after I had given them my permission to proceed, I did not want to withdraw it. Eventually, Mr. Harold Wilson had a personal letter sent to me in connection with the matter.

These are the reasons why the loan was turned down:

- (a) The Company did not tell the Government about the money;

- (b) They did not deal with a Canadian Company whom we felt had sufficient reserves

The Barbados Light and Power Company barely got in the door. We were able to calculate and assess the availability of funds in Barbados through our issue of Treasury Bills. When we see the Treasury Bills drying up, we know that for one reason or other the local funds are drying up. We know what reserves the banks have. At one time some of the banks in this country were lending out 13% of their deposits. I do not know of any Commonwealth country which was able to float a big loan in London during the whole of 1966. I know that the Jamaican Government and the Trinidad Government had to go to New York to negotiate a loan.

We had money to carry forward our Development Programme, although there was nothing in the Treasury in 1961. We were able to work our Treasury Bills to finance the work done. It is not something on which we get a rush of blood to the head. I watched the position every single day, and decided that, despite the fact that the London market was hard, it was time that we try out the local market, that is, the West Indies money market. Therefore, I went to the obvious places and institutions; the large Insurance Companies who have investments here and get all their premiums from Barbadians.

It is about time that the institutions in this Island do their share in the development of this country. Back came the answer from Head Office that they were quite prepared to make some of their funds available, but the matter would have to be handled through a Canadian Finance house because the Insurance Companies did not pursue a policy of underwriting or subscribing loans *ab initio*.

We had three Canadian Finance houses in mind and, after investigation, we invited the firm of Bankers Corporation to assist us. They said that we could get the money early but in Canadian dollars. I said that I did not want Canadian dollars because they would have to be repaid in hard currency. We cannot control the rate of exchange between the Canadian dollar and the American; so that if there is a change in the exchange rate by my friends in England, it means that instead of paying back \$10 million we would be paying back \$15 million as well as interest.

I am showing the process by which I, as Minister of Finance, had to arrive at my decision. They said that we should guarantee the repatriation of Canadian dollars. I said that I could not agree to that, because it would be saddling the people in Barbados with a contingent liability which we could not undertake.

I know that the Government of Trinidad and the Government of Jamaica, for psychological reasons, have floated small loans of between \$4 million to \$6 million in the U.S.A. The Jamaican loans had to be taken up by bankers in Wall Street, underwritten by Insurance Companies and then farmed out to various investors. The reason why the Minister of Finance in Jamaica and the Minister of Finance in Trinidad

have done this is that they felt they should get an image in the U.S.A.'s money market, but they limited their loans to between \$4 million to \$6 million. That was done purely to have the names of Jamaica and Trinidad registered. They are quite aware of the fact that there is a risk in the fluctuation of the exchange. I am not prepared to take that risk, even if there is a chance of getting that money down here.

After I said that it would be inadvisable to take the loan in Canadian dollars, they said that they would see whether the institutions and some of the Insurance Companies down here were prepared to invest this money in B.W.I. dollars. The Insurance Companies informed them that their premium income available could only take care of the commitments which they already had in Barbados and did not allow them to take as large a share of the proposed issue as they had originally intended. The Insurance Companies, with Head Offices chiefly in Canada, having a few months before agreed to a loan, said that they had only about \$3 million available because they had loaned out the rest of the money on mortgages that they had in B.W.I. dollars.

It was a local loan and not a Canadian loan, because it was stipulated in the prospectus which the hon. senior member for Christ Church has described as a dirty bit of cyclostyled paper. This is it here - this is first-quality paper. *(Interruption)* Do you think we would go to the expense of printing one copy and then cyclostyle the balance?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Pass it around.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Any hon. member who wants to see the document must come to this side of the Table to see it.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order. The Prime Minister should pass around the document.

