

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1966 - 71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 16th July, 1968.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 1215 p.m. o'clock today.

PRESENT

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

Prayers were read.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS entered the Chamber and took his seat.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that hon. members, who are not unaccustomed to hearing me say that there are no Minutes ready, will have to forgive me for repeating that again today. There are no Minutes available for confirmation.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister of External Affairs, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of \$450,000 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69, Part II - Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 14 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$8,100 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69 Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 15 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$6,114 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Esti-

mates 1968-69 Part II - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 16 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

With respect to Resolutions 1 and 2, copies of which, I believe, have been circulated to hon. members, with Your Honour's permission, it is my intention to proceed with these Resolutions later in the day in all their stages.

With respect to Resolution No. 3, I beg to give notice that I am going to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions No. 173 asked by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, and No. 176 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter are ready.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, with respect to the intimation of the Leader of the House that he intends to proceed with Resolutions 1 and 2 in all their stages, the Opposition strongly protest against that. We are not agreeing with that. Nobody that I got in touch with late yesterday evening received copies of the Resolutions until the afternoon post, and it is unreasonable, with such a large sum at stake, to ask us to deal with these Resolutions in all their stages today. Obviously these are not things that have just arisen.

Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Leader of the House had made an explanation that it was impossible to bring the matters to the House before, or that they were matters of grave urgency and we must do them immediately as it would have been impossible to bring them to the House before, it would have been a different matter. But to ask us to vote such a large sum - huge for Barbados - or to ask us to deal with the matters in all their stages today, is not merely asking too much of the Opposition, but is almost a contemptuous consideration of the rights of the Opposition.

We have often agreed to minor things, after an explanation that they could not come before the House earlier. Nobody in his senses would disagree with something of minor importance, but we need a lot of explanation about these matters; we need time

to make enquiries for ourselves, and we need to make comparison with other expenditure and, in the light of our revenue position, to consider whether we should agree to these matters.

I repeat, on behalf of the Opposition, that we strongly protest against this, and we are not going to give our agreement to considering these Resolutions through all their stages today.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is something in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James, but he does not appear to be in his place.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Standing Orders Nos. 5, 14, 16, 18, 19, 38, 40 and 45 be suspended for the remainder of today's sitting.

As I intimated at the last meeting - and hon. members of the House are well aware - the hon. members opposite propose to make their reply to the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals at half-past four, and it will be broadcast live for 78 minutes. In this case, Mr. Speaker, it will be necessary for whoever happens to be addressing the Chair at 4.25 p.m. to give way to enable me to move the necessary motion for Private Members' Business to be taken.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, arising out of what the Leader of the House has said, I think that we had reached a decision where equal facilities would be given the Opposition for broadcast of this Budget Reply. I have to enquire of the Leader of the House if he has come around to appreciating that our understanding and interpretation of equal facilities must be taken to mean a re-broadcast during Government time as was accorded the Prime Minister's Address. It is not a case of how the Leader of the House might feel where his Government is concerned, whether he would resign or else. Perhaps the Prime Minister will be glad to get rid of him, but that is a matter for them. It is just a question of Your Honour's interpretation of equal facilities. We feel satisfied that you will do your best to protect the Opposition in a matter such as this.

The question that Standing Orders Nos. 5, 14, 16, 18, 19, 38, 40 and 45 be suspended for the remainder of today's sitting was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Surely the Leader of the House has some reply to make to the hon. member for St. Peter. It is our clear understanding, and I took it that the hon. member's colleagues on his right pointed out to him last Tuesday that what we were saying was an accurate report of what had been promised us. At least the hon. member will make some explanation as to

whether re-broadcast facilities are to be afforded the Opposition tonight.

12.25 p.m.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order, apart from the lack of manners on the part of the Leader of the House in brusquely brushing that aside it is of the utmost importance, before 4.30 p.m. comes, at this stage for us to know whether the Leader of the House is sticking to his word or not. The threat of resigning means nothing to us. He could resign or not resign; it is a matter of indifference to us. If he chooses to quarrel with his colleagues, it is a matter for him; but if his colleagues pointed out to him that we were speaking the truth, that our interpretation of the truth was the interpretation of truth and not the Leader's interpretation, surely this House is not to be treated with contempt. We ought to know now from the Leader of the House whether we are going to get this re-broadcast or not. We are not making any empty threats, but the question of this Budget debate is in my hands as Mover of the Resolution in reply, and it will take place or not take place according to how the Leader of the House behaves.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to second the motion.

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

THE BARBADOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACT, 1968

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day under Government Business stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House: to move the second reading of a Bill to provide for the establishment of an educational institution to be known as the Barbados Community College and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this Bill which, I believe, by now all hon. members will have received and studied, sets out to establish a new educational institution in this country to be known for the time being as the Barbados Community College, to provide a place of education, as the Objects and Reasons say, offering instruction in certain fields and in any other field of education which the Minister may from time to time determine. The Schedule to the Bill sets out the provisions, functions and procedures of the Community College Board, the way in which the Board is to administer the Institution, and the way in which the administration, generally speaking, of the Board is to be conducted. But in effect, Mr. Speaker, what the Bill sets out to do in some detail is to provide places in secondary education for students who have completed studies at the General Certificate of Education at Ordinary Level, and who

from time to time may desire to continue their studies to Advanced Level.

This is a problem which has become rather difficult in the last few years, and this difficult trend, unless it is ameliorated or unless something is done to meet the new conditions of this demand, is expected to continue.

At the moment pupils from ten Government Grammar Schools, five Comprehensive Schools and a large number of Approved Independent Schools all write in their Fifth Forms the General Certificate of Education at Ordinary Level. Of the Government Grammar Schools, only four of them provide additional and regular Sixth Form teaching, and one of these four Institutions is the only one catering exclusively to girls. Recently an arrangement has been set in motion whereby pupils of the appropriate age and aptitudes from St. Michael's Girls' continue their Sixth Form studies at Combermere School, and of course we are all familiar with the fact that the St. Michael's Girls' School some time ago had organised Sixth Form teaching which is not now continued.

What the Government is aiming at through this Bill is the provision of a post-"O" Level training for all students who acquire at least four "O" Level certificates at one sitting or who acquire five or more at more than one sitting - or, of course, the equivalent qualifications. I think it was some weeks ago that a series of questions addressed to the Minister were answered in this House, which gave in some detail the position and numbers of pupils who fall into this category. I believe it was explained how many pupils from each school in each of several years had qualified in five or less than five "O" Level subjects at particular times, and also the number of pupils who would likely be involved in Fifth Form instruction and in post-Fifth Form instruction.

Now the problem therefore is this: it has become evident that there is now a demand on behalf of some 200 or so pupils coming from all these schools who have already qualified for Sixth Form teaching or are likely to qualify when the results of this year's General Certificate Examination at "O" Level are known, and these cannot, by weight of sheer numbers alone, be accommodated in the four Sixth Form schools, even with such minor adjustments as had been made in the case of St. Michael's Girls at Combermere.

For these and other reasons which I shall touch upon in the course of my comments, it has become desirable to establish an Institution catering mainly to this body of pupils of the immediate post-G.C.E. range of studies, and also equally catering for those persons, young people, who may have left school, who may be working and who wish to return to and resume their studies at post-G.C.E. Level and are eminently well qualified to do so.

Now obviously in a project of this sort, you are bound to find large numbers of people - although, I

believe, well meaning - who express a critical interest, if I may put it this way, in the project, but who do not quite understand how it is going to work, and who believe - erroneously, as I shall show - that the establishment of this College will somehow bring about a deterioration both in the quality and quantity of Sixth Form training available to the young people of this country.

12.35 p.m.

First of all, with respect to the Sixth Forms already existing in the Government Grammar Schools of this island, the Minister has been challenged and queried on this matter several times, and he has, just as many times, replied to the points asked of him. The fear expressed is that he proposes to abolish all the Sixth Forms existing in the four schools which now have them. He has not said this, and indeed he would not say this, simply because the idea of the Community College is not to take away something which already exists, but to provide elsewhere, and in a more commodious and a more economical fashion, facilities to be enjoyed by persons who, because of the limited facilities now available, would not be able so to enjoy them.

The second point in this respect is this; some detractors have from time to time made the point that they fear, as I said before, both for the quality and, possibly, for the quantity of post-Fifth Form education, if the principle of the Community College is accepted. The Minister has already, I think, effectively dealt with this point on statistics alone. If you have a situation in which you are now accommodating, should we say, two hundred persons in four schools and you find on the basis of the figures before you, that these numbers are increasing, there are two alternatives which you can pursue. You can, in theory and in practice, spend more money on the four schools which you have now, or you can both in theory and in practice provide the facilities at all the schools which you have, and this is an argument which has been pressed upon the Government from time to time, although I cannot subscribe to either of those two arguments for the simple reason that there is a limit to the physical and other plant of a particular educational institution. It is true that in a country like the United States of America you can have High Schools - I have seen one of them myself - with a school roll of some three thousand with an organization so planned that, in effect, there are two or so schools operating within the same plant - a separate administration for one span of the day, and another administration for another span of the day.

You can do this even here in Barbados, although we do not like it. Through pressure of numbers, for instance, we have just adopted, regrettably, the shift system on the St. Leonard's Campus, but everybody is quite properly asking when will this situation come to an end, because everybody feels that there is something about it which is not quite what it should be, and that, in fact, nobody gets the most satisfactory benefit from such an arrangement.

The other alternative I am examining is the one, which has been most frequently urged upon the Government and that is: "Why don't you give all your Grammar Schools Sixth Forms?" Here again this is a question of cost, availability and of Specialist Teachers. It may not be generally well considered at this point - but there is one aspect which one has got to take into account. Of course, you can provide Sixth Form teaching of a sort in any Secondary School. You can have a Sixth Form of three or four or even of a dozen people in any one year, and you can mobilize three or four of the suitably-qualified members of your staff to teach these small numbers of anything from two up to a dozen. You can do this, and this has been tried here and elsewhere, but it has been discovered that there are certain consequences of this. Firstly, you do not always in each and every year maintain the upward flow out of the Fifth Forms by reason of the numbers or because pupils have not qualified, and sometimes also it has been discovered that in a school of a certain size, when you deflect two or three people to bear the burden of Sixth Form teaching with a dozen or even fewer pupils, you are most certainly robbing your Middle and perhaps your Lower Schools of the weight of teaching experience and expertise which have been deflected into the Sixth Forms. The people who know most about this have said that the ideal Sixth Form institution in a school would be a situation in which you have anything from thirty to one hundred pupils having Sixth Form teaching and doing a range of fifteen or sixteen subjects. The deployment of manpower and physical plant appears, in the view of such experts, to match the opportunities which exist for teaching and learning.

I want to digress just for a minute or two to mention a point which has, Mr. Speaker, always given me considerable anxiety whenever I reflect on this clamour for Sixth Form teaching. When I was Minister of Education, I drew the attention of both the Governing Bodies of Harrison College and Lodge School to a matter which I thought needed and deserved their attention, and it was this. I have noticed from the figures submitted from year to year, and for reasons which we can all understand, that fewer and fewer pupils were offering Greek at Sixth Form level. At the time when I drew this to their attention, I think that there must have been about four people in the Sixth Form at Harrison College, and about three in the Sixth Form at the Lodge School. I personally took the view at the time, as I take it now, that it would have been better for the teaching of Greek to be kept alive vigorously in one school rather than be allowed to die in two schools, because I was certain that the time would surely come when we would be employing a Sixth Form Classical master or masters in both schools, and they would, each of them, find that they had only one or two people or, in some years, none at all.

12.45 p.m.

My idea was that by mutual agreement between the two Governing Bodies a decision would be reached as to where the full weight of Classical tuition would be given, and if it would be concentrated in either

of the two schools according to mutual agreement between the two Government Bodies.

I was not pressing on them any decision of my own as to in which school Classical studies should continue, but I did take the view, as I hold it now, that it would have been better to keep it alive and vigorous in one school than to allow it to die in both.

I do not know what the position is because I have not kept track of it, but I am sure that it is no better in respect of that particular branch of study now than it was six or so years ago.

I made that digression, Mr. Speaker, to show hon. members what are some of the real problems of Sixth Form Teaching and the region in which they lie. If you want three, four or a half-dozen pupils in each school to have Sixth Form teaching and you have the money to pay for it, you can do this; but you are utilising a considerable amount of manpower and expertise which could be more valuably employed with a larger number of people.

The same person, for instance, that can deliver, shall we say, a History lecture to three or four people can do it with ease to 60 or 70, provided the pupils show an aptitude for this or that branch of study. It is true that in the teaching of Science, I believe, you can only get so many people in a Laboratory at the same time; but even there the experts say that if you are going to teach "A" level Science in Sixth Form and you have Laboratory accommodation for 15 or 20 people, you can use it properly so that it is used at its full capacity rather than have it under-capacitated, if there is such a word.

Hon. members must know this, because they are as aware of these problems as anybody else, that every year in the Grammar Schools there is a constant cry for more and more staff. This is so because trained graduates are not only needed for working in the schools, but the competition for their services is so enormous, that very often each graduate upon leaving the University has a very enticing choice as to whether he might go into teaching or industry or administration or what you will, and since it seems to be a common problem all over the world with the attractions in industry or Government - or anywhere other than teaching - being so much better than those in teaching, the competition for the services of graduates becomes keener and keener, and schools find themselves caught in what I call - though not offensively - this rat race of trying to attract staffs which they cannot get because of the keenness of the competition for the services of graduates.

Now it seems to me therefore - again I must fall back on the experts - if the experts think that the proper teacher-pupil ratio in the Grammar Schools, in the Government Grammar Schools, is 1 to 22, and even with that ratio those schools find it extremely difficult to attract the staff in the numbers they want when they want them, it seems to me that if you spread Sixth Form teaching on the old basis

from school to school, not only would you fail in maintaining what is thought to be the appropriate teacher-pupil ratio, but you would also fail to attract graduates for the obvious reason that in our 10 schools now, six of which do not offer Sixth Form tuition they still find it difficult to get the appropriate teaching strength for the Middle and Lower departments.

It seems to me that if you were to spread on the old basis Sixth Form teaching in these schools, the demands would not only be greater, but the competition between the schools would be more cut throat than ever. It seems to me, therefore, that what the Government is trying to do is to make a courageous attempt to meet this problem in the only way in which it can be successfully met, and that is by using what I suggest would be called the economics of skill to suit the demand which is being made by post-G.C.E. pupils for this type of education.

If you had 200 or 250 people to prepare at one time for "A" Level or its equivalent, it might be easier for you to recruit the 15, 16, or 20 people for a single institution, even if you may not be able to do it all at the same time, than it would be for you to recruit, not at the same time, the same number of people in different schools only when those needs arose.

Not only this, Mr. Speaker, but there is also this further point. The Community College will not only provide what we like to call the normal traditional Sixth Form teaching, but as I have pointed out, it will also serve those persons whose studies have been interrupted, but who from time to time may wish to resume their studies at "A" Level higher than that which they had formally achieved.

The range of studies which it will eventually offer are not, all of them, academic. It is hoped that in time - hon. members have already seen this in the Objects and Reasons of the Bill - it is hoped that in time commercial studies and agricultural studies for those who have any aptitude for them will be made available.

Meanwhile, of course, in order to meet the immediate problems posed, it is proposed that a start should be made in academic and scientific subjects. I want to make this point before I go any further. I think that one of the reasons why the problem has to be met in this way is really a tribute to the cleverness and ability to learn of the children themselves.

Nowadays, when you admit a child at 11 to enter a secondary school it is certain, generally speaking, that when that child is 16 years old he is ready for the G.C.E. and some may do it at 15 or 15 1/2 depending on how good they are. But certainly, by the time they are reaching or approaching or at their 16th birthday, they are ready to take the first public examination. Well, it stands to reason that if a pupil can take that examination at 15 plus or at 16, he or she has got certainly not less than three years for doing Sixth Form work.

12.55 p.m.

Now in a case like this, you will see that there would be, from year to year, an accumulation of new people, some of whom will have done their five and more subjects at one time, and others of whom will have done their five subjects on two or more occasions, but all of whom have the necessary aptitude to proceed to Sixth Form studies. It is this accumulation of which we have to take care.

As I have said, you could try to take care of the problem by putting a Sixth Form in all the schools that the Government control, but you would not necessarily by that method be solving all of your problems because the cost would have to be duplicated or triplicated in as many schools. The availability of staff could not always be guaranteed. It is probable that the three or four most prominent schools would continue to take the cream of the available staff with others going without. It seems to me, having examined the problem dispassionately, that the solution lies in what we are proposing.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Bill and its Clauses deal with the general structure, aims and objectives of the College. The Schedule itself sets out what, perhaps, we should better call the "Scheme of Government and the Method of Administering the College." It is planned that the College will be governed by a Board of Governors that would be charged with the duty of administering the College, appointing and supervising staff, and assuming responsibility for matters of finance. The staffing of the College is expected at its inception to be run by a Principal, 2 Senior Tutors, 6 Tutors, and 13 Assistant Tutors as a teaching Establishment: 1 Registrar, 2 Stenographers, 1 Supervisor, 1 Laboratory Technician, 1 Driver/Messenger, 2 Cleaners, 2 Groundsmen and 1 Watchman on the non-teaching side.

The duties of the Principal will be to administer all the sections of the College, to report to the Minister, and generally to supervise the public relations of the College in communication with the Press, mass media, and other external agencies. In other words, he is, of course, the person who is ultimately responsible.

The Senior Tutor of each section will be responsible to the Principal for the administration of the particular teaching section, and in addition he would be required to prepare scheme plans, organisation plans, syllabuses in consultation with his colleagues, and would be required to perform the function of what, I suppose, we could call "Dean to the Faculty" if we were dealing with a University or a University College.

The Tutors in each section will be required, among other things, to organise the Schedule of Teaching in their particular disciplines, to supervise the teaching in the relevant subject areas, and to advise the Assistant Tutors on any aspect of the work. Of course, the Tutors as well as the Senior Tutors will be required from time to time to play whatever part is required of them in the actual teaching of specific subjects.

The function of the Assistant Tutors will be almost entirely that of teaching in accordance with what is assigned to them by the Senior Tutor in consultation with the appropriate Tutor.

The Registrar will be responsible to the Board of Governors for maintaining the accounts of the College in accordance with the provisions of the Budget and, naturally, in accordance with the Financial Regulations of Government.

The Supervisor will be responsible for the maintenance of buildings and grounds including supplies of inventories, and, of course, will be in charge of the subordinate staff.

The permanent site of the Community College will be at "Eyrie", but it will be opened for temporary accommodation at "Sherbourne". It is hoped that the development of the permanent site will get under way in the near future.

The Ministry of Education estimates that the College will cater to approximately 350 students in the first instance, and this figure is based on the statistical estimate of the information collected from all the schools involved. In this statistical estimate it was pointed out that last year 285 students who sat the G.C.E. "O" Level examination were successful in four or five subjects, and it was also pointed out that this year alone 1,264 students are writing the examination. I pointed out, of course, earlier - and I just re-emphasise this - the College is expected to cater not only to the ordinary run of post-Fifth Form/Sixth Form pupils, but also to the people who have already left school and would like to resume their studies at the point at which they had left them off.

Mr. Speaker, a separate Resolution will naturally have to come to the House embodying the financial proposals with respect to the cost of the Establishment. It would be improper for me to propose to the House any matter to do with finance until the House has disposed of the principle of establishing the College, and this is why the Bill is before the House now. When the House has declared its pleasure on the Bill, an appropriate Resolution for supply will, of course, be laid before the House.

There is one other point I wanted to make. A few days ago there was tremendous excitement - I believe it was tremendous excitement, but I had no means of judging myself - engendered by a statement made on behalf of the Association of Teachers in Secondary Schools that they had some misgivings about this Bill and, among other things, one of their misgivings was the enormous concentration of power which, according to the Bill, the Minister seems to have.

I understand that the Minister met with a delegation of the Association yesterday and, so far as I can see - I do not know, Mr. Speaker, what other reservations they may have - but the main reservation which they seemed to have had, if the public state-

ment is anything to go by, seems to have been resolved.

1.05 p.m.

I only want to make two small comments on this point. The first one is this: It is and has always been to me extraordinary, and I know this from personal experience because it was only after I myself became Minister of Education, that I, because I had to, made myself aware of the Schemes of Government of the various Grammar schools in this Island. There are a lot of teachers, Mr. Speaker, who do not know how the schools which they work are administered, and this came out in the discussion yesterday morning. For instance, when it was pointed out that one of the fears expressed to this Bill was that teachers were more or less at the mercy of the Minister in respect of their conditions of work and tenure of employment and so on, and when reference was made to the Schemes of Government which have been existing for some time for a comparative study, they were astonished to discover that now if you are on the staff of Harrison College or Coleridge-Parry and you are on probation, Mr. Speaker, you can be dismissed with one month's notice by the Head of that School without any reference made either to the Governing Body or to the Ministry or to anybody else.

If hon. members look at this Bill carefully - and I really would press that on them because it is really interesting - they would see what guarantees in this respect the people on the staff of the Community College have, and they would also see that the Minister, far from being the arbiter of their destinies as they might have thought, is in truth and in fact the Court of Appeal from the harsh or unfair or unwarranted decision of the Board of Governors which in any case has to take the initiative in these matters and which is entirely responsible for the discipline and cognate functions of the College itself.

The second point I want to make is this, and here again I make it in the same context. Nowadays in this House and outside of it, whenever a Bill is before us which seems to give a Minister power, there is an understandable but, in my view, a wrong-headed clamour that too much power is being concentrated in the hands of a single person, and in fairness to the critics, I do not think they mean that they object to the individual who happens for the time being to be Minister; they act on the principle that the concentration of power as such in a single hand is unwarranted. There was a time in this Island when "Governor-in-Executive Committee" quite frankly meant "Governor", and even when it did not mean "Governor", the concentration of power or of authority was usually in the hands of a single member of the old Executive Committee, and hon. members of this House who were in public life long enough will recall their own strictures twenty or thirty years ago when they used to declaim from the housetops that Mr. Keith Walcott was the McGuffie King of this Island. They used to say this; but yet the Attorney General, in the context of our Constitution twenty or whatever number of years ago, had as much authority and in some very definite instances more authority than any Minister has now. The second thing

is that you can always tell the amount of authority a person wields by the number of people who appear to be afraid of him. I do not know anybody in this Island who is afraid of any Minister, but I can remember how you had to whisper Mr. Keith Walcott's name in secret, and you had to be careful whom you were whispering it with too; so I can only gauge from a purely commonsense point of view the concentration of authority, how undiluted it is, if you know the number of people who fear a person.

The contempt in which we are held by hon. members opposite would make me believe that far from fearing us, they laugh us to scorn. Well, you can't have it both ways, Mr. Speaker. If you laugh hon. members on this side to scorn, it would seem to me that any concentration of power constitutionally in the hands of a Minister cannot really work to the detriment or discredit of anybody, because the people who have to exercise it are in the view of the people complaining about it not worth bothering about. But this may be a facetious argument to put up, and I would not press that aspect of it. I would only say that the Constitution, as I understand it, has developed in such a way that there has been delegation of authority from Cabinet to Minister.

There are several bits of legislation - I cannot name all of them - in which the Minister now exercises all the authority which was formerly exercised by the Cabinet as a whole. The Minister of Communications has certain powers vested in him which are not vested in the Cabinet, and for the exercise of which he need not make any reference to the Cabinet. The Minister of Finance, acting in his capacity as Minister of Finance, has certain statutory and constitutional powers vested in him, for the exercise of which he need not consult the Cabinet. The Ministers of Education, of Agriculture and of Health - I am not now referring to my colleagues; I am referring to offices held - all of them exercise a certain amount of authority which has been delegated to them either by legislation or by decision of the Cabinet itself.

There is nothing therefore to fear in a Bill which throws upon the Minister of Education certain responsibilities, administrative and otherwise. In the first place, any Minister of Education must administer an Act of Parliament, which confers on him certain powers, in the context of the policy of the Party of which he is a member. It would be difficult for me to imagine a Minister so feather-headed in any country as to interpret in a purely arbitrary manner the exercise of authority which devolves on him in an Act of Parliament. If you say this in respect of this, you would have to say this in respect of any legislation. The same view I take now of this, I took when I was not in Government. An Act of Parliament can give authority to anybody it likes. If it gives that authority, one has to assume rightly in most cases that that authority is exercised within a certain context. I have never been afraid of nor have I ever used the argument about the concentration of power in the hands of a single Minister. If you could allow a Colonial Governor in those days - not without protest, it is true, but it served its time - to have the power of life and death for a long time

over almost every aspect except the purely legislative and financial powers of Parliament - this has never been in the hands of the Governor - but if you could give him in those days considerable authority amounting even to powers to life and death over the community, why should you have any scruples in the changed circumstances where first of all the people represented in Parliament are themselves elected on the widest possible franchise, and therefore are not only entitled to represent the point of view of the people of the country, but are themselves from time to time called upon to govern the country? I really cannot see it.

1.15 p.m.

This, I know, is a strong point with hon. members opposite - the concentration of power in the hands of a single person. I give them this for what it is worth. If the boot were on the other foot and they were in power, I would most probably have some criticisms to offer about this or that aspect of a particular matter; but on no occasion would they hear me use the argument that I object to something merely because it puts too much power into the hands of a Minister. I have never used that argument. I take it that whoever is in power has to govern, and whoever has to govern has to govern within the context of their declared policy. I may say this, but I do not necessarily believe it seriously because I have survived in a Government under them and I have escaped; so my argument would not be that I could not trust them with power. My argument would be that they are as much entitled to the authority of Government as anybody who is constitutionally elected, and the only way that I would draw swords with them is when I see that they were either going outside their declared power or really acting arbitrarily out of consonance and even against the express or implied canons of Ministerial Government. As I say, you can criticise this because you think that we are doing the wrong thing. (A MEMBER: Like the removal of the Mace.) When the Mace was removed, Mr. Speaker, - anyhow I will not pursue that.

Mr. SPEAKER: I doubt whether there is such a thing as a Mace in a Community College. *(Laughter)*

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes, quite. You can argue that you do not think that we are going far enough to handle this problem. You can argue if you like, although this would not be true, that we are not handling the problem boldly and imaginatively. I believe you could even argue that far from attempting educational reforms in a piecemeal way, we should have a comprehensive enquiry, and I believe that some hon. members on the other side favour this, into the whole educational system. All right, have your comprehensive enquiry into it; but while you are enquiring into it, you still have to administer it. And while you are trying to find out how the over-all system can be improved, you still have to provide for these 185 children or whatever the number is, who want a Sixth Form education by September. You can object to this on the ground that you are governed not so much by logic as by fear, and that you apprehend a complete deterioration of our educational system. Mr. Speaker, my reply to that is this. First

of all, these fears are groundless and, secondly, if you still entertain these fears, it means that you are not as firm in your conviction as you should be, that by and large the educational system is a sound one and that such improvements as it needs are real improvements and not radical transformations. This is how I look at it.

I cannot anticipate, nor would it be proper for me to anticipate, all the possible questions or objections which hon. members might ask or raise and for which certain clarifications will be forthcoming. I will make a note of what they say and I will answer them when I come to reply; but I commend the Bill to the House because, if you look at it calmly and dispassionately, if you are disposed to pre-judge the issue, and if you are genuinely determined to do something for the hundreds of young people or to see what should be done and the way in which it should be done for the hundreds of young people, you will come to some such conclusion. You may wish to modify our own conception and the time to do that is when you have the Government. (Mr. ST. JOHN: Which will not be too long from now.) The hon. member said that it will not be too long from now, but there is many a slip between the cup and the lip. When that time comes and until that time comes, we will try it in our way, and when the hon. member's time comes, he can modify it. Even if that time were to come, he will not hear me say that they have too much power. Once the people have given it to them, it is all right with me. I want them to know that the people have given it to us and it is our policy which we try to implement. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, for some considerable period of time in this country there has been a dialogue going on as to the aims and objects of the Government in relation to this College.

Despite the assurances given by the hon. member in the introduction of this Bill, it is positively clear that it is the Government's policy that Sixth Forms in the existing schools will be abolished. There is an old saying that there is more than one way of hanging a dog. The device which they are attempting to use is to create this Body and attract to it all of the staff that is necessary to keep the other schools in existence; but, Mr. Speaker, when we look at the educational needs in Barbados today, we feel that this College is not a priority in the sense in which the Government feels it to be a priority. We feel that the Primary School system of education, of Technical education, and the education in Crafts is much more of a problem than the creation of a prestige academic Body - and from the Minister's speech, it is clear that the Government is looking to the academic side of this College right now, and not to the other aspects of the College. If we were to have an analysis of the institutions which we have now and the demands, I do not believe that, looking at it dispassionately, one could come up with the academic side of this College as a great priority.

1.25 p.m.

Not so long ago in here the Hon. Minister gave some statistics. I am quoting from memory, and if I am wrong I would be glad if he will correct me. The statistics were that the number of children who passed at all the schools in Barbados in five G.C.E. "O" Level subjects was no more than - I think the maximum for the three years 1964, 1965 and 1966 was 160.

Now, when we take that into account, it is clear that this Government and the Hon. Minister should do what any other Minister in any other country who wanted the public to be aware of any change in your educational system should do: that is, publish a White Paper. The figures and statistics in the White Paper would go to show that the real need in this country at the present moment is proper provision for Primary School education and the creation of a broader base of subjects other than academic subjects for your young people.

I was shocked when the Hon. Minister said that some time later they expected to give study to other subjects like Commerce, Technology, Agriculture and Finance. Here are we today in this country with a Government boasting and bragging that it is providing a free educational system for all. Here are we today in Barbados having a system in which, because of the failure of the Government to provide adequate facilities, private organisations can attract for a six-months' course in secretarial science \$300.00, and these institutions have been welcomed by the other side, and supported by the other side.

Surely, if we are going to brag and boast that our educational system is free, one of your immediate objectives ought to be to cater to that; but the Minister says that he wants Sixth Form teaching, and this is going to be the immediate thing.

Of course, in my opinion, if you are going to have the criteria of five "O" Levels for entry into this School, you will only get it by drawing away from the other schools. I notice that the Minister did not touch that. He did not touch upon the Government's plans for the administration of these schools. Of course they would not touch on that because it would expose completely the real motive and intent to abolish Sixth Forms in the other schools. Come clean; come openly; if you feel that it is in the best interest of education in Barbados that there should be no Sixth Form education in these schools, come out and say so. Argue it out on that basis. But they fear the political consequences of that.

They fear that if they came out openly and said that it was their intention, they would incur the wrath of the parents of quite a number of pupils. It cannot be denied that a number of Parent-Teachers Associations have met at the Secondary Schools and have protested against any attempt to abolish the existing Sixth Form.

What kind of material are you going to get if you are having these Sixth Forms still in existence with your statistics showing that you only get a maximum

of - I would be generous - 175? What are you going to be left with?

What is to happen to your other institutions which are in existence in this country, like the Evening Institute? The Hon. Minister cannot deny the fact that a number of the academic subjects that it is proposed to teach at the proposed Community College are taught at the Evening Institute now. They are taught at the Extra Mural Department of the U.W.I. They cannot deny the fact also that it is possible to make greater use of the facilities which are in existence at some of your Secondary Schools which already provide Sixth Form education, in particular the Lodge School. When you look at the crowded conditions in your Primary Schools, when you look around and see the need for Technical education, not only in Bridgetown but in other centres of education, instead of devoting your energies to the immediate provision of these facilities the Minister and the Government have decided that this College is a priority!

One would have thought that the Minister in introducing this Bill would have fitted the College into the existing educational scheme. I listened and I have heard nothing as to the relationship between this body and Your Evening Institute. Are you going to abolish the Evening Institute when you have this? Are you going to abolish the Technical Institute? What about the Extra-Mural Department of the U.W.I.? I know that you have no control over that; but the position is that you have to pay the University large sums of money, and part of this money is spent to administer the Extra-Mural Department.

Is the Government going to suggest that all of these institutions should exist parallel with this institution? Are they suggesting that you will continue to carry on your Evening Institute and pay the administrative costs of that, the same with the Technical Institute and still pay the additional cost of the administration of this College?

If the intention of the Government was to rationalise all these bodies under one administrative body primarily to cater to the gaps that exist now in your system of academic tuition, that would be an institution which should command the support of the vast majority of people in Barbados.

But, Mr. Speaker, the more you listen to the other side, the more you must be convinced that that is not their conception of this College. That is definitely not their conception.

It has been said that the Bill should never be attacked on the basis that it gives the Minister too much power. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not one of those people who is afraid to give Ministers powers, because I feel that in a democratic society people must learn that to preserve democracy there are 101 little institutions which must thrive and flourish so as to put pressure on those who attempt to use their powers wrongfully.

Now, Sir, there are teachers in this country. They have a Trade Union. They will learn that if you want

to preserve your point of view and you want to have influence you must be militant. They will learn that they must not expect people to take up their "fire rage" when they themselves are supposed to be an educated body.

They ought to be able to use and manipulate the media of public information so as to impress their point of view upon others. But there are a lot of cowards in this country. They want front men. They do not have the courage of their convictions; and if they are going to be prepared to work under the conditions set out in this Bill, it is a matter for them.

But, Sir, what we have to be careful of here is this: we are responsible in Parliament for the purse strings of this country, and there are features in this Bill that empower the Minister to vary the whole Scheme of Government of the College without reference to Parliament. That is an insult to the dignity of this Institution.

1.35 p.m.

Here you are giving power to a Minister; you set out, first of all, in the Bill the Scheme of Government of the College, and it says that the Minister may by order revoke the Scheme in the Schedule and substitute a new one. Now, Surely, there is an unanswerable case for an amendment to that so as to ensure that if the Schedule is amended, Parliament would be informed and Parliament would have the right to express its point of view thereon. It is not a question of giving the Minister too much power; it is a question of principle whether you are going to allow by delegating legislation, such a fundamental power and deprive yourself of any opportunity of influencing the exercise of the power.

Now, if the Minister felt that this was not an important matter, may I ask why is it that they found it necessary to set out the first Scheme of Government in a Schedule in this Bill? If you felt that this is a matter exclusively within the province of the Minister, why is it that you did not say that the Minister may, by Regulations, prescribe the Scheme of Government for the College? You know that it would be objectionable, but you set out the first Scheme, bring it before Parliament, and then expect that we are to pass a Bill which empowers a Minister, by order, to change the whole Scheme without reference to us. That must be objectionable.

Mr. Speaker, let us get this straight. There ought to be no misconceptions under this Bill. If you have a spiteful Minister, he can give vent to his spleen in this Bill. If the teachers are prepared to work under these conditions, that is a matter for them; it is their responsibility. The onus is not on us; the onus is on them and it is their responsibility. If they are going to submit themselves to appointment under terms and conditions when they know that the Minister has absolute power over them, that is their business. But I would have thought, if they had any kind of sense, that by now they would have been making strong representations that there must be enshrined somewhere the terms and conditions which would give them a measure of security.

Do you know what is happening, Sir? In this war of survival in this country, there are some people who would sacrifice anything for one dollar. That is the truth. You will get them in all professions; matters of principle mean nothing to them; all they are interested in is the advancement of their financial position; so they will sell their birthright for one dollar. That is the position.

Mr. Speaker, in Committee Stage there will be a large number of amendments which we will propose, but it is difficult to deal with this Bill as a whole until we have had from the Minister a clear definition of what is the conception of the Government as to its relationship between this Institution and the other Institutions.

Now, in Jamaica you have a College of Arts, Science and Technology - a polytechnic type of thing - where, as the Minister said, you will get people who want to continue their education - whether on a part-time or full-time basis - and you must have facilities to cater for such persons. But to come in here and say that this conception is a conception that will not abolish in any way or interfere in any way with the existing Sixth Form in the schools is an attempt to fool the members on this side. It is an attempt to mislead the public in Barbados, because when we look at it from the point of view that the staff of this College will be paid more than the staff at the existing schools, we can see the position. For this College to have any kind of prestige, it will be necessary to try and attract the better academic types. They can only get them by drawing them away from our existing schools. They are going to draw away the staff first, and then the pupils will follow the staff. That is the intention.