Mr. HINDS: Let us hear about Procope and the money.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I will leave the hon. junior member for St. Peter to the hon. junior member of St. Thomas to deal with.
4.30 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Peter and the hon. junior member for St. James will observe the relevant Standing Order in relation to the behaviour of hon. members not speaking. Let the Hon. Prime Minister proceed in relation to the Public Loan Act.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The sole contention and objection appears to be for the Opposition to come in here and shelter under parliamentary privilege, and make all kinds of accusations, slanderous statements about members and people outside of the House. The whole idea is to bring down Parliament, but I will take the necessary precaution. I have given instructions for precautionary measures to be taken and it will not continue for very long. Now, Mr. Speaker, we are

interested in this Corporation, and I have never heard any aspersions cast against this Corporation or its members from anybody in Canada until the hon. senior member for St. Thomas and the hon. senior member for Christ Church rose to their feet today. The West Indies Stock Exchange Limited is a firm of Canadians and Trinidadians - and I do not know of any Barbadian members of the firm or Corporation - which is established with the idea of providing a Stock Market, that we have appointed as agents to look after the day to day transactions between the Accountant General and the Corporation, since we insist that the debentures would have to be issued in Barbados under the authority of the Act of 1933. We would not have any debentures issued in Canada. If it were a foreign loan, we would have a special Act, so that debentures could be issued in Canada; but all debentures were issued out of the Accountant General's office. And on the question of taxation, the Attorney General gave the opinion that they would have to pay taxation on any profits made on the floating of the loan. It is completely untrue to say that there was any private deal with the Government. Any hon. member could go to the Financial Secretary and find out that there were discussions with the Ministry of Finance; we negotiated and bargained until we got what we wanted.

As regards the \$4 1/2 million, you cannot say that the issue was a failure. You advertise far and wide throughout the money market, and you say: "Whosoever will may come;" but this was a private placement in which all the prospectuses were issued and the banks had copies. As to the people responsible for providing the bulk of the funds, these persons were canvassed in England, Canada, Barbados and Trinidad. I have a full list of the places, and when they found out that the loan was an Eastern Caribbean loan, they said that they could not put up all the money. I said that I would test out the market and allow it to remain at \$10 million. I said that at the appropriate time when I am satisfied with the availability of local funds for investment, I would close the issue and it was closed somewhere around the 20th March on my instructions after \$4 1/2 million was raised. This is not the same thing as a loan on the London Market. The market for loans at that time was not propitious, but I felt I should have a certain amount of financing done. I am satisfied from all the auguries and indications that I have not been like the old Priest who examined the entrails of the fowl, but I have examined the financial experts in London, in Barbados and in the United Kingdom. The British Treasury has assured us that Barbados is next in line. We will not be next in line three months from now, and it is for this reason that this step is taken instead of pursuing the loan which I closed on the 20th March. I regret that hon. members have found it necessary to make accusations against respectable people in Canada and Trinidad as if we had some private affair. I invite the Shadow Minister of Finance to come over here and read and see step by step how we have approached this project of raising money for the Development Programme.

Before I sit down, I want to say that yesterday I answered a supplementary question asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.... (ASIDES) The banks are authorised to act as intermediaries in the issue of bonds and Treasury Bills from time to time, and there is an agreed fee between us and the institutions.

4.40 p.m.

Therefore, we have certain banks like the four Joint Stock Banks in Barbados which are capable of getting 40 per cent. Apparently, Messrs. Bryden & Sons complained to the hon. senior member for the City.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order. Did I tell you that Messrs. Bryden and Sons complained? Apparently, this is a false statement and the member should not make a false statement to another hon. member. What I can tell him is that I understand all they can get is one million dollars, and up and above this you come down. But this false statement has been made to me that you should pay these companies three per cent and three and a half per cent.

I said apparently it is a mixup. We can give you a certificate if you pay that to a licenced realtor or licenced broker because there is provision for a licenced broker.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: We have been dealing with the Crown Agents. Throughout the entire Commonwealth, those who wish to develop and to get money for other institutions deal with the Crown Agents. The Crown Agents charge 1.99 per cent which includes their basic programmes, and their advertising costs.

Over and above that is a Constituent charge for the getting of money for the issuing of loans. It is something like £1,000 per million on the first two and a half million pounds. £750 per million from two and a half million to twelve million. Then there is a charge of two per cent on the management. That is Number 2. Number 3, Redemption charges are something like seven hundred pounds per million on the first two and a half million.