Mr. Speaker, one would have thought that commercial subjects would have been one of the first things that would have been created in here. But the Minister says that it is the policy that Duffs', Skinners' and the other private institutions must still continue to receive \$300.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I did not say that. The hon. member is saying that I said so, but that is not true. I made no reference to private institutions. I think, in fairness to me, he ought to say what I have said and not what I have not said.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, it is the obvious intention of the Government that these schools must continue, because, as the Hon. Minister says, later on commercial studies, agriculture and other aspects of the work will be dealt with, but the immediate intention is that you are going to have the academic side only. Let us get that clear. If that is not so, I should be glad if the Hon. Minister would correct me. I heard him say that the immediate objective is this.

1.45 p.m.

How are you going to achieve this objective without detracting and tearing away from your existing

institutions? It is impossible and the Hon. Minister knows that. Mr. Speaker, I feel that there ought to be a broad measure of agreement in any country on its educational system, and it is impossible for anyone in this country to have this measure of agreement when the real motives of the Government are so clouded. Instead of coming forward straight and saying exactly what the intentions are and let us have a dialogue on that, they come forward by the back-door method, seeking to conceal their real intent. We cannot in the circumstances give the measure of support that ought to have been given to a change in our educational system. I want to hear a number of questions answered by the Hon. Minister before we can make up our minds on this Bill.

In particular, the Hon. Minister should have given us the relationship between this body and the Evening Institute, the Technical College and the Technical School. He should have given us much more statistical information as to the numbers. He should have given us much more information as to the qualifications, for instance, that are envisaged for entry into this College. These are vital points which are not contained in the Bill. It is true that the Minister can make regulations, but surely in the scheme of things the Minister must have made up his mind already as to how he intends to exercise the large powers granted to him in this Bill.

Mr. LYNCH: Mr. Speaker, all of us who toil in the educational vineyard are very much interested in the fate of this Bill with which we have been confronted. There has been a great deal of fluttering in the educational dove-cots as recently as this morning when there was a publication as to the allaying of certain fears which are supposed to exist. Such fears as existed, Mr. Speaker, do not seem to have been entirely allayed in so far as I can find out, and there are many questions relative to this Bill which I hope the Hon. Minister will be good enough to clarify for us.

Now many of us feel, Mr. Speaker, that this is entirely a question of priorities. The provision of post-G.C.E. education to the minds of many of us cannot compete with the provision for pre-G.C.E. education in Barbados. I refer specifically to the 11+ examination with which we are still inflicted, although in England where this experiment was first tried, it has come to the point where an educationist, no less a person than Miss Bacon, the Minister of State for Education and Science, has said that 11+ is much too early an age to label children as failures. Both psychologists and sociologists have scotched the idea of any innate and imitable intelligence. That is the modern concept. To label a child, therefore, as an educational reject at the age of 11 is repugnant to the sense of any thinking person, and that is what we are suffering from in Barbados today.

Currently the minds of many persons are exercised as to what they are to do with those children who have so recently been labelled as failures by a benign Government. We are told that over 10,000 of these children wrote the 11 examination, and that

there were some 700 places where those who received the accolade of success, however determined, could be deposited for their education. That would mean, Mr. Speaker, that over 9,000 of these children would have to be regarded as failures or as educational rejects. You may picture to yourself the feelings of the children themselves and of the members of their immediate families when they see withdrawn from their clutching fingers the academic prizes which this community has to offer, restricted though they may be. Many of us feel that that is a question which ought to engage the attention of Government to the exclusion of any academic appendages such as a Community College, which indeed might come later in another form, or which, Mr. Speaker, might be changed altogether, this being a period of flux and change.

Academically, Mr. Speaker, as you must be aware, as soon as a child learns that twelve pennies make a shilling, we have to tell him not to take that too seriously because it may soon be ten, that the decimal coinage is about to come in. On the atomic front, where formerly the accent used to be on fission, we are told it has now been changed to fusion, and so on and so on in various forms of learning. We are told too, Mr. Speaker, that the great Francis Bacon who felt that knowledge should be allowed in everyone of its particulars as far as possible - did he exist in this day, what he knew would qualify him perhaps for a lower Fourth Form in any good school. So has knowledge extended its boundaries that many a child looks askance in these days at his father or mother when they attempt to make suggestions academically, when the child knows only too well how restricted is his parents' education in this day of modern concepts and of swift change.

We feel, therefore, Mr. Speaker, that what is needed in our small community is a thorough investigation of our educational system, and not the addition of a single appendage which on further scrutiny we might be able to provide good alternatives for. For instance, Mr. Speaker, we have noticed recently that there was an addition of some fourteen young people last term in the Sixth Form at Combermere School. Eleven of these were from St. Michael's Girls' School, two from the Coleridge-Parry and one from the Alleyne School; and these fourteen were added to the Combermere School roll without any serious dislocation, if dislocation there was at all.

1.55 p.m.

The Lodge School could have provided even more space and probably have Sixth Forms, had they been called upon to do so. It is common knowledge that there is a Sixth Form Science Laboratory at Queen's College which has never been called into use purely because of the difficulties of staffing. Why then should we attempt, at this stage, to bring into being another educational body when we have not made full use or have not tried to expand the educational units which we have at our disposal presently? We, on this side, at least this side of this side, do feel that there is a great need and urgency for a thorough investigation into the education system of Barbados. There are so many anomalies present that are calling aloud

for redress - for instance, the Minister was good enough to mention just now that he considered twenty-two pupils to a teacher to be the correct allocation in this day if pupils are to progress; yet in the face of that announcement, the Minister could hardly deny that his Government provides, in the case of Independent Schools, one teacher for every two hundred pupils. How is it possible to square that? If twenty-two to one is considered to be the correct teacher-pupil relation, how then can the Minister recommend and maintain a system of two hundred to one in the Independent Schools where thousands of the pupils of this Community are forced to get all the education which they will ever get? Surely, there must be something wrong about that. Mr. Speaker, the fact that full use has not been made of existing facilities in our First and Second Grade Schools is a strong argument against the creation of this Community College, except, as some people fear, that is in line with what has been called contemporary egalitarianism.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. Speaker, may I, at this stage, move the suspension of the Sitting for three quarters of an hour, with Your Honour's assent to speak again? (ASIDES)

Mr. HINDS: I beg to second that.

The question that this sitting be now suspended for three quarters of an hour was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

2.00 p.m.

On re-assembling,

PRIVATE MEMBER'S NOTICE

Mr. SPEAKER: It happened this morning when Notices were being given, that the hon. senior member for St. James, in whose name a motion appeared on the Order Paper, was absent. He arrived a minute or two afterwards and I give him permission now, if he thinks fit, to give his Notice at this stage.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I wish to apologise for my late arrival and I thank you for your permission. I now beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

WHEREAS the sum of 50 cents payable in some parishes of this Island per week as public assistance is so out of keeping with the ever-increasing cost of living as to make it unrealistic and not commensurate with the needs of the poor in the Island;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed expedient that the name "public assistance" should be changed to that of "national assistance."

BE IT RESOLVED that this House requests the Government to take the necessary steps (a) to in-

crease the amount payable in all parishes for public assistance to a minimum amount of \$3.00 weekly the said payments be made by the Central Government acting through the Interim Local Government Commissioner; and (b) to change the name "public assistance" to that of "national assistance."

BARBADOS COMMUNITY COLLEGE BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: When the Sitting was suspended, the hon. junior member for Bridgetown was addressing the House. He may now resume.

Mr. LYNCH: I thank you, Mr. Speaker. I was on the hardy annual of the eleven plus examination to which I will return, hoping to be able to cling to its branches a while longer. Every year in this community, Mr. Speaker, there are many thousands of children who are denied access to secondary education. This is all because of the Government's declared policy of free secondary education which is a standing joke in the community when it is remembered that the school places which the Government is able to allocate to aspirants for this free secondary education is some five thousand places, while there are over twelve thousand children in the Independent Schools which are registered, while there are some forty-five so-called schools, some drawing-room or dame schools, which are not yet dignified by registration. It is clear then that there are many thousands of the school age children in our community who are forced into these establishments and for whom little or no provision is made.
2.50 p.m.

The point I was making, Mr. Speaker, is that to educate people at Harrison College the average cost is \$460.00 per head. Pupils can be sent to any of the Independent Schools which are registered and recognised by the Government. If they win a Government bursary, the Government pays \$75.00 a year for these pupils.

It is clear then, Mr. Speaker, how much money is saved per head on each of those who can be shunted from private schools. In a year like this when from over 9,000 pupils - although I would say that the performance this year was very much better than is the usual experience at this 11 plus stage - the Government has still some 700 places to be allocated to over 10,600 children who sat this examination.

If, therefore, the Minister responsible were to look at this in a constructive spirit, Mr. Speaker, he can quite clearly see that the situation could be eased considerably by sending some of these large masses of rejects to those schools which can accommodate them.

I am told that there are certain Private Secondary Schools which have 200 or more places available for pupils for the coming term. It is felt in some quarters that nearly 9,000 of these pupils - 9,900 actually, Mr. Speaker - were made to fail this examination because the Government itself had failed in providing the necessary physical accommodation for them.

This accusation would be hard to refute. Indeed there has been little effort made, Mr. Speaker, to refute this grave accusation.

Now I turn to another point - the lack of consistency in Government arrangements for providing education for the young people in the Community. As you are well aware, there are single sex schools in this community. There is co-education at the Alleyne School in St. Andrew, but no one is quite sure as to what is the Government's decision as to how pupils will be placed in schools of varying types in the future.

We take it for granted that in this proposed Community College there will be a co-educational setup. This is taken for granted; but you will notice also, Mr. Speaker, that in the neighbouring island of Trinidad there is a move on foot to make as many as possible of the educational establishments there co-educational because it is said that co-educational schools raise the status of the women of Trinidad.

It is argued, and successfully argued, that whenever segregation of the sexes is practised in education, the women have a continuing low status for the simple reason that they are taught by other women who have been educated under a system where they did not receive the benefit of tuition from the best brains in the community which invariably in certain subjects such as Science and Mathematics are men, never mind what the ladies may think. Therefore there is a continuing low status conferred on the women of a community which is denied co-education.

It is felt, therefore, that in these days when our women folk are showing so great a distinction in academic and other spheres that we in Barbados should follow in the train of many of the countries of the civilised world and introduce co-education in this community.

It will not have escaped your attention, Mr. Speaker, that the present incumbent of the Ministry of State for Education and Science is a lady, Miss Alice Bacon. You will also have noticed - at least the proponent of this scheme will have noticed - that the President of the Oxford Union is also for the first time a lady - a post which the Minister himself enjoyed at one time with great distinction. Also in the West Indian community we have had recently the appointment of a lady to the Governorship of Grenada.

Why is it that we should subscribe to a system which at the moment ensures the continuing low status of women? It will be argued that our premier Girls' School has had some success recently; but it might well be that last year should be regarded as an *annus mirabilis*, which might not be repeated year after year.

It is high time that Government declares its policy for education, whether it is going to have single sex schools or co-educational schools. It is not yet clear in as much as we have already the Alleyne School as a co-educational school, and having

heard nothing to the contrary, I believe that this Community College will be co-educational.

It is not yet quite certain, Mr. Speaker, whether there is going to be an amalgamation of the various educational services under the aegis of this newly projected Community College. It is felt by many who have the interest of Barbados at heart that the Trades Training Centre should be expanded and made to serve the needs of the community to its fullest possibility.

So many of our young people went abroad formerly, Mr. Speaker, and made a good impression as "B" Class mechanics and industrial workers and in other spheres, that we do feel that they ought to be equipped here before leaving so that if they went to one of the metropolitan countries they might emigrate as "A" Class workers whether they join the engineering or some other industrial form of employment.

This can be done right here in Barbados by getting down qualified staff and providing the necessary equipment so that these young people might be taught and trained and bade go forth.

3.00 p.m.

It has been found that there is a great shortage of technicians, and some effort, at least, must be made to correct this sad state of affairs. Even local industry is not serviced by the provision of young people who are turned out year after year by our apology for what is locally called "Trades Training" We are hoping that the Minister will be good enough to give us some pronouncement as to what is Government's policy in this regard.

He has already spoken on the section about commercial education, and there was some disappointment felt in my own mind, if I may say so, when he said that very soon some effort would be made to provide more commercial training.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I do not want to be misunderstood. I have no attacks to make upon the Ministers - neither the one who drew up the Bill, nor the one who introduced it. I myself have had the benefit of the services of both of them in my own establishment and for that I am very grateful to them both. I always try to get around me people of some ability, and I hand them this compliment unasked. I refer to both of the Ministers.

We have in Barbados no image of greatness, but some of us do try to have people employed so that the pupils might have the benefit of association with people more gifted than themselves. This is a principle which I have always employed. I have no attack to make on the Minister, but I would like to compliment him on his adroitness on his latest interview in either bludgeoning or badgering into agreement those representatives of a certain teaching body who waited upon him. I do not know what method he adopted but these gentlemen seem to have been forced into some agreement. Whether this agreement which they

profess will be honoured by the body which they represented is a matter for future decision.

I am told, Mr. Speaker, that this Association of Teachers has some 40-odd members in its ranks, but the Organisation itself has over 200 members. Now whether the three who waited on the Prime Minister will be considered fully representative of some 200 people is a matter which the Minister must decide for himself. We are told, too, Mr. Speaker, that the threat was made that, if these compliants had not agreed that they would take part in this joint statement, a eucracy would have been issued in which their agreement would have been mentioned as a ploy which had been obtained by the Minister himself. Whether this is so or not, I am sure the Hon. Minister, the Leader of the House, will reassure us when he comes to speak later on.

Now, there is an accusation that the proposer of the Bill, who is given such wide and flowing powers here, is sometimes a bit ham-fisted. Whether this is so or not I do not know, because I have never known him in that capacity; but if this has been his approach, Mr. Speaker, perhaps it is time that he reconsiders the matter and he should try to encourage the co-operation of those professional bodies without whose assistance he would not be able to have that success at which, I am sure, he is aiming.

There are several disturbing Clauses, not to mention phrases, in the Bill. Things like the dismissal, to take one at random, of the Principal. "The Principal may with the prior approval of the Minister be dismissed by the Board subject to the following conditions," etc. There you see, Mr. Speaker, we have the strange anomaly of the Minister approving beforehand of the dismissal of this important employee, which agreement he must first convey to some member or members of the Board before they can successfully moot that this man be dismissed. I dare say that in good Russian tradition he would also be allowed to confess before taking his leave of the Department.

Now, Mr. Speaker, those things are very disturbing in any democratic Assembly: people being dismissed with the prior approval of other people; yet we are told in some recent publication that the security of tenure of the employees of this Board is a model to be aimed at by those who now work in Government-aided schools. This does not set squarely with some of the provisions in the Bill, because we read, to our considerable unease, that the Minister may from time to time, by order, amend the provisions of the Schedule. What is the point of putting up provisions and duly passing them here, Mr. Speaker, before this body, which is sometimes considered an august legislative body, when these same provisions may from time to time, by order, be amended by the Minister? It seems to me the perpetuation of a nonsense, Mr. Speaker, and you with your keen, legal brain, I am sure, will agree with me, at least, on this point.

The definition of the College itself is open to question. It can vary between that of a Primary

School or a Post-Graduate Organisation. There is a very wide range, or wide gamut, that this Organisation might run, and we would like to have a clearer and more restricted definition of its duties, despite the objects and reasons set out here. It would seem to some of us as though this were more window dressing than a definite contribution to the educational future of the Island of Barbados.

This academic appendage which might well be locked off, Mr. Speaker, when the time comes - and come it must - for a full investigation into the educational system of this Island - we should not rush into it without mature thought.

3.10 p.m.

I am hoping, Mr. Speaker, to receive assurances from the Hon. Introducer of the Bill that the other priorities which I have mentioned will occupy the attention of the Minister of Education before he proceeds further with this Bill.

I will with your permission reiterate the whole cogent points which I would like the Minister to pass on to his colleague. First of all, that this business of 11 plus examination should be allowed to die a natural death. Also, Mr. Speaker, that the teacher-pupil ratio be improved in those schools which are forced to receive thousands upon thousands of the school age children of this Island. The Minister mentioned the ratio of twenty-two to one, but I am told, Mr. Speaker, that eight to one in Science is nearer the modern concept, and twelve or fourteen to one in Arts subjects. The Minister mentioned twenty-two but it is within his knowledge that we of the Independent Schools are given one teacher for every two hundred children. How does he square this? It seems that nothing is cared about the pupils in the Independent Schools, who are the children also of taxpayers, by giving a teacher for every two hundred children, while the Minister knows full well and has indeed declared that he thought that twenty-two to one was nearer to the scientific teacher-pupil ratio. I would like him to draw that to the attention of his colleague.

This Bill, Mr. Speaker, smacks of some contact with the infamous Allen Bill, as it has been called, of Jamaica - a Bill which is put forward by a Minister of Education who does not enjoy the confidence of his teachers in the Island of Jamaica - and it does seem as if large sections of this Bill have been taken from the Jamaica pattern, and it does not meet with the approval of those of us who have had the opportunity to study it. Even the usual conformist mutes, Mr. Speaker, who are employed by the Department of Education have been heard to express some disagreement, if not distress, at the provisions of the Bill, and we know that there are many.

The professional body which has been bold enough to mention its objections to some of the provisions of the Bill, Mr. Speaker, has been bitterly denounced by some of those who sit on Ministerial benches; but we do hope that they will be courageous enough to stand up for their convictions, bearing in

mind at the same time that they will be doing good to the Island of Barbados, and not only making their own professional body one to be respected in the community. It is usual nowadays, Mr. Speaker, to appoint Advisory Bodies when organisations such as this are to be set up. We are told that one was appointed in this case, but it has not been consulted latterly, indeed not for months. When the Bill was being drafted, when the time came for it to be put down on paper, several members of the Body said they had not been consulted nor even made aware of some of these controversial provisions of this Bill. That is not the way, Mr. Speaker, I suggest, that the co-operation and support of any professional body can be obtained, and no measure such as this can be successful unless it has 100 per cent co-operation and support from the professional body which has to put into action the suggestions made for the governance of this new institution.

We are told by the Introducer that this new institution was going to be more commodious and more economical. Whether it is going to be more commodious or no, Mr. Speaker, nobody in the Island of Barbados can know, because we are told that the pre-fab structures are still on some London wharf. They have not yet been entrusted to the ship which is to bring them hither. So whether or not this school is going to be more commodious is difficult to know. Whether it is going to be more economical, Mr. Speaker, is also a matter of concern to us, because how can you encourage teachers away from their present occupations unless you pay them more money to become employees of this new Community College where the security of tenure can alter from day to day, according to the whims and caprices of the Minister in charge? We are also exercised in mind, Mr. Speaker, as to the fate of those 500 children who are to be taken in this year at the Springer Memorial School. This is the fifth year of the existence of that school, and there was a promise made that every five years 500 children would be taken in. We have not seen any physical accommodation provided for this new influx, and Mr. Speaker, we are wondering whether they are to hover like Mahomet's coffin between heaven and earth until some earthly construction is made to accommodate them. Nothing has so far been done and it is impossible in Barbados to build a school to accommodate 500 pupils without somebody knowing about it.

These are things, Mr. Speaker, which concern us and about which we are very much disturbed in mind at the present moment, hoping to have some relief when the Minister in charge gets to his feet. I notice he is not now present, but I hope he is within ear-shot at least. There are several of the provisions of this Bill which are repugnant also which I will discuss at greater length when the Bill comes to Committee stage. Some are repugnant to the whole idea of corporate bodies; others are repugnant to the idea which we have been given of free secondary education or even free post-secondary education, Mr. Speaker; but this we will come to later.

An example of hasty drafting, Mr. Speaker, which struck me is that no provision is made in this Bill

as to how a staff member, short of assaulting the Principal, might well resign. There are no means of easy, legal withdrawal from working in this school. We are told how he might be dismissed, but I am sure it was just a case of hasty drafting that no provision is made as to how he might have an honourable discharge as they do in the Army, how he might resign from this body legally and with his reputation intact. Provision is made as to how his appointment may be terminated by the Principal; as to how he may leave quietly and legally, there is no such provision. We are hoping that the Minister will be good enough to give us some information on this point.

And so, Mr. Speaker, as there are many other members who are waiting to put forward their views, I will say in conclusion that not am I so much against the idea of a Community College as I am against the timing, because I do feel that there are so many - I hate to use the word "prior", it is used so much in this - commitments much more forceful that have to be attended to in this community, that this could well be taken care of by an expansion of the services that presently exist in our First Grade Schools such as the elimination of the 11 plus examination, and the proper education of the 12,000 or more pupils who are forced into our Independent Schools. These things are to my mind, Mr. Speaker, much more cogent and urgent than a Community College at this time. 3.20 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, this is a matter of education - something which is very far-reaching especially today. I am to say that it does not take either an educationalist or a lawyer to see the lack of wisdom in proceeding with such a Bill at this stage. In our Manifesto in 1966..... (Mr. HOPPIN: In our Manifesto?) I mean the Barbados Labour Party's Manifesto, we set out our position clearly, and we urged that there was the necessity to appoint a high-powered commission to enquire into education generally, more so with a view to producing an integrated system thereof; but we still feel that a matter such as this should be approached on a scientific basis. We strongly urge that, in the absence of a White Paper on education, this Bill which seeks to make a mockery of the long-promised 1962 Education Act, offers the nation a sort of piece-meal approach to a matter of very, very vital importance indeed. If we are to approach this matter in the way in which we should approach it, we need to look no farther than straight in the mouth, if we can do that, of the Minister of Education, because it is he who has told the public, it is he who has told the nation that our educational system needs strengthening at the base. Those are the words of the Minister of Education today. Undoubtedly, Sir, the Minister must know - in short, he has learnt his Euclid and he would have passed the *pons asinorum* and, as he said, he would know that you cannot strengthen the base, by providing a superstructure at the apex. That is our contention.

Mr. Speaker, if the Minister really wanted to strengthen the educational system at the base, he

had it all before him; he had quite clearly and unmistakably the path along which he could proceed. We learnt from the introducer of this Bill that temporary accommodation will be provided at "Sherbourne" for this Community College, but it has been said all along that the Community College will be established permanently at "Eyrie". If the Minister wanted to strengthen the educational system at the base, he could easily have taken a look presently at our Comprehensive Schools, and I mention at this stage the St. Leonard's Comprehensive School. There you will find that there is a shift system in operation. It has been so from since, I think, some time like 1962, and in that shift system children are being robbed - the people's children are being robbed - of educational instruction each school day in each school year. Now there is a system which they call the "A" stream system. That provides education for children between the thirteen to sixteen age group, and their class goes on from some time like 9 o'clock in the morning until 3 o'clock in the afternoon. That is the thirteen to sixteen age group. 3.30 p.m.

Those children are children who are being prepared for the G.C.E. and the L.C.C. examinations; but then there are the "B" stream and "C" Stream who are getting half day instruction each day - two shifts - that is all they receive; and one must bear in mind that these are the children who are not rated as being as intelligent as the children in the 13 to 16 age group so that one would say that the system needs strengthening at the base.

Consideration ought to be given to those children of the more tender ages; but the Minister does not proceed to do that. What should the Minister have done, Mr. Speaker? He ought to have urged upon his Government the necessity for creating or establishing as many Day Nurseries as are possible so as to make it convenient and ease the situation, so to speak, for the poor parents and children.

If there were Day Nurseries to which parents could send their younger children, it would help parents to make better provisions for their other children attending these various schools. I say this, that the system at Richmond School, apart from denying children of the education which it is the Government's duty to provide them with, the shift system is ruining the health of teachers and is creating general dissatisfaction amongst those who are engaged there.

I am sure that the hon. introducer of this Bill would not attempt in any respect to deny this; but the Minister could have then done a lot to improve the facilities at our Primary Schools, and improve the facilities at the existing Comprehensive Schools and at the Secondary Schools, and so he would then have strengthened the base.

He would have gone to the Secondary Schools presently existing and improved the facilities there. Then he would be buttressing the middle by providing more school places in the Primary and Secondary

schools and in the Senior Division - there are 46 schools with Senior Divisions - these are some of the important things that the Minister has in his hands to do.

In these schools with Senior Departments, and in these Comprehensive Schools the Minister could have urged upon his Government the necessity of increasing the age at which these children can remain in school up to 18. He would then have buttressed the middle, and having performed such a feat he could then set about adorning the apex, the Polytechnic, the Community College, the Junior Sixth Form College or whatever he likes to call it.

But, Mr. Speaker, he does not proceed to do any of these things. They are not his concern. We are saying here and now that it is mere political expediency with the hon. introducer of this Bill. That is all that he has offered in support of this Bill today.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we know the Leader of this House. We know his command of the English Language. We know that he knows the use of words; but believe me, Sir, I was somewhat aghast when I saw the half-hearted approach in introducing this Bill. For one who has himself had the experience, the privilege and honour of being Minister of Education, one who knows the benefit of being educated, we had been looking forward to a much more virile exposition in support of this Bill from the hon. mover; but it has not been forthcoming, and we do not expect it to be forthcoming even when he winds up.

But bear this in mind, Sir, that we do not consider a Community College at this time ranking anywhere near being in the priorities in things educational at all. This is the question. "A" Level instruction has been given much support by the Hon. Leader of the House. He sets about to give some stress to the post-Fifth Form and he also mentioned post-Sixth Form.

Now, we do not know, because it rests solely in the bosom of the Minister, to determine what qualifications will permit one to enter the Community College. In other words, the Minister, if this Bill is passed in its present form, can determine and can apply his political yardstick to a matter of education, and the child he favours or the group that he does favour might have to produce one set of qualifications and another child or group might be asked to produce another set of qualifications.

In other words, this Bill as it stands at the moment gives the Minister of Education a licence to do what he likes in a matter of this sort.

We cannot, Mr. Speaker, support this Bill or any Bill seeking to adorn a Minister with such power; and when we hear the Leader of the House make mention as to fears of giving power this place and laying power the next, when we hear so much talk about power we on this side of the House have got to be very careful that we do not at any stage give the ap-

pearance of supporting anything in this island that one may term young power.

3.40 p.m.

We have to steer very clear of the thing called "Young Power". This Bill is a "Young Power" Bill, and we have to steer clear of it.

Now, Mr. Speaker, we would look to the Minister taking some thought and giving some consideration to that army of boys and girls who leave the Primary Schools, the Senior Department Schools and the Comprehensive Schools at the age of 14. That is what we really thought the Minister would have been paying some attention to. The children who have to leave school at the age of 14 do not have qualifications for entering our Private Secondary Schools. In truth and in fact, they cannot, as we know, get into the Government Secondary Schools because they have passed that stage.

The Common Entrance Examination that you have heard so much about, Mr. Speaker, and its present retention, when in truth and in fact there are so few school places in the Government Secondary Schools, in the realm of being dangerous to this community. It is unfair and it is disastrous to this young Nation, maybe, Mr. Speaker, because there are so few school places in the Government Secondary Schools. All of these things, Mr. Speaker, one would have thought that a Minister introducing a Bill of this sort would have been thinking about to cater to such children. We see them, Sir.

You must know, Mr. Speaker, what has befallen many a 14-year old boy or girl through having left school with, perhaps, a smattering of education. We know that there is not every child who is an early learner - you will find some late developers. In our midst today we have seen some examples. There are some children who were superannuated from some of our schools here; they have gone abroad and enrolled at Institutions and today they are professional men. It just happens that all of us cannot catch up, so to speak, between the ages of 11, 12, 13 and nearing 14. But you know, Sir, what has been the lot of those children who have to leave school at the age of 14 and roam the streets. The Government has done nothing for them, and it would appear that it intends to do absolutely nothing to relieve such boys and girls of their plight. The Government has a Bursary system, but how does it operate? I challenge the Leader of this House to explain to this honourable House how the present Bursary system operates in any trade whatsoever. If it can be said that it is of advantage to, I would say, 50 children in the whole Nation in any one year or in any three-year period, I would be glad to know. The present Bursary system is a farce.

Now, Sir, the staffing of the Community College. It is, we feel, to be staffed by whole-time as well as part-time people. As a matter of fact, it ought to be, and any such institution ought to make provision not only for day time classes, but for evening classes, and possibly night classes as well. In other words,

it must prove itself to be an institution for adult education.

If it is felt that the Community College is to begin functioning in September, let us for a single moment ask ourselves this question: This is now mid-July; the provisions in this Bill perpetuates a system which I shall go into later, but that system of having First Grade, Second Grade and so on and placing our children according to such a grading is in itself very, very degrading. One thing is that the educational level of the Community College has really not been defined, but advance publicity seems to make us believe that it will be at Sixth Form level with a wider range of subjects than are presently taught at the four or more schools which have a Sixth Form. But, Sir, there is at this point the question of conflict.

3.50 p.m.

We have heard the Minister in introducing this Bill say what the Minister of Education did not say, and what he would not say in the case of the Community College, but it is in writing in a speech delivered by the same Minister that he would not abolish the present Sixth Forms. The Head of the Government, the Prime Minister, on this occasion made another speech in which he said that the present Sixth Forms will wither away, evidently like cane blades. If that is the case, whom must we believe at this stage?

Sir, our present system is an old established one with respect to the grading of these schools, and the Education Act of 1878 designated Harrison College and Lodge School as First Grade Schools. In 1879 the former Central Middle School was renamed "Combermere" and it was designated a Second Grade School. Two years later you had the Alleyne School, Coleridge School and then the Parry School which were also designated as Second Grade schools. In 1883 Queen's College was opened and was graded as a First Grade school. In 1894 there was the Alexandra School which was designated a Second Grade School. In 1906 the Christ Church Foundation Boys' was added to the list as a Secondary School. In 1926 St. Michael's Girls' was established as a Second Grade school, and in 1928 the Christ Church Foundation Girls'.

Now, Sir, our system of education was subject to an investigation around 1932 by Commissioners Mr. Mayhew and Mr. F. C. Marriott. That Commission was appointed by the Secretary of State, and reporting in 1933 the Commissioners recommended that Barbados should have a Director of Education, and improved facilities for Teacher Training. Ever since 1912 until another institution took its place, the Rawle Training Institute was charged with that responsibility. Now, Mr. Speaker, if we turn to page 2 of the Bill, we will see that this Community College proposes to provide a place of education offering instruction in Agriculture, Commerce, Fine Arts, Liberal Arts, Science, Technology and any other such fields as the Minister may from time to time determine.

Now Mr. Speaker, let us for a single moment look at our present agricultural set-up. Any boy attending

a Primary School in this Island will tell the Minister of Education that there is a three year theoretical and practical course in school gardening, and hon. members will recall the days when Mr. Halcrow and Dr. McIntosh used to visit the schools in the company of Inspectors, and some of us must remember Mr. Tom Phillips, our former Agricultural Instructor, going from school to school; and we saw at our Annual Agricultural Exhibition held at Queen's Park, and in some earlier years at some of our then institutions of learning and on the various estates on the Island where boys did what was called practical demonstrations. We recall, Sir, the lovely onions, English potatoes, carrots and other vegetables which were grown in the school gardens. We remember that there were names of Headmasters which kept ringing out when prizes were being distributed at Exhibition time. Some of those names cannot depart from us readily, and we can say that when the present Government took office, it was envisaged that the teaching of agricultural science would have been engaged in full scale at the Alleyne School in St. Andrew. There was a Director of Education here, Major Glendon Reed, who in 1949 wrote that he looked forward to the day when agriculture would be taught in all our Secondary Schools, and that those schools would be offering three types of Secondary Education.

4.00 p.m.

He listed his types as academic, technical and modern. Now, Sir, Agricultural Science was included at the academic level as well as the modern level, and would have been taught at Harrison College, Lodge School and Queen's College. In other words, as was the status of things in those days in 1949, we would see at these three First Grade Schools provision was made to teach Agricultural Science to the classes at the top, so to speak, and at the modern level to the masses at, let us say, the West St. Joseph, Princess Margaret and like schools.

Mr. Speaker, let us turn to the next item - Commerce. Courses are already provided at Combermere school, St. Michael's Girls' School, the Alexandra School and at St. Leonard's School and wherever boys and girls are prepared for the L.C.C. examinations. That is in the field of Commerce; but we come now to the Fine Arts. You see, Sir, I am just laying the foundation to show what this Government came and found and had ample opportunities to expand or extend or build upon. In other words, here was a base which could have been strengthened. Let us go to the Fine Arts. Non-University level is what the Community College is expected to strive after. You will find that Literature, Drawing and Painting, Music, Drama - all of those subjects are being taught in our present Secondary Schools. Some schools have master teachers in Music. Combermere School, for instance, has the famous violinist and other schools as well, and there is the Evening Institute which is still willing to offer Continuation Classes; and remember that entrance to the College of Arts and Science requires a person to hold five "O" level subjects, but under the present set-up, it is for the Minister of Education to determine whether some people must have five "O" level subjects to get into

the Community College - in other words, the same requirements as at the College of Arts and Sciences at Cave Hill. Let us ask ourselves, if there is a possibility of the Minister of Education demanding the same requirements for the Community College as are now asked by the College of Arts and Science, whether it would not pay a person better to enter the College of Arts and Science, do a four-year course and graduate with a degree, or to do what we believe is going to be a two-year course at the Community College and graduate with something called the post-"O" level, whatever that really means.

Mr. Speaker, there is the conflict, and I suppose we are to believe that the Community College is going to offer two-year courses. How can we expect the College to show that, in any respect, it is entitled to be called a Community College? For to build a community, what we must find is that by the end of, two years when it is to be taken into consideration that children taking a particular course are not likely to come readily into contact with children who are taking another course, because this Community College is going to be offering Agriculture, Commerce, Fine Arts, Liberal Arts, Science, Technology and what not - but I am going to give it to the Minister this evening free, gratis and for nothing what we, on this side, feel and know ought to be the functions of a Community College. You will find that there again, until it is known what are going to be the academic requirements, because we have got to stress academic requirements since all the Community College is going to do at this stage is to compete with existing Institutions at the academic level. That is all it is going to do. It would not be geared for anything more.

Sir, as I was saying earlier, this is mid-July. It is going to draw on the Staffs of existing Institutions because the Bill proudly presents or holds out better conditions for Staff than are at present obtaining in our Secondary Schools here. You will find that when Harrison College, Queen's College, Lodge School, Coleridge-Parry School, Alleyne, Alexandra and Foundation Boys' and Girls' Schools are re-opened in September, if the Community College is to be functioning from September, you will find that when these other schools are re-opened, they will not have had the opportunity of finding replacements for Staff which would have been taken away by the Community College. No doubt, there are no two ways about it; here is a case where this Institution is merely being set up, and the Minister means to see and do all that he possibly can to see that it thrives and flourishes and, in truth and in fact, once the Community College is going to flourish, he cares not whether all the other educational Institutions in this Island were to wither like cane blades. One would expect that the Staffs of the present Institutions, if they are going to be recruited to this Community College, would have to give a term's notice in some cases.

4.10 p.m.

We understand that applications have been made for posts that do not exist at the Community College.

We do not know if any of these applications came from, I would say, the three members of the Association of Assistant Teachers. I propose to keep this debate on the highest level possible, but I cannot keep it there unless I draw it to the attention of all the members of the Association of the extremely treacherous and dangerous people like Earl Glasgow and Arden Clarke.

From what I can gather, a lady, Mrs. Skeete, said that a trick has been played on her, but, Mr. Speaker, what must we expect? After the Association met on Saturday and issued a release, what do you find? Spineless jelly fish crawling up on Monday morning in the Minister's Office. What does he do? The Minister called them. He telephoned Arden Clarke and he then got hold of Glasgow. We know Glasgow's position very well.

On Saturday I warned the members of the Association to beware of Glasgow, and in a matter of hours it proved true. As I was saying, we know Glasgow well. He is an arch-Dem. He got up at Massiah Street - this is the kind of pride in him as a Master at Lodge School - and dragged away the microphone from a political candidate who was opposing his Prime Minister. We understand that he is still indebted to Mr. Alder who got the job for him.

What do you find now? They are so dangerous - these three teachers who crawled up to the Minister's office - that they have no right to be amongst the other members of the Association; and even in the schools in which they work their pupils have cause to be afraid of them. You cannot trust them.

We know Arden Clarke. We know that a lot has gone on in this matter. We even know that the Minister had been written to and invited to attend and address the Teachers' Body on Saturday morning, and he wrote back accepting. We also know that the Headmaster of Combermere held a meeting with his staff on Friday, and he talked to them like a man. He warned them to beware of this Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will resume the Chair in less than two minutes.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

Mr. HINDS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to attention this matter of the actions of these three members of the Association of Assistant Teachers in Secondary Schools. I want to bring that to a close quickly.

What I am saying is that after Mr. Stanton Gittens held a meeting with his staff at Combermere on Friday, Mr. Clarke, one of his staff members - and understand it, the association between Mr. Clarke and the present Minister of Education could not be closer - he conveyed a message to the Minister, and the Minister expecting fire and brimstone at the meeting on Saturday, early Saturday morning telephoned Mr. Glasgow to say that the Minister would not be present. No explanation at all.

What we are saying is this: when you find a supposedly responsible body of people - educated people - let us ask ourselves if three of these people, just looking for the friendship of the Minister, or for favours from the Minister, should go into the Minister's office on Saturday morning trying to deny all that they said before.

This same Arden Clarke - I am telling you now - when the meeting on Saturday decided that they would issue this protest, Arden Clarke wanted to know: "What else can we do?" That is the situation.

So what we are saying is that this is a trade union. It is a responsible or supposedly responsible body of educated people. If they can do that, what have they left the scavenger in Bridgetown to do or the employees of the Local Government Councils or the waterfront workers to do?

When you find responsible teachers acting like that, and at the head of it, Glasgow of all persons! 4.20 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, let us now proceed with this Bill. The Bill will make provision for Liberal Arts, Sir, the teaching of Latin, Greek, Spanish and French. They talk about ample provision. We do not know whether the Minister will be asking for five or four "O" Levels in order that a student may enter the Community College. Can we not say that the teaching of these things at post-G.C.E. standard - can we not say that ample provision is made for this at Cave Hill? Can the Minister deny this?

Sir, let us take a stride along from Liberal Arts and take a glance at the Social Arts. Even this subject is already being taught in our schools to children in the 11 to 18 age group. This is being taught in all our Senior Department Schools. You will find, Sir, that there is provision for the teaching of Home Economics, Home Management and Political Science, because time and again we look around here in the Visitors' Gallery and we see classes from some of our schools in this island are brought here for the children to observe, to see and to hear for themselves the display, the pronouncements and so on by hon. members. (ASIDES)

I want to keep this debate at a very high level, Sir. I am indeed glad, Sir, that none of the children who come here from time to time were on hand to see the demonstration of a Minister snatching two plates of food.

Sir, suppose we turn to the useful Arts: the teaching of woodwork, metal work, tinsmithing and similar trades. These, Mr. Speaker, are already taught in what we call the 46 Senior Department Schools in this Island.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I thank the hon. member for giving way, but in accordance with the undertaking which I gave earlier that I would break in, so to speak, at 4.25 p.m., I am not doing this. I would like the hon. member to move, first of all,

that further consideration of this matter be postponed.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that further consideration of this matter be postponed.

Mr. CRAIG: I beg to second that.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Private Members' Business be taken from 4.30 p.m. until six o'clock within which time the Opposition will make a broadcast reply of 78 minutes to the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals.

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

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

REPLY TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGETARY PROPOSALS

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Private Members' Business, and the first Order of the Day under Private Members' Business stands in the name of the Hon. and learned Leader of the Opposition and it is to move the passing of a Resolution condemning the Government's financial proposals for the Fiscal Year 1968-69 as contained in the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals made on 2nd July, 1968 by the Hon. Minister of Finance.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, it is with some heart burning that I gave notice of this Resolution. I will read it. I beg to move:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemns the Government's financial proposals as contained in the Ministerial Statement made this second day of July, 1968, deplores its failure to introduce measures to reduce the exorbitant rates of interest now prevailing in this country, its failure to introduce measures to stimulate the building industry, its failure to introduce measures to reduce the high cost of living and its failure to relieve the high rate of unemployment, among other acts of omission.

Mr. Speaker, I say that I make this Resolution with some heart burning, because my threat this morning was no empty threat. When you have a shameful breach of a promise solemnly given by the Government, I thought my duty was not to move the Resolution at all this afternoon. I have since been told that there are hundreds of members of the public, some of whom have come from the country districts and have brought transistors into town in order to listen at 4.30 p.m.
4.30 p.m.

That is the only reason why I am now moving the Resolution. I intend to make any remarks on it

later, but leave it to the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, who is responsible for financial matters on our side, to address the House.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the Resolution standing in the name of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. Mr. Speaker, nothing has been so flattering to members of Parliament on this side of the House as the very great attention which we have discerned in the past week or ten days that the public has been giving to this year's Budget and our expected reply. Indeed, Sir, it was only today in the precincts of this Honourable Chamber that various members of the public approached some of us on this side of the House and said that the eyes of Barbados were on us, and on this Budget debate would be tested whether or not we were an alternative Government. But, Mr. Speaker, much as we appreciate these sentiments, I will respectfully point out that those who are on trial are the members of the Government, and not the members of the Opposition. We have no power to do anything. The person whose Statement is being tried and analysed today is the Minister of Finance, not anybody on this side, and that is why we are here this afternoon, Mr. Speaker, with a wider audience than is customary for the Opposition to get, because what with the monopoly newspaper putting a blanket and a close down and shut down on news reporting, and what with the previous promise made by the Democratic Labour Party in a election manifesto and broken subsequently, that debates of the House of Assembly would be broadcast, our voices indeed, Mr. Speaker, have to be cast forth into the dark of the night on political platforms if we wish to be heard at all in Barbados.

There is no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that the serious anti-democratic tendencies which we have seen on the part of the present Government are served by the lack of reporting of debates of this Chamber, and by the devaluation of the importance of this Chamber to Barbados. All these things, Mr. Speaker, are merely a reflection of the anti-democratic trend of the present Government.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the Government has been in power for seven long years. The Prime Minister says from time to time that there was never previously a Minister of Finance, and presumably he is prepared to take on his back the whole of Government economic policy in a way that he has made clear on his own estimation that no previous Minister has been able to take. He must therefore, Mr. Speaker, be prepared to take the blame for what has gone wrong if he hopes to take the credit for what has gone right, and the very first point I want to make about this year's Budget and Financial Statement concerns the Economic Survey, or rather, its lack. Mr. Speaker, in my ignorance perhaps, I had assumed that an Economic Survey was a necessary prerequisite to the introduction of the Financial Statement into the House, because the Financial Statement is not just a proposal for taxation. The Financial Statement is an account of the stewardship, to use the well-known phrase of the Minister of Finance, for his previous

financial year. Without the Economic Survey and without adequate economic figures - and this after all is something which the Prime Minister has prided himself on: the increased efficiency which he has brought to the office - without a Survey and the figures for the past year, how can we properly approach the whole question of a Financial Statement?

The Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, apologised at the beginning of his Budget Statement. He said that on previous occasions from as early as 1962, he had managed to publish an annual Economic Survey either shortly before or simultaneously with the presentation of the Budget. I say, Mr. Speaker, it is practically unconstitutional to introduce a Financial Statement without the material on which such a Financial Statement should be introduced. It is like calling on the Estimates to be passed without specifying the Heads of expenditure. Now also early in his Budget Statement, Mr. Speaker, the Minister of Finance thanked certain Senators of the Other Place who have given assistance with the financial side of managing Government business. He called in aid his colleague, Dr. Eric Williams of Trinidad, who has also appointed a member of that country's Upper House to assist him on the financial side. That is another practice which I say borders on the unconstitutional. We in here are the people who hold the purse strings of this country; we in here pass the money; we in here have to vote the Estimates every year. Why should a Senator, a member of the Other Place, have the power without the responsibility to us of day to day or item by item analysis or estimation or interference, if you like, Mr. Speaker, with the finances of Barbados?

We can observe that the present Minister to Washington, the former Attorney General, once performed the job of Chairman of the Estimates Committee. I think all of us are agreed that the work he did as Chairman of the Estimates Committee was well up to the standard of the work that he did as Attorney General, and the best service that the Prime Minister ever rendered the Government was to get rid of him both as Attorney General and as Chairman of the Estimates Committee; but nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, we still observe what I am going to call a fault in the Estimates, that year after year the Minister of Finance comes into the House and says that what was planned as a deficit has become a surplus, either, he would say some years, by the buoyancy of the economy, or other years, by careful financial management. This year I think he has chosen both. We have careful financial management at the start of the Budget, and we have buoyancy towards the end. But in reality, Mr. Speaker, these phrases are only phrases to conceal the fact that the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure are not calculated properly.

Now we passed a certain amount of expenditure. The purpose of the Estimates Committee is to keep down the volume of expenditure, wherever possible, by analysing the demands of Departments and pruning them to manageable size. What can we say of a Committee that analyses the demands of Departments to the tune of \$50 million, but the Departments

can only spend \$48 million? These are examples surely, Mr. Speaker, of inefficiency at the bottom stage. If every single year a Minister of Finance can come in here and say that revenue was underestimated, and last year we collected more taxes than we thought, is it not time for another look to be taken at the basis of estimating revenue? That is what we would say, Mr. Speaker, about those parts of the Budget Statement that seemed to suggest that it was something clever to be able to have a wide variation in June from what you put forward in March of the previous year as your plans for a year.

4.40 p.m.

Now, Mr. Speaker, again the Prime Minister has said that it is impracticable for the person who is the Head of the Government and also in charge of its Foreign Affairs, to carry sole responsibility for the Exchequer of the country. If the Prime Minister knows that, he has the solution within his grasp. I have heard it said that the work of the Ministry of External Affairs, such as it is, is done by the Hon. Leader of the House. I have heard that said. If that is so, why is it that he is not appointed Minister of External Affairs? I am sure that he could do much less damage there than he did at the Ministry of Education. Is Barbados such an important country that we need a Minister and an Assistant Minister of External Affairs? Could a person of the political experience and background in politics of the hon. junior member for St. Lucy be a yard-boy in a Ministry? If the Prime Minister finds the work too much for him, he can give away one of the Ministries. There is not so much work to be done in External Affairs, anyhow, or there should not be, at any rate.

I observe again that the Government has got tired of participation in the very many Organizations, Conferences and other things which for so many years, we have observed have been a pattern of activity, and that travelling by Ministers to all of these Conferences is going to be cut down. Perhaps, Mr. Speaker, we will then find that the only person, who really travels, in the ranks of the Government and the Democratic Labour Party will be Senator Morgan. He is very proud of his travels, and perhaps the Government intends him to be their roving Ambassador. I think it is significant because I am going to deal with Tourism; we must deal with tourism in this survey and I think it is significant, if we look at these patterns of Government expenditure, if we look at things such as Tourist Board expenditure, despite the boast of the Prime Minister - and this, I think, formed the central part of the Financial Statement - Tourism has not yet reached the position of even beginning to look like taking over from sugar as the number one industry of Barbados. If it is such a cardinal point of Government policy that sugar must be phased out, that no cane-blade must be seen, that the future lies in Tourism, if he makes a closer analysis than it has ever been given in this House, the statistics are there. Between 1956 and 1961, Tourism, roughly speaking, doubled in Barbados. It did the same thing between 1961 and 1966. It is on a growth market. Earlier this year the Prime Minister, addressing the Chamber of Commerce, I think,

said that as far as he could see, Tourism had already taken over from sugar as the No. 1 industry of Barbados. His exact words were these: "I have come to the conclusion that Tourism is now the major money-earner in the economy of Barbados, and not sugar." Well this was contradicted in the Budget Statement when it was shown that Tourism is still a few million dollars below, even on the basis of the statistics which were presented; but it is important for us, when we think of Tourism, not to misunderstand or bring forward any statistics which are suspect and dangerous. I remember, and many of us may also remember, if we move in appropriate circles, that I heard - I remember once being told in London, I think it was, that liars are divided into three classes - liars, damned liars and Barbadians. It was a Jamaican who said it, and subsequently, on top of that - I think it was after this Government came into power; it was after the present Prime Minister took office - and subsequent to that, an addition was made: "Liars, damned liars, Barbadians and Barbadian statisticians." Where is this \$34 million that Tourism earns for Barbados? How did we get at that figure? How did we arrive at it? It is being pushed up more and more in order to get closer to the \$35 million, \$36 million or \$37 million that sugar earns.

Three years ago, I think it was the Tripartite Commission which said that there were serious flaws in the estimation of tourist revenue in Barbados; that, at that time, it had been estimated \$6 million too high and yet the same basis of estimation is continuing today. Let us look at it in another way. Where are the fourteen thousand persons employed in Tourism as they are employed in sugar? Where is the contribution that you can see to the whole life of Barbados that sugar makes? I am not saying that we are safe in sugar, that sugar will always be there, that sugar is an ideal industry for Barbados, or that a life of cane-cutting is the ideal life to put forward for our people. I am not saying that; but I am saying that the attack on the Sugar Industry and the magnification of Tourism are doing more harm than good. We may re-orient ourselves towards Tourism, but we must understand it. We cannot turn towards it merely on the say-so and think-so of publicists concerned with the industry who have no genuine basis for the claims which they put forward. Let us take one last example of Tourism. You search the statistics of the gross domestic product and you will find sugar there, you will find Government expenditure there, but you will not find Tourism as such; and the Minister of Finance in his Statement - one of the few places in which he struck a correct note was when he said that a more reliable guide of the value of Tourism to Barbados would be found under the Services item of the gross domestic product statistics. Of course, any suggestion that the Services item consists entirely of tourist receipts is nonsense, because it is well known that Barbados is one of the countries in the world with the greatest proportion of persons in the domestic service, so that when we see "services", that is not all Tourism; that is the very large number of domestic employees who still work in the households of Barbados making

their contribution to the national product of the country.

Mr. Speaker, we in the Barbados Labour Party are second to none in our promotion of Tourism. We created the Tourist Board; we built the Deep Water Harbour which made it possible for the increase in the number of cruise passengers all of whom appear in the Tourist statistics. Let us have no doubt on that point. We built the Deep Water Harbour; we created an Airport which made it possible for tourists to come here in large numbers, and we introduced the very first Acts to assist hotel development in this country.

4.50 p.m.

We doubled the number of tourists in our five-year period of analysis just as the Government did; but we would no more sacrifice Barbadians on the altar of sugar than we would sacrifice them on the altar of Tourism. Our aim is for a mixed economy in which Barbados's traditional pursuits will continue side by side with new economic activities.

We would like to see more emphasis placed on the manufacturing sector.

Now, Mr. Speaker, on that part of the Financial Statement which dealt with the Public Debt, we want to sound a word of warning. Again, we are not here on this side of the House to say that Barbados is \$53 million in debt, that we are bankrupt and do not have the money. The fact is that we are \$53 million in debt, a large proportion of which is owed outside the country.

As is normal with Public Debts and National Debts, when they are owed in the form of Treasury Bonds and long term loans, it is a less burdensome type of national liability. When it is in the form of money owed outside the country, it is much more burdensome.

Fortunately at the moment the rates of interest are so high that further expansion of the Public Debt will be beyond the powers of the Minister of Finance unless he really wants to run the country into a genuine approach to bankruptcy. That is something you must still bear in mind.

It does not appear that the thinking of the Minister of Finance has advanced at all in the last year on the matter of the Public Debt because when I heard him introducing this year's debt statistics to the House I thought that the words sounded somewhat familiar, and when I turned to last year's Economic Survey I found that the Prime Minister used the same words that he used last year in the Financial Statement with only the date or the amounts changed. Not exactly the same words; I am not going to press on that.

He said that the total debt of \$18 million was raised to finance the construction of the Deep Water Harbour which is a self financing project. That is what was written last year. He came into the House

this year and he says that of the total Public Debt \$18 million was raised to finance the construction of the Deep Water Harbour which is a self-financing project. Well, history repeats itself.

We are not going to quarrel with the Prime Minister if he gives us an advertisement for the Deep Water Harbour which is a self-financing project, as he said. Then he went on to say last year that the remaining amount has been used to stimulate agricultural diversification, to promote Tourism - excluding the building of the Hilton Hotel - and to expand educational and health services. That is what he said last year.

This year he said that the remaining amount was used to meet expenditure on agricultural diversification, Tourist promotion - excluding the building of the Hilton Hotel - industrial development and expanding educational and health services.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it may be a misprint of some sort. I am being charitable. Or he may have just copied it down wrong without understanding it; but that is by the way. It is interesting to see that words of wisdom have their value on that side of the House, that they recognise that the Deep Water Harbour is a great boon to Barbados and that the Public Debt, some of which was raised by the Barbados Labour Party and some by the Democratic Labour Party, has gone on these different projects for the good of Barbados.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to say something about the rate of interest since it has come into the matter of the Public Debt. At the present time, there are difficulties in fund raising. We were given a specific pledge that when conditions eased, the Rate of Interest Amendment Act would be changed so as to restore the ceiling of rates as they were last year.

Mr. Speaker, conditions have changed in our view; but even if they had not, a very serious situation has arisen in Barbados with respect to the lending of money. It is this; the banks and the banks alone can lend at more than 8%, but private lenders of money seem to think - and I will say here and now that if any one in the Government - I do not mean in the Ministry - I mean in the Civil Services has given private holders of money this impression they have done very wrongly; because if private money holders seem to think the day will come when they all will lend money at more than 8% and therefore they are not lending any money now, they are given the wrong impression.

Advances are drying up. The money available to Solicitors is drying up. It is very difficult to get private monies for loans. Barbadians have become so wedded to the belief that if X can lend at 10% Y should be able to lend at 10% too, that they cannot get into their heads that the essential lubricant of the fine interest rate system is what the economists call liquidity.

As long as the present situation goes on, where banks can lend at a high rate of interest and private lenders cannot, the longer will continue the restriction of credit in Barbados. A step has to be taken one way or the other. I do not believe that the Minister of Finance will take the step of putting interest rates higher up still by allowing everyone to charge what a particular bank in Bridgetown thinks appropriate.

The time has come for these steps to be taken. The construction industry is being affected. Many persons want to borrow money to finance building projects, and they are finding it impossible. This has a direct effect on employment. People cannot get work because the people who would employ them cannot get money to employ them.

The Resolution deals with the building industry. It deals with construction, and I am going to deal with another project just to give an example of what is reported to be a striking example of Government inefficiency.

It is an open secret that certain developers have been interested for many months - we can say for years, Mr. Speaker - in developing a substantial part of Broad Street. I am told that the amount of money which would be initially available for the purchase of the properties to be developed would be \$6 million 5.00 p.m.

That would be a very substantial urban project indeed; it would involve a hotel building, I understand; it would involve, perhaps, the redirection of highways and rights of way and so on. But what has been the answer? These developers would have had to approach the Government because the Government owns some of the buildings involved such as the Customs House on the Wharf and, presumably, if roads are to be restructured the Government would have to give its permission, and permission from the Town and Country Planning Department would be a prerequisite to all this. But the people have been kept on a string, Mr. Speaker, and this development which should come to Barbados has been put off. No decision can be taken on this matter. The developers have gone to Trinidad where they have been welcomed by open arms by Dr. Williams; they got decisions out of Dr. Williams in a few months, and money that could have been spent here is now being spent elsewhere. This is not, Mr. Speaker, good financial management. It is not dynamic disequilibrium, and it is not even good housekeeping. A good housekeeper would, at least, know that, when one sees money, one must hold on to it, and make some effort to give people, who have money to spend, the framework and atmosphere within which they can spend it.

If the Minister of Finance is too overworked to come to decisions of this sort, I repeat, let him devolve some of his work. I am sure there are those standing by his side in this House and moreso in the Upper Chamber who would be only too glad to relieve him of any work he cared to give them, even the work of his principal office as Prime Minister. I am sure of that.

Now, Mr. Speaker, Inland Revenue. The Minister of Finance said a great deal about the work of the Inland Revenue Department, and we on this side of the House welcome the very long overdue Income Tax Bill which we had been promised. The Barbados Labour Party has for some years now been advocating improved collection methods; the expansion of the Investigation Department of the Inland Revenue; and trying to get away from what so many people complain of in the Inland Revenue Department that all their efforts are designed to making existing taxpayers pay more and not finding people who should be paying taxes.

Mr. Speaker, again, recent reports tell us that exactly what is being done in the Inland Revenue Department is that more and more pressure is being put on the existing taxpayers to pay more; that investigation work has, in fact, been temporarily halted because there is a Canadian Expert down there giving investigators lectures and so on, and that some time in the future new taxpayers and those who at present evade tax - contrary to what the Prime Minister suggested in his speech, avoidance of tax is not a crime. Anybody can make an effort to avoid income tax by not working, for example; but evasion of tax is what we have to get at. Instead of the Department, which has now been expanded, trying its best to find all the non-taxpayers and let them share some of the burden which all of us here in this House have to share and share very substantially; instead of doing that, it is pressing more and more the people who are already within the tax-paying ambit. I hope the Minister of Finance will take note of that, and have the Department check up and make sure that investigation continues to mean investigation.

Mr. Speaker, the Budget itself was, of course, what we all came to hear on July 2. Every year we fasten our seat belts to take off; we prepare to take off; we get the count down; the aeroplane goes a little way up in the air and comes back down again. We can always hear of taxes, but we can never, in fact, see where we are going. Where are we going this year? Mr. Speaker, what could be extracted from this Financial Statement that is dynamic? Go over this Financial Statement, and what do you remember Mr. Speaker? You will remember that the shopkeepers had to pay twice as much for a liquor licence. That is all that will ever be remembered about this Budget - the year that all the liquor licences were put up. Other criticisms can be made, and we are going to make them, Mr. Speaker.

Now, the principal weight of taxation, I think we can say, has fallen not truly on luxury goods. Whiskey and Gin are always a target, Mr. Speaker. The weight has fallen on business and industrial equipment - especially business equipment: typewriters, filing cabinets, name plates, calculating machines, cheque-writing machines and so on. We also have air conditioners and refrigerators. Now the tax to be raised from those, Mr. Speaker - and this is something which is noticeably omitted from the Financial Statement - is basically a tax which is going to have a countervailing effect on income tax, because all the business houses that have to pay increased duties on

typewriters are going to pay that much less in income tax. I would be happy if I thought that the Prime Minister had analysed this properly, and if it had appeared in the Budget Statement. He mentioned it in the case of liquor licences, and pointed out that there was going to be a diminution of revenue on the income tax side and it was going to correspond to the increase of revenue on the customs side. Customs revenue, Mr. Speaker, is always unprogressive.

You may say that poor people do not buy typewriters, but poor people deal with business firms in Bridgetown that do, and when the cost of business goes up, that is going to be passed on to the consumer. I suggest to hon. members that it is nonsense for the Minister of Finance to say that there is no pressure on the middle and lower income consumer in this matter.

Air conditioners are not only essential in luxury hotel bedrooms; they have to be used in food storage businesses as well, and some are used in supermarkets in some cases. Refrigerators are used at supermarkets. With the increased cost of refrigeration, Mr. Speaker, and the cost of food storage going up, we are going to get pressure to raise food prices. With the increased cost of liquor licences - it is not only going to be rum that you will have to carry a cent more to purchase, Mr. Speaker, at some stage. When you double the cost of the liquor licence, you cannot expect shopkeepers in the country to be very nice in the way they choose their increases. There is no coin smaller than a cent in Barbados, and if something has to be raised to help the poor shopkeeper carry through with his licence fees, all he can put on is a cent on something, and that is going to have its effect on the cost of living. So to suggest that this is a Budget which does not aim at the cost of living, Mr. Speaker, is not to be realistic. When you put more money on people in commerce, their only answer can be to get it out of those with whom they do business.

With respect to hotel building, we are talking about Tourism. We know there is a hotel that will have to be rebuilt very shortly. Perhaps we should all commiserate with the poor gentleman who has lost his hotel. He will now have to pay more for the air conditioners, refrigerators and other items unless he can manage, even after these years of operation, to get them in duty free. It will be interesting to see exactly what happens. So far as hotels are concerned, all of these things have to be thought about. Even if they bring in their air conditioners duty free - genuine new hotel buildings, Mr. Speaker - they will be subject to exactly the same pressure, because they deal a lot in frozen foods and they have to get their frozen food from somewhere. The cost of refrigeration is going to press on them.

As it is, Mr. Speaker, we can see that a lot of the increased tourist receipts - and next year's figures will show this - are purely the receipts of a money inflation. Prices have been put up owing to devaluation, and that is going to be reflected in increased tourist receipts at some future stage, but

it will not represent any genuine increase in Tourism as such.

Mr. Speaker, I have not dealt with a somewhat selfish topic, but I must just mention one thing in passing. Professional men are now to be registered, and I very much hope that legislation is going to be introduced to prevent those who do not pay their registration fees from practising, because I cannot otherwise see how you can demand it from them. 5.10 p.m.

Just in passing, why were Accountants left out? They make perhaps more than most of us. Why were Real Estate Agents left out? Why is not a system of registration of Real Estate Agents introduced? There are professional qualifications for a Real Estate Agency, and there are practising Real Estate Agents. I think it could well be recognised, and a system could well be devised for registration of these two types of persons. I hope that is something which will be examined at another stage when the Minister of Finance is reviewing what has happened so far.

Now, Mr. Speaker, a part of the Budget Statement dealt generally with the role of Government in the gross domestic product; in other words, in the national income of Barbados. This is something on which we on this side of the House feel very strongly. Some people would call it waste when the Government throws \$2 1/2 million down the drain of Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation; some people would call it waste when the Government borrows money and diverts money from Current Revenue to building a hotel for \$11 million for Mr. Conrad Hilton to make money out of, and the Government to make a loss. But no; Mr. Speaker, we are told that we must praise the Government for the increased activity of Government in the economy, for the increased contribution that the Government is making to the gross domestic product. It has now reached around 27% of the gross domestic product. I would not have such up-to-date statistics as the Minister of Finance.

In most countries public financiers try to keep Government spending down. They do not boast of having put it up, especially if they have projects of waste like the Hilton Hotel, Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, and the Barbados Marketing Corporation. It is private waste and public waste. When they have that type of expenditure, most people would be ashamed of it. They would not boast of the increased contribution which the Government was making to the economy. It is our taxes, and we are entitled to have them well spent, Mr. Speaker. Let some reflection arise in the Minister's mind that the aim of a Minister of Finance is to cut down waste, and that it is not necessarily something to boast about that the Government is spending more than a quarter of the country's money.

We see some Resolutions, Mr. Speaker, which can hardly be adverted to at this stage, for some examples of really conspicuous waste, and not even to the benefit of taxpayers of this country, but for the benefit of private property owners in the United

States. We warned about it. No doubt these Resolutions will pass, but they will be just another example of Government waste.

I remember listening during the last election campaign to the television speech of the hon. senior member for Christ Church who pointed out that we in the Barbados Labour Party, during our days when we had the financial management of this country, knew how to stretch a dollar; this Government knows how to waste one. That is a record which we have no desire whatsoever to break. We only want the Minister of Finance to think about the tens of millions of dollars which have gone down the drain year after year under this regime, and set against that the steady increase in taxation. This is the only country, Mr. Speaker, that I have ever lived in where I have never heard any suggestion or expectation at all, except very briefly this year, that it was contemplated that taxes could be reduced. It seems that the people of Barbados have been indoctrinated by this Government to believe that there is only one direction for taxes, and that is upwards, and the reason for that is that the Government has no intention of making an effort to control waste, and therefore the only direction in which your taxes can go, the only direction in which the National Debt can go, is up and up all the time.

Mr. Speaker, there are other speakers on our side who have their contributions to make to this debate. I regret, and I have not expressed my opinion on it either in this House or elsewhere until now, that the entire transaction of the Budget could not be treated as a matter of sufficient national importance for everything to be debated throughout over the air. These matters of mathematical calculation of seventy-eight minutes and seventy-eight minutes are all very well; but if it was ever contemplated that the debates of this Honourable Assembly, this central meeting point of Barbados' representatives of the people, should be broadcast, then it is the Budget Debate which should be broadcast in its entirety. I am not one who would deny either in Government or in Opposition the fullest possible expression to my political opponents. Let the Prime Minister and the Leader of the House show themselves men and be prepared to have a full scale debate of this over one or two days if necessary, with broadcasting arrangements made to cover the entire transaction.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to second this Resolution.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, in supporting this Resolution, I think it is our duty on this side to make our position clear as to our responsibilities as being the chief watch-dogs over Government activity. Much has been said about the responsibility of the Opposition through the Public Accounts Committee to check and control wastage. There can be no doubt that in this country we have seen a tremendous lot of wastage of revenue which has been collected by hard taxation. The Public Accounts Committee as is constituted now is at the hands, and at the mercy, and at the whim of the Government-appointed members.

This Committee consists of seven persons; a quorum is four persons. The only members from this side are the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, the hon. junior member for St. James and the hon. junior member for Bridgetown. As you yourself know, Mr. Speaker, many efforts have been made through you to summon a meeting of the Public Accounts Committee, but unless at least one member of the Government deems it his duty to turn up, it is impossible for that Committee to function.

I want also to explode another popular myth. The Leader of the Opposition is not the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee in Barbados. The Chairman has to be appointed at a meeting, and since there has not been a meeting, there is no Chairman. We on this side know why we cannot expect Government co-operation in this matter. They have failed up to now to have investigated the scandalous wastage that occurred in the expenditure of \$11 million at the Hilton Hotel. They have by the dint of criticism on this side, and by the force of arguments, and by public outcry, decided to reverse their policy in the construction of Government capital works. This is a welcome move. At least our efforts on this side have had some effect in preventing wastage.
5.20 p.m.

The Minister of Finance, himself, has said that if he could save one quarter of the wastage in the Public Works Department, the necessity and his headaches for finding additional revenue would be partially removed. Although they have let out a number of Government works on contract, I would remind the Hon. Ministers in charge that it is still the duty of the Government to ensure through its engineering staff that the standards which are specified are complied with; and it also places the burden on your engineering advisers to see that as much pre-planning in projects as possible must take place, because no tender can be a satisfactory tender if it is based upon items which are only provisional at the time and date.

Mr. Speaker, one of our criticisms of this Budget is the failure of the Government to tackle a fundamental subject which is engaging the attention of many people in Barbados. The hon. senior member for St. Thomas has mentioned it in the course of his speech, namely, the Government's attitude and policy in relation to interest rates in Barbados. Now, Sir, I looked up the debate which took place last year, when the Rate of Interest Act was amended. At that time it was pointed out to the other side by us that the effect of amending the Rate of Interest Act in the manner in which it was amended, would create a situation in which a tiny minority of expatriate organisations in this country would be able to hold the whole community up to ransom; namely, the banks. Mr. Speaker, if ever our predictions could be true, it is in this case. Today they have had the audacity, one of them at least, to advertise long-term loans at a rate of interest of 9%, 9 1/2%, and I challenge the Minister of Finance to deny that fact. When the Minister of Finance was speaking during the course of that Bill, he said this: "I have no intention of allowing mortgage rates for house-building to come in this

Bill." Of course, we pointed out then that he had given a wholesale licence to the banks to charge what they like, and that is exactly what has happened. It has been made worse now because of the fact that only banks can charge rates of interest above eight per cent. The other money-lending institutions cannot charge more than 8% unless they are permitted by the Minister of Finance to do so, and they are very slow and hesitant to make loans, so again you have created artificial demands for the banks. I hold no briefs for them at all. I say that in Barbados it is a fact that they do not lend out more money than they get from the Barbadian depositors. They make large sums of money out of foreign exchange transactions in Barbados, and I say that they are only paying depositors 5 1/2% at the maximum and that their mark-up, the differential between what they are borrowing at and what they are lending at, is a very high percentage. I say that the responsibility for this must fall on the shoulders of the Minister of Finance, and nowhere else. He has allowed himself to be put in a position where four people, four organisations, can exploit the Barbadian public, and he calls himself or he says he is acting in the interest of Barbados when he does that! Of course, there must be some reason for this, and only the Hon. Minister can tell this House that reason. He has refused to do it on an occasion when everyone was looking for it and waiting on it - the occasion of the Budget Statement.

Mr. Speaker, I go further. In Trinidad last week the Central Bank Rate dropped to 6 1/2%, and the Governor of the Central Bank said that one reason why it had dropped was because that was the state of the money supply in Trinidad and it was felt that conditions now were such that he thinks they should be. The bank rate in England has dropped. Of course, we do not have any Central Bank, but the Government does not arm itself with its powers to be able to deal with the banks. They are too big and too powerful. If we look forward to what is happening in this country, banking, insurance and tourism are gradually getting into the hands of people abroad and we are creating a dangerous situation in this country. The time will soon come when we will have to ensure that the Government is armed with these powers, and they can do it constitutionally, but they are afraid to do it. This Government is afraid to tackle the big interests and the foreign interests in this country. This Government is a Government which panders to the powers of foreign investment. (Hear, Hear!) I would have thought, even at this stage, that the Minister would have made a pronouncement about a bank defying his obvious intentions, at least if those were his intentions, because I am beginning to doubt that those were his intentions when he told the House that mortgagees could not charge that rate. This is having a profound effect on the construction industry, as the hon. senior member for St. Thomas has said. The construction industry is one of the largest employers of labour in this country, and the Government will have to make up its mind as to what incentives it can grant in order to stimulate this industry. The Cave Hill Development Scheme is not off the ground yet.

5.30 p.m.

Unless we can have an increase in the volume of construction in this country the unemployment rate, with emigration outlets being choked off as they are, is going to rise higher and higher. Mr. Speaker, the Government says that a new Tax Bill and a new Bill for Insurance Companies will be down soon. We welcome this, and we have always felt on this side that there should be some measure of control of insurance companies in Barbados.

We would hope that both of these Bills will be circulated early so that the relevant professional organisations as well as the general public will have the opportunity to make their comments thereon. I also welcome too the fact - I do not mind what foreigners say about running away foreign investment. It may well be that the time has come when we should have a Capital Gains Tax in this country.

I think, Sir, that when you investigate what happens with the Hotel Incentive legislation and the sales that take place near the end of the time, when you think that the taxpayers have got to subsidise the operation of the Tourist Board, and when you think of these things you do feel that some part of this expenditure should be recouped in some form of taxation.

Now, Sir, the Government has been placing great store on Tourism. It is obvious that Tourism is a very important prop now in our economy; but it seems very remarkable to me that this Government on the one hand should boast about the rise in the Tourist Industry, and at the same time close down the Tourist Promotion Office in London. It seems to me illogical, especially when some 8,000 to 9,000 visitors came to Barbados from Britain, and the total cost of operating that office was no more than \$75,000 or \$100,000. In fact it was less than \$100,000.

One would expect that the Minister in charge of Tourism would have issued a public Statement about alternative arrangements; but up to now, as far as can be gathered, there are no alternative arrangements for carrying on the functions which the Board's office in London used to operate.