I was asked if the redemption charges worked out at three-quarter per cent, but that is just over one-half per cent: so the information which the hon. member asked was with a loan of ten million dollars.

By my own calculation, the net cost of a loan is two and one-half per cent with the Crown Agents. That is what I have calculated it to be and that is why I said yesterday in special circles only ten thousand dollars was raised in Barbados, the rest of the money came from insurance companies and other institutions like that.

It was not an open market effect because nobody wanted to go to open market at that time. As far as the West Indies Stock Exchange Ltd. is concerned, I have not heard that anyone of them concerned went to jail; therefore, I have no desire to withdraw my

word because Mr. Procope is a director of the company.

I would like to make my position clear. I am not going to apologise to anyone. When one is appointed to a West Indian institution as a member of the legal profession, one must know certain people. If I am a West Indian and I happen to be a friend of other West Indians, I do not see why I should apologise to them.

It is necessary because of that, that you would know somebody other than members on the opposite side. I have no apology to make for that, and I deprecate the remarks of the hon. junior member for St. Joseph although I know that they are part of their tactics. I suggest that they write Mr. Procope a little later and repeat the allegations which they have made. I invite the Leader of the Opposition to do that. I do not see why he should shelter under parliamentary privilege and do something which they know very well they cannot repeat outside or write about.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: What is the hon. member saying of members making use of Parliament to shelter behind parliamentary privilege? Everything which I have said, I can account for.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The hon. member could not publish the same thing in a newspaper. The hon. members on that side would not say in public what they say in here. This is a plan which they have in order to bring down the country. You only could possibly state it in here; you could not say it outside.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of elucidation. I am G. H. Adams. Any reference to proceedings which I make in the House, I will repeat outside. I will repeat as an individual anything I said.

4.50 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I will answer the question about people not having confidence in Barbados. I should like the hon. members to support this Bill, and they would find out what is the position. They have tried their best to destroy the confidence of people outside and inside of Barbados. Let them pass this Bill, and we will go to London and get loans and we will not be turned away from putting this Island of ours on the road to prosperity.

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

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

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on the Bill.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: 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, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called. It reads as follows:-

"2. Section 2 of the Public Loan Act, 1961 is hereby amended by the substitution of the word "thirty" for the word "twenty-four".

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, what is the essence of this Bill? It is hard to ask the Opposition to pass this Bill when the Prime Minister, under the guise of giving a reply to questions asked on the second reading of the Bill, only succeeded in obscuring them more. We had an example where the Prime Minister challenged members of the Opposition to repeat certain things outside this House. As far as I know, the only person who has ever been challenged to repeat things outside this House is the Prime Minister when he made a remark about the relationship between the Leader of the Opposition and myself. He was challenged to make that statement outside.

So far as debating skill is concerned, the balance of slander lies on the Prime Minister's side. His name will be written as the apostle of slander under the guise of Parliamentary debate. We are not here to discuss Parliamentary privilege only. We note with interest that the Prime Minister has given instructions that the necessary "precautionary measures" be taken. He says that certain people are seeking to overturn the Parliamentary process. The Prime Minister knows that we have a plan to publish in the newspaper what is said about us under the guise of parliamentary privilege.

Again, let me tell the Prime Minister that when I had anything to do with journalism - I do not mean the form of incompetent journalism you get in Barbados. We have a sense of responsibility, and our Party newspaper has never been successfully sued for libel. I know of no civil suit which has been made against our Party. Let the Prime Minister say the same thing about his Party. Irresponsible journalism sits in the bosom of the Democratic Labour Party. *(Interruption)* Maybe it is well that the newspaper has been shut down.