Mr. Speaker, it is these unpredictable, inconsistent acts that make us on this side feel that the Government is really sick and tired of handling the affairs of this country. The Minister of Finance has found himself in the position where he has to take all the decisions, and unless he takes decisions nothing can be done. That is a sad and sorry state of affairs to which any country can come.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I am glad, this afternoon, to see that I have been able to speak to the electorate of Barbados through the services of the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation.. Now, Sir, the Good Book says to fight the good fight, and I really had to put up a good fight so that the people of Barbados could hear me this afternoon.

Sir, having to speak after three lawyers - and they are very good ones - you can understand that I

am in a very embarrassing position now; but I will begin by saying that I had intended to lambast the Government this afternoon backward and forward if I did not have the assurance that Lammings is a 'must'.

I take the opportunity this afternoon to speak to my people in St. Joseph and let them know that they will soon be resited from these dangerous hills to Lammings. I will say, Sir, that you will be saving a certain amount on maintenance on your car when you have to go to District "F" because your journey will be cut short by not less than two miles.

I have had to put up a good fight to get this Government to realise that there are people living in St. Joseph, and not mules. Do not care which Government it might be - my Government or your Government - we have the country to run, and we have to find money; but the question is: when you raise the money how you are going to spend it? For what, and for whom?

Sir, you must spend money wisely. After we have plucked it out of the hands of the taxpayers, we must spend it wisely. Now that I am on this broadcast, Sir, I want to let the Government know here and now that it is not fair to be muzzling, so to speak, the elected representatives by not allowing them to broadcast through this medium to the people of Barbados. I say that this is a dangerous state of affairs when the electors of this country have sent us here to represent them, and would like to know what the representatives are doing for them because unfortunately they have really sent some dull ones, and they should be able to find out who are the dull ones and who are talking in their interest.

But, if you try to prevent us from doing so, the electorate will not know who is who and whom to vote for and whom not to vote for. I want to know if this is why the Government is so reluctant to give every opportunity of putting it over to the people. If that is so, I will tell you here and now that it is wrong to do it. The people must hear their representatives.

Now, Sir, time is running out on me, and 'late fowl has to pick up corn very quickly or he will only get very few grains'. Let me remind the Hon. Prime Minister now. It may be through his advisers or it may be something on his own part; but let me tell him here and now that the taxes that are to be levied on the transient traders are going to create a hardship on the poor people in the country.

5.40 p.m.

Now the majority of these Indians have to buy their goods from the merchants; they do not import their goods; they buy the goods from the merchants in Bridgetown and take them all over the country. It is true that they may put on something more than what the goods would cost them. This is what happens to these people. Some of them have to pay for the maintenance of a motor car, and they have to travel all over the country. They may sell an item for \$20

and they may take years and years to collect the money. The process of collecting the money is very slow - 25¢, 50¢ and sometimes nothing at all.

Now, Sir, when you go and penalise these Indians by making them pay a licence fee of \$500, you are creating a great hardship on the people - not the Indians or traders, because they will pass it on to the people who buy or credit the goods. Imagine a man with a family of three or four children who are already faced with the high cost of living, and who have to deal with these people. You have now decided to tax the traders and make it harder for the other people. Now a motor car cannot last a trader for more than three years unless he spends a lot of money on it, and in the fifth year he will have to change it. They will have to buy another car for \$4,000 or \$5,000 every five years, if they do not want to spend a lot of money on it. They have to take care of the upkeep of a car, and now they have to face a licence fee of \$500. For five years they will pay \$2,500 as licence fees for selling their goods and collecting the money for them at the rate of 25¢ or 50¢!

Sir, one of those Indians told me that if they were educated they would not worry to do this type of work; they would be able to stay at home and get a better job; but they are not educated and they have to do this type of work in order to make a living. That is what an Indian told me, and I believe him.

If I had to employ people, especially girls, and I saw an Indian, she would have to be employed first because her hair is very pretty. I would have to employ an Indian girl first. I repeat that these people do not have education, and they have to do this type of work in order to make a living. I do not believe the Prime Minister knows about this, because he is accustomed to flying high in the air without looking down unless he is going to land; so he would not know of the hardship that is being created by the additional tax on these people. I hope he will see it fit at some time to give further consideration to this matter.

Sir, I did not know that they were paying a trade tax. They say that they have to pay over \$100 per year as trade tax. I am not a lawyer, Sir, and I do not advise people wrongly like some lawyers do. I give this advice to the traders: you have no right paying trade tax, because you buy the goods in Bridgetown and you sell them in St. Joseph: so you cannot be taxed for trading. This is a challenge to the Prime Minister, and when he gets up he can say if I am right or wrong. Where are they trading? They are not in a permanent position; they are moving about the country. It would mean that every parish in which these people do trade would have to make them pay a tax. I throw out a challenge to the Prime Minister, or any other legal man, to tell me if I am wrong or right. You cannot make them pay a trade tax, because they are not trading permanently: they buy goods in Bridgetown and sell them in St. Lucy, St. John and all over the place; therefore how can they be taxed in St. Michael?

Now the Prime Minister has introduced his \$500 for a licence! There are a lot of poor people in this country who need protection. The Prime Minister taxes us in his Budget, but he fails to tell the people what he is going to do with the money. There are some old people in this country that cannot, or will ever be able to qualify for a loan from the Housing Authority. You have some old people living in houses that I do not think some people would put a good pig in them. These people cannot get any help from the Housing Authority because they are not qualified to obtain a loan. What provision is being made yearly out of the money collected so that these people, who are being taxed through buying expensive goods, will get some sort of assistance?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I have been so stimulated by the arguments of the hon. member that I am wondering if the Radio Technician cannot extend the hon. member's time by 10 minutes, which would thereby give him more time, because there are one or two things on which I would like to correct him and I would like him to develop his arguments more fully. *(Asides)*

Mr. Speaker, I regret that the hon. member's Party did not afford him a greater proportion of the time which was allotted, because although he was not putting his point with the elegance that is his wont, yet I think he is talking on the Budget - which the other hon. members were not talking on.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, am I off the air? Now I have to thank the Hon. Prime Minister for giving me a little more - quoting the same word of the hon. member for St. Lucy - "latitude". There is another point that I will draw to the attention of the Hon. Prime Minister. Under the classification of Falernum and Gin - I do not think the Hon. Prime Minister knows about this, and I am drawing it to his attention - it is going to cost over \$5 per gallon. But what is Falernum? Falernum is a local product, and the most of it is being made from sugar. It is not an imported product, and I feel that when the Hon. Prime Minister was considering the matter he was thinking in terms of imported products and luxury drinks without realising that Falernum would have risen \$5 per gallon more although it is made with our sugar and water.
5.50 p.m.

Now, Sir, I hope he will make a note of that. That also will create a hardship on the blenders. Now, Sir, gin. What is our local gin? It is some rum with a little essence, and that is called gin. That is going to cost \$6 more per gallon for our own product. I do not think that the Prime Minister wanted to rob these people in that way. I feel that he did not know or he might not have listened to his advisers.

Mr. Speaker, the additional increase on the small rum shops sounds small, but it is very hard on the majority of these sellers, because the majority of these small shopkeepers in the rural areas every morning or every other morning ask the conductor on a bus to bring up a dozen three-gill bottles

of rum and a dozen nips. They would sell them and, I daresay, credit some out, and the next day have another dozen or half a dozen bought. These little penny-half-penny shops cannot carry that weight, but the people feel they are employing themselves and call themselves shopkeepers. Of the dozen bottles of rum bought, they credit out not less than six, and they would have to wait until the Friday or Saturday night to raise money to send money to send to town for more. Sometimes they borrow the money to buy the rum.

I feel, Sir, that the Liquor Licences should be in categories, - a, b, c, d, e and f - and you could easily know from assessment how much a person could pay. Unfortunately since the abolition of the Councils and Local Government, you do not have assessments yearly; I think it is every five years now; but you could know what business they were doing. There are some who can pay and others who cannot; so do not let us try to raise the unemployment list. We do not mind them having a chance to pay the licence in instalments if they have the instalments; but if they do not have the instalments, they cannot pay them.

With respect to these transient traders, I have not seen that they have been given an opportunity to pay the \$500 in instalments. If you are going to give the man who has to pay \$100 four opportunities to pay his licence, you should consider the man who has to pay \$500 and give him some time to pay if you are not prepared to relieve him. Everything we are doing is creating a hardship on these small people, because you have to pass it on to those people who are only going to get three days' work from now on. Imagine a man with children, sending them to school and only getting \$10, \$12 or \$15 a week to maintain his family! Three days' work is almost nothing.

With respect to free secondary education, we are all contributing to it. These same people are contributing to it, but are they benefitting from it? Their children cannot get a place in a Government-aided school and have to make use of the Private Secondary Schools. They have to pay to educate my children whom I am in a position to educate, and they then have to pay through their nose for theirs at the private schools; and every term a letter comes home requesting increased fees. They will soon reach airplane height, and the next occasion on which the Prime Minister calls on me to fasten my seat belt and take off with him, we will find private school fees up there. It is time, Sir, that something should be done to help these poor people with the children, or see to it that I pay for mine, and let the amount I have to pay for mine go to the other persons; but do not keep it like that and penalise the poor people of this country. It is the poor people, Sir, with whom I am concerned. I see that the Bingo people gave the Government a pond of money to put up a pretty-pretty thing up by Waterford, but we still have a lot of people sleeping at the door. There are a lot of people who cannot get anywhere to live. Can't the Government call on the Jaycees to raise a fund to help these people out of the sun and rain? These people

were responsible for the wealth of this country by working in those days for 8 cents and 10 cents, and now they are thrown aside. The Government is dragging those who have not been thrown aside from parish to parish, and from one Almshouse to another where their families cannot see them. It makes me feel that this Government is not in favour of poor people, because people from St. Joseph have to hire a motor car to go to look for their relatives in St. Thomas or St. Lucy. They are pulling the poor old people all over the place as you would pull a dead mule, and we are called upon to pay the taxes.

Sir, I thank you for listening so patiently.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I was wondering whether the hon. member has concluded his speech or whether he is merely giving way because of the time.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, I am only giving way because of the time, but I will be coming again. You will remember that I have two Budgets to deal with now.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Yes. The hon. member is in a very unique position of speaking on two Budgets at the same time.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that, the time now being 6.00 p.m., the House revert to Government Business.

Mr. SPEAKER: In view of the decision which we took on the motion which was carried, automatically we revert to Government Business now, it being 6 o'clock p.m.

When the House was dealing with Government Business, the Bill under consideration was the Bill to provide for the establishment of an educational institution to be known as the Barbados Community College, and the hon. junior member for St. Peter was addressing the Chair. If he has not yet concluded, he may now resume.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I think I had reached the point with respect to the useful Arts, and I was saying that Government in this Bill had made no provision for the teaching of such.
6.00 p.m.

At the Technical Institute we now offer three levels of training. Training is offered at the artisan or journeyman level, and there is training of motor mechanics at the technical level. There is also the level of the technologist which the former Minister of Education preferred to refer to as technicraft. I remember that distinctly. You will see now that boys from the Lodge School and Harrison College go to the Technical Institute on one or two evenings a week and pursue courses at the practical level, leading to the standard of the technologist. Therefore, you will find that whether you have a Community College or not, there is a question which has got to be considered,

and it is whether or not we are now making provision for duplicating the functions of the various institutions which are presently with us.

As to Science, the Community College proposes to offer the teaching of Science. I recall the fuss which was made way back in 1949 when the Ministry of Education introduced the then Common Course. Science and nine other secondary subjects were placed on the curriculum of these schools; there are now 46 of them which have Senior Departments attached. I am willing to admit that due to the lack of trained staff, progress in this field has not been at all spectacular. At the time the Ministry of Education sent around a sample syllabus of General Science, and that syllabus is now being followed up or put into practice in the seven Comprehensive Schools which we have in this Island. At these Comprehensive Schools, there is a Laboratory attached to each of them, I think, and I know that the scheme was to provide Laboratories at our Grammar Schools in this Island as well. Even if there are children who are desirous of continuing to study, they can do so with Government assistance, and through the co-operation of the various Governing Bodies, they are able to pursue studies in this particular field; and we must not, even at this stage, forget what is being done or what is being offered at the cave Hill Campus and even at St. Augustine's in Trinidad and at Mona in Jamaica. That is at University level.

Mr. Speaker, much argument will be advanced that the establishment of this College will be to reduce a certain amount of the snobbishness which is now still raising its head in the Secondary School system and that the presence of this College will abolish it; but this argument is somewhat fallacious due to the fact that you will see that the Government is still persisting in a system whereby these schools are graded. The present Government is not prepared to pursue a policy of accord in these schools so that you will find Harrison College, Queen's College and Lodge School being provided with the cream of children who passed the comprehensive examination, then those in another grade are distributed amongst other schools. But what we feel is that the activities of the institutions which are presently functioning need to be revived. If that is done, the activities of the Evening Institutes in the rural centres, let us say, need to be revived and you can have - for instance, in my own parish of St. Peter certainly there should be a hive of activity at the Speightstown Centre between 4.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m. for at least four or five nights a week. I go further and say that at the Coleridge-Parry School a Centre could be established, and in your own parish of St. Lucy, Mr. Speaker, there are many people who could appreciate travelling out on evenings to the Coleridge-Parry as a centre whereby these young boys and girls and even some adults, could have evening studies and be better equipped, if they are to take their rightful place in society as the years roll by.

In the same way, we have the Alleyne School in St. Andrew and West St. Joseph School in St. Joseph;

they could serve the parishes of St. Andrew and St. Joseph. In St. Philip, we have the Princess Margaret School, and centres could be established at all of these points. In other words, as happens now in these Grammar Schools, you have a 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. or thereabout, day school. Instruction is given during those hours, and after that the places are closed; and while those places are closed, there are thousands of people outside who are yearning to be taught something, who are yearning to go and sit down and listen to a lecture whether it reaches the "O" Level, the Advanced Level, or whatever it is. In other words, as long as it is furthering the knowledge of these people, it helps them in some way to understand and appreciate each other better in the long run. That is what we advocate needs to be done. 6.10 p.m.

If we were to look at what we now have, we have 10 Grammar Schools, 46 Senior Departments, seven Comprehensive Schools and 117 Primary Schools in this Island. In addition to that, there are 17 Private Secondary Schools that are assisted by the Government.

All of these institutions, Mr. Speaker, should be brought into play. In other words, they should be filled so as to encourage our people and help them to do more. We are fortunate in the parish of St. Peter to have eight schools with Senior Departments. I think that these schools are called schools for all ages; that is in the strict sense of the meaning of the Ministry in that these schools cater to children between the ages of five and 14.

Let us take a look at the Housecraft Centre and see whether we have fallen down in the teaching of the useful arts of cookery, laundering, needlecraft etc. and whether better use could not be made of the facilities which presently exist there.

One thing we must regret is that at Erdiston Training School for Teachers, Housecraft and Home Economics has been removed from the curriculum. That is something to be regretted, and, honestly, I would like to hear the Minister offer some explanation as to the situation there.

We have got to ask ourselves then, as regards the hundreds of school children who have got to leave school at 14, if this Community College will offer them any assistance. Does it set out in any form or fashion to come to the aid of these people? Anyone looking through this Bill will find that it is lacking in anything by way of catering to this most suffering group of young people who have to leave school at the tender age of 14 in this modern day. To establish the Community College without making any provision for taking them indoors is to my mind a tragedy on the part of the Minister responsible for setting out this institution.

Now, Sir, let us look at the institutions from which this Community College is expected to draw its body of students. It cannot be denied that, from the statistics and figures referred to by the Hon. Leader

of the House in replies to questions asked by me earlier this year with respect to the results of "O" Level examinations by children from our various schools as compared with our private schools, that is evidence that the Community College will be drawing on inferior material. The evidence is there.

The Minister himself was invited to produce these statistical facts, and his figures tell us a story that the Community College will be drawing on inferior stuff; so you will find yourself, Sir, that since the College will be drawing on this inferior stuff, it will itself become an inferior institution because its intake, its material, will be drawn from inferior sources.

Now, no one would want to cry out against the boy or girl who has not been able to gain four or five "O" Level certificates at one sitting. In fact, we have some who have gained one and some have gained two. Will this College have anything to offer to these people?

The Minister was at pains to mention - at one stage, that there were two Sixth Form persons in one school; on another occasion that there was one and he eventually ended up by saying that temporary housing would be at Sherbourne and that it would be able to accommodate 350 students.

Mr. Speaker, if the Community College is to make provision initially for 350 students, we would be glad to hear from the Minister's mouth what standard of qualifications one must possess to enter this institution. That is important, very important, because if the Minister were to examine the statistics from the Coleridge-Parry, the Alleyne School, the Boys' and Girls' Foundation School and put them alongside the Christ Church High School or the Private Secondary Schools that are assisted by the Government, he will see what the situation is. 6.20 p.m.

If the Minister were to examine the statistics from the Coleridge-Parry School, the Alleyne School and other schools, of children who, during the past two or three years, have been seeking Sixth Form admission at Harrison College or any of the other schools where you will find a Sixth Form, he would see - and he would have to admit on the floor of this House - that in the course of two years he could find nearly 315 students who have been asking for this education that the Government pretended it would offer.

The figures the Minister produced in answer to questions by me on this particular matter, bear a wealth of information today. But, Sir, we know the Minister. I well remember in reply to a question by me relating to children at Springer Memorial School - I asked if 300 children were being taught under the trees at Springer Memorial. The Minister replied that there were not 300 but 250, but of course that was the Leader of the House.

When the present Minister of Education was making one of his famous speeches, he said that

there were from 250 to 300 children receiving instructions under the trees at the Springer Memorial School; but for the Leader of the House there were only 250! It pays us much better, Sir, in matters of education, to listen to the Minister of Education, and nobody else, if we are to get the truth. He admitted that there were from 250 to 300, but even then he did not want to give an hon. member full credit for mustering the facts on which he had based his question. Nevertheless, he ended up near the 300 that I had learnt had been accommodated under the trees.

All of these things we have to look into most carefully, Sir. In this Bill all we see here is that Agriculture, Commerce, Fine Arts, Liberal Arts, Science and Technology will be taught. In the case of Science, Sir, it does not tell us whether Science will be taught from the kindergarten to the space stage. (*ASIDES*) It does not tell us whether Science is going to be taught from the kindergarten to the moon stage; therefore one has to be very, very careful.

As one goes on, Sir, there are the dangerous proportions of this Bill. I think it was the senior member for Christ Church who mentioned that we are here to approve the Schedule to this Bill, but you will find that all we do here - you come here in the first instance; you want to set up an institution; this Honourable House is expected to approve of its establishment, but you will find that as soon as this House has given its assent or approval, the Minister, in his own good time and in his own good way, can remain in his office and, from time to time, as often as he likes, amend the terms of the Schedule. In other words, all we do here today amounts to nothing. Whenever we are finished, the Minister can take up his pen and amend the terms of the Schedule; so it amounts to our doing absolutely nothing here today.

For instance, Sir, you will find that this is the age or period when the Government is giving education free. Education, as I understand it, is free at the Primary, Secondary and Higher Education level. What is happening is that despite that, in this age, you will find that the Government is now going to establish a fee-paying Institution. Free Primary education, free Secondary education, free University education. Exactly what kind of College is going to be this Barbados Community College that you have to establish it as a fee-paying Institution? What is the Government up to, we have to ask? We ask this question with a view to protecting the people who are expected to be catered to there.

The Minister, under the terms of the Schedule, can revoke appointments of members of the Board. We might agree that a Minister, under certain terms and conditions, can revoke the appointment of a member of a Board. But what we are saying is that this is no one-man institution. It must be realised that the Cabinet, or members of the Cabinet, are mere Directors of a Company for this Honourable House, and they must in turn, report to us. This is not a case where the Cabinet, or the Minister acting

with the approval of his Cabinet, is revoking the appointment of a member of the Board. It says that the Minister can revoke his appointment if he thinks it expedient. What kind of expediency? Political? If he thinks it politically expedient, they could have inserted the words "politically expedient". That is all it amounts to. In other words, if you have a member of a Board sitting at a meeting and that member, male or female, has guts enough to tell the Minister the truth on any particular matter and it is not in keeping with the Minister's frame of mind, then the Minister can say that he finds it expedient to revoke his or her appointment to the Board.

6.30 p.m.

Is it then fair, reasonable and just? Now there are one or two matters here in which you find the Minister being in charge of everything, even with personnel matters. Do you know, Sir, that even the van Driver, the Messenger, the Maid who sweeps and the Janitor come directly under the Minister at this Community College? I know you still have some Janitors who push a fairly long broom and let go the handle of the broom at times when Ministers pass and annoy them, and while I would not advocate that any Janitor should let his broom slip and even punch the Minister in his eye for seeing too much, I do not feel that a Minister of Education has any right to be directly in charge of the Van Driver, Messenger and the Sweeper in an institution such as this. How could we respect him? It is not good enough.

Other hon. members have already referred to the fact that nothing can be done without the prior approval of the Minister. I have already said that this Bill amounts to supporting young power in Barbados, and we just do not want to introduce that here, at least not with the support of hon. members on this side, and something has got to be done. Much is wrong with the Bill, as we feel that it amounts to having members of the Board being mere puppets to the Minister. We should not turn our backs to the fact that there are in our midst certain education institutions. We have the Rawlrite Guild, the Barbados Union of Teachers and the Parent-Teacher Bodies, like the Parent Teacher Association at Harrison College. The Rawlrite Guild submitted a memorandum on the Trades Training Centre and the Community College. One must know that the Rawlrite Guild is a body that has been functioning in this Island from 1912 for Teacher Training. If this body is a Teacher Training body, it must know something about matters of education. This Guild submitted a memorandum to the Ministry of Education, and up to this day the Ministry of Education has not even sent back to the Secretary, President or Chairman of the Guild acknowledgment of receipt of the memorandum. That only goes to show us that when we give this lot of power to this young Minister, we have got real trouble.

We have seen here the Venezuelan Government offering, free, gratis and for nothing, teaching of Spanish in this Island. Mr. Speaker, we must know how dear to us must be our Venezuelan and Latin

American ties through the exchange of personnel from one place to another. Travel has linked us so closely that the teaching of Spanish is being pursued in some of our Primary schools, and I believe it is offered in almost all of our Grammar schools. You will find that the Venezuelan Government wrote the Ministry of Education offering classes in Spanish. They rented a building to begin the classes of instruction, and up to that stage you find the same Minister of Education conveying that he wanted further confirmation from the Government of Venezuela itself, when the Government of Venezuela has its own Ambassador stationed here in Barbados.

It is a matter where the Minister as a person is not receiving and cannot command respect, nor is he conducting himself in a way in which he can get the fullest co-operation from his Ministry. Inside the Ministry of Education today is like a home that has home troubles. Whenever the Minister goes inside, things are so hot that he is glad to get back outside. Nothing is really being done. You will find that the Minister on Monday morning had to arm himself with a battery of lawyers to frighten three school teachers. He had to get the lawyers to cite right law and wrong law, confuse them and tell them all sorts of things to extract from them, and made promises to some of them that he would be nice to them. We know that there was one lady who had more waistline than the boys with the beards - the goats - and when the allaying of fears was to be inserted in a draft, she withdrew herself: by the time she returned, it had already been in the joint release; so there was nothing she could do in the face of threats. You heard here today that there was a representative body. How is it that a body meets on Saturday, takes a unanimous decision on a matter, and then three of them meet the Minister without consulting even the principal mover of the Resolution that had been approved, or without consulting any of the other members of the Executive? How could they then pretend to be acting on behalf of anybody other than the three or perhaps two of them? They were not acting on behalf of anybody; they were not charged with a mandate and had no authority whatsoever. They were the friends of the Minister whom the Minister could bounce about and have them say what he wanted them to say.

We are in a position to say, Mr. Speaker, that the people who are to make the Community College work and make it productive and effective, where community life can be witnessed, are up in arms against it.

6.40 p.m.

Their fears have not been allayed; those fears remain; and if those people who must know something about education, if the Rawlrite Guild, if the Harrison College Parent-Teacher Body, if these people submit memoranda pointing out - in fact, we are to wonder if a Headmaster has been employed as the Head of a school which has a Sixth Form, and he continues in his employment and gives satisfactory service and you take away his Sixth Form - the lawyers will better be able to explain what you are really doing to that officer. I am only a layman and

I will not trespass further into that province, but the Rawlrite Guild, for instance, drew to the attention of the Government the facilities that are presently available for technical and industrial training at the artisan stage, the continuation stage and the technologist stage. Those are people who are experienced in education. In other words, they know the educational system of Barbados backwards, so to speak. They are experts there; so we are willing to be guided by them; and we are maintaining that there is the need for more Secondary-Modern schools, wherever we find it, after investigating the needs of the community to establish them.

There is the need for making full use of the technical wings which are attached to our Grammar Schools and Housecraft Centres and their facilities, and better use should be made thereof. As the Rawlrite Guild in its memorandum suggests, "All you need do is this; train our young people and do not let the training end there". Bring the knowledge of these people with qualifications to the knowledge of the Chamber of Commerce and kindred organizations and let them know that you have a force on which they can draw, a supply ready for service. The Rawlrite Guild told us quite rightly that Sixth Form education is regarded as the normal summit of all Secondary Schools. That is what the Rawlrite Guild in its memorandum says. It says that a plan was drawn up in 1949, a year to which I have referred earlier, and there is a book entitled: "The London Comprehensive Schools" where it makes it known that the above concept of the Sixth Form has been adopted by the School's Council for its own working purposes. Mr. Speaker, if these bodies of knowledge on matters of education adopt a stand such as this on this matter, are we, on this side of the House, not to stand up foursquare in support of these institutions which see and know of the lurking dangers in establishing a Community College at this time to duplicate or overlap the services which are already being provided for, turning the back, so to speak, on services which need a shot in the arm, but services which, in themselves, are crying out as if to ask people to come and take them? That is the situation here in this island. You will find that there is a reluctance on the part of the present Government to be in any way associated with anything that the former Government did, however good, when it was in office. I believe that if the Deep Water Harbour was not such a money-earner, if it did not occupy such a positive place in the life of this community, if our Hospital, if our Airport, Combermere School, all of those things which the Barbados Labour Party built when it was in office and made those services available to the community - if this Government could possibly dissociate itself from having anything to do with, or carrying on any function in any of these places, that is what it would do. That is the attitude of this present Government to the things which the former Government did.

6.50 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, here you find that "The Eyrie" can be developed - to do what? It could be developed to relieve the cramped conditions obtaining at the St. Leonard's Secondary Schools, get

rid of the shift system and stop robbing children of their share of instruction daily and relieve the congestion that exists.

Sir, the Hon. Leader of the House has sat in the Chair of the Ministry of Education, and he must know that there is overcrowding in every one of our Primary schools in this island at the present moment. You will find that mothers of children are still going every possible Monday morning to some of the Head-teachers asking them if they can find a place for their children; but they are turned away. There is no room for them in the inn.

In these conditions, would not the Government be doing yeoman service to this community if they reconstructed or renovated "The Eyrie" and relieved the congestion in our Primary Schools and Secondary Modern Schools?

I feel that I am being urged to wind up much of my contribution, Sir; but, Mr. Speaker, this matter of the Community College is an important one. We feel that the Minister as a young man would like to see something set up with which he is closely connected; but that is not the point.

The present Minister of Education has expressed his desire to see what he calls a unified teaching service in this island. If the Minister really has that in his mind and would have the public to believe that he is in earnest, how are we to compare his statement on that occasion with his actions as portrayed in this Bill? I say that because we have been told that the provisions for staff at the Barbados Community College far exceeds in some measure similar provisions that obtain in other schools.

So now, Sir, if he really and truly wants to have a unified teaching service in this country, are we to understand that he will pay these top notch salaries at the Community College, and as from the day following he will upgrade the salaries of all the teachers in the Secondary Schools in this island? These are questions, Mr. Speaker, that we have to study most carefully and examine most seriously. This Bill cuts right across what the Minister of Education has been saying. He has told us on several occasions that he means to see our educational system strengthened at the base. But, Sir, we really have to ask ourselves if he intends to strengthen it at the base by imposing this type of structure at the apex. That is what we must really concern ourselves with, Mr. Speaker.

Sir, I will not hold this House up any longer. I feel that there are other hon. members who might want to say something, and I know that in Committee stage there are things which we will have to say. I feel, Sir, that the provisions of this Bill and the Bill itself are so far-reaching that we cannot do justice to it in our second reading speeches. We cannot do all that we would like to do.

We are setting up, or we are being asked to set up or lend our support to the setting up of an edu-

cational institution; but what we are in truth and in fact being asked to do is to set up an institution to do what has already been done - to lay a foundation that has already been laid to do for us what this Community College will be asked to do.

The introducer of this Bill laid emphasis on this post-"O" level training in four schools. I want the Minister to explain what he really means. I want to know if this Community College is to produce "O" Level Certificates. That is what we understand. I was waiting to hear the Minister say that it would provide Advanced Level Certificates; but the Minister does not say so.

When you look at what the Bill sets out, you will find that it tells you about Agriculture, Economics, Finance, Technology and such other fields of education as the Minister may from time to time determine. Mr. Speaker, I tell you here and now that we have no plans at present for the teaching of Agriculture.

I am sorry that the Minister of Agriculture is not in his place because I feel that he would rise and support me on an occasion such as this. When it comes to Commerce, the hon. senior member for Christ Church was at pains to point out that various institutions, even private institutions, to which the Government is lending considerable financial support are providing commercial training.
7.00 p.m.

I will tell you further, Sir, and the Government ought to know this: The United States Government and the United Kingdom Entry Certificate Officer are refusing applicants, in some cases, who want to go either to the United States or the United Kingdom to pursue courses in Commerce. They are telling some people to stay here, because we have institutions in Barbados where you can study all the commerce you want to for industry in Barbados. We have now begun to reach the depth of the seriousness in some of the implications in this Bill. It is that these two organisations are already in a position to tell people who would rather go abroad to further their studies - at their own expense and not at the expense of the Government - they want to spend their own money and to receive education where they feel they could benefit from the education in the United Kingdom or in the United States of America. I cannot say the same thing with regard to people who apply to go to Canada. The people are being told that there is no need to give you permission to leave Barbados, because you have institutions providing you with instruction and teaching in Commerce to meet the requirements of this Island. If these officers are right, then are we to understand that the Minister of Education is wrong? Are we maintaining our Evening Institutes, our Technical Institute and the wings of the various Secondary Schools? Make them active; provide transportation for our boys and girls to reach these places.

What is going to be the situation, Sir, when you establish the Community College at "Eyrie" in re-

spect of boys and girls who live in your own constituency, 19 miles from Bridgetown - Pie Corner in St. Lucy, Boscobelle in St. Peter, the Risk in St. Lucy, St. Philip and so on? All of these children will want to go to the Community College. The Community College is not in the heart of Bridgetown; it is on another two-mile journey out. What provision, Mr. Speaker, is being made for these people? We are urging upon the Minister to re-examine this whole scheme and re-appraise the whole situation, and let us have something better. He can rely on the support of this side of the House as soon as he carries out a survey of the educational needs of these people.

Mr. Speaker, mention has been made of the issuing of a White Paper on education at this time. I have been stressing it; I have been calling for it in the columns of my newspaper from time to time. We need a White Paper on education. Mr. Speaker, between 1962 and today there has been a considerable amount of bungling as well as fiddling with education in this Island. You hear one thing today from one Minister, and you see or hear something else from another Minister. They contradict themselves; but in the end they are either misreported, or you call a team of teachers together, put your lawyers on them and get what you want from them. That is what is happening in Barbados. But those of us who know the benefit of education ought to be more careful.

Sir, the implications of a Bill should be examined in their true perspective, because we feel on this side of the House that all that is in here far transcends the realm of Party politics. Hon. members on that side of the House, even if they did not before they came in here, have seen or ought to have learned enough today on the discussion from hon. members on this side on this Bill that they should by this time have an appreciation of the benefits to be derived from education. We have done all we could on this side today to explain, to expound and to show it to them in its many forms; but, Sir, we can carry hay to a horse, but we cannot make it eat.

Anyone who wants to feel within himself that he has discharged his conscience on a matter of vital interest to this community, should stand up and let his voice be heard on this matter of the Barbados Community College. It is vitally important because here, Sir, we seek to make provision for the unknown - the ones we know are suffering and are really in need of having something done for them to lift them up from becoming lawless and wayward. I speak again, Sir, of those who leave school at the age of 14 and have to roam the streets begging alms, knocking from door to door seeking jobs which they are not qualified to do. My God, Sir, are we to understand that a Minister of Education who would pretend to have an interest in people cannot see around him the people who have the greatest need? Will he not carry out a survey in his own schools to find out what he is turning out - what he is cutting off, so to speak, without a hope?

Formerly, I believe I can say up to about 1960 or so, the Department or Ministry of Education used

to issue what was called the "School Leaving Certificate" in order to help children, who had passed Seventh Standard and were promising and had passed in English and Arithmetic, to get a job.
7.10 p.m.

These children were issued with a School-Leaving Certificate which was acceptable to some of the business community of this Island, and it helped those people get a job. In other words, if at the time they were issued with these Certificates they were not even sufficiently equipped, it was still a Certificate to let them into further training while at the same time receiving a pittance for their labours. Sir, after the 'King Jah-jah's came to power, after the Democratic Labour Party Government took office, they stopped the School-Leaving Certificate the only hope of the fourteen year olds, and have given them nothing instead. They have applied their energies, and after steeping themselves in "knowing not" for six full years, have come up now with a Community College to make provision, as I said, for we know not whom.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that I have said enough on this Bill at this stage; and except when I look at the notes on what the Hon. Introducer had to say on this, we are left to wonder whether this College is going to make provision for Fifth Form or Sixth Form education. One other thing I would like to have the Minister address his mind to is this: Getting back to this Common Entrance Examination, the Minister will admit that his present system makes provision for places for more boys to enter the Secondary Schools or Grammar Schools - I am referring to those whom they are willing to say 'passed the examination' - than for girls; but do you know what is really and truly the position in this particular matter? I challenge the Minister to deny that more girls have been passing the Common Entrance Examination than boys; so if you find that the policy of the present Government is to make provision for more boys than girls, well, Sir, may the Lord have mercy on those girls who really and truly pass the examination, but have got to be told either that they failed, or that there is no room for them in the inn! In other words, continuing this Common Entrance Examination and not making provision of school places for these children, is dangerous on the part of the present Government, because there are some boys and girls who enter the examination rooms with confidence in themselves. We admit there are many others who are nervous; the parents are nervous; but there are many children who come out and show you what they have done. They may not all be right, but nevertheless you can satisfy yourself to a reasonable degree as to how many of these children from a school have passed; the Headteachers must know. This is what has happened in a case in my own constituency. Already with the last results a schoolteacher called on me and told me that he could not explain how they could say that a particular boy or girl had failed. Mr. Speaker, the Headteachers know their children; they know whom they send to sit the examination, but the present system is such that when too many pass, they

have got to fail. The system is rotten and corrupt. It is unfair and immoral to continue with the Common Entrance Examination and not provide adequate school places for the people who pass. That is our contention in this matter. So you will see, Mr. Chairman - I am sorry, Mr. Speaker,.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry too it is not Mr. Chairman.

Mr. HINDS: When is the Leader of the House suspending for dinner? (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am waiting on you.) I can move the suspension now. I am not finishing in haste. I may not continue when I come back. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I have told you that if you do not bring food in here, these hogs would not keep talking for so long.)

Mr. Speaker, I am on my feet, and I take the most serious objection to what the hon. junior member for St. Thomas has said. He is the only bloody hog that comes about in here going and snatching for food.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER: In view of grave disorder, this Sitting now stands suspended for one hour.
7.20 p.m.