For years and years the Beacon has been operating without ever, in my experience, doing what the Prime Minister has said it does about reporting the speeches of the B.L.P. The laws of Barbados permit you to publish anything that has been said at a public meeting. However, a newspaper cannot state that

Mr. L. B. Brathwaite was responsible for his mother's death, because of the Libel Act of 1906. The Beacon has not attempted to embarrass Mr. Humpty Dumpty in the matter of the St. Thomas postman. Last Saturday morning, at St. Thomas Post Office, a postman said that a postman was killed in St. Thomas and the Police did not ask him to give evidence, but they came to ask him about six *Beacons*. He said something about a fat idiot.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I think the hon. member is straying from the Bill, and I should like him to confine his remarks to the Bill.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I have sat here for several months and given the Prime Minister a lot of latitude. In his speeches, he is a person who is easily put off. He confuses himself and his files, and gives an explanation which is not in accordance with the information sought by us. Quite recently he was talking about the bank rate, and he ended up by talking about the tariffs at clearing houses. A member on this side asked me to get up and contradict him. It is impossible sometimes to think that the Prime Minister means anything by what he says. It is impossible sometimes to think that the Prime Minister does not make mistakes of fact and that he is wrong about facts.

Let us consider the explanation that he has given about this Bill. He talked about the Antigua Estimates, and how Mr. Bird had to apply seven times to Trinidad to get the Estimates passed. It was never necessary for Mr. Bird to go to Trinidad to get his Estimates passed. The Prime Minister was confusing the relationship between the Cabinet and a local Government Council with the relationship between Mr. Bird and Mr. Bradshaw.
5.00 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. We are now dealing with the Clauses of this Bill, and the hon. member is now replying to the address made by the Hon. Minister of Finance. We are dealing with the clauses of the Bill and not the principle of it. We are dealing with Clause 2, and I think it is quite out of order for the hon. member to reply to the Minister of Finance now.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order. I wonder if the hon. member could reflect for a moment. You must not discuss the principle of the Bill when it has been already passed. I ask the hon. member to pay me the compliment that I am speaking from the experience which I have had in this House. If the hon. member makes a statement which is wrong, he can be corrected when we are in Committee. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: He is not doing that; he is making another speech).

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I have been reminded that I will be dealt with by the hon. junior member for St. Thomas. An hon. member said that the Prime Minister has a dog who does his barking for him; but he has two dogs to do the barking for him. If that is what the Minister means, I will not pour out too much

on him. I find the Minister of Agriculture sheltering the Prime Minister. Anyhow, I will conform as best I can to the Standing Orders. The Prime Minister is asking for \$6 million more. He did not talk \$6 million worth to me; he only spoke about \$1/2 million to me. It may be that one of us will move that the amount be reduced to \$1/2 million. It is possible under this Clause to dissent from the Clause without dissenting from the principle. That is something for the hon. member to think about. I do not think that \$6 million is the amount to be asked for. The hon. member wanted a loan of \$10 million and I want to be sure that he will not batch up another loan of \$6 million. If the Prime Minister's speech is so fraught with inaccuracies and he is so incapable of proper understanding, I hope that the Minister of Agriculture will join with me in giving him a little less than \$6 million to play with when he goes on the money market. The debate centred on less money being raised; the principle of the Bill has been passed without dissent in the House.

The Laws of Barbados permit loans to be raised locally or loans to be raised in the United Kingdom. What the Prime Minister says about raising a loan in Canadian dollars has no application within this Act. That was irrelevant, and is not what is now being said. The talk about Jamaica's experience in raising \$3 million to \$5 million in New York, is only wool being pulled over the eyes of hon. members. Those considerations will not apply. Loans in Barbados are only to be raised in Barbados or in England. There cannot be any question of.....

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I will not be misquoted. I said "in Canadian dollars: as to the availability of the amount of money in Canadian dollars." The Accountant General was always the authority responsible for the issue of the debentures. I made that abundantly clear, but the hon. member must have been sleeping. I never said anything about going on the Toronto Stock Exchange. We wanted Canadian dollars in Barbados.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: We had the Exchange Control Bill last month. We cannot raise a loan in Canadian dollars in Barbados. Having it translated....

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The hon. member knows the condition of this loan. The Control Authority is myself. If a person lends money to anybody in Barbados, I will give that authority to repatriate those funds in Canadian dollars. Any Solicitor or bank manager will tell you that he will release this loan. You cannot say that Canadian dollars are not legal tender in Barbados. You go down the road and see if a man would not snatch one out of your hand.
(Laughter).

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: With all this talk about loans to be raised in Canadian dollars, the Prime Minister is anticipating me. The question of the repayment position of Canadian loans is another point which only appears to be scientific when you put it before the eyes of people who are not thinking deeply about it. The Prime Minister is the Authority. You

do not authorise the repayment on the higher rate of interest. The Prime Minister is the Authority for the movement out of Barbados of hard currency, and if he chooses to permit \$1.5 million when it is to be \$1 million

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order. Is the hon. member suggesting that you should ask people to use hard currency and that we should deny them the right to get back their currency when they could have invested anywhere? Is it that you cannot have your money back? The hon. member could not be serious.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: He is the authority; but you only ask if the Prime Minister has power to do it. The Prime Minister speaks as if we are not economically independent. Is the Barbadian dollar to be forever tied to sterling? In the Bahamas, is their currency tied to sterling?
5.10 p.m.

If the Prime Minister is saying so, I would be glad if we had developed to the point.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I would like the hon. member to appreciate the fact that we are tied to the pound sterling. I do invite anyone to see that we are tied to the pound sterling by an Act of the Legislature when we joined the Eastern Caribbean Currency. As long as you must continue to go the United Kingdom for your loan, you would be tied to the national agencies of Great Britain.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Up to year before last, the Bahamas were tied to the Sterling area.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, that is the price which we are paying for raising the loan in London. The explanation has been given about \$10 million and some nonsense as to how you arrive at this. This is another misstatement by the Prime Minister. He is talking nonsense. He has to be financially ignorant not to know that the probable subscribers to all Colonial loans are other colonies. The Crown Agents take it out of one book and put it in another, and when the loan is over-subscribed, the countries can know from before. It may also be that somebody has money to lend out, and then on the day that it is loaned, he goes to the market and says that he would like it loaned on the open market. So when you say that a loan was oversubscribed in 37 seconds, it means that the applications took you 37 seconds to open. You can very well say that you knew it would have been over-subscribed two days ago. I do not believe the Prime Minister is ignorant of that. That is known to anybody who follow the working of the London Market.

If the Crown Agents want to guarantee a loan, they can get it guaranteed. Exactly how? It has to be raised with the Crown Agents - and by law, you have to deal with the Crown Agents. The Public Loan Act of 1961 says it has to be raised by the Crown Agents. That to some extent answers some of the questions.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, when you say two and a half percent, it really is just over two and

a half per cent. It is really, 2.58 per cent. It is not as much as 2.6 per cent.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The payments are £1,000 on the first £2 1/2 million. Then £750 on that up to £12 million. The reporter is paid .0075 per cent.

All my calculation makes it is two per cent. The Prime Minister can check his figures again, if he cares. Two and a half per cent and then .25 of one per cent for advertising. The West Indies Stock Exchange Ltd. do have advertising costs. They do not have any redemption fees because they will not be looking after the redemption. They will not have any management fees; so the only fee which they have to pay for is advertising. Those are the figures as far as I can recall when the hon. senior member for Christ Church had a copy.

As far as it appears to me, that 3 per cent may be an unfair comparison.

I am glad to hear that the Prime Minister himself said a quarter of one per cent was the figure paid locally to banks and brokers.

Mr. Chairman, you must give the Prime Minister full credit for the statement which he made in here. He said that the banks and insurance companies were the people who could handle all the prospectuses. I put it down in writing. I ask for a copy because I am going to write to these banks and ask them to put it in writing.

Mr. Speaker, as far as the Opposition is concerned, \$10 million is a large amount. (ASIDES)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am going to make an appeal to hon. members. While an hon. member is speaking, Standing Order 29 (6) says all other hon. members should be silent, or shall confer only in undertones.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I was speaking on the point of \$10 million. The Prime Minister said that we were saddled in the loan of \$4 1/2 million with a charge of one percent more.
5.20 p.m.

Now he wants to raise another loan of \$10 million.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On the 28th August we issued a prospectus for \$1 1/2 million locally. We are keeping the reserve between now and the end of the period when the new Development Programme starts. Therefore since the 1967 loan, we have gone one with a local issue of \$1.5 million. In early 1966 we raised \$1 million. Later in the year in November we will not need to raise local money on the local market. We are going to the London Market for \$1 1/2 million, which we hope to accommodate within the \$4 1/2 million that we have.