On re-assembling,

Mr. SPEAKER: On the suspension of the Sitting, the hon. junior member for St. Peter was addressing the Chair. If he had not concluded his speech, he may now resume it.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker we find the Community College making itself available for teaching Liberal Arts. The term "Liberal Arts" ought never to have been employed in anything connected with the Community College. When we bear in mind that we already have a Liberal Arts College which has been before named the College of Arts and Science, it gives us a further feeling that there is going to be a cutting across or duplicating of the functions of the various institutions which are already in existence. I am sure that it will be found out to be one of those regrettable steps or features in an establishment such as a Community College to be offering Liberal Arts. We are still somewhat in doubt as to the age range of the children who are to be accommodated at this Community College, and in the absence of such information, we just do not know where we stand in such a matter. We would like to see some of the functions which are now to be discharged by the Minister himself, attended to more properly by the Board. We may find the Board approving of a course of instruction, and there is no reason why the Minister cannot or would not make his submission to the Board for its approval when it comes to the course of instruction to be given at this College.

Mr. Speaker, those are a few of the things which we would like to see implemented in the Bill if this College is to function to the credit of the community at all. We are all here groping in the dark since we do not have any idea at all as to what

this system will cost us, and for those reasons we would like to urge on the Minister to review the whole structure of things. We do not want the Community College to be launched in September and then find, within a few short terms, that there is no possibility of its continuing or even beginning to show that it is established or founded with good intentions, and we are asking that this matter be taken seriously by the Hon. Leader of the House and see that the Bill is put in its proper perspective.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that this Bill be now read a second time.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I, too, would have wished that these proceedings would have ended earlier, but it would be completely wrong for me to sit in silence on a Bill as important as this. I am going to try to control myself considerably, but this Bill calls for strong language. It is dishonest in its entirety. The Opposition came in here this morning with the feeling that our attitude was going to be, as has been said by some hon. members, that if the necessity for a Community College is proved to us, we will agree with it, but we would state, as we have stated, that it is not a question of priority. You could not possibly say, coming to this without any feeling or politics but merely examining the position of education in Barbados, that this is more necessary than finding places for children who have passed the Common Entrance Examination and cannot get into a school. I am now appealing to hon. members on the other side, or to some of them; picture to yourself that you were a small boy with ability and found it impossible to get into a school, not because you cannot take advantage of an education, but because the Government did not provide sufficient places for you. Think of the frustration through life; you would go bitter at the fact that it is not your fault; it is nothing lacking in you, but in a Government which would prefer to spend money on something which, in itself, might be commendable, but is not as necessary as finding a place where you could go to school. That child would go through life bitter and probably anti-Government. I smile because I think of myself, of the refusal of the Government of 1918-19 to permit me to go to read Law straight way, even though I had the good fortune to win the Barbados Scholarship. I was bitter from that day, and possibly that is the cause of my general attitude in politics since then.

I was bitter at the thought that, as things were fifty years ago, the kind of people who were in the Government did not like the idea of my being in the position of becoming a barrister; but it has never left me in life, that feeling of antagonism to somebody who represses you simply because he is stronger than you and he is in a position to repress you. It is going to happen to hundreds, maybe thousands of Barbadian children, if we continue to indulge in extravagant expenditure in one respect when that money should have been spent on finding means of educating the children. That is our first approach to it. I would go further back and ask: "Is it a necessity

at all?" I think I can understand the attitude of the Hon. Leader of the House. I say this in all fairness, and I say it as objectively as possible. I honestly think that the Hon. Leader of the House is in a most awkward position. I think subconsciously that he cannot forget how he has been treated. He is dealing with education and pushing forward the view of his successor in something which he himself, when he was Minister of Education, did not push. He has got to plead somebody else's cause, somebody who has supplanted him. He cannot do justice to the subject. The hon. member is as fluent as most people we meet - that dangerous fluency of talking at length and using beautiful phrases which mean nothing, and when he is finished he has said nothing. That was his attitude, his conduct and his display today. But what we, on this side, feel worst of all is this; it was sheer hypocrisy to try to pretend that this had nothing to do with abolishing Sixth Forms when all of his arguments led to that. What did he say? Specious, pettifogging lawyers sometimes use arguments like this.

8.35 p.m.

"The Minister has not said that he will abolish Sixth Forms." Now, could anything be more specious and I use the word "dishonest" - than that, when we all know - Barbados is a small place and there are no Cabinet secrets in this Island. Do not think that they are. We all know that the Minister wanted to start a Sixth Form College by that name, and to stop Sixth Forms in Secondary Schools. We all know that the Prime Minister was opposed to that idea, and we all know that this is a compromise - not just a compromise Bill, but a compromise of conscience.

Of course if you prove - it is the duty of the Government to prove that there is a necessity for this - of course we will say "yes". It is not for us to say that it is necessary. You start with the knowledge that for over 100 years you have had Sixth Forms at Harrison College. You would have to prove that that system is a failure. Many a person will tell you - historians and those who like to look up records will tell you that Harrison College's results for many years were always in the first six of all the schools, including England in the British Empire.

That standard has been ours to keep. Surely if you have a system that for over 100 years has kept up a reputation for the people it turned out and a standard of scholarship, surely it is for the Government to prove that it should end. You will have to prove, in short, that the Sixth Form system has outlived its usefulness or was never any good and that it has dragged on for too long a time.

But when the Leader of the House comes in here and states that the Minister of Education has never said that Sixth Forms should be abolished when he has been urging it and preaching it even to the extent that it was intended that this institution would be called a Sixth Form College, it is not fair to the House or to the general public. It just may be not a deliberate, but an unconscious attempt or a sort of habitual twisting of language.

It is certainly misleading the public, but it is only part of the pattern of this whole Bill which is stink with hypocrisy and lying. You say you are not doing this, but you intend to do it as soon as you get into power. With all this power in the hands of the Minister, he will be able to say: "I am going to do what I like." He will have his way that a Sixth Form should be abolished, and he himself will take over the Principalship of this college.

Let nobody fool themselves; I know what I am saying and hon. members know what I am saying. Barbados is a small place and people talk. Cabinet secrets may be Cabinet secrets inside the Cabinet but not outside. I will say again that the minute you say that you intend to abolish Sixth Forms, you have got to prove that they have outlived their usefulness.

Harrison College and Lodge School - in my time at any rate - the Classical side was at Harrison College and the Mathematical brains were at Lodge School, and Combermere was recognised for English as well as Modern Studies for which it had a reputation throughout the West Indies.

In short, Mr. Speaker, the system will have to be proved to have been either inherently or to have become, because of modern thought, something medieval. Nobody can prove that. If you have something and you want to replace it with something else, you have to prove that the something else is better than the thing you are replacing. No one can claim that Barbados can afford to make experiments wildly. If you are a millionaire, you can afford to build a house today and destroy it tomorrow; but no one can claim that Barbados can afford to do that.

Let the Leader of the House say that what I am going to say now contradicts the truth, that this is one man's idea. We read about something that is taking place somewhere else and someone says: "Let us try it here, too." This College should be called Sandiford's College. It is one man's idea; this is a compromise that has taken place between the members of the Cabinet, and the Bill is drafted in such a way that the Minister can get all that he wants after this Bill is passed. In spite of all this talk about not abolishing Sixth Forms, it can be done from the day after this Bill is passed. It does not take a lawyer to see that.

I pitied, I really pitied the blundering way in which the Leader of the House had to introduce this Bill, and because he knew that what he had to say could not be said without being sheer hypocrisy. He knows that if you have this Community College you automatically are making Sixth Forms superfluous, and as the hon. member for Christ Church said, you are in fact saying that you do not need Sixth Forms if you are taking these things under your wing.

Before I go further as regards putting forward my special point, I should like to deal with the points made by the Leader of the House. What I am going to say and the point I will bring forward will prove why the Leader of the House had to blunder in in-

roducing this Bill. I know that he has been persuaded to agree with the establishment of the Community College and to agree with the abolition of Sixth Forms. He was not always of that persuasion.

Look at the way in which he puts forward his arguments. Of the Government Grammar Schools there are four with Sixth Forms. The aim of the Government is to establish an institution catering mainly for the G.C.E. type of people and for young people working who wish to resume their studies.

"The Minister has not said that they will abolish Sixth Forms. He says that the Community College is for those who because of limited facilities cannot now enjoy Sixth Form teaching." Is that not hypocrisy? Was it not the duty of the Leader of the House to go on to show to the House that you have Sixth Forms, but that they are not big enough to handle all the people who can get in?

8.45 p.m.

Was it not his duty to say - and I am coming to the greatest of the hypocrisies that appeared in his presentation - "We have to consider now whether we should not make all of them have Sixth Forms possibly by enlarging them to take all of these students" - there are three alternatives, not two - "or to build a new College and call it what you will to take Sixth Form pupils or" - this is a point that may have been made when I was out of the House, and I missed practically all of the hon. member for St. Peter's speech - "to combine certain schools and have one Sixth Form for three or four or all the Northern schools." Let us say: one Sixth Form for Foundation and St. Philip for this area; so that just as all the St. Michael's Girls go now to Combermere, the Coleridge-Parry and other schools in that area could take anybody of Sixth Form calibre whether from a Primary school, a Private School, or a Secondary school that exists now. That is another alternative. I regret if that point has been put, and I am merely repeating it. To me that is a clear alternative.

But when you have - and again I use it without saying that the Hon. Leader of the House is consciously being a hypocrite, but the arguments are pure hypocrisy. Imagine telling this House - imagine telling a group of mentally defective children that it would be improper to put finance in this Bill; that you are only passing the principle of this Bill tonight. Could you insult half-wits, morons, with that argument? I am asking you to vote for a building; I am not telling you what it will cost; you are only voting for the principle of having the building. Would you tell that to a man in a Mental Asylum and hope to convince him? This building may cost \$100,000 or \$900,000, and you must vote for it; the bill for whatever it will cost will come down later. Could there be a more insulting argument used to a House of Assembly? Are we to be told: you must vote for this whatever it will cost and you will hear what it will cost later on? The Hon. Leader of the House made no attempt to tell us what it will cost, and we are to sit down here and vote for a Bill to spend money - and we alone can spend money - and be told that we are nothing to do with what it will cost;

we will hear later what it will cost; vote for it now! Well, if I and this Opposition never voted against a Bill before, we will vote against it tonight. We are not afraid of members of the Government going and telling the public: "We were trying to get a place built so that your children who cannot get into school now because there is no room for them, could get in, and those fellows in the Opposition voted against it." Do you think we are afraid of that?

Sir, how many people in this Island would have the slightest respect for us if they were told: "Those boys in the Opposition voted for a Bill to spend money although we did not tell them how much money the building would cost"? Only a fool would vote for a Bill of this sort. Fancy using the language that it is improper to put into this Bill something about money. I was very careful to take down what the hon. member was saying. You have your numbers and you can do anything, and you are doing it. We are glad over this side that you are doing it, because Nemesis is around the corner. Mussolini could not act worse than the Prime Minister of this Island.

Sir, this is totalitarianism. I would realise what is the position of most hon. members in the Cabinet. When your conscience smites you, and you begin to assert yourself, you will be pushed back. Last Tuesday we pointed out to the Leader of the House that what we were saying over here about promises with this broadcasting was correct. You pointed out to him that he was wrong, and he threatened to resign if his Cabinet differed from him. He seems to have made mice of you, or to confirm the mice-like attitude which operates in you while you sit over there. Physical courage is nothing; God made a man big, and he can hit a small man and get away with it. Moral courage is all that matters. If a man with a conscience cannot stand up even to his boss, his parents, if they are wrong, or to anybody when he is wrong..... (ASIDES)

Mr. Speaker, the Leader of the House talks about "despise", but he would not reach so far as despising members who act like that. You do not waste your time on things that are beneath being despised. Then the hon. member goes on to say that "I just repeated two alternatives." I have answered that by referring to a third alternative: combine certain schools and have one in a zone, if you like. Tell the people that they must go to that one school which will teach up to Sixth Form. I repeat, show what that will cost. I refer to building additional places in one school; show what the Community College will cost, and show that the Community College is cheaper before you ask us to agree to a Bill of this sort. If you can reach the stage where the financial side will have to wait for a financial Resolution for its cost to come down - good Heavens! Imagine anybody outside of an asylum allowing those words to cross his lips! "It is improper to put it in this Bill which is only on the principle of the Bill as to whether there should be a College or not." Imagine anybody dreaming of insulting any sane human being by telling him that! "Whatever it will

cost, you are only voting for the principle of having it."

What is to prevent - and I am trying not to verge on what, maybe is to come - this Mussolini-type of using your numbers to get anything through, honest or dishonest? I say I do not want to verge on anything that is to come. But take, for instance, as another illustration of the totalitarian methods of this Government - and for God's sake keep it up because the public will listen. Are you to come in here today with a Resolution handed to us yesterday evening for \$ 1/2 million and say you are doing it all tonight? Could there be a greater instance of just using your numbers to act as undemocratically as it is possible to act? They do not give you any time to think it over. Barbados is not a rich place. I am constantly reminding you that it is not as rich as Trinidad. Barbados is to spend \$ 1/2 million, and we are not to have time to think over it and go into any details. Are we going to sit down till five o'clock tomorrow morning while the Leader of the House answers questions?

8.55 p.m.

I am not going any further on that, Mr. Speaker, because I would be in danger of saying something that should be left until the Resolution comes before the House, and then, as I say, I will answer to the hon. member's point. When the hon. member came to the objections that are being made about the power of one man, could anything be more specious than the attempt by the Leader of the House to anticipate that being thrown at him? He said we are saying that now, but there was a time when the Governor was the sole man, and then he goes on to say that Keith Walcott, one member of the Governor-in-Executive Committee, had sole power.

That is a plain, blunt - Mr. Speaker, I shall not be unparliamentary - undiluted lie, and the hon. member knows it. There was never a time when any member of the Governor-in-Executive Committee had sole power. Until the Ministerial system came up, there was no such thing as the possibility of anybody having sole power. The Governor-in-Executive Committee was purely advisory. Sir Grattan Bushe - it does not much matter if this seems to be bringing tales out of school - once complained to us in Executive - and we were a mixed group; we were the old pre-Ministerial State - and said he could not understand his position here. He said we were his Executive; he sent down a Bill and we objected to it; we did not support him. No Governor ever ruled this country in that sense. In the limited special spheres that Colonial Governors had, in exercise of the prerogative of King or Queen, as the case may be, were matters like pardon and things of that nature, but the Colonial Office always fought this Island and this Island fought back. Whatever we might say of Colonialism and the rest of it, if you were to see some of the documents and despatches sent, the Colonial Office was always telling Governors that their duty was to fight for the masses against the planters and merchants of Barbados. I can say it now. Colonialism is over, and because

some people may sometimes say that they were not always bad, the whole history of Barbados for, I would say, 200 years, maybe not 300 years, has been a history of the Colonial Office sending down despatches. Take Pope Hennessy and those riots. It has been the history of a Governor fighting the House of Assembly of planters and merchants; and when more and more books about the old Colonial system are published, you will agree with me. This talk about Governors having sole power is absolutely untrue.

Keith Walcott was the mouthpiece of the planters and merchants of that day. There were times when he was very liberal, but on the other hand he was their mouthpiece. I have heard him say from his place in this House of Assembly that he had been told to bring down this Bill, but he was not in favour of it, and he was going to vote against it. He was introducing a Bill and saying that.

The hon. member, as we all know, was once in war-time President of the Oxford Union, the great Debating Society in Oxford, and he learnt all these beautiful mellifluous phrases that mean nothing. You sit down at night for hours and you take a dictionary or word book - not the hon. member alone, but most speakers at the Oxford Union - and you get out a lot of these phrases and go back to Pope and Dryden and all that and trot out a few pretty phrases that mean nothing. Unfortunately, for some people it is a good change; the present Lord Chancellor and other Lord Chancellors have been trained at the Oxford Union; but to some people it becomes part of them, and they cannot make a simple statement without saying something that does not necessarily have any truth in it. We have had so many instances of the Leader of the House getting up and off the cuff saying something without the slightest respect as to whether it is true or not. One of these statements is that Colonial Governors had power of life or death. I was rude enough, Mr. Speaker, you will remember, to call out that a jury of twelve men directed by a Chief Justice has power of life or death - nobody else.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, ordinarily I would not interrupt the hon. member because I do not think that anything he is saying is relevant to the discussion that we are having. But he has said some remarks about me which are completely offensive: that I have a habit of saying things without wondering or without thinking whether they are true or not. I take exception to that.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: If the hon. member wants to take exception, I will, because it is unparliamentary, withdraw, only reminding the hon. member.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I take it the hon. member has withdrawn.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Oh yes, Sir, only reminding the hon. member of what he not only said but published in the Press about the disendowment of the Church, when the Church had to correct him. That is only one instance.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on another point of order because he has misrepresented me; but if it is true that I am dishonest or I am a liar, it is also true that I came into public life with him and that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Why did he bring that out? Look how many people belong to a Party, and the members of that Party discover, sometimes too late, that they have admitted a black sheep into the fold!

Mr. SPEAKER: I think we may proceed with the Community College and not look at things from the standpoint of various Oxford Colleges.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: The hon. member talked about irrelevance. What am I doing but just taking what I wrote down as the hon. member said it and replying to it? How is that irrelevant? The hon. member says he has never been opposed to too much power being given to one man. I say you make these mellifluous statements and do not realise that sometimes you contradict yourself a few lines lower down a few minutes after. He said that the Minister must act within the context of the Party, but you are not giving the Minister too much power. He says that the Minister must act within the view of the Party and then says immediately after in effect that it is an educational matter and not a political matter and the Minister is given power to act by himself. He said it would not be the first time that a Minister could act by himself, and then added that he acts within the context of the Party. He said how the system has been developed in which Cabinet is not responsible for the whole thing, but the Minister to whom power has been given, and then added "within the context of the Party, within the view of the Party". He used the word "context" and then he went on to say "within the view of the Party". In this case, one of the things he said was right. It is an open secret - hon. members know it - that the Cabinet eventually agreed to let Sandiford have a chance and let them see what he could put forward because it may succeed.

I say again that Sandiford read something. We all read something from time to time, and those of us who are interested in education naturally read a lot about education. The idea of a Comprehensive school is put up; the idea of age-grouping is put up. All things like that are put up from time to time. All I am saying is that people read things, they have a new idea; "we have not got it in Barbados; so let us try it in Barbados." That is how this Sixth Form College arose, and it is in the newspaper that Mr. Sandiford said to abolish Sixth Forms, and the Prime Minister said "No", and since that time there has been this talking and coming together trying to have a compromise, and this Bill is a result.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this Bill will pass and will be one of the best things for us at the next election, because it is one whole story, I repeat, of hypocrisy, of double-dealing, of squeezing people. I did hear a

snap of what the hon. member for St. Peter said about those school teachers who purported to be a delegation from the Teachers Association, and therefore I shall not say much about it as it seems as if he was very thorough in his condemnation; but that is only a part of the backdoor, Nicodemus night-like dealings, going by night in the dark and having little confabs, and later on trying to get your views carried. Out comes the Prime Minister and spoils things by saying not to abolish Sixth Forms, and I suppose it is best to deal at this stage with that aspect of Mr. Sandiford's conduct. I do not know either of these three schoolteachers. I do not know if I have ever seen them. I have heard that the lady is a very nice lady, that she would not stoop to anything dirty, but that she could be persuaded not to differ from the others. I would not say anything more than that. 9.05 p.m.

I would not say anything more than that, but no language could be too strong for condemning these three people. Mrs. Skeete, it may be from weakness and the other two from lack of character - you have Officers of an Association.....

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I am not giving way to the hon. member. I ask Your Honour to rule on the point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: He has to make it before I can rule.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, in my view, it is grossly improper for the hon. member to refer to persons who are not members of this House and who are therefore unable to defend themselves, as possessing lack of character. He has no right to do it.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I ask Your Honour to rule. Is it out of order for me to attack people because they cannot come into this House and defend themselves? Could there be a more preposterous statement than that? That members of this House cannot attack other people merely because they cannot come into this House and defend themselves? They can defend themselves; they can get on a public platform, or write to the Press or anything. That is the sort of thing we have to put up with from the Hon. Leader of the House - making preposterous statements which he knows to be untrue. I am going on. Imagine my being told that I cannot.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I have not ruled that the Hon. Leader of the Opposition has contravened any Standing Order so far, but I would warn the hon. member to be wary of Standing Order 26 (9) referring to the conduct of Members of either House of the Legislature who shall not be referred to except upon a substantive motion.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: If I were a betting man, I would know that that was coming to me today. I have the answer to that. I am not referring to Mr. Sandiford in the Senate; I am referring to the Minis-

ter of Education in the Cabinet. *(Laughter)* That is not funny. That laugh shows a vacant mind. If Mr. Sandiford had made any statement in the Upper House and I commented on it here, I would be out of order; but if Mr. Sandiford sits in his office and vilely sends for three unfortunate people.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The hon. member is out of order. How can he say that somebody sits in his office.....

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Is the hon. member saying that I am out of order?

Mr. SPEAKER: I understand the hon. member to say that he rose on a point of order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No matter how specious he makes his argument, he is speaking about a Member of the Other Place, and to say that such a member sits in his office and vilely summons people to see him is an attack and a reflection on the character and the practice of the hon. member, which has to be resented.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, if it takes until 6 o'clock tomorrow morning, I will stand on my feet and speak. Imagine the hon. member putting that to Your Honour, that because he is a Senator I cannot criticise his conduct outside of the Senate.

Mr. SPEAKER: What Standing Order 26 (9) says is that the conduct of Her Majesty and Members of either House of the Legislature shall not be referred to except upon a substantive motion....the conduct of members of either House of the Legislature. So I advise the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to be wary about referring to the conduct of any member of the Other Place.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: The conduct of a member of the Senate on the cricket field I cannot criticise? Does the word "conduct" mean conduct at all times? "Conduct" means the conduct in the Senate. I wish Your Honour would read the books.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let us get this straight. It is my ruling that counts and nobody else's.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: It is your ruling that counts as long as you go by the proper practice.

Mr. SPEAKER: I wish all hon. members were aware of that, rightly or wrongly.....

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: But do not interpret a thing wrongly when it is blatantly wrong. *(ASIDES)*

Mr. SPEAKER: It is good even at this stage for one to try to be funny. The conduct of a member of either House of Parliament, if that member happens to be a Minister in that House and the reference is to something he has done or said or put forward in connection with his Ministry is, in my view, rightly or wrongly - and my view alone carries here...*(ASIDES)*

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Order!

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Order, what! Imagine a Speaker feeling about for something which he knows not to be right! The conduct of a Senator, I repeat, the conduct of a Senator in the street, the conduct of a Senator at a dinner table, the conduct of a Senator on a cricket field is something which cannot be attacked? You are not talking to children!

Mr. SPEAKER: I thought I had made myself plain. I said the conduct of a member of the Other Place may not be referred to except upon a substantive motion, and that conduct in respect of which he is a Senator and a Minister is nothing to do with his conduct on the street or on the cricket field, and particularly when the subject matter of this discussion is in connection with the subject matter of education, of which he is a Minister. That is what I am saying and that is what I rule.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Your Honour's ruling somehow did not apply when the hon. junior member for St. Peter was saying in stronger language what I am saying now.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Peter was speaking in stronger language, but in parliamentary language.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: It is your duty to the House to command the respect of the House. All right. Let us forget whether Mr. Sandiford telephoned these people or not.
9.15 p.m.

These three officers of the Association, having unanimously agreed to a Resolution whereby they are telling the public that this thing needs more consideration, that it is going to hurt them, that they have no security, get a telephone message and go to Mr. Sandiford's office. Then appears a Statement in the *Advocate* Newspaper. Am I out of order in referring to what the *Advocate* Newspaper says?

Look at the hypocrisy of this Statement. Look at the way in which they are misleading the public by saying that Mr. Sandiford says - as if they were little boys trying to learn in Primary School - they attempt to tell the public that a delegation from the Association went to the Minister and had talks with him and their fears were allayed.

What is the meaning of the word "delegation"? How can there be a delegation if someone did not delegate you to do something? These three people who, for the self respect of the Association, should be fired before the end of this week, or nobody will have any respect for the Association, sat down and unanimously agreed to tell the Minister that they are afraid, that they are not sure of their jobs if this Bill goes through.

But, Sir, when sent for by the Minister, they do not say that they must go back to our Association. I

have not met anyone connected with the Association who did not tell me that they only knew yesterday afternoon - they only knew after it had happened. And I have met several members of the Association.

Now what is that but - and I repeat the word - a hypocritical way of allowing Sandiford to have his own way, irrespective of whether it is for the good of Barbados or not. What answer is there to the query by more than one member: "Why have you done this - selected something when you should be having a complete investigation into the educational system of Barbados, which is what is needed at this point?"

To get back to my original point, can it be proved that all these things that have been mentioned from time to time - the Technical Institute, the Hilton Hotel School, the academic Sixth Forms and all these things - have left a gap which can be best filled by a Community College? Surely the onus is on the Government to prove that the Community College is what is needed to fill this gap. If it can be proved that the gap can only be filled by this, then the Government has a case for saying: "Accept the principle of a Community College." They do not have a case, but they are asking us to accept it at this stage.

Those people to whom I have just referred have not, I think, done the case of the Government any good, because if you can get this backhand attempt, this stabbing of the Association in the back, leaving the Association with approval of a Resolution and then backing down just because God knows what strong-armed methods, what mental strong-armed methods were used - when a man has certain views you can cajole him, persuade him or buy him off.

God knows what threats were used to these three unfortunate people. I hope that the Association, in consideration of their own self-respect, will get rid of them before the week is out because they did not express the views of the Association, and they were not a delegation. It was a misuse of the word 'delegation' a stupid misuse of the word.

I will now, I hope briefly, deal with the points in the Bill affecting the position of the Minister. It may be that this will be a good thing; but how can one expect to persuade any rational, thinking human being that this Bill does not make the Minister an absolute dictator?

If we go by what the Leader of the House has said, the Cabinet has shed its responsibility and handed over its responsibility in certain things to a single Minister. If that is so, then Mr. Sandiford is the sole judge of practically everything of importance in the running of this College, not only seeing after the maids, or the ground staff or the man who sweeps the yard, but everything that is essential.

To start off with - it has been mentioned already, but I am merely reiterating it - Clause 3 (2) of the Bill says that the aim of the College shall be to provide a place of education offering instruction in all

or any of the following fields of education, that is to say - Agriculture, Commerce, Fine Arts, Liberal Arts, Science, Technology. But not one single word is said by the Minister about Agriculture.

Is it necessary to get some improvement, is it necessary to train people to do something more than to cut canes or burn them down? Not one single word has been said as to what is behind this. When it comes to Commerce, that has been dealt with. The clause goes on to say "and in such other fields of education as the Minister may from time to time determine."

Who can say if the Minister will not state that Sanskrit shall be taught in this island, or that with so many East Indian traders in this island you must learn Hindi? There is no one to stop him.

I have no doubt that if the Minister were ever to dream of standing before the electorate - but he is not going to stand before the electorate; he will move from the Senate to being the Principal of this College. That is in the air.

Mr. Speaker, we go down to Clause 6 (3) which says that 'the Minister may from time to time by order amend the provisions of the Schedule.' Throughout this Bill you will find that the Minister is in absolute control, that he has absolute power.

It is sheer nonsense to say that to give one man absolute power does not mean that he will abuse it. You cannot do that in a Bill. You do not know what is to happen. Human nature being what it is, you must have safeguards. If he were a saint or an Archbishop, you should not give him absolute powers. Even in Church matters, there should be a Synod or something of that sort.

You are giving one man this absolute power, and the Hon. Leader of the House cannot do better than to say that "the Governor had power over life and death, and therefore there is no danger; in fact, you are making a noise about a minor thing when you could make a noise about absolute power over life and death!"

Now, Sir, there are other things in this Bill. Some of them have been dealt with by the Hon. junior member for St. Peter. I am merely dealing with these that catch my eye straight away as being preposterously wrong.

If there was any hope that the Leader of the House could be appealed to to go to Select Committee - but there is no chance of that, because we know the attack made on that side on the hon. member's agreeing to it.

9.25 p.m.

(ASIDES)

Mr. SPEAKER: I would remind all hon. members of the behaviour of members not speaking.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: What is the good of appealing? When a Government sees that a Bill is

hastily drafted, mistakes in it are pointed out and you appeal to the Government to let the matter go to a Select Committee unless it is prepared to accept the amendments, surely the Government says "yes" because it will not be hurt. But when an appeal is made, especially to the Leader of this House (*ASIDES*) The Leader of the House, in spite of all these years, does not know me. I am mild in what I do in here as compared to what I might do, or could do. (*ASIDES*) I sometimes make the stupid mistake of taking notice of grunts. Only certain animals grunt.

Mr. SPEAKER: Of course the hon. member does not make that mistake in this Chamber.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I have not so far made it. Then in the Schedule 3(2); "The Minister may if he thinks it expedient....." Could there be a more dangerous word in the English language than to say if you think it "expedient"? What is the test of expediency? Nothing whatever. This is one of the things that could be changed in a Select Committee. There is nothing whatever in the Bill to show what is expedient. You do not use the usual phrase "in the interest of the public", or "in the interest of the School". All things are lawful, says the good Book, but all things are not expedient. Equally, many a thing can be said to be expedient that is not lawful. He thinks it expedient. "I want to get rid of a critic in school, and it is expedient for me, the Minister, to get rid of him, and therefore he goes". Must this remain in a Bill passed by the Barbados House of Assembly?

Mr. Speaker, I repeat that they have their numbers, and anything can pass by a misuse of their numbers. But, thank God, it all adds up, and the public will know that it is not that the Government was right, but that it outnumbered the Opposition. (*ASIDES*)

Mr. SPEAKER: The behaviour of members not speaking. May I invite the attention of all hon. members not speaking to Standing Order No. 29, which they will find on page 27. Let the Hon. and Learned Leader of the Opposition proceed.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: May I respectfully suggest, Sir, that a direct speaking to the member not behaving himself would be more advantageous to retaining discipline in this House than merely referring to a Rule? It is time enough for people on that side to be spoken to, and spoken to harshly, by the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER: Actually, from each side I heard something which caused me to think it necessary to refer to Standing Order No. 29. It was from each side. All hon. members have consciences, and they know the position.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: If I may respectfully make the suggestion that Your Honour suggest to the senior member for St. James to behave himself and to the junior member for St. Thomas to behave himself, it would be better than referring to the Rules. I do not mean the general behaviour; I only mean now that Your Honour looked at the senior member

for St. James. It, therefore, meant that he had been talking.

Mr. SPEAKER: Each of those hon. members have given a smile of contrition.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I know how difficult it is in this set up for some conduct - I would not finish it, Sir. I think everybody knows what I mean. Again I apologise if I repeat a point that was made before. Even the English of this ought to have shocked the hon. member for St. Lucy who likes to trot out these phrases of his. How can you have prior approval? There is a contradiction in terms; you can only approve of something that is done. Can you, 'prior approve' of something that is not done? The language is hopeless. The only thing worse than this was the Sugar Bill in relation to wages where again by a show of using your numbers - smart Alec manoeuvres in order to get a Bill through before the Opposition could make their point that an arbitrator should be appointed to settle the Trade Union dispute - out came something that line after line was badly drafted. Even the Leader of the House agreed whenever one of us got up on this side and said that something was wrong. He said he would reconsider it and report it to the Attorney-General. It was the worst drafted Bill which I have ever seen in 40 years of public life.

I repeat to hon. members on the other side that they may carry a thing too far. We over here welcome the fact that you make these mistakes. They all add up. We can go to the public and tell the public that this is the position and let the public be the judges. Go on. It is a good thing to have a giant strength, but it is tyrannous to use it like a giant. That is what is happening here. You have the strength, you have the numbers and you threaten us. Do you think we on this side will ever forget that the Prime Minister stood up there and said that he had given instructions to the Attorney-General to control the Opposition in this House?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The hon. member is not now speaking about a Senator on or off the cricket field; he is speaking of a member of this House like himself. I categorically deny that the Prime Minister ever said in this House or outside of it that he had given instructions to the Attorney-General to do something about muzzling the Opposition. It is certainly not true.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: The hon. member categorically denies that. Let me tell the hon. member this: I would not believe the hon. member on oath unless he was corroborated.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: That is because you do not know the nature of an oath.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I would not believe the hon. member if he swore on oath in a witness box unless he was corroborated, because I have had too many instances of his making contradictions. I will

look up - I do not know if it is published in the *Official Gazette*, but I know somebody who has a record of what the Hon. Prime Minister said on that occasion. In future I will travel with it.

Mr. SPEAKER: Shall we continue with the debate on the Community College?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: The hon. member gets up and says he contradicts me on that. One of these days, Mr. Speaker, it will be a surprise to most of us, but it will be a good thing for the hon. member; he will unconsciously speak the truth.
9.35 p.m.

Because there has been great debate on this matter, I merely repeat that this Bill cannot be defended as it stands. The idea of a Community College as a priority cannot be defended, and if the Government intends to do what the Leader of the House has suggested, everybody will see as clearly as the noon-day sun that this is only a subterfuge for destroying Sixth Forms. Why can't the Prime Minister and the Minister of Education say that plainly and bluntly? There is no reason for destroying a century-old institution which exists moreover in all parts of the world, British or otherwise. All over the world you can find a Sixth Form, a form just underneath University, because you step out of the Sixth Form into University. The places that have not got a Sixth Form are those that cannot afford it, just like the Foundation School and so on. Every part of the world with a school system has a system whereby you step out of the highest form into the University. Prove that it has been a failure. Prove that you must get rid of it. What the hon. member is unable to say is that absolute assurance has been given by the Minister of Education or the Prime Minister that there is no intention in the immediate or the distant future to abolish Sixth Forms. Will they give the assurance that it is not their intention to abolish the Second Form in schools? If they can give that assurance, it is only commonsense that they should be able to give the assurance that they are not going to abolish the Fifth Form or Sixth Form. (A VOICE: What is he talking about a Second Form?) I said that, and I thought it might have penetrated the head of the Leader of the House. If you have no intention of abolishing the Second Form, you must have a similar feeling as regards the rest of the school, and you can easily say you do not intend to abolish the Preparatory Form, the First Form or the Second Form. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: But there is no Preparatory Form.) Imagine the hon. member saying there is no Preparatory Form.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The hon. member has just...

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Suppose there was or was not. I just say Preparatory Form.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the hon. member risen on a point of order?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No, Mr. Speaker. I give up.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Is the hon. member so silly, so abysmally stupid as not to see that all I was saying is that you have a school, you have a Second Form, but if you are not going to abolish the Preparatory Form or the Kindergarten or First Form, or call it whatever you like, you can say so? Why can't you say it about the Sixth Form? Nobody would dream of saying if there is a First Form or Second Form, he is going to abolish it. Equally you should be able to say you are not going to abolish the Sixth Form. That has never been said explicitly. You should be able to give the assurance.

As I said, I think every point must have been made by previous speakers. That is not to say that if the hon. senior member for St. James is inclined to speak, I would in the least stand in his way. In fact, I would welcome his contribution to the debate on behalf of the Opposition.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, after listening with rapt attention to the lengthy speeches on this side of the House, and also to the Leader of the House while piloting this Bill, and also after hearing the groans and grunts of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, I would be failing in my duty, Mr. Speaker, if on this occasion I did not make a contribution to this Bill. Sir, I shall not hold up this House with a lengthy speech, but what I would like to draw to the attention of the Leader of the House is this: is the Community College going to be the salvation of the poor results which we have been getting in recent years? Is this the answer, or is it that the whole structure of the educational system in this country needs looking into?

If we examine the system which is now in operation by way of the Common Entrance Examination, one can observe that in the month of February, there are some 11,000 children facing almost the stiffest test of life - and not only they, but their parents - to fill some 800 places. Of these, Mr. Speaker, there are approximately 5,000 boys and 6,000 girls. Of the original 11,000, we find that 3,500 will take the second part of this examination, and of these 3,500 there are only 850 places provided by the Government of this country for these children. I use that, Mr. Speaker, to bring out this point. Is it a Community College that is a priority now? Or should we have a high-powered enquiry into the whole system of education in a growing population in this country today? These are two things which I think should be of paramount importance to the present weak-kneed Minister of Education.