We have drawings pending loans to be reimbursed. There is a reason why we tried to get loans locally. When the hon. member talks about \$10 million, I am not asking for \$10 million. I never went for \$10 million, because I knew from the outset that it was unlikely to get \$10 million. Right now we have

authority to raise \$10 million, but we are going on the London market for the £ 1.5 million.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I am glad of the explanation that the additional money asked for will not be handled by the West Indies Stock Exchange again, because nothing would induce me to vote for that sort of thing. I would still want to be assured that the extra amount which the Prime Minister is planning to raise locally between now and November will be raised properly. The London market is being approached. The Prime Minister knows as well as I do that the Crown Agents are still the best sources to deal with. As far as we are concerned, we have a great deal more trust in the Crown Agents than in Mr. Bruce Procope or Mr. Ken Patrick. We have to observe not only how things are done, but how things look.

It has been revealed in this House that \$135,000 has been paid out of the Treasury. It is a larger sum than is going to be paid to the Crown Agents. It has also been revealed that some of the recipients are the close friends of the Prime Minister.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I never said that anybody received any money. I said that I happen to know two people who are Directors and not even necessarily participants of any profits of the Company. I know that it is a Trinidad registered company, and that Mr. Procope is a member. I am not prepared to get up here and make any comments on the Crown Agents.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Standing Order No. 44 states:

"Any Committee to which a Bill is committed shall not discuss the principle of the Bill, but only its details."

I should be grateful if hon. members would confine themselves to this Standing Order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I should like to know how I should speak on this matter. I should like you to rule on this matter.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The relationship of the principle to the details is this: we do not think that the Local loan of \$4 1/2 million was raised in keeping with the best principles. The Bill which we are now discussing seeks to give the Prime Minister power to put another loan in the hands of the West Indies Stock Exchange, and we are going to question it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Standing Order No. 42 (2) states:

"No instruction shall be moved to order a Committee to make a provision in a Bill nor to empower a Committee to make a provision, if it already has power to make such provision."

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I am obliged to you for pointing that out. I believe that if the Prime Minister will give us a frank answer, we may get on very well,

as some times the Prime Minister is reasonable, but we can well imagine ourselves being invited once again to agree to 3% for local loans. In the circumstances he has described, we may find it hard to say that it is reasonable. I am certainly in favour of raising a loan in London. I should be glad to see the St. Thomas Post Office rebuilt, instead of being infested by local racketeers and little Humpty-Dumpties running in and out. I would like the Prime Minister to have money to carry out the capital works in St. Thomas. I would like to see him doing something constructive in that area. The capital works call for a new Post Office in St. Thomas.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: This loan calls for \$6 million.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The Post Office building would not cost much. We would be glad to see the capital works being carried out and not just be mere political promises. We know that people at the Public Works Department and the Ministry of Works are being laid off every day. People from Hopewell came to me and said that they cannot get work.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I do not see Hopewell here.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order. Are you ruling that, when we are discussing the Public Loan Bill, we can talk only about money? In bringing out points, we cannot talk about anything else?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I rule that it is not a point of order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: As long as you continue with these interruptions, I will have to rise to a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have ruled that this is not a point of order.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: You are standing up in order to get me to sit down. Is not that a sign of weakness?

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I hope you will give other hon. members the same protection from interruption. I also hope you will give us protection from the hon. junior member for St. Thomas. (ASIDES).

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order. Is the hon. member in order? I call on the Chairman to call on the hon. member to withdraw that remark. I object to the hon. member calling me an idiot. 5.30 p.m.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I rule that there was no member addressing the Chair.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Are you going on with that nonsense?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There was no hon. member addressing the Chair. I call on the hon. senior member for St. Thomas to proceed. If hon. members who are

sitting want to carry on that type of behaviour, I will insist in doing what I have the power to do. I am calling on the hon. senior member for St. Thomas to proceed with the debate.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman,.....

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I am interrupting on a point of order. According to Your Honour's ruling, I can curse and swear and, worse still, I can sit down and say that I was not addressing the Chair. I am not addressing the Chair and therefore I can go on cursing for the balance of the evening.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There is a Standing Order 29 (6) which says - and I have already asked hon. members to observe this Standing Order - this:-

"While a Member is speaking, all other Members shall be silent or shall confer only in undertones, and shall not make unseemly interruptions." That is the Standing Order which I have already asked hon. members to observe. Let the hon. senior member for St. Thomas proceed.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Is the hon. member suggesting that I am afraid of him? He should try to inspire fear in his own household; he cannot inspire fear in any of us.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member is not proceeding with the Clause which is before us.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Will you allow the hon. member to bring the Chair into disgrace? You have been on a Course, have you profited by it?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I believe that this behaviour will bring this Chamber down. I am appealing again to hon. members to observe the Standing Orders which they have before them. Let the hon. senior member for St. Thomas proceed to deal with the Clause which is before us.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, this Clause seeks to raise the borrowing limit of the Public Loan Act, 1961, from \$24 million to \$30 million, and the Public Loan Act permits this money to be spent on works and services set out in the Development Programme. This Programme deals with the building of a Post Office in St. Thomas. I would be glad to hear from the Minister of Finance or the Minister responsible for the Post Office that if we pass this Clause, this amount includes the Post Office, and the building on the Rock Hall site will be one of the purposes for which the money will be spent. That is one of the considerations which will influence my vote - whether the parish of St. Thomas will be properly handled in the Capital Works Programme.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I should like to point out to both hon. members for St. Thomas that there is no question of partiality. The time for discussing what is for St. Thomas is when we are discussing the Development Plan. All of that will be handled in the Plan. We cannot go outside what is before the Legis-

lature, and if there is anything desirable in St. Thomas, you will get it early.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I believe that the Prime Minister was not speaking to me alone. I hope that the junior member for St. Thomas will bear in mind that he has had to be reproved. The school master had to show him the cane three times.

The question that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

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

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

5.40 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, Government Business is completed and I now beg to move that this House be adjourned until 2 p.m. so that there should not be any infringement on Private Members' Business.

(A VOICE: What date?)

(ANOTHER VOICE: Why 2.00 p.m.?)

Let hon. members indicate if they prefer 2.30 p.m. ~~or~~ until 12.00 (noon) on Tuesday 7th November. (A PAUSE)

It seems as if hon. members would like the adjournment to be until 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 7th November.

I should like to inform hon. members that on the 23rd October, the Heads of independent countries in the West Indies, the Premiers of Honduras and the Bahamas, and the Windwards and Leeward Islands, have agreed to hold a conference in Barbados and hon. members will be invited to the opening ceremony.

I should also like to invite hon. members to attend Barbados National Day at Expo'67 on the 21st of this month.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I think I have information that the hon. member could have invited other persons along with himself to go to Expo' on Barbados National Day. The hon. member should have said so before.

I really rose to suggest an amendment to the motion which was moved just now. It is that this House be now adjourned until next Tuesday in order that we can get the necessary things completed. One would

have thought that would have been done. I want to remind Your Honour of these important things that Your Honour was reminded that this House should do before we go on recess.

I do not think sufficient attention has been given to the West Indies Hospital Funds Limited Bill, and it would be far better for both the Opposition and the Government to have some discussion over it as to having it finished before we take the recess. Members of the Opposition are quite willing to work with the Government. It is my opinion that we would not take more than an hour to finish discussion on that. We would give the assurance that we would not spend more than twenty minutes on that Bill. It is better to finish dealing with it now than leaving it on the Order Paper. I do not remember the number of the members of the Opposition who spoke on it.

Let us agree that this House meet next Tuesday. I do not mind our meeting at 2.30 p.m. the usual time, but that Bill should be completed. Let us get together for once - if I can put it this way - with the Leader of the House. I do suggest that this meeting be held especially to deal with the important items of Private Members' Business on the Order Paper which should be cleared off and then have the recess next Tuesday.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, speaking on the adjournment, I take it that the Hon. Prime Minister has issued an invitation to hon. members to visit Expo' 67. If the Prime Minister is acting in good faith, he should leave out some of those Ministers and Government Officials so that some other members from this side of the House would be able to go.