Mr. Speaker, while listening to the Leader of the House, one would only accept - and it is now common knowledge - that it is a Bill which has on more than one occasion raised the hair on the heads of the Secondary School teachers in this country. Only on Saturday morning the Secondary School Teachers Association held a General Meeting at Harrison College hall, and the Minister of Education was supposed to give the feature address. At 8.30 a.m. the parish-pump drunkard by the name of Earle Glasgow who is the President of the Association, received a

telephone call that the Minister could not attend because he had a flat tyre. The Minister who is responsible for some \$14 million of this country's revenue could not find it possible to address the Secondary School Teachers Association on an important Bill such as this, where fear is driven into their hearts because of the power that is vested in the hands of the Minister.

Sir, I am in sympathy with the Hon. Leader of the House for having to carry on his back a burden for the Minister of Education, his successor as a matter of fact, whose only contribution within the past months is to go from school to school telling this country what we know: that a latch needs putting on a toilet door, or a bundle of shingles needs to be put on a school, and having the Press behind him walking up and down, and having C.B.C.-T.V. put on what is known as the most outstanding programme - the Sandiford programme - thirteen times in one week, and fourteen times in the newspaper. That is what we feel, Mr. Speaker, on this side of the House. 9.45 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I remind the hon. member, as I have earlier reminded one other hon. member, that he should not refer to the conduct of a member of either House of the Legislature except upon a substantive motion?

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, I am not dealing with the conduct of the Minister; I am dealing with the Minister's functions, and I am quite sure that I will not be lacking in knowledge after hearing your Ruling this afternoon, and overstep my bounds. I am dealing with the functions of the Minister of Education in his present Ministry.

Mr. SPEAKER: That refers to the duties which he is required to perform as distinct from his conduct in the performance thereof.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I would not invite you even to ask the Reporters to read back anything which I may feel within myself I have said disparaging about the Minister of Education. All I am drawing to the attention of the House is that all the Minister has done since he has taken over the Ministry from the Hon. Leader of this House is to go from school to school saying where a latch should be put on a door or a bundle of shingles should be put on a roof. I am also drawing to the attention of the House that the Minister had a flat tyre at 8.30 o'clock in the morning. I do not think that there is any reflection on the character of the Minister or his conduct.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry that the word was misheard. Not character, but conduct. It may be the function of the Minister to order these latches, but reference was made, I understood, to his conduct in ordering them.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, as I go through this Bill, you will observe what is the conduct of the Minister. It states here that the Bill would make provision for the establishment of the Barbados Community College in order to provide a place of education offering

instruction in Agriculture, Commerce, Fine Arts, Liberal Arts, Science, Technology, and any other field of education which the Minister of Education may from time to time determine and for matters incidental thereto and connected therewith. The College would be managed by a Board, the Constitution of which is set out in the Schedule. Now listen to the Schedule; this is very interesting. I am dealing with the power which is vested in the Minister. The Minister may revoke the appointment of any member of the Board. That is only one thing, but what is of paramount importance is this: "The Minister may, after consultation with the Board, give to the Board (a) directions of a general character as to the policy to be followed in the exercise and performance of its functions in matters appearing to him to concern the public interest; (b) directions for the remedying of any serious defect or failure in the successful performance of its functions; and the Board shall give effect to such directions." The Board is only a rubber stamp, as I see it. The Minister has the power to fire the Board, the Principal, the Tutor; nobody can vest such powers in the hands of one man. Even if we were to win the Government of this country tomorrow, I could not support such a Bill putting into the hands of one man so much power. I am told that before the Hon. Leader of the House was a Minister of the Government, he was a teacher at a Secondary School. I wonder how the Minister would feel with the power vested in one man's hand to know that he is subject to that Minister and to be the Minister's lackey.

This Bill tells you that the Board can make an appointment and then go to the Minister for confirmation. The Board must ask the Minister if he will accept this appointment. The Minister only has to say "No", and there is no appointment. How would the Hon. Leader of the House feel if he found himself as a Schoolmaster under the powers of a Minister and subjected to such treatment - how would he feel about that? How would he feel if he had done some 19 or 20 years then to be told that he has to go on probation and then at the end of that probationary period he finds himself thrown out because he disagrees with the Minister's policy? You see, Mr. Speaker, the whole structure of this Bill gives the Minister too much power, and I will even give the Hon. Leader of the House some information. Only today while he was introducing this Bill, the Minister said that there was a delegation which went to the Minister's office yesterday and things were smoothed out somewhat. I should like to inform the Minister that when Mr. Glasgow, Mr. Arden Clarke and Mrs. Monica Skeete went to the Ministry yesterday morning and were confronted with two legal luminaries, the Permanent Secretary, the Prime Minister's Personal Aide and other members of the Civil Service - a high-powered Committee this little delegation was forced to meet. They could not have been speaking for an Association of some two hundred people because only at 8 o'clock this evening an announcement was made condemning the action of the delegation, that the delegation did not speak for the body of the Association; so you can see where this Bill.... (ASIDES) Well, if the Labour

Party can influence such an educated Body, I think some credit should be given to them. If because of having a general meeting on Saturday morning, having a Committee engineered to come in and meet a high-powered Committee of the Ministry and then you come back this afternoon and another announcement is made, you can see that there is too much controversy about this Bill.

9.55 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, what I would like the Hon. Leader of the House to do when replying, if he does - and I am quite sure that he is going to - is to give this Honourable House the assurance which I think would be in the interest of this nation, that there will be set up an inquiry into the whole educational system of this country. The problem is not at the top; the problem is at the bottom, where you get 350 girls who get into schools and more applying, and more sitting the Entrance Examination when there is less space.

I have seen, Mr. Speaker, on mornings around 8 o'clock whenever these Common Entrance Examinations are to be taken, you can see mothers from as far as St. Lucy bringing their children - they must have got them out of bed at 5 o'clock - bringing children between the ages of 10 and 11 to take such a test. It is not fair to the child.

Not only that, but you will observe that Jack Smale and his wife are the people who get 100 per cent passes, and yet a directive was sent to the schools not to tutor children along the Common Entrance Examination lines. There you are. Jack Smale and his wife, who would not give a receipt for \$65 a term - tax evasion - and who were occupying Government quarters and carrying on a business, and they were in a position to put up 100 children, and 100 got in! They have an idea of what type of examination these children will come up against, while in the Government schools a directive has been sent out by the Ministry of Education to Headteachers not to tutor these children along the Common Entrance Examination lines.

The Government says that there is free secondary education for all, but I believe that it is for those who are in a position to pay. You can find that those who can best afford to pay find themselves in the Government-aided Secondary Schools, and those who cannot pay find themselves in the Modern High School and the Federal School and the other types of Secondary Schools who are doing a good job in fulfilling the educational needs of the men and women of tomorrow.

It is necessary, therefore, in the interest of the Ministry, to examine the whole structure of the system and not to go in for a project that will cost another \$ 1/2 million - and we do not know what it will cost yet, to set up this Community College and staff it to meet September.

As a matter of fact, I will go further. The Minister in a Press release said that interested per-

sons have already applied for jobs. I would like to know, because we only had this Bill last week, but the Minister declares that interested persons have already applied for jobs. What jobs? No posts have been advertised. We are now trying to establish a Community College in Barbados, and yet the Minister said that interested persons have already applied.

People who will apply you will find are people like Glasgow, a disreputable character. You will find people like the former Secretary who was just thrown off the Secondary School Teachers' Association applying. You will not find Dr. Pilgrim applying. She would probably offer her services for nothing. She is a lady of character. You would not find Mr. Fab Hoyos applying. He too would offer his services for nothing. You would find people like Glasgow, a parish-pump drunkard. That is too mild a term to use.

It is too mild because we have had experience of this young man who is supposed to set an example to the youth of this country, a master at a school of repute like Lodge School, but who can find himself going around heckling meetings.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member keep to the Community College? I am not saying that he is breaking the rule referring to a person who is not a member of Parliament, but will he keep the debate to the question of the Community College?

Mr. CRAIG: Yes, Sir. All these people are likely to get jobs.

Mr. SPEAKER: But I understood the hon. member to say that it had not yet been decided to establish a Community College.

Mr. CRAIG: According to what the Minister said, interested persons have already applied; so the Minister apparently knows already who will get jobs there. I think that I am within my rights, with all due respect to your humble suggestion, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, here we are planning to put \$14 million in the hands of a man who has never seen or faced the electorate and who will never face the electorate. I am throwing down the gauntlet tonight. Not Leroy Sandiford. Not in St. James. Run? No, he runs to a flat tyre. He is too big a coward. He was always a coward.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member please speak on the Community College?

Mr. CRAIG: If I digressed for a moment, forgive me, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have forgiven.

Mr. CRAIG: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to draw to Your Honour's attention the present practice of Government Secondary Schools. I heard the Minister say in piloting this Bill through that there will be no fear. To the best of my knowledge, Mr.

Speaker, Secondary Schools have Governing Bodies which are appointed for three years.

During that three year period the decisions of the Governing Body are accepted by the Ministry. The Ministry respects the Governing Bodies.
10.05 p.m.

They put men on a Governing Body and they respect their views, but in this case it is not like that. I do not know what is the Minister's motive. I heard my colleague on my right, the junior member for St. Peter, say that, maybe, it might be his intention to be the Principal of the same Community College, Sir. I do not know, but, judging from his post as Master at Harrison's College, at \$500 a month; Personal Aide at \$800, and Minister of Education at \$1,000, there is no shadow of a doubt in my mind that in this Bill the Minister has the absolute power to appoint himself, maybe, at a salary greater than what he now gets, because in this very Bill it is stated that the Minister may appoint any person to act temporarily in the place of any member of the Board in the case of the absence or inability to act of such member.

In the Schedule, 3(2) states that the Minister may, if he thinks it expedient, revoke the appointment of any member of the Board. The Minister may from time to time change the Schedule; he can throw it out of the window; he has absolute power, and it is not fair that such noble men and women, who have spent their lives over the years in tutoring boys and girls so that tomorrow they will be able to guide this nation, should be placed in this position. It is not fair, and I cannot support it.

The Minister of State, the Leader of the House, in 1962 said that he had a new Education Act and it was only a question of dotting the i's and crossing the t's. Six years ago he had the draft. Sir, you are legally trained, and you would know when the draft is there it is only to dot the i's and cross the t's, it is almost ready to go on the Press to be sent to Parliament. Six years have gone by. The Advisory Committee on this same Community College never saw the draft of this Bill, and then the Minister got up and made a statement in the newspapers that he was advised by the Advisory Board - which Advisory Board did he have? Clarke and Glasgow? Do you take them seriously?

Sir, this Bill which is seeking to provide this country with a Community College is merely a prestige Bill. It is a Bill to prove beyond a shadow of a doubt that the present Minister of Education is more dynamic and is doing more in his Ministry in as short a time as the Leader of the House who was then former Minister of Education. (ASIDES) We all have our reservations. Tomorrow I am going to Manufacturers Life Insurance Company.

Sir, I respect that side for what it is worth, and I respect this side for what it is worth. I must give some credit to the Leader of the House, in spite of what we on this side may feel about him on this Bill,

for doing a good job. Praise is due where it is worthy, and 'Jack must have his jacket' is an old adage. He provided us in his Ministry with a broken-down Station which we had to subsidise with \$2 1/2 million. It is still something, and on it is the outstanding programme which you can see every night - the Sandiford Programme, an interlude. He has provided this country with a free Secondary Education. According to their Manifesto it says free education for all, but in this Bill it says "the Minister may from time to time charge a fee if he so thinks...." The Minister alone can do this - not the Cabinet but the Minister; not the same Board which the Minister is setting up. The Board is a rubber stamp, and it serves no useful purpose.

I see nothing in this Bill about the Board; everything is "The Minister may...." It is not fair. The Minister is trying his best by improving the School Meals system which we on this side brought about. Some of the children had dysentery and so on, but he tried his best. These things happen in the best of societies. It is unfortunate that the Minister of Communications and Works did not have a dose of dysentery too, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: That remark is totally unnecessary.

Mr. CRAIG: I have to give the Minister a little touch now and then, Sir. You will find, Mr. Speaker, that this Bill is not a Bill to solve the problems that are confronting the country by changing the educational system. This is merely prestige: "Sandiford gave Barbados a Community College." But what I would like to see Sandiford do is to extend the Sixth Form at Harrison's College whereby Queen's College and St. Michael's Girls can go over and do their Sixth Form work; provide Foundation Boys and Girls with a Sixth Form whereby they can do Sixth Form work, remembering that masters were there who tutored Bobby Thomas, now Mr. Thomas, an Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist, and who won a Barbados Scholarship from Foundation School. That is what the masters did on the side - there was no Sixth Form. I want to see Sandiford provide Coleridge-Parry, Alexandra and the Alleyne Schools, to serve the North, with a Sixth Form. You already have a Sixth Form at Combermere School.

If you are prepared to give access to the Private Secondary Schools, which do not have a Sixth Form, to do Sixth Form work, then you will be in a position to accommodate them at the various Schools to which I have just referred.

I am confident, Mr. Speaker, that this Community College is going to be a drain on the other Secondary Schools in this country. It is going to be a drain because salaries will be very attractive. It is human nature - like the same Minister from \$500 to \$800, and then to \$1,000. It is human nature to look for a piece of change. How are you going to provide the material in these Secondary Schools to go to the same Community College? Who is going to tutor the children? The idea is to prepare the ground work

and provide a solid foundation. Scrap the Common Entrance Examination, because that almost gave my daughter a nightmare.

10.15 p.m.

That is my contention on this Bill. Take the power out of the hands of the Minister and put it in the hands of the Governing Body of this College. Failing that, Mr. Speaker, unless I can have the assurance from the Minister, I cannot support this because with 11,000 children sitting an examination and only having 850 places provided they are not necessarily rejects. There are some people who develop at the age of sixteen. There are some children who cannot pass the Common Entrance Examination, maybe because of fear. They come out of St. Andrew and St. James. They hear about Harrison College and Queen's College, but have never seen them yet. A paper is pushed at them to be done in X minutes, and unless a child from a Primary School is brilliant, it has no chance in such an examination against a child from the Smale School; and Mrs. Smale won't pay one cent in income tax. She would not give you a receipt, Mr. Speaker, if you wring it out of her hand.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is irrelevant to this debate, whether a private tutor gives or does not give a receipt or pays income tax.

Mr. CRAIG: All of this is still under education, and Mrs. Smale.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid I disagree that that is under education.

Mr. CRAIG: That may be just a passing word. Mrs. Smale might be a bit ticklish, not for you, Mr. Speaker. You have had your fill. I am going to sit here and listen, hoping that the Minister, though he is not in his place now, would give a reply. I do not think, Mr. Speaker, that our criticisms here should go on deaf ears, because I believe firmly that we are as interested in this country producing some of the brains throughout the entire world as we have done in previous years, and I believe, Sir, that the Leader of the House could safely tell us that maybe in his days at College, it was always felt that people like Noad Haskell could always produce good scholars. Let us not, Mr. Speaker, at this stage of our lives and of the life of our nation, take a retrogressive step.

If the argument is that a Community College is the answer to our problems, I bow only on the strength that a high-powered Commission of Enquiry go into this. If the argument is to strengthen the bottom so as to produce better material for the top, like expanding Erdiston College and having better teachers trained, then, Sir, I will accept that. But I am not going to support this Bill as it is. The principle of a Community College, I know, can be a very ticklish subject, because in a political campaign one can safely say that we voted against this Bill, and we are not prepared to support education; but

out of a revenue in 1959 of \$22 million, we spent \$5 million on education. We have a revenue now of \$50 million and we are spending \$14 million on education, under which come Ecclesiastical Affairs, Archivist and C.B.C.; so do not say that we really did nothing for the country by way of our educational system.

Mr. Speaker, with those few remarks, I once said that the ruffle of the gown of Shaw-le-Fevre in 1891 drove fear into the hearts of hon. members in this House; maybe the clearing of your throat might force me to take my seat, and so I humbly do.

Mr. SPRINGER: Mr. Speaker, if the Hon. Leader of the House had tonight introduced a Resolution to scrap all forms of education in this country, it could not have had stronger objection, louder protests and lengthier discussion than was witnessed today. When we examine the record of the Barbados Labour Party, their behaviour today in obstructing the passage of this Bill is not surprising. I say this, Mr. Speaker, with the knowledge that most of us in this Chamber are old enough to remember when in 1945 under the leadership of the Labour Party who had the majority of seats in the Legislature at that time, and when Government Business was then led by the present Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Howard Hayden directed that this Legislature introduce a £5 bond that three years at a Secondary School meant absolutely nothing to a boy going to Harrison College or Combermere school. I remember the late A.E.S. Lewis talking for almost twice as long as the senior member for St. Peter today trying to obstruct the passage of the £5 bond.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that hon. member has not been in the House today.

Mr. SPRINGER: Thank you very much for the correction, Mr. Speaker. I meant the hon. junior member for St. Peter. I go further. I was at school at the age of sixteen, fortunate enough to go on from the Third Form to a Fourth Form, and unfortunate enough to see several boys thrown out of Combermere School because they introduced superannuation in the schools at that time. We are old enough also to remember, Mr. Speaker, that superannuation introduced into this Island several Private Secondary Schools, and several of the boys who were thrown out from these Government-aided schools went on to the Private Secondary Schools and made a name in this country.

I can understand, Mr. Speaker, lawyers not wanting the establishment of a Community College. Lawyers thrive on ignorance. But when I hear certain people like the hon. junior member for St. Peter who has not had the privilege of a Sixth Form education, and the hon. senior member for St. James who knows what he could have been if he had had this opportunity, oppose this Bill, I wonder if lawyers are not right in thinking that the best way to govern people is to keep them in ignorance.

Mr. Speaker, it is strange that we hear that Mr. Keith Walcott was a reactionary, that he voted against

Bills sent down by the Governor; but we get the Labour Party, who were supposed to be Socialists, promoting, piloting and arguing strongly for superannuation, age-grouping and a L5 bond. But it does not finish there, Mr. Speaker; it goes further than that. When this Government said it would introduce free secondary education, they said this country could not afford it, that it was impossible. Now they boast that there are 11,000 children sitting the Common Entrance Examination. It is surprising that there are not 15,000, Mr. Speaker, because education is free, and parents now realise that they can send their children to Harrison College. If you stand up near Harrison College and watch the physical complexion of the people who enter this school, you would know that they are not from the privileged classes. If you watch the ones who go to Queen's College, Mr. Speaker, no longer are they from the landed plantocracy of this country. They are the children of the domestics, and they are connected with the plantation. They are children of agricultural labourers, and that is why there are 11,000.

10.25 p.m.

There only used to be 4,000 because they were drawn from the wealthier classes of this country.

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

Mr. SPRINGER: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this type of argument in the promotion of the education of the people of this country has always been the defeat of the Labour Party. At all times they suffered this defeat. They could have had a majority long before 1951; but because of their attitude towards the education of the country, the now defunct Congress Party drove them into a coalition. It is this type of approach that they have, and I remember well the Party, led by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, saying in this House that a boy going to Harrison College for three years - that only gives him the right to wear the blazer with the crest and the school tie, and gives him a false assessment of his own importance. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I know, if you had two years there, what you would have been. Imagine that without that two years you can hold your own amongst those who had education from Harrison College up to University level free! They had it free, but now they want to deprive other people from getting it. Imagine that, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Very often in this House of Assembly I sit down and I listen, because I find out that not only is patience a virtue and silence is much more than golden, but when I see people who have never had an opportunity to get what we can really appreciate as a worthwhile education, stand up on the floor of the House of Assembly and try to deny other people from getting it, I wonder if it is just, plain ignorance or common inhumanity to man.

When we introduced free secondary education, the argument was that it was impossible, and when it came they were not satisfied that we were doing it. The argument then was that people who could afford to pay were getting it. The argument in that is as

ignorant as saying that because a man can afford to have a bodyguard, he is not entitled to Police protection. It is as stupid as saying that. I say that there are members of the Opposition with children going to the Government-aided Secondary Schools who would not subscribe more than they have to subscribe to educate their own children. I know this; they cannot fool me; they are glad that they do not have to pay. I do not worry about cost; cost of education to me has never been a problem. A Government has to be able to afford education, and the price could never be too high. I say that we are happy when the Leader of the Opposition, in his time as Leader of the Government, saw fit to increase the number of Barbados Scholarships from one to six, and we are sorry that there was not anybody else who could increase them from six to twelve. *(Laughter)* Cost has never been a concern with me in education. A man owes it to his children to have them educated, and a Government owes it to the country to have the Community educated. That is my philosophy in this matter. To argue that this is going to abolish the Sixth Forms at the Secondary Schools which have them now, does not hold water with me because I believe that Combermere was a good School without a Sixth Form, and if Harrison College did not have a Sixth Form, there would be less prejudice in this country than there is today. Most of the prejudice that exists at Harrison College exists because they had a Prep Form - which only provides work for two retired old people who could not do anything but teach a Prep Form - and a Sixth Form. If a Community College means meeting the vacuum and creating an atmosphere in which the 300 school-leavers who walk down Broad Street for eighteen months before either the law picks them up or they go to Canada and do some menial work - if the establishment of this Community College means destroying the Sixth Form at these schools and finding employment for these people to keep them in school, then I say: "Destroy the Sixth Forms."

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I believe in the greatest number, the greatest good. I have seen far too many people who were not able, previous to free secondary education, to go to the Fifth Form at Combermere School, walk the streets, become disillusioned, get involved with the law and end up as criminals. If the creation of this College will mean the abolition of the Sixth Forms and fill this gap and create an atmosphere in which these young people can work, then the Sixth Forms can go. I do not have anything to cry about the Sixth Forms that much. I did not have a Sixth Form education and I am glad that I did not have one, too.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, reference was made by the hon. senior member for St. James to the Barbados Labour Party starting a School Meals programme. That is news to me. I know that they started talking about it. If his reference is to the biscuits and milk, that was started by the Conservatives somewhere in 1938, the year after the riot - I was then going to school in Baxters Road to an old man called Joe Clarke, and I do not know if the hon. member means

that. The Barbados Labour Party was then a mere idea. I would say that as late as 1954, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition strongly opposed hot meals on the ground that it was only suitable for children in a cold climate. That was his argument then, but now it is working. Because of the fact that some children are taken sick, they are going to try to destroy it. Mr. Deputy Speaker, all of us at some time have eaten something and it has interfered with our stomachs. It might be eating; it might be drinking; but it does not mean that we stop eating or drinking. The School Meals service is here to stay. And the Community College will come and it is going to stay because we, the people - and when I say, "we the people," I am talking about the Government because the Government has the most in numbers, and numbers give you the Government, and the least numbers give you the Opposition. If they are happy in not having the numbers, we are happy in having the Government. (Cheers)

10.35 p.m.

There is no doubt about that. When you talk about power concentrated in one man, I believe in power concentrated in as few people as possible, and if it happens to be one man the power has to be concentrated in the hands of somebody.

If a politician has an idea - and it is said that this is Sandiford's idea - the power should be concentrated in him. I say that because there are several people who are opposed to the Community College; and if Senator Sandiford is the unfortunate one and you concentrate the power in the hands of someone opposed to it, the Opposition will say; "see what I told you; it could not work". So the person who brought up the idea should be given the power.

I believe in giving responsibility to as few people as possible. Talking about power, I have been in politics early, earlier than all the members in here except the Minister of Community Development and the Leader of the Opposition, and I remembered him talking about power, and when I heard him I believed that what he said was right. I have not changed my belief yet.

I heard him say: "Humby goes or I go;" and Humby went. I heard him say: "Give me the numbers and I have the power to do whatever I like. I can make a man; the only thing is that if I make one, I do not have the power to get him to walk."

I heard the Leader of the Opposition say - it was not told to me that he said so - I heard him say of Mrs. Daysh: "I made her a member of the Legislative Council, and if she does not vote for me for Federal Prime Minister I will unmake her; that is, if she gets a seat." I heard him say: "I brought Frank Walcott from obscurity and I will break him of his power."

He believed in that power when he had it. Well, now, if someone else has the power, believe in it too. There is absolutely nothing wrong in giving one man power. The fear is that he may use it badly. If

a man has an idea about something that he thinks is right and he convince the country that it is right, there is nothing wrong in concentrating that power in the hands of one man.

The slowest form of progress is democracy because it is concentrated in the hands of too many people. The strange thing about education is that there are more people ignorant about it than you can imagine, but everyone is his own expert. Everyone you hear talking about it says to do this and that. Everyone wants his child at an academic school. They do not want them to be at a trade school. They want something in his head.

Mr. Speaker, all the people who try to make money by their hands end up poor. You have to make money by your head. Anyone you see in a factory and rich, he is in an office upstairs, and the people down stairs are working with their hands. To prove it, God made it so that you can live without your hands - and you have two of them - but you cannot live without your head.

All of them will tell you to send children to a trade school, but look where they will send theirs. They will try to get them into Government schools. When you talk about Mrs. Smale, they would prefer to pay \$66.00 a term to Mrs. Smale to get their children into Harrison College free than to go to a vocational school or to the Trades Training Centre free.

Learning to use your hands is a last resort if you have found that you cannot get something into your head. The Community College is to fill this gap. There is not much more that I can say on this Bill now, but it is likely that something will come up during the Committee stage when I will have to say something on this Bill. I challenge them to say that they will not vote for the Bill because it is not a priority for this country.

The fact, Sir, is that whether it is a priority or not is a matter for discussion. I do not know what is a priority in education. Education is a priority in itself. I do not know how you can have a priority within a priority.

I could no more oppose this Bill than if they had brought one for the establishment of a Technical Training School. Education at any level is worthwhile and can never be too costly.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Bill be read a second time. Hon. members in favour will please say aye and those against it please say no. I think the "Ayes" have it.

On a division being called for, the question was resolved in the affirmative, the House dividing as follows:

AYES: HON'BLES A. DaC. EDWARDS, J. C. TUDOR, C. E. TALMA, G. G. FERGUSON, Mr. J. B.

YEARWOOD, Hon. N. W. BOXILL, Mr. W. R. LOWE, Mr. J. B. SPRINGER and Mr. R. St. C. WEEKES (9)

NOES: MESSRS W. C. B. HINDS, L. S. CRAIG, H. B. ST. JOHN and Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS (4).

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

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

Clauses 3 was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to move that Clause 3 stand part.

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, the Minister in charge of this Bill did not deem it his duty to reply to the House. I want to say under Clause 3 that if you cannot get the Minister to reply to the queries made from this side, we want to know at what level does the Minister expect to take in entrants. What does the Minister envisage will be the qualification for entry into any of these streams?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, the reply is four "O" Level subjects at one sitting, or five at more than one or the equivalent.
10.45 p.m.

Mr. St. JOHN: I thank the Hon. Minister. Secondly I would like to know which of these various subjects the Minister contemplates starting at the inception of the College?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Arts and Science.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to know this from the Minister. Does the Minister understand that the qualifications for entrance into the Community College are the same as those for entrance into the College of Arts and Science?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: It is not quite so. I can see what is bothering the hon. member. At the College of Arts and Science, admission is given on the basis of the "O" Level Certificates in order that people may do what they call the "Year One Course" at the beginning of a four-year degree; but if you go in with "A" Levels, you will do the ordinary University Course. This will only mean, of course, that some people will, instead of going to plough through the Four-Year Course, choose to do two years and get their "A" Levels and get the required or the appropriate exemptions from the regular College of

Arts Course when they come to do this. There is no duplication.

Mr. St. JOHN: I am a little disturbed at the fact that the intention is to start with Arts and Science in September. I would have thought that with the definite need here, both in the Government and in private employment, for people who have been properly trained in commercial skills, it would have been so clear to the Ministry that the training in Commercial Studies would have been regarded as one of the first priorities.

Secondly, there is great need here for people who have had some training, elementary though it may be, in Business Studies, and I would have thought, again, that this would have been an ideal opportunity to introduce an Introductory Course in Business Studies and a full Course in Commercial Training. I think it is wrong, if you have a Government that is spending \$14 million a year on education, to allow private institutions to extract fees in the order of \$300 to \$600 for Commercial Courses and to allow that to go away. That is bound to be wrong.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I want to revert to this entrance qualification. Here is a case where if a person possesses five "O" Level subjects, he can enter the University at Cave Hill for free education. If he has five subjects, he is being offered education for which he has to pay.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On a point of order. When the hon. member was speaking today I thought I heard him say this, and I was not quite sure whether it was in respect of the Community College that he was making this statement. Now that he has made it again, and I have heard him for myself, I wish to deny that categorically.

Mr. HINDS: I refer to Clause 14. I want to debate it now. Mr. Chairman, the Minister is denying that this is a fee-paying Institute.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Under Clause 3 there is nothing which stipulates that you should pay fees.

Mr. HINDS: I appreciate all that the Chairman has to say, but it is at Clause 3 where I am entitled to query the Minister and find out if people with five "O" Levels can go to the University College of the West Indies free, and with the same five "O" Levels this Bill states that you have to pay. The Board has the right to collect fees, whether it comes under Clause 14, Clause 28 or any Clause.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If the hon. member would revert to Standing Order No. 44, he would see that it states:

"Any Committee to which a Bill is committed shall not discuss the principle of the Bill, but only its details." Under Clause 3 there is nothing about fees. (Mr. St. JOHN: He is right.)

Mr. HINDS: I appreciate that we have to go to Clause 14. I have to respect what the Chairman has

to say. It is only a point of whether the Chairman understands what he reads. I am entitled under this Clause to speak.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I rule that you are not entitled to raise the question of fees under Clause 3. That is my Ruling.

Mr. HINDS: I have to respect the Ruling of the Chair. Mr. Chairman, I am not the Principal of this Institution; so I am not raising fees. You told me, Mr. Chairman, that I am not to raise fees. I am not raising any fees; if you are talking about debating fees, that is an entirely different matter. I do not run any private institution. I am wondering, again if the Leader of the House has given us the correct information. It would be better, if he is not in possession of the requisite or the necessary qualifications for entrance into this institution - I just do not see how he could be right, because with five "O" Levels you can go to the University of the West Indies free of charge, but under this Bill.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member really is drawing my attention to Clause 14 which is not yet before us. I cannot speak of Clause 14 under Clause 3. If he will wait he will find that he has not got so much of a point to press home, because I can tell him what the Government's policy is and will make the appropriate amendment.
10.55 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: If you are taking in students who have five "O" Level subjects, what are you going to lead them to? What is going to be the length of your courses? (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Two years.) So it will be two years to gain an "A" Level Certificate as against a four year course at the U.W.I. to gain a degree. Is that it?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Those are the facts.

Mr. HINDS: This is supposed to be a Community College. What kind of Community College are you going to establish? Now is there any age limit? Am I to understand that a person at 75 years, if he has five "O" level certificates and feels like studying, can enter? (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes.) Is this going to be a day College alone, or day and evening? It means that there is going to be a considerable staffing problem if it is a day and evening College running into night. I am sure, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister would like to tell us at this stage what applications happen to be in his possession and for what posts.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, there would certainly be none in my possession, and so far as I know, there could not have been applications received, because until this bill becomes Law, applications could not be processed. What I believe has happened - I have not been told this and I have been enquiring - is that from the time announcements had been made about the prospective establishment of this College, people have been writing to enquire of the Ministry of Education about the prospects of

being employed there, which I would imagine is a very legitimate thing to do. If they hear there is a new institution to be set up, they can only write and ask for information about it and what the prospects are of being employed in it. I would not call these applications. I would think that when this becomes law, the Ministry will in the customary form put out the usual advertisements in the Press inviting applications for the several posts. Only then can they be properly called applications and be entertained in the usual way.

While I am on my feet, I would like to take the opportunity to answer a point raised by the hon. senior member for Christ Church about the necessity of pressing ahead with Business Studies as early as the Arts and Sciences. His point is well taken, and I think that it is something which the Ministry will do. I will tell you why. They will be admitting into this Institution people who, perhaps as an alternative qualification to five "O" Levels, have got the L.C.C. Certificates in various Commercial subjects who wish to proceed, perhaps, to the London Advanced Level Commercial certificates or whatever it is called. They are going to admit such persons and provide the training for them in those subjects which would, of course, not be purely academic subjects. I will pass on to the Minister the point the hon. member has made, and make sure that Commercial Science including Accountancy, Book-keeping, Secretarial practice - the whole lot of them - are given the same sort of immediate priority as the Arts and Sciences. I will do this because I agree with it. My colleague has just informed me that he has already asked and got the assurance of the Ministry of Education that Agriculture will be included, and that officers from his Ministry are to be made available for teaching. I may say this: in the event that there is initial difficulty in recruiting staff, my colleague will correct me if I am wrong, it is my understanding that the Alleyne School Governing Body has already taken the decision to introduce Agricultural Science in the curriculum; so we are not as behind hand on these matters as hon. members opposite will have us believe.

Mr. HINDS: Is the Agricultural Science that is going to be taught at the Alleyne School the same Agricultural Science that will be taught at the Community College? In other words, will we now be seeing Agricultural Science being taught at the Community College and at the Alleyne School at the same time?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I am sorry; I did not hear the question.

Mr. HINDS: Are we going to have Agricultural Science taught at the Alleyne School and at the Community College at the same time?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The Agricultural Science taught at the Alleyne School is of an elementary form with a view to writing Agriculture

at "O" Level. The Agriculture which will be taught at the Community College is a step in advance of that. This will be more like the basics of a Degree course. A boy who has done Chemistry, Biology and Physics, or Chemistry and Biology, and who wants to pursue a course in Agriculture will have the beginning of his Degree course at the Community College, whereas the Agriculture taught at the Alleyne School is taught with a view to the boys or girls who are doing it writing the G.C.E. at "O" Level.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, if I understood the Hon. Leader of the House clearly, he said that Commerce is going to be introduced in the Commercial studies. This is what I would like to find out. You must have certain qualifications to enter the Community College. What would be the position of a boy or girl who is interested in doing Commercial studies but has not got the necessary academic qualifications? At present they go to Skinner's or Duffs.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I take it the hon. member would be thinking of a person over the age of sixteen who wishes to do an advanced course, but does not meet the entrance qualifications of the Community College. I should think that such a person would have to continue to pursue a course leading to the Entrance qualifications. They would, I think, have to continue, if they are at school, doing the commercial equivalent to the G.C.E. before they can enter. I have no connection now with syllabuses and standard requirements, but I expect you would have to have 70 or 80 words a minute minimum in Shorthand and Intermediate Typing and things like that. This is what I would think would be regarded as the equivalent of four or five subjects at "O" Level on the commercial side, plus English and Arithmetic or whatever it is. If you have that, you would be admitted. If you do not have that, you would have to pursue a course of study leading to the minimum qualifications at which you would study the advanced work.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, I do not think I made myself clear enough to the Hon. Leader of the House. Right now you can have a girl leaving an elementary school at the age of fifteen. She is interested in doing commercial subjects, but has not got the necessary academic qualifications to get into the Community College. As it is now, she has to go to Duffs or Skinner's Secretarial and pay approximately \$300 to get what the Minister said just now is the basic qualifications of 60 to 80 words a minute in Shorthand and Intermediate Typing to enter the Community College.

11.05 p.m.

What I am driving at is this; is it possible for a girl at the age of sixteen years to leave an elementary school without the qualifications and enter the Community College for the purpose of doing her commercial studies?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No, this would not be possible. The hon. member must know this, that the Ministry of Education for several years - it must be

easily three or four years, but for a considerable time - has instituted a system of Continuation Classes which are particularly designed to meet that fourteen to sixteen or fourteen to seventeen age-group. There are about 30 or 40 centres all over the country, in addition to those in the Metropolitan parish, in which intensive continuation work is done so as to provide the sort of training of which the hon. member is now speaking, which will bring them up to that level. In these Continuation Schools, if the pupils have the academic aptitude, they do a certain number of subjects leading to the General Certificate which some of them write, or they go to the commercial side and take the L.C.C. Elementary - and the more persistent of them do the Intermediate of Pitman's or whatever it is. This is now actually going on, and you will probably find that a large number of such persons already have the requisite qualifications for the Community College.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, again under Clause 3, it seems to me that this Community College in conception is purely a place which would give instruction. I would have thought that with this range of subjects, the College would be empowered to grant Diplomas or Certificates. When I go through the whole of this Bill, it seems to me that the College is tied to a system of external examinations, and it may be that within this range of subjects, you may not be able to get an external examination which is exportable. Some of these external examinations are not exportable, but surely, you should have such powers to give to the College. You call it a College and you have to give it some status. You say that it is a post-G.C.E. Institution, and if you want to develop your own course in Business Studies, what is going to happen to the people when they are finished? That is not an exportable thing. You should have a Clause whereby the College could grant Diplomas, Certificates and things like that. I do not see any power anywhere in the Schedule which deals with that.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member's point is well taken, but I would not expect the Ministry of Education to be able to say now that the Community College will be its own Diploma-granting Institution. I would imagine that, as with most educational institutions, they would have to start under some aegis or other, and when their standards are easily verifiable, then they branch out on their own. At a higher level, this was the case of the University of the West Indies. From 1948 to 1962 it wrote the Degrees of the University of London until it had its own charter, and it now grants its own Degrees; but educational institutions have this kind of teething problem. That is nothing that we would object to. My hope is to see a fully integrated College offering an even wider range of subjects than this, and in time producing its own Diploma which is recognised, not only in this country for the purposes of employment, but perhaps recognised by the University of the West Indies and by other Universities as conferring certain credits and certain exemptions from their own courses. I would like to say also that the time is soon coming when all the Secondary Schools and Secondary Institutions in this region will stop writ-

ing Overseas Examinations and write examinations managed and established by a Caribbean Examination Board. When that time comes, it would be for the Ministry of Education here or the Ministries of Education in this region, to consult with the Caribbean Examinations Board as to the kind of syllabus and diploma which both bodies think would be proper for an Institution such as this to have and to work towards and which would be recognisable throughout the whole region and beyond it. All of this, I think, is coming; I have no doubt about it; and that is why I say that the hon. member's point is so well taken.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the Community College is expected to commence in September. If boys and girls who recently sat their G.C.E., and even, as we expect, sometime around August, some boys and girls find that they have got three G.C.E. Levels in one sitting, and you have places in your Community College and they turn up at the College with three "O" Level certificates seeking admission there, what would you do for them? (*ASIDES*) You could not admit them. At the present moment the Government is subsidising Duff's Institute; are we paying fees for students there? (A MEMBER: Civil Servants.) Only for Civil Servants. Am I to understand that you are not paying for any boys or girls to take the Commercial course which will fit them for taking their place in Commerce here? Are you sure that you are not paying for any of those courses? 11.15 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am aware that in the.....

Mr. HINDS: Mr Chairman, Sir, we are having a lot of people in this gallery sucking their teeth.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would hate to think that the hon. member is asking me to notice strangers in the gallery. I would like to say that visitors are here on sufferance. At this moment I shall say no more. Let the hon. member continue.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I was saying that the Government.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have also noticed, and I hope that the Hon. Minister will not now talk on Clause 14 when we are now dealing with Clause 3. Let the hon. member continue.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I was explaining that in the Government's Training Scheme, funds are provided for training, either in this island or outside the island, for Civil Servants. This is handled internally by the Director of Training, and it is within this Scheme that certain people in the Public Service are sent to take courses at Duffs and to do advanced or refresher training in Palantype machines and these commercial arts. This is specialised training which some members of the Public Service are getting.

Apart from that, I know of no other funds being expended on people in this country by awarding scholarships or bursaries or any help whatever at these institutions.

Mr. HINDS: If it is five "O" Level subjects by which you can be admitted to the College, is the Minister going to stipulate that English must be one of the five?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: English must be one.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is that Clause 3 stand part.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I am suggesting to the Hon. Leader of the House an amendment that the word "free" be added after the word "of" so as to make it clear that free instruction will be given in any of the following fields of education set out in the Clause.

I repeat that it does not follow that instruction in any of the fields of education from (a) to (f) will be free. You should make it clear that you do envisage free instruction in all of the fields - acting within the policy of the Government of giving free education from the cradle to the grave.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I said that when we come to Clause 14, I myself will make an amendment which will not only meet the approval and point of view of hon. members opposite, but will be in keeping with the Government's policy.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: The point is that you should make it quite clear. Imagine telling a man of University level that you are not charging him, but telling a man at the Community College that you will charge him.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I said that we are taking out Clause 14 altogether.

Mr. HINDS: I quite support the view of the Leader of the Opposition. For instance, Mr. Chairman, you told me that under this section I was not entitled to debate the question of fees; but, listening to the Leader of the Opposition I now find myself fortified to do so, to defy the ruling of the Chairman.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: What I wanted to say was that the Leader of the Opposition was asking for an amendment. Rule 45 (2) says:-

"Any proposed amendments of which notice has not been given shall be handed to the Chairman in writing."

I was only waiting until the amendment was given notice of. I shall not permit any such fees to be talked about under Clause 3.

Mr. HINDS: All right, then, Mr. Chairman. With all due respect to your Ruling, Clause 3 (2) says that the aim of the College shall be to provide a place of education offering instruction in all or any of the following fields of education, etc.

Am I not entitled to ask if this institution will be offering instructions free or for money? I am

not going to mention the word fees at all. I am talking about money now. Am I not entitled to ask under Clause 3 if this education is going to be free?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes. The answer is yes. I told the hon. member that the point which is being made is not only accepted by us, but will be reinforced when we come to Clause 14 because we are going to take Clause 14 out.

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

Clause 4 was called and passed.

Clause 5 was called and passed.

Clause 6 was called.

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

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, Clause 6 (1) says:-

"There shall be established for the purposes of the management of the College a body to be called the Barbados Community College Board of Management."

Clause 6 (2) says:-

"The provisions of the Schedule shall have effect as to the constitution, functions and procedure of the Board and as to the organisation and staff of the College and otherwise in relation thereto."

Then we have sub-Clause 3 which says that "the Minister may from time to time by order amend the provisions of the Schedule."

Mr. Chairman, it is our opinion on this side that Parliament should not be deprived of having its voice heard upon the Scheme of Management of this institution which, whether you call it a College or some other institution - there is no Statutory Board in which the constitution and the functions of the Board of Management can be changed without reference back to the Parliament of this country.

Only last week, Mr. Chairman, you will remember, when we were dealing with the Legal Aid Bill, that there was a provision that the Cabinet on the advice of the Judicial Advisory Council could amend the Scheme. You either give that in negative legislation or with positive legislation.

I suggest as an amendment, and I have it here in writing, the words "the Minister may, subject to the approval of Parliament, from time to time by order amend the provisions of the Schedule."

11.25 p.m.

The Schedule contains the powers of the Board. It contains the whole of the relationship between the

staff and the Board, and we in here who have to vote money to provide for the maintenance of this College are going to have no control nor no say at all in the management! There is not one Statutory Board, not one piece of legislation which the other side can point to that has been passed before or after Independence which authorises a Minister to enlarge the functions of a Statutory Authority without reference to Parliament. Sir, I have the amendment here. All this means is that just as in a Statutory Board you have to come in here with a Resolution stating: "Be It Resolved that this House approves the so-and-so...." The point is that the Scheme is put up, and members of this House will have an opportunity to voice their opinion on the matter. It does not mean that this House takes the function of the Minister in creating the Scheme. It is the Minister who formulates the Scheme, but this is an unusual pattern and, in my submission, it is a pattern which, if accepted, will be depriving Parliament of one of its essential powers.

Mr. Chairman, I will delete Clause 4 and make it a positive instead of a negative Resolution. I remember, Sir, this point about the National Insurance Regulations. When those Regulations were made, they were subject to a negative Resolution. Now, psychologically, it is much better if the Government has to move the Regulations. It will be circulated with the Order Paper and all the Government has to do is to lay it on the Table of the House, and unless a negative Resolution is brought the Regulations will automatically go through. It is much better to make it positive.

Mr. CRAIG: I beg to second that.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to suggest to the hon. member that it would be more scientific to change "negative" to "affirmative."

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, I accept that suggestion.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: With respect to the hon. member's amendment, there will be fewer words and more scientific in draftsmanship.

Mr. St. JOHN: I will withdraw my amendment to 6 (3), and ask that 6 (4) be amended. In 6 (4), instead of the word "negative" I would say "affirmative, and that conforms with the Interpretation Act. May I state here for the benefit of people who may not know that the expression "subject to an affirmative Resolution" when used in relation to any statutory instrument or statutory document shall mean that such instruments or documents shall not come into operation until affirmed by a Resolution in this Chamber.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, before you put the motion, could I know precisely what the amendments are?

Mr. St. JOHN: In Clause 4 the word "negative" should be deleted and the word "affirmative" sub-

stituted therefor. The object of that is that under Section 41(5) of the Interpretation Act it says: "The expression 'subject to an affirmative Resolution' when used in relation to any statutory instruments or statutory documents shall mean that such instruments or documents shall not come into operation unless and until affirmed by a Resolution of each Chamber."

Section 41 (7) says: "The expression 'subject to a negative Resolution' - which you have here - when used in relation to any statutory instruments or statutory documents shall mean that such instruments or documents shall, as soon as may be after they are made, be laid before each Chamber, and if either Chamber, within the statutory period next after any such instrument or document has been so laid, resolve that the instrument or document shall be annulled, the instrument or document shall be void as from the date of the Resolution, but without prejudice to the validity of anything done thereunder or to the making of a new instrument or document."

My point is, Sir, that, if you put "subject to an affirmative Resolution," in an important matter like this, it is circulated beforehand and the Scheme or arrangement is circulated as a document, and members will get an opportunity of studying it; and bringing forward a Resolution in a positive form is a much better way than doing it in a negative manner.

There was an instance of the National Insurance Regulations issued the other day, and if it were not a negative Resolution when it came to the House there would have been no necessity for the hon. senior member for St. James to raise his point.
11.35 p.m.

It does not do violence to any drafting, and you are using the language straight out of the Interpretation Act.

The question that sub-clause 4 of Clause 6 be amended by deleting the word "negative" and substituting therefor the word "affirmative", was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

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

Clauses 7 and 8 were called and passed.

Clause 9 was called. It reads as follows:

9. The funds and resources of the Board shall consist of -

- (a) such sums as may be voted for the purposes of the College by Parliament;
- (b) all other sums of property which may in any manner become payable to or vested in the Board in respect of any matter incidental to its functions.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to move that Clause 9 stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, Clause 9 speaks in terms of money.

Mr. Chairman, that man Menzies Chase is annoying.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like to read Standing Order 69 (2). It reads as follows:

"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."

If any hon. member takes notice that strangers are present, I would have no other alternative than to clear the Gallery.

Mr. HINDS: The alternative is to ask the Marshal to put Menzies Chase at the door.

This Section, Mr. Chairman, says that "the funds and resources of the Board shall consist of (a) such sums as may be voted for the purpose of the College by Parliament." We are wondering if the Minister could give us a round figure as to what the launching of this College is going to cost us initially.

In sub-clause (b) it says: "All other sums or property which may in any manner become payable to or vested in the Board in respect of any matter incidental to its functions."

Now I think I am right in saying that I understood the Minister of Education to say from time to time that he was expecting some assistance from some other Government in establishing this College. It is at this stage that I feel we are entitled to ask what he expects to receive from any other Government or any other source, and to be given even in round figures a rough estimate of what is the launching likely to cost us. After all Mr. Chairman, one must appreciate the fact that it is going to cost money but we should not sit here and pass this Bill and then find that the sums asked for are far beyond what we on this side had been anticipating. Undoubtedly the Leader of the House, the Introducer of the Bill, could not have been sent here without having tucked away somewhere about his brain some knowledge as to what sum is likely to be involved in getting this Community College off its feet, especially when he affirms that it is going to be in operation by September. I want to hear from the Minister what information he has on this. If you have a building, Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister must have some plan for renovation or extension or whatever he is going to do with it. You should have some idea of what it is going to cost in the first year or first term or something. I do not want to tease the Hon. Leader of the House, because he would not run his father's

business like this. I feel that if the Minister searches his file, he must have an estimate somewhere that he can give us. In other words, has any construction work or anything been carried out at this College?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: We could not; we would not have this appropriation to do it from. I explained to the House earlier today that this Bill is not a money Bill, although obviously it has financial implications, because when you pass the Act which empowers the Community College to be set up, you have got to look for money to service it. At the same time, the Ministry of Education will now have to submit to Cabinet a Resolution with all its costing information arising out of the Act. In other words, the financial implications of the Act which is now being passed will have to come to Cabinet for a separate supplementary Resolution to be put before the House in Committee of Supply; but I certainly have no information now to tell the hon. member about this, because it just did not occur to us.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to say something on this particular Clause, and I am glad my colleague raised it, because earlier in the evening, during the course of the speech of the hon. junior member for St. Peter, he queried the cost of this project. The hon. senior member for St. Michael said that when it comes to education, nothing can be too costly. That is wild language. We cannot extract from the Minister how many Tutors there will be. We know you are going to have a Principal and Deputy Principal. Have you no idea of how many Tutors there will be and what are the salaries you envisage paying these people? Have you no idea of how many desks there will be, laboratory facilities and so on?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: That is a different question, because this is a question of the structure of the College. It is proposed to create - and the hon. member would have to work out the cost for himself because the Minister has not worked it out here - a post of Principal; two posts of Senior Tutor, one academic, one business; six posts of Tutor, five academic, one business; 13 posts of Assistant Tutor; one Registrar; two Stenographers; one Supervisor; one Laboratory Technician; one Messenger-Driver; two Cleaners; two Groundsmen; one Watchman.
11.45 p.m.

You could arrive at the salaries if I give you the information which I have available here. The Principal will be in the "G" scale. The Senior Tutor will be in the "I" scale; the Tutor will be in the "J" scale; Assistant Tutors will be in the scale G.E. 1-A; Registrar in the scale G.3 to G.1; Clerical Officers, G. 12 - G.A; Stenographer T.3; Supervisor, G.7; Laboratory Technician, G.7 - G.6; Messenger-Driver, L.3; Cleaner, Key Scale 52 cents per hour; Groundsman, Key Scale 66 cents an hour; Watchman \$4.40 per day. That is as much as I have here. A Supplementary Resolution will give this, plus whatever the appropriate salary amounts are in the scales. The hon. member will see this, but I cannot give him any more information because I do not have any more.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, there is just one little question which I would like to ask and it is this; what relation do these salaries bear to, let us say, salaries at Harrison College or in our First and Second Grade Schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I told the hon. member the scales; I would have to have the collateral information on the staffs of the Secondary Schools in order to see which members of these Staffs are in which scale. If the hon. member could possess himself with patience, whenever the Supplementary Resolution comes down to this House, all this information will be in. This Bill cannot establish the posts.

Mr. HINDS: I wonder if the Minister is willing to admit that it is within his knowledge that the Staff of this College will be better provided for by way of salaries than the other teachers who happen to be members of the Association of Assistant Teachers in Secondary Schools.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I cannot say so at this stage. If I were to admit that I knew this, I would be admitting that I am deceiving the hon. member. I really cannot say so.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Does the hon. member seriously say that he came in here without finding out some round figure, at least, of what this will cost?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am not saying so.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I expected that to be the answer; yet the hon. member gets annoyed when I say that I would not believe him on oath.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There are two hon. members on their feet.

The question that Clause 9 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 10 was called and passed.

Clause 11 was called. It reads as follows:

11. (1) The Board shall submit to the Minister -
 - (a) within three months after the end of each academic year, or within such further time as the Minister may allow, a report on the activities of the College during that academic year;
 - (b) on or before the 1st October in each year, a statement of its accounts, audited in accordance with the provisions of section 10, for the financial year ending in such year;

(c) on or before the 31st October in each year, its estimates of revenue and expenditure for the College in respect of the next financial year for the approval of the Minister.

(2) Copies of the reports and statements together with the auditor's reports thereon mentioned in subsection (1) (a) and (b) shall be laid on the tables of the Senate and House of Assembly.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 11 stand part of the Bill.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is that Clause 11 stand part. Hon. members in favour.....

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, Clause 11 tells us that annual reports, a Statement of accounts and estimates must be provided, and it says that "within three months after the end of each academic year, or within such future time as the Minister may allow" (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: "Future" or "further"?). I am sorry, Sir, "such further time as the Minister may allow." I am sorry for that, but hon. members on the other side know that I can read and read well. It says that "the Board shall submit to the Minister a report on the activities of the College during that academic year." We have had some experiences with these Statutory Boards. Some of them do not present their reports within the stipulated time of six months. Some are today presenting them after more than three years have elapsed. Take the accounts of the present Ministry of Education; fortunately for the Hon. Leader of the House, he is not now the Minister, but he must admit - I am sure that he is willing to admit - that he left them in a complete mess, in chaos. During his term of office there was a case of money being spent, as they spent it in Grenada, some years ago - squandermania. There was the squandering of money, and what we are saying is that, unfortunately for us, the Minister of Education is not answerable in this Chamber as such; hence whatever he allows his Board to do when it comes to the question of submitting annual reports and Statements of Accounts, estimates and things of that sort, he is just there. He does not have to answer although we have to vote the money. Whether it is properly accounted for or not, they will expect us to vote for it; and if they know that we are not prepared to vote for it, they have their army waiting. What we want to see is that the Hon. Leader of the House gives us an undertaking that they will try and see that the provisions of this section are adhered to, and that we will get these reports within the period of three months. I see that the hon. member is shaking his head and that he is ready and willing to give us that undertaking.

The question that Clause 11 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 12 was called and passed.

Clause 13 was called. It reads as follows:

13. The Minister may, after consultation with the Board, give to the Board -

(a) directions of a general character as to the policy to be followed in the exercise and performance of its functions in matters appearing to him to concern the public interest;

(b) directions for the remedying of any serious defect or failure in the successful performance of its functions;

and the Board shall give effect to such directions.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 13 stand part of the Bill.

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

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, under Clause 13 (b) it says that the Minister may, after consultation with the Board, "give to the Board directions for the remedying of any serious defect or failure in the successful performance of its functions."

This to my mind is one which raises some of the dangers which have been referred to. It would appear as if the Minister is being invested with too much power. I disagree with this paragraph from this point of view, and I hope that the Minister would find it possible to interpret this particular Clause for me.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If the member searched the relevant legislation dealing with Statutory Boards he will see that there is this similar provision. The Minister gives directions. You will find it with the Transport Board, the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation and I think, the Urban Development Corporation and the Agricultural Development Corporation. This is nothing new in it.

Mr. CRAIG: Would it not be better as in other schools to have a Governing Body than a Statutory Board? In a Statutory Board the Minister has the right to revoke an appointment. I am asking if it would not be a good idea rather to have Governing Bodies of the schools where there is less political interference.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I cannot understand the attitude that speaks of political interference. What sort of person would accept appointment to a Statutory Board and not expect the Minister to give directions for the carrying out of the policy of the Board?

Of course you can have a Statutory Board whose members are at variance with the Minister. It is not always a question of revoking an appointment, but the Minister must be able to give directions on

policy, and he must be able to say that this or that defect in the execution of policy should be remedied and that that is where he thinks it ought to be remedied in keeping with the policy already laid down or to be laid down.

When he talks about political interference, if you have Ministers executing policy through Statutory Boards, what interference do you expect other than political interference? It should not be arbitrary or capricious, but if it is based with reference to the policy of the Minister of the Government, he gives directions in the light of that policy.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, this question comes up periodically. A Minister is a politician as such - not a religious Minister. If a Minister is responsible for everything that goes wrong, he must interfere politically to see that things are kept right.

A Minister appoints a Board with the approval of Cabinet. Although you see a Minister here, he still has to have the approval of the Cabinet. He has to put up his proposals to the Cabinet. I want to make it clear that political interference by one who is responsible is better than interference, non-political by a Civil Servant.

Mr. HINDS: When the hon. member who has just sat down speaks about a Minister being responsible - responsible to whom? Under this Bill to whom is the Minister responsible?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The Minister is responsible to the Cabinet, and ultimately to Parliament.

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

Clause 14 was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move the deletion of Clause 14. It conflicts with the establishing policy of the Government. I do not see how it escaped me.

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

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

The Schedule was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that this be the Schedule to the Bill.

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, Clause 14 of the Schedule says that "the Principal of the College, in this Schedule referred to as the Principal, shall be appointed by the Board with the prior approval of the Minister." I have never seen in any of the statu-

tory legislation of this country the word "prior" used.

12.05 p.m.

What does it mean? As I understand it, it means that before the Board can consider anybody for appointment, they have to inform the Minister first and obtain his approval. I can understand, in the pattern of all of your Statutory Board legislation, that appointments above a certain level will have to be approved by the Minister; but what is the meaning of "prior approval"? I move that the word "prior" be deleted? What is meant by "prior approval"? (ASIDES) If you tell me about C.B.C., I know that the Board recommended Ian Gale for the post of General Manager, but the Minister did not agree with it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That does not stand part of the Bill.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, I was only trying to find out by using comparison and actual instances. (ASIDES)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Again I say that this sitting is not suspended, and I expect hon. members to observe Standing Orders.

Mr. St. JOHN: Clause 12 states:

"the staff of the College shall consist of a Principal and such number of Senior Tutors Tutors and other employees as the Board, subject to the approval of the Minister, may from time to time determine."

You do not have any prior approval there. Why do you want to have prior approval?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I only want to know if the members of the Board are going to be paid for attending meetings and, if so, how much? There is also a point here with regard to Clause 17(2) which states:

"On first appointment a member of the teaching staff shall be required to serve a probationary period of one year unless the Board, with the prior approval of the Minister, dispenses with the requirement to serve a probationary period."

Do you not think, Mr. Chairman, that with the retention of this Clause there poses a problem for an applicant? There are no two ways about it. This is a personnel matter, so to speak, and personnel matters ought to be dealt with by the Principal and the Board, and by all means refer them to the Minister in due course. I would like to hear what the Leader has to say on Clause 17(2) regarding this probationary period. There is an expression that if somebody does not like your head you will serve the probationary period, but if you find favour with somebody, and with the prior approval of the Minister, you will be retained. (ASIDES) Do not worry with him; just get up and reply to me. He can provoke things and make them go too far.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The Hon. Minister was making a valid point. He was asking why it is always assumed that a Minister will act irrationally or irresponsibly. The point the hon. member made is answered this way. I have answered it before. I have said that even now under present conditions the Head of a Grammar School can dismiss with only one month's notice any member of his staff still on probation, and there is no question of the right of appeal or re-hearing, or even asking for a second chance if you have a chance. This can happen now. Whether or not the teachers have a strong Trade Union is besides the point here. As I see it, there is greater security in this Bill - I am not now talking about people on probation - even for people appointed than there is under present conditions.

Mr. HINDS: You have not answered the point about whether you are going to pay members of the Board.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I see no provision here for that.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I would like the Leader of the House to go back to Clause 3(2) on which I made a comment on the Second Reading.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: 3(2) of the Schedule?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Yes. The Minister may, 'if he thinks it expedient'. "Expedient" is too wide and wild a word. Look across the page to Clause 13(a) and see the words used there. Instead of "expedient", I am asking the Leader of the House to look at 13 and see the words used there. I refer to the words "in matters appearing to him to concern the public interest." He gives directions to the Board on matters of public interest. Is not that a far better expression to use than the word "expedient"? How can a question of public interest be expedient? It may be expedient to deceive the public, but it is not necessarily in the public interest. (ASIDES)

I used to teach once in an elementary school a long time ago, and I am not starting it again now. If the hon. members do not understand, then they do not understand. Let them get a dictionary and look it up.

Mr. HINDS: I would like to ask the Minister this one question. Are there going to be varying degrees of expediency?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes.

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

12.15 a.m.

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

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I do not propose to do any further Government Business now.

I beg to move that this Sitting be now suspended until 10.00 a.m. of this day's date.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order, it is silly to talk about suspending the sitting. If the objection is raised about a new Order Paper, can't the Hon. Leader of the House make a motion that the Order Paper for tomorrow shall be today's Order Paper? You suspend the sitting in spite of what some hon. members may think - ask the Clerks of the House of Commons - for a time, just as His Honour the Speaker has already suspended for an hour today. But when you are dealing with a new day, you adjourn the House. You can adjourn, and the Order Paper remains the Order Paper of the day. You are starting something fresh. There is nothing before the House to suspend the sitting on and take up where you left off. Why can't hon. members on the other side believe that sometimes, at any rate, suggestions from this side are right and have sense behind them?

The question that this sitting be now suspended until 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 17th July, 1968, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

12.20 a.m.

On Resumption:

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: When the sitting was suspended earlier today, Government Business was under consideration.

Order No. 2 stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House, and it is 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. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply, and that it be an instruction to the House while in Committee of Supply to deal with the two money Resolutions of which notice was given earlier in this sitting.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE, 1968-69 No.10

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, as the Addendum sets out, the sum of \$21,447 is required to meet the cost of repairs to areas along the sea coast which have been damaged by the sea and to make provision for any minor damage which may occur during the current financial year. The estimated cost of repairs to areas already damaged is \$16,447 as follows: (i) completion of Greaves End - \$5,697.00; (ii) area between the Barbados Marketing Corporation and the Harbour Gate - \$5,550.00; (iii) area near the former College of Arts & Science - \$5,200.00. The sum of \$5,000 is included for unforeseen works.

As everyone in here would remember, Mr. Chairman, this is the hurricane season; but apart from that, between January and February of some years - and I have been promising to study it - we get about four days in a month during which there are some heavy ground swells which tend to damage the sea defences. You will remember that as soon as we became members of the Legislature, the Deep Water Harbour was threatened because of some of these swells which started scouring out the Harbour and we had to bring in the Highways and Transport Department to do some work - and they did a first class job. Since then we have had a similar incident recently which took place at the Esplanade and at the beach facilities at Greaves End which completely took down the wall. This money is being asked for in case anything happens so that I can move in immediately, without having to come to the Legislature for approval of money, and arrest the situation before it gets too far, even if we do not completely finish the job and we have to come back to the House and ask for more money.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, this is not a Resolution to be opposed by anyone, and I do not propose attempting to do so today. Nevertheless, Sir, it cannot be denied, as we have got from the mouth of the Minister in charge of the Resolution, that there are times when we get unaccustomed tides and consequent damage to our sea defences. The Minister also made mention of the fact that at some times we were tempted to throw a portion of the blame for some of this damage on the siting of the Deep Water Harbour. I am somewhat inclined to the view that at areas stretching along Fontabelle area and Brandon, Brighton area and at Prospect as well as further along the West Coast, there has been what might be classified as encroachment and damage caused to properties in the area, and we feel that the Minister's request for this sum might better be served if a complete survey could be carried out. It could not be expected to produce 100 per cent accurate results, but much information might be gleaned from persons who have reasons to pay attention to the change of tides and to weather conditions, because you usually find when the sea is disturbed that the weather over the land is also the unexpected type of weather.

From what I know, I can say that observations are being carried out along the West Coast where wooden structures bearing red flags have been planted, and periodic visits are paid by those concerned using red-painted boats to see where the sea's encroachment is likely to cause concern. I am to wonder if the Minister can enlighten us on this or if his Ministry is in any way in touch with the survey which I am sure everyone on the West Coast of this Island welcomes. I have not been on the other side of the Island to know what is being done or if something like this is being attempted. I do not know over what period of time the survey will stretch but I appreciate that it cannot be done in a day, and in fact might take years; but we have got to try to alert property owners even in their own interest to note at what times of the year they experience these tides, and report either to the Police Stations or to the appropriate Government body any unusual currents or changes of tides which in any respect tend to justify the knowledge that encroachment took place at a particular point at a particular time of the year, as the case may be.

10.10 a.m.

Now, Sir, this Resolution is for the sum of \$21,447 and it is required to meet the cost of the repairs to areas along the sea coast which have been damaged by the sea, and to make provision for any minor damage which may occur during the current financial year. I think I have it that the Minister gave us to understand that the damage referred to in the Addendum to this Resolution is supposed to have occurred, roughly, during the months of January and February of this year. I think I am right in assuming that the Minister tried to convey this to us. That being so, he might be attempting to take care of the situation by asking that consideration be given for him to meet any unforeseen minor damage for the rest of the financial year. At the Esplanade on Bay Street I find that there is the need for some sort of railing, whether of concrete pillars or whatever you call it, decorative or else, or it might be ordinary galvanised pipe or some metal rail which would stand up to the salt from the sea. At the Esplanade there is a long stretch, and you will find that people with children and nurses - I see them at night - you see people with their children walking along the sea front up there, and I feel that some sort of railing should be put up there, not to obstruct anything, but to add to the beauty of the area. It would help to enhance the beauty of the area at the Esplanade, and it would serve an extremely useful purpose in protecting the lives of people, and particularly the lives of little children who are taken there on afternoons by their guardians, nurses or who else, to give them an opportunity to play there.

I do not know what this completion of Greaves End really means, and I am asking the Minister if he would try to enlighten me in any way on it. I understand that in the area of the Barbados Hilton, people are not permitted to go there and bathe freely. I understand that there is some gentleman who took it

upon himself to order people away from a part of that beach not far from the Hilton Hotel, but evidently in the Graves End area - people who had gone there with their luncheon baskets - a party of two - and they were rendered somewhat uncomfortable. Fortunately, there was in that party someone who knew of their rights, and the gentleman who had tried to have these people removed from the area did not meet with the success which he had expected. I think that this is a case in which the Minister might be in a position somewhat to be able to tell us exactly what this completion of Graves End really means, and to assure us that it is not an area where any private person just feels within himself that perhaps, because of the colour of the skin of others around, they are not entitled to be in that particular area. I just want an assurance from the Minister that that is not the case.

Now, Sir, as to the area between the Barbados Marketing Corporation and the Harbour Gate, the cost of repairs is estimated at \$5,550.
10.20 a.m.

One thing that comes to my mind is this. I wonder if the Minister can tell us or is in a position to tell us whether the repairs have already been carried out or are now to be executed. Are we to vote money for work that has already been done? I feel that there is a necessity for a full investigation of conditions even from the Public Health point of view in this area.

And the Minister may very well find that the sea defence work at this point requires much more than the sum asked for here in this Resolution. I do not for a single moment feel that the Minister would try to come before us and have us vote money for a matter of this sort unless it was absolutely necessary; that is the confidence we have in the Minister on this particular occasion.

I cannot stress too highly the necessity for not only repairs to sea defences, but even beach protection in this particular respect. I must say again that beaches along the West Coast are now kept not in a sanitary manner as was the case prior to the abolition of the Local Government.

I well remember seeing beach cleaners at work along the West Coast from time to time and it was something to be welcomed. All of this has now disappeared. On the beaches along the West Coast from time to time you find dead animals, and as far as we can gather, there is no one now on whom you can call as in the past and report that you have seen a dead animal on the beach, and have it removed with the quickness as was the case in the past.

There is another point which I would like to draw to the Minister's attention on this question of sea defences. I must say that in the Prospect area in St. James where I live, and further along the coast there have been constructed some culverts or tunnels for taking water from the hills and carrying it to the sea. Now you find that undoubtedly - there are three

which come to my mind most readily - there is abundant evidence that the engineering ability applied to the construction of these tunnels or culverts was certainly sub-standard.

As a consequence you find that there is now a recurrent expenditure where the sea almost daily and weekly throws the sand into these tunnels, and labourers from the Northern District have got to go regularly and remove that sand which is deposited in these tunnels. In the three which I have in mind, in the Prospect and Fitts Village area, in each case the poorest of engineers can go there today and see that with proper supervision these tunnels could have been constructed in such a manner that it would take a truly exceptional tide to bring the sand and deposit it in these tunnels. I see the Minister of Trade seems to be saying that it is true.

Let us deal with the first of these tunnels which I have in mind. This one passes between two plots of land belonging to Mr. K. C. Browne, the Solicitor. The biggest novice about building can go and see that there is a height of more than 12 to 15 feet in the Prospect Bridge on the seaside, but on the land side there is a height at which any engineer who knew what he was about and not merely trying to save money on the project - any sensible engineer would have gone on the land side of the beach and arrested the flow of water before it dropped.

If we gave it a distance of even eight feet from the bottom of the bridge or even 12 feet, it would still, when you reach under the bridge, be, say, three feet higher so that when you reach by the sea and you give yourself one drop, you will still be 12 feet higher at that end where you put down your gabions.
10.30 a.m.

Believe me, when I go along the beach and I see this type of job, I say to myself that I am glad I am not an engineer - at least the one who did that job. If he had done that job for a private employer, I am sure he would have been asked to pay for it and he would hardly have got another job in Barbados.

I am not trying to deprive the labourers who are employed weekly to remove the sand that has been deposited there by the sea. I am not at all trying to deprive them of a job; but in the particular tunnel with which I am dealing, where they have left what we call the ridge - I am not an engineer and I do not know the technical term for it - one can go there right now and put down a 2-inch concrete slab on top of what they left off up to a point of from 4 ft. to 6 ft. beyond the bridge on the land side. It would throw off every drop of water that flows down there, and we would never see sand deposited there unless the sea reached the height it had reached in the year 1955 when we had Hurricane "Janet". I am confident about that.

There is one that runs next to my own land and land at Good Shepherd School. Definitely if one were to go there and see where the engineer decided to afford water a drop, which was unnecessary, one would

see the position. You drop the base of your tunnel so low that when you reach the sea it would actually be in the sea. You may put two gabion baskets against which the sea may beat, but, to my mind, it is just causing unnecessary recurrent expenditure which could have been avoided if the engineers knew what they were doing. Perhaps if a layman had been asked to give an opinion, the additional expenditure could have been saved.

When we go to the house called "Quinta mia" at Fitts Village the situation is worse. I can go just past Sandy Lane, next to the St. James' Rectory, and see a similar situation obtaining there. It shows clearly that, when this work is being carried out, nobody is paying sufficient attention to what should be done. In other words, because you employ an engineer and he is a Specialist, you accept everything he does regardless of what it cost the taxpayer in the long run. That is not good enough.

We have some people in this Island who have never had an opportunity to get this Specialist training, but we have people who have been ordinary Foremen in the Public Works Department who would tell you that if they had been entrusted with the construction of these drains they would never have been like this.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that I have said enough on this matter, and I must urge upon the Minister to see what information he can get to help him to base his findings on a much sounder footing. This question of sea defence work is something that has to be approached and tackled from time to time, and nobody would be annoyed with his making a proper survey as best he can and coming before this House and having a considerable sum voted, if this work is going to be carried out properly. The best results would go to the property owners along the sea coast.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Chairman, if I can add anything to this debate to help the hon. junior member for St. Peter with regard to erosion on the West Coast of Barbados and in general, it must be remembered that Barbados is a coral-formation Island. If the pattern of this Island is watched on the entire West Coast, you will find that the erosion takes place between the coral reefs. A coral reef in one position with another coral reef North or South of it means that the erosion actually takes place in the indentation. The heaviest indented bays in this Island will always be between two main reefs.

Barbados is situated within the area of the trade wind belt. Twice every month you will have spring tides: a spring tide with the new moon, and a spring tide with the full moon. During the period between November to March when the trade winds are strongest, Barbados' geographical position as the first land-fall from the Atlantic forms a barrier, and if these trade winds are blowing strong during the period of new moon or full moon when you will have your maximum tides, they would be aggravated by these things which would cause very heavy erosion.