It is supposed to be what is called Barbados National Day. The Government is representing a certain percentage of the people of this Island and we are representing a certain percentage. The percentage of which people which we represent should be represented there too. I am not begging you, but if you give me the trip, I am taking it.

Now, Sir, for the Independence Celebrations held here last year, this Government invited some of everybody whom they could remember from overseas, and paid all their expenses, transport, hotel and everything of the sort. That was very generous of us; yet now on Barbados National Day at Expo' 67 and no Opposition member is asked to go up. It looks very badly. Mr. Prime Minister, take it very seriously. It looks very badly. It is selfish. We are members of this Honourable Chamber, we represent some of the people, and surely, at least one of the members of the Opposition should be going up to Expo' 67.

There is nothing wrong in that, but as I understand it, the Prime Minister was asked to send up to the number of twelve. I am not to be included because I do not stand so good in my fog pocket; therefore, I cannot go up on my own expense.
5.50 p.m.

I am appealing to the Hon. Prime Minister to take this matter seriously, and let Barbados know

that we are coming together, at least, on one matter. We are representing people; we are not representing crapaux; we are representing human beings. The Prime Minister and his Ministers are doing the same thing. It is not fair, and it looks one-sided. The money that will be spent to take the Governor-General and others to Canada is part of my money and the money of the general public. If consideration is not given to sending members of the Opposition to Canada, then it would not be fair.

Again, this Order Paper is filled with Private Members' Business. I feel that if the Government is not prepared to give us sufficient time to clear the Order Paper of Private Members' Business, then set aside a day for Private Members' Business and let us complete the job. It is no sense our getting up in this House Tuesday after Tuesday asking questions, introducing Resolutions and so on and leaving them on the Order Paper. It would look as though we are fooling the people. Give us one day to clear the Order Paper. If you are going to come back next Tuesday at twelve o'clock, that would give us an opportunity to clear the Order Paper.

I cannot remember the Rule in the Standing Orders which deals with the setting aside of unfinished matters when the House goes into recess. There is a Rule that if Orders remain on the Order Paper for a certain period they will have to come off the Order Paper. You are going to adjourn now until the 7th November - very nearly three months - and these Orders can go by themselves. That is not good enough. You will now muzzle the ox that treads the corn. Hon. members over here are not taking this matter seriously. This is a very serious matter. Either adjourn until twelve o'clock next Tuesday and let us clear the Order Paper, or give us a day to clear the Order Paper. I am prepared to come back here tomorrow or Friday to do work.

We accommodate the Government at all times to do its business. The Government has succeeded in doing its business today. Let us clear off our business, too. For that reason, I respectfully beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next at twelve o'clock.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I will withdraw my motion and second the hon. member's motion.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 19th September at 12 noon was put and resolved in the negative, the House dividing as follows:-

AYES: Messrs. LYNCH, MOTTLEY, HINDS, CRAIG, J. M. G. M. ADAMS, Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS, SMITH and St. JOHN - 8.

NOES: Mr. YEARWOOD, HON' BLES E. W. BARROW, G. G. FERGUSON, A. DaC. EDWARDS, N. W. BOXILL, Messrs. LOWE, CORBIN, SARGEANT SPRINGER, WEEKES and HOPPIN - 11.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, before you put the next question, I would like to make an explanation. I raised

a question just now that, according to the Standing Orders, certain Resolutions on the Order Paper are liable to come off when the House goes into recess. Would this House agree that the items remain on the Order Paper during the time the House is in recess, so that we may not be deprived of our rights? The numbers are against me, and I cannot do anything about this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: In this case it is not the members that are against the hon. member; it is the Standing Orders. The Leader of House cannot, in a rash manner, suspend the Standing Orders.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 7th November, 1967, at 2.30 p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: *(Sitting and covered)*
Mr. Speaker, I wish to draw attention to the fact that the Standing Orders do not have to be suspended in every case.

Mr. SPEAKER: This House now stands adjourned until Tuesday, 7th November, 1967 at 2.30 p.m. 6.00 p.m.