It is not only these things to which I have referred, Mr. Chairman. The hon. junior member for St. Peter is not the only person that I have heard make remarks that erosion has taken place on the West Coast since the building of the Deep Water Harbour. That is untrue. The West Coast of this Island has been eroding now for many years. I was born in Fontabelle, and I know this entire Coast. Long before the Deep Water Harbour was built, all along Brandon Beach, where there is now sea, there used to be trees growing on the beach. The sea was a far greater distance from the shore than it is now. It has eroded hundreds of manchineel trees and other trees that lined that entire beach.

One of the main sources that must be remembered in a coral-formation Island that coral is something that is living, and that due to the amount of dynamiting and explosion that have taken place along this entire area, all of the coral polyps have been killed. Therefore there is no more building up of this reef to form a natural protection for the Island. In all coral Islands where you find offshore reefs, the reefs offshore form the protection to stop erosion. If the reefs are no longer living whereby they can grow up and come higher to sea level to form a natural barrier, then erosion will take place.

It is the same, Mr. Chairman, as forming groynes. Groynes form one side of a protection; but wherever you put a groyne, and you watch it carefully, you will find scouring taking place between any two groynes because part of it is the same sand that built up one area and it must come from somewhere else. The usual tendency in this area is a West/North-West equatorial current, and the strength of the current coming down will put deposits on one side and take them from another. I am perfectly sure that there are areas now where, as a boy, I used to play under trees, and today the roots of them are now in the sea. This is the entire pattern of the entire West Coast.

10.40 a.m.

The hon. member has been making mention of drainage and canals on that side. Again I would like to draw to his attention that during the period of about two days before a full moon or new moon and two days after, you get excess high tide. Now in Barbados, the highest spring tides and the lowest tides you will find would be during the month of May. If we had strong winds during the month of May together with any Atlantic disturbances like Atlantic gales, you would find that scouring would take place during that period, because if it takes place when there is a full moon or new moon with two days on either side, when aggravated by the trade winds, the scouring would be much heavier. The entire coast stretching from Christ Church Lighthouse to the North Point Lighthouse has eroded considerably on certain days during the last fifty years. I can afford to say this; so it is not due specifically on the West Coast to the siting of the Deep Water Harbour. Any person who lived on that coast can tell you that long before the siting of the Deep Water Harbour erosion was taking place in that area.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, it is something to be regretted that with the abundance of expertise available to Government through the Hon. Minister, we still find conditions obtaining after the canals which I have complained about were constructed. If the Hon. Minister's nautical knowledge had been made available to the engineers carrying out this construction work, they would have in the first place timed the execution of the work, and so meshed it in so as to see for themselves what is expected to happen at a particular time of the year, and construct the canals to see how best they could combat such situations. I wonder if this knowledge was passed on to the engineers to help them in the construction of these canals.

I can appreciate what the Hon. Minister said about Barbados' coral and that it is something living; but I do not subscribe to the view that on the West Coast there has been this amount of dynamiting to have so destroyed the life of the coral. There has been dynamiting by the lawless, but let us picture in our minds the almost twelve-mile stretch of coastline. To what extent would there have to be dynamiting to thwart the growth of the coral in the area? I have lived on the West Coast for about fifteen years now, and I want to tell the Minister that sea life is my hobby while it has been his vocation, and in my own interest I pay special attention to it. I am willing to say that I do not have the expert knowledge of the Minister on these matters, but I am also willing to bet that any resident in the area or anyone interested in the sea in the area would tell you that the flow of water that approaches from Bats Rock and Charles Fort Area to an area north of the Risk at St. James is vastly greater since the construction of the Deep Water Harbour. If the siting of the Harbour is not responsible for the shifting of the tide, I do not know what is; but unless the Harbour had been sited there and something else had been sited further north.....

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I can scarcely hear the hon. member for the amount of noise that is emanating from behind the Chamber. Would you be so kind as to ask the Clerk or the Marshal to go and stop it? I do not know if you can hear me.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I do not know what type of construction has been carried out, if any, as far north as the North Point U.S. Facilities area, but I am willing to agree with the Hon. Minister that between any two such points as the Deep Water Harbour and if there had been any construction at any other point further north, you might experience shifting of tides or a greater flow of water and a greater amount of erosion, encroachment by the sea or whatever you might call it.
10.50 a.m.

I still maintain that since the construction of the Deep Water Harbour, anybody on the West Coast as far north as "Quaco Bob", must give the Minister the information that he has been experiencing a considerably greater flow of water approaching the land.

I am not saying that the Harbour is the cause of it, because I am not an authority on this type of thing; but the Minister might be in a position to enlighten us on this matter.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member should remember that the line of the wall of the breakwater is in a northerly direction, and the flow of the current would be somewhat slightly west or to the left of the angle of the running wall. What the hon. member should remember is that prior to the building of the Deep Water Harbour, there was Pelican Island, and if we should get any extra flooding or building up of tides, that should be on the southern side along the Marketing Corporation; and that angle has blocked off the flow of water which would normally have come between the Island of itself and Pelican Island. Now, that has been actually blocked off; so if there is anything, I think that the water should flow back on the southern side of the Harbour rather than encroach on the northern side. In other words, with the southern winds blowing, the flow of water formerly would come between Pelican Island and come along down. That has been cut off; so that if there is any building up, it should be building up on the other side. I cannot see, from a commonsense point of view, how it could build up on the other side. If the wall of the Harbour was running at a different angle, that could cause the flow of water to build up; but the wall is at a northerly and a slightly west angle in the same direction of the normal flow of the equatorial current which prevails around Barbados. It would only be in between where the water would flow along the breakwater and Pelican Island which would stop that from flowing down more, it would have to be built up on the southern side. I do not quite see how the Deep Water Harbour could be responsible for any building up of currents.

As I said before, long before the Deep Water Harbour was built, all along Fresh Water Bay, from Bats Rock right up we have had very heavy erosion. I was born and lived along that coast, and I know that entire coast of Brandon's beach. I knew when canes used to be planted there. There was not a house along Brandon's beach. Those trees, where people used to go and undress and bathe, were manchineel trees away from the sea. All of those trees have been eroded, and that was prior to the construction of the Deep Water Harbour. That is evidence to prove that the erosion was taking place before the construction of the Deep Water Harbour.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1968-69 No. 11

CHILD CARE COMMITTEE

A Resolution for the sum of \$8,000 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the Addendum to this Resolution sets out the purpose for which these two amounts are necessary. The first note reads that it is proposed to increase the annual sub-

vention to the Child Care Committee to enable it to meet additional commitments, etc. I think I had better give hon. members a little more detail and do it all at one time. (Laughter) The position, Mr. Chairman, is this: I am quoting from the Committee's Chairman's Report, and the Chairman of this Committee is now Mrs. F. G. Reader, Dr. Reader's wife. The Committee is comprised of Mrs. F. G. Reader as Chairman, Mrs. B. Banfield, Honorary Secretary and Mrs. S. A. Blanchette, Honorary Treasurer. The Social Welfare Officer and the Supervisor Nurse/Midwife of the Minister are *ex officio* members of the Committee. Mr. Chairman, the position is this, and I am quoting from the Chairman's letter or communication. She says: "Our increase in Estimates this year is mainly due to an increase in salary for Nurse Brathwaite. When we previously estimated her salary, we were unaware that Nurses in her category in Public Health Services were being accessed as Staff Nurses. Owing to nine years of very conscientious service we feel that she deserves this increase."

It goes on to say this: "Due to Nurse Eastmond's retirement and the load of carrying her gratuity and pension, we are asking for a grant to provide a full-time Nurse with transportation in the Black Rock area to cope with the increased amount of work there, since the number of babies on the Register has increased to well over 1,000 this year. If we do not get this additional grant, we will be forced to cut down on our services to the country districts by transferring one of these Nurses to the Black Rock area."

For the benefit of hon. members who have not been in here for any number of years, it might be well for me just to give a brief resume of what the Child Care Committee does and how it functions. The Child Care Committee is a voluntary organisation and was formed with the main objective of providing Child Care services supplemental to the Government's Public Health Services and specialising in the prevention and treatment of malnutrition in children. I am giving an idea of how the office of the Committee is comprised. It derives its revenue from a Government grant, a Southern area Local Government grant of \$1,400 per annum, and from fund-raising efforts such as the sale of books and Christmas cards. It is worthy of note that in 1965 independent collection totalled nearly \$5,000 and exceeded \$4,400 in 1966.

11.00 a.m.

I am quoting all these things to prove that the Child Care Committee tries on their own to raise as much assistance as they can, and this and the above mentioned grants are used for current expenditure including nurses' salaries, medical supplies, the upkeep of motor vehicles and the maintenance of buildings and equipment. The proceeds of fund-raising efforts go into the Building Fund and are spent on items of a capital nature, such as major repairs to buildings and the purchase of vans or heavy equipment.

The Committee is currently operating at 17 centres in eight parishes. There is a full-time staff consisting of three qualified nurses paid on a scale similar to that applicable to Government Public Health Nurses. The nurses travel by the vans. There are three vans at the moment.

Apart from the paid staff, much service is given by voluntary workers, including four nurses and five doctors. An extract from the report of 1966 illustrates the growth and value of the Committee's work and this is seen also in the report for 1967 which has not yet been published; but the Committee has on its register 2,257 children.

So Sir, this Child Care Committee is a voluntary organisation comprised of a lot of voluntary workers under Mrs. Reader and about 10 other voluntary workers who form the Committee. They need this extra money to pay the pension of the full-time nurse who has retired and for another van in order to carry on their services on a better footing than before.

I think that I have given an idea of the work, and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I would just like to know from the Minister if the eight parishes in which the Committee is now operating. We understand that they are 2,257 children on the roll of the Committee. I am wondering if the Minister can tell us how one gets to be enrolled, how the selection of children for care is brought about and if he is in a position to tell us if these 2,257 children are the children of working class people.

One very important thing is this. I wonder if the Committee publicises its work widely enough. This is a voluntary Committee and we must give full credit to these voluntary workers; but in such an organisation with only 2,257 children on the roll we must enquire if these are children of the poor and needy. My reason for approaching the matter in this respect is that I wonder if the Minister can tell us if these are children that could be found in the Day Nurseries, or if these are children who do not enjoy the facilities of the Day Nurseries and have got to be seen at their respective homes or whatever is the case.

In such a case, I feel that although this Committee is something to be praised and encouraged, they have only touched the fringe of the problem because if these are poor and needy children who are being cared I definitely feel that there must be hundreds of children scattered throughout the island; but the organisation is a voluntary organisation and the Government should do all that they possibly can to assist the organisation to expand its work and to take care not of a mere 2,257, but assist the Committee in carrying out a whole scale registration of the children that are in need of the care that the Committee is offering.

Let the Government see what really can be done to put a voluntary organisation such as this on its feet and assist it wherever possible; not just to say how many years it has been going on and then say that you are assisting them with money for one nurse and a van.

Child care is a very important function in this Community, and we do not want the Committee to be looking after 2,257 children when it might be possible to find other voluntary workers to come along and assist this Committee so that it would be able to take in the island's entire population of children who are in need of the kind of care that this one Committee is offering.

There is nothing in this Resolution that any hon. member would vote against; but for instance, the Hon. Minister told us that in the 1967 report, the report of the Chairman, it was shown that an increased number of over 1,000 children was made in this year. If that is the case - and I take it that this year means 1968 - if in six months' time there has been an increase of 1,000, let us ask ourselves how many children are really in need of child care who have not been registered and consequently have not been receiving it.

It is really a work to be encouraged and assisted, and the Government should do something especially in view of the fact that the organisation is being run by a voluntary body of people. You should encourage them all you can especially since they are dealing with poor and needy children.

Mr. HOPPIN: Mr. Chairman, I speak on this because I have a great interest in children and I happen to know about this Child Care Committee. The last speaker seems to give the impression that children are screened. From what I know, the nurses and other people who work for this Committee are not screening any children from getting this help.

There are many districts, especially in the rural areas, to which the nurses go and they are welcomed. Families look out to see if these nurses are working, and the results of the information given to families are very heartening. Some of the children have improved tremendously.

There are some parishes, parts of St. James - and I knew that they are trying to extend to the parish of St. Joseph - which are not taken care of right now by the Child Care Committee; but they are expecting some voluntary help. At least the Minister can correct me if I am wrong.
11.10 a.m.

Anyhow, one of the nurses happened to pass through St. Joseph on one occasion, and she was fortunate enough to visit a home where she found that children were being brutalised by their parents. She had to take them to the Medical Officer for St. Joseph, Dr. Johnson, for treatment. Because the parents did not know the proper procedure for training children and giving them medicine, and be-

cause the children did not accept the medicine due to the method used by the parents, the parents decided that blows were the only means of forcing these children to take the medicine.

Sir, this Child Care Committee has been doing a wonderful job, and I feel that more help is still needed to cope with this ever-increasing population of young children with which we are faced. There are some doctors who have volunteered and have done very good service. In the Black Rock area, as has been outlined by the Minister, Dr. Graham has seen and attended to over four hundred children free, and he has also given them medicine at cost price. Dr. Reader, whose wife is at present the Chairman of the branch, has also helped and they are contributing to this Child Care Committee.

The nurses find it somewhat difficult on the existing salary; but it so happens that some of them, having worked on this Committee for some time, see good offers abroad, and, as is always expected, whenever a better opportunity comes along one will always try to make use of it. I am hoping that the Government can assist the Child Care Committee by creating a post where a nurse will be provided with an attractive salary in order that the Committee may go from strength to strength.

I have had a discussion with a doctor about the upkeep of children at the Hospital, and he said that it cost the Government approximately \$27.00 a day to maintain a baby at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. I feel that if more help can be given to this Child Care Committee which would prevent those mothers from taking their children for better treatment at the Hospital, then the Government would save money by supporting this Child Care Committee and encouraging other people, including doctors, to come into this field and support the Child Care Committee.

As the Minister has already mentioned, funds have been raised voluntarily by ladies holding dances, tea parties, selling cakes and so on. This Child Care Committee is a worthwhile Committee, and I am asking the Government to give it the utmost support in keeping it at the high standard at which these voluntary workers have managed to put it.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister said that they are operating at present in eight parishes. I would like to know from him the parishes in which they are operating. Whilst I am on my feet - I have always heard an old saying: Once a man and twice a child". We are now dealing with the Child Care Committee which is a very good thing, but there are some adults who need the same care or more than a child. There are some adults who are left alone. (ASIDES) Mr. Chairman, I cannot go on with this noise.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I can hardly hear the hon. member as a result of the noises being made on his immediate left. Let the hon. member continue.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, as I have just said, there are some adults who need just as much care as children. They are left alone; some are living in homes by themselves; sometimes we find them dead without anybody knowing how long they had died; sometimes they drop to sleep leaving the old lamp burning, and burn up themselves along with the bed and things of that sort. Some of these people have no one to look after them.

I feel that it is time that the Government should think of preparing homes for those old people so that they may be able to live as happily as they possibly can until the day when they are called home. We know that there are some homes for old people, but those homes are for people who are able to pay for the attention given to them. Not so long ago I called up one of the Nursing Homes for Elderly People. I wanted to put one of my constituents there because she was suffering. She was a deserving case, but when they quoted the price for keeping her there I had to change my mind. We should think of Homes in order to assist the old people, too, because they are suffering. I know that the Public Health Nurses, who travel through the various districts, are in a position to give the Government a report on some of those old people who are living in some of those dilapidated places.

As I have said, these old people are not qualified to obtain a loan to have their houses repaired; they have nobody to care for them; and they are living worse than animals. I sincerely hope that the Hon. Minister will take what I have just said into consideration, and endeavour to start the ball rolling before we get an opportunity to start it.

11.20 a.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I would like to assure hon. members that the Child Care Committee receives the fullest co-operation and assistance of Government, and that any reasonable demand which they put up is usually met since I have been in the Ministry over the years. Their grants have been increased on two occasions quite recently.

In so far as the doctors who attend are concerned, in St. Michael there is Dr. A. C. Graham; in Christ Church Doctors E. L. Ward and Eyre Kinch; in St. John there is Dr. B. Brathwaite; in St. George there is Dr. F. G. Reader. There are eight parishes as I have mentioned and the centres in operation are St. George, Mondays at 2.00 p.m. - Ellerton; St. Michael, Tuesday, 8.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. - Black Rock; St. Philip, Wednesday, 10 a.m., alternative weeks - Thickets and St. Martins; St. James, Wednesday, 4 p.m. - Thorpes; St. John, Thursday, 4 p.m. - Holy Cross; Christ Church, Thursday 11 a.m. 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. - Sargeants Village, Sayes Court, St. Lawrence, in order of mention; St. Joseph, Friday, 10 a.m., once a month - Horse Hill; 9.30 a.m. once a month - Cleavers Hill; 11 a.m. once a month - Bathsheba; St. Philip, 10 a.m. once a month - Blades Hill; St. Thomas, Friday, 9.30 a.m., twice a month - Rock Hall; 11 a.m. twice a month - Sharon; 2 p.m. alternative weeks - Welchman Hall;

2 p.m. alternative weeks - Bagatelle. Those are the eight parishes, Mr. Chairman.

There is a misunderstanding about the work of this Child Care Committee. It does not extend to the Day Nurseries. The Day Nurseries serve their purpose; they are a separate and distinct entity, and we are going to establish many and more Day Nurseries Island-wide. We established about four additional ones recently and we have another three to open very shortly. The work of this Child Care Committee is supplemental to the services which are performed by the Public Health Department. As the Social Welfare Officer and the Chief Medical Officer have recently reported, "the Committee plays a very important role in public health work here. It has collaborated fully with the Public Health Department and the Department of Ophthalmics and Gynaecology and Paediatrics of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in the integrated programme for the follow-up of malnutrition cases." In other words, when the children are discharged from the Paediatrics Department of the Hospital, this Committee sends out its staff to follow up those cases of malnutrition and to assist where the Paediatric Ward left off. The work that is done considerably lessens that of the Public Health services, and they support any request for increased subvention. Not only the Government itself, but all the Government officers are entirely in agreement with giving every assistance and facility to this voluntary band of workers who form themselves into the Child Care Committee. Every time they come with a request, it is granted; they have never been turned down, and we are here again to prove to you that their estimates are expanding every year or every other year.

The Committee's estimate of expenditure for the current year amounts to \$17,082, a net increase of \$5,329 over 1967-68. That is an increase of approximately 45 per cent. There is also a non-recurrent provision of \$3,000 to meet the cost of a new van. That speaks for itself. Last year, I think we gave them an additional \$2,000; so every assistance or every subvention or facility which they ask for, we are willing to grant. We ourselves fully realise and recognise the importance of this work, and it assists the Paediatric Department, the Public Health Department and the Health Centres in performing this valuable work, let alone the Day Nurseries which are performing other work essential to the requirements of this community. I can give the assurance that any reasonable demand they put up, the Cabinet is quite in agreement, and we have no difficulty whatever in getting anything done to assist this voluntary band of workers.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I have listened to the Minister and I understood from him that the eight parishes which are presently served by this Committee do not include St. Peter, St. Lucy and St. Andrew. Now this Resolution is for assistance to expand and intensify the work of the Committee. I wonder if the Minister can offer any explanation as to why the work has not touched these three parishes as yet, especially when he says that these are follow-

up cases particularly of malnutrition on passage from the Paediatric Ward of the Hospital. Is it that there has been no evidence of malnutrition in these parishes among the child population, or is there any other reason that can be advanced? My own observations tell me that malnutrition is indeed no respecter of persons amongst the child population of the working class people of this community, and surely since this Committee has been functioning, I am willing to say that there must have been cases on discharge from the Hospital of children living in St. Peter, St. Lucy and St. Andrew. All I want to know is if the Minister can tell us whether in the expansion of the work that is mentioned here, these three parishes will be included immediately or in the very near future. We would like the Minister to enquire from the Committee, if he does not know, if there are cases in these three parishes that the Committee would like to serve, find out from the Committee what it would cost to expand its services to these three parishes, and do so immediately.

11.30 a.m.

I think I can give the Minister the assurance from this side of the House that he will be readily supported in any such measure if the Committee can make out a case that there are cases in these three parishes which are not being attended to, and let us know that the Committee is doing its work Island wide; but, on the other hand, if it is so that there is no evidence of children in these three parishes suffering from malnutrition, I am very, very happy indeed. However, I would like the Minister to tell us if he knows, why they have not gone into these three parishes. Let him find out what can be done to have the Committee extend its work to include these three parishes and let us know that the Committee is functioning Island wide.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I can only give the hon. member the assurance that I will investigate the matter and see if this voluntary organisation can extend its efforts to these three parishes of which mention has been made. I will make him aware of my findings and investigations at some subsequent date. There are only eight parishes which are covered at present, but the parishes of St. Peter, St. Andrew and St. Lucy have not been included. I will do whatever I can to see that assistance is given to these children. I take it that children suffer from malnutrition all over the Island and not only in the parishes which I have mentioned. I have not got to go and ask if there are any such children in St. Peter, St. Andrew or St. Lucy and appear to be ridiculous; I will not do that, but I will try to use what little influence I may have to induce them to extend their services in these other parishes for the benefit of the little children in these areas.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1968-69 No. 12

ALEXANDRA SCHOOL

Resolution for the sum of \$20,540 was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, this sum is required to supplement the Capital Estimates under Head 104 - Education - and Item 5A (New) - Alexandra School. Supplementary provision of this amount is required for the completion of the work on the extension to the school. There is, I believe, a little history attached to this. I think hon. members will remember that in the Capital Estimates 1967-68, under Item 6, of the same Head 104, an amount of \$38,000 was provided for the completion of the extension to that school. At the end of that financial year, the sum of \$19,264.04 had been spent, leaving an unexpended balance of \$18,735 roughly. In the 1968-69 Estimates, by some oversight, there was no revote covering this amount. The unexpended balance, therefore, is mainly what is being asked for now plus, of course, a detailed Estimate set out by the Ministry of Communications and Works including the cost of material and certain contractual commitments for the past financial year not yet paid. These together make up the sum of \$20,540.

It appears that the request for the release of the sum to be re-voted was merely an attempt to ensure that the work which had been interrupted should continue without interruption. However, the Ministry of Communications and Works had another look at the matter and recently submitted this detailed estimate of the cost of materials as well as the cost of contract work for waterproofing, electricity, goods supplied and installation and together these totalled the sum of \$20,540. It is this sum which is now being sought to be appropriated. I do not know if there is anything more on the financial side which I can give to hon. members, but if there are any questions I shall try my best to answer them. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, there is only one question which I would like to ask the Minister, and it is this: What are the reasons for the interruption, what caused the work not to be carried on? I notice that this is a re-vote; so it would not be any lack of funds which caused the interruption.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, it would appear that when the extension was started or after it had been started and had gone a considerable distance there was - I suppose you will have to call it - a difference of opinion between the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Communications and Works as to what was actually ordered in the sense of what plans had been approved for the particular extension. The Ministry of Communications and Works, as far as I remember, claimed that the Ministry of Education had altered and varied the approved plans and, consequently, this spiralled the cost and exhausted the vote. As I said, this has a long story behind it, an inter-Departmental dispute, and this, more than anything else, I believe, was responsible for the hold up.

11.40 a.m.

However, both Ministries, from what I can see, have now resolved their differences. Plans for the ex-

tension are now approved to the satisfaction of both Ministries, and this detailed estimate has now been submitted and the Cabinet has accepted it.

The estimate includes, as I have said, not only the cost of the material needed for the completion, but it includes of course all ancillary services which are part of the extension.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if the Minister can tell us if for this project a capital amount of \$24,487 was put in the 1965-66 Estimates, and your capital expenditure for 1966-67 is really \$19,723? Has he got those figures?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No, I said that in the Capital Estimates the sum of \$38,000 was provided of which \$19,264.04 was expended leaving an unexpended balance of \$18,735.96, but for some reason no re-vote was requested covering this amount in the Current Estimates.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, we have reached a very good point in this particular matter. My figures that I have here show that there is an amount of \$5,000 unaccounted for in this project, and that is why I particularly asked if \$24,487 have been put in the Capital Estimates of 1965-66, \$19,723 in 1966-67 and in your Estimates of 1966-67, \$38,000. I am asking him to account for \$5,000 if he possibly can.

I am not holding out any threat, but I am willing to call names and to invite this Committee to see that it can reflect the passing of this Head on the basis of the information that I have. I am just asking the Minister to say what he knows about the situation.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, do I understand that the hon. member is asking a question in respect of the financial year that I have mentioned? I would like him to repeat the question.

Mr. HINDS: What I am saying is this, that actual expenditure on this project in 1965-66 amounted to \$24,487 and actual expenditure on the Alexandra school in 1966-67 was \$19,723 and that in the Estimates for 1966-67 to which the Minister referred the amount voted was \$38,000. All I am telling the Minister is that using his figures and making my own deductions bring us to the point where exactly \$5,000 - that is why I armed myself with this type of information before I came into the House - a sum of \$5,000 is unaccounted for; and some of the misunderstanding that the Minister attempted to refer to earlier bears on this amount.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If the hon. member is going back to the financial year 1965-66, right. The record shows that in that financial year the amount provided in the Estimates was \$41,000 of which in respect of that financial year \$24,000 was spent. In 1966-67 the amount provided was \$20,300 of which \$17,000 roughly represented a re-vote. At that point I think in the 1967-68 Estimates the amount provided was \$38,000 of which - I am sorry.....

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I would like to remind the Minister that the \$38,000 fall under 1966-67.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I think the hon. member is making a mistake. I think that if he checks he will see that it is 1967-68.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I am willing to swear on oath that the \$38,000 falls under the 1966-67 Estimates, and I want to repeat that in the same 1966-67 the amount spent was \$19,723.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If the hon. member would look at the Revised Estimates for 1968-69 under the proper Head - the Capital Head for Education - he will see in the column Revised Estimates, expenditure in 1967-68 for Alexandra School, \$38,000. It is a matter of checking.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, under Head 104, Education, I would like the Minister to tell me if all these other figures are inaccurate. Part II - Capital, Head 104, Education, Item 1, New Primary Schools, \$106,200; Item 2, Extension to Primary Schools, \$177,250; Item 3, Replacement to Primary Schools \$161,478; Item 4, New Comprehensive Secondary Schools, \$38,517; Item 5, Extension to Secondary Comprehensive Schools, \$120,000; and Item 6, Alexandra School, not one cent.

I referred to projects carried over from 1967-68; so you will understand that what I referred to here is actually for 1965-66 and 1966-67. All that the Minister says bears me out that there is an amount of \$5,000 unaccounted for, and that there was this disruption or whatever it is which was in part over this sum of money.

11.50 a.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: This is a simple matter. The hon. member has been trying to make out that something is more wrong than it actually is. I have explained that the Government itself has not been happy over this whole business of the Alexandra School. So unhappy it was, that for a period of the whole of a financial year it allowed the fullest possible investigation to take place into the whole working of this estimate and the way in which it had been managed, as well as the whole project. Nothing happened during that period until the financial people, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Communications and Works, were all satisfied that the extensions could continue on the basis on which they are now continuing.

The sum of money of which he speaks was, as he will see, put quite clearly in the Capital Estimates of the year 1966-67. In respect of that financial year, I have already explained to the hon. member that they spent \$19,264, leaving an unexpended balance. The re-vote was not included in the 1968-69 Estimates because of the investigation which had to be entered into and carried on to the satisfaction of everybody concerned that the money asked for was going to be properly spent.

The Ministry of Communications and Works has now sent in an estimate which satisfies the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Finance and everybody concerned. This estimate is based on a very minute breakdown of cost both of materials as well as of out-standing contractual commitments which had not been met because there was no money in the previous financial year. There is a full breakdown of this, and it is these two sums which together total \$20,540 that we are now asking for.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, it must be admitted that the conditions existing at Alexandra School today have been prior to the passing of the 1965-66 Estimates, because an amount of \$24,487 was spent then. Now I am hoping that with the passing of this Resolution work will be expedited, and I would ask the Minister to take into consideration the fact that there has been the case of heavy rains and there has been a considerable amount of flooding of the school premises. Even in the yard at some times one cannot pass without being subjected to having to wade through a considerable amount of water. We hope that, with the passing of this Resolution, all of these unhappy conditions will be overcome.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1968-69 No.14

A Resolution for the sum of \$450,000 was called.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, the Resolution under Part II, Head 106, should be corrected to read "(4) External Affairs" instead of "The Office of the Prime Minister". That, I believe, is Head 108. That is the first amendment I wish to make to the Schedule. This amount, Mr. Chairman, is capital expenditure on the acquisition of a Chancellery in Washington and a residence for the Ambassador in New York.

It has been decided that, because of the volume of work involved at the United Nations and the proximity to the majority of the Overseas Embassies associated with the United Nations, the Ambassador should reside in New York and not in Washington. The Chancellery, therefore, in Washington will be the residence for the Ambassador to the Organisation of American States, and this building will also be used as a temporary residence for the Ambassador to the United States at such times as it should be required that he should visit the Capital of that country to transact business for and on behalf of the Government of Barbados.

Negotiations have been proceeding for a long time, and we have estimated that, because of the appreciation in value of real property and the high cost of hotel or rental accommodation both in Washington and New York, it would be more economic for the Government to purchase properties outright, which would be free of normal property taxes and so on, than to be tenants of buildings in which landlords themselves would be writing - in a certain compo-

ment of taxation and other charges from which we would normally be exempted.

I have in my possession two pictures of the residence in Pelham, New York. This is a district where many other Embassies are located, and I will be pleased to circulate these pictures to hon. members immediately as well as the report from the valuers, if members will undertake to restore them to proper custody when they have had an opportunity to look at them. This report is not for publication, but for information to hon. members on the property at Pelham, New York.

12 noon.

In respect of the property in Washington, they have been able to negotiate a mortgage. The cost of redecoration, of course, is shown on page 2 of the Addendum. It is quite a full Addendum and these are outside figures, as some kind of saving may enure. We have insisted with the decorators and consultants that as much furniture manufactured in Barbados and other fittings should decorate the two properties as is humanly possible. Even if the cost of shipping the furniture and the cost of the furniture itself may be slightly higher, we have allowed them a margin, let us say, of 8 per cent or 10 per cent higher than if it were bought in New York. We do not think that even with the shipping charges and the purchase price and insurance included, the cost of furniture manufactured in Barbados will be in any way higher. We have good reason for saying this, because manufacturers in New York particularly have very high mark-ups on goods like draperies which are mostly manufactured in the United Kingdom, and which we can import direct. The mark-up for architects, interior decorators and manufacturers is phenomenal, to say the least.

As a matter of fact, in the construction of the Hilton Hotel, we were able to save some 40 per cent on the quoted prices, because the mark-up was in that vicinity at one stage alone, and of course there were several stages in the supply of furniture from the United States. This of course gives a very interesting story, because the furniture manufactured in Barbados was rejected two or three times until we appealed to an independent body of architects in the United States to come down and appraise the work which was being done in Barbados, and they stated that the furniture was up to standard and complied with all the requirements of the Institutes in the United States, and the only fault they could find with the furniture was the fault which was the fault of the people who were finding fault with the furniture - that is, the design; and without knowing this, the architect who came down approved the Barbados-manufactured furniture at the Hilton, except the wicker chairs which, I believe, came from Madeira, Portugal or somewhere like that. They in their report said that the furniture met with all the required standards, but the only thing wrong with them was the design, and it was the designers who were complaining about the furniture. So it shows you that you have to watch these people very carefully. Anyhow, we did get Barbados-manufactured furniture in

the Hilton Hotel, although it had been rejected three or four times.

Here now we are making the choice, and we are insisting that as much locally manufactured material as possible should go into these two Embassies, so that we will be able to demonstrate to the people who visit the Embassies that we too can make things in Barbados. This is a stipulation.

The Addendum, as I said before, is a very full one. The pictures of the property in Pelham are being circulated. The appraisal was some \$2,000 or \$3,000 higher than the price which we are actually paying for the property in Pelham which we will have to pay for outright, and the reason why we have asked the House to consider this at such an early stage is that there is a closing date which, I believe, is the 22nd of this month, by which we must close if we are not going to lose this property. I should like to say that several properties were inspected, and the advice of the Trinidad Mission and the Guyana Mission was sought and easily obtained. I should also like to record that the legal representatives who are retained by the West Indian Sugar Association in Washington provided their services free of charge and gave us advice on the mortgages and matters of that kind. I just wanted to place that on record because we did not have to expend any legal fees in that respect, and they gave us advice at all stages on the suitability of both premises.

Mr. Chairman, I do not think there is much more that I can add at this stage, except to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. HOPPIN: Mr. Chairman, I should like to ask the Hon. Prime Minister to explain something here for me. Am I to understand that these houses will be paid for in cash, because I read something here about the rate of interest?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I think I explained already that one is to be purchased for cash and the other has a mortgage. The Pelham house is cash; the Washington house has a mortgage. The rate of interest is 5 1/2%. I wish we could get some rates like that in Barbados.

Mr. MOTTLEY: We are in this already and we have to buy. The member who spoke anticipated me when he mentioned the rate of interest, because I noticed that myself. The Deed of Trust is really, to a non-legal man, the American term for a mortgage. I do not know if this is a first or second mortgage, but would it not be better if we could pay off and finish instead of paying 5 1/2% for fifteen years? Since you must have this, why pay 5 1/2 per cent for fifteen years? Since you must have this, why pay 5 1/2% for fifteen years when you can pay off at one time and be finished with it? I did not hear the hon. member when he first spoke and I apologise.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I am sorry I did not give any explanation on that. It is a question of simple arithmetic, because it is a question of the alternative use of money. If we could have got a mortgage on the Pelham property, I would have done this too. Our interest rates here in Barbados are to the order of 8 per cent; so if we have to borrow money to pay 7 3/4 per cent or 8 per cent for capital, we have to borrow. We are not taking this out of Current Revenue we are taking it out of Capital which normally we have to borrow. I may indicate that we are now thinking seriously, as I may have hinted before, of pushing up our Treasury Bill rate to something over 6 per cent, but certainly less than 7 per cent. In the United Kingdom today it is something like 7.125% or 7.126% or as high as 7 1/2% for Treasury Bills on short term money. What we are really doing here is borrowing some of the money at 5 1/2% instead of 8%.

Mr. MOTTLEY: But this 5 1/2% applies to American money.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Yes, but it does not make any difference whether it was in Polish Zloty or Greek drachma or anything else. 5 1/2% is 5 1/2%; and if you have property valued at something, and you are paying 5 1/2% on that, you are paying on American property too; so the value of the property is commensurately higher. When you pay 5 1/2% here, you are not paying 10%.

Mr. MOTTLEY: But when you made the comparison of 8 per cent in Barbados and 5 1/2% in America.....

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I understand the hon. member. I made the comparison between 8% here and 5 1/2% there, but 5 1/2% is 5 1/2%. 5 1/2% in America is not 11% in Barbados or vice versa.

Mr. MOTTLEY: If you are paying 5 1/2%, how much do you have to look for?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: If we are paying 5 1/2% on \$10,000, we would be paying \$550. That is all. We do not pay any more because it is in America.

Mr. MOTTLEY: But if you paid \$550 in American money, how much would you have to look for in B.W.I. money?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Let me put it this way. If you are paying 5 1/2% on \$10,000 U.S., it is \$20,000 B.W.I. and we are still only paying 5 1/2% on that \$20,000. We are not paying 11% on \$10,000.
12.10 p.m.

Mr. MOTTLEY: If the hon. member would give way for a minute, I do not agree with him there for this reason; we are buying this place in America. As I know the practice in America, if there is a mortgage at all and the mortgage is for fifteen years, unless you are prepared to pay them out for the fifteen years, they are not prepared to take the money. As far as America is concerned, 5 1/2% is

an investment. I am asking now whether it would not be better for us, instead of allowing that period to run, if negotiations should not be made at this stage to pay it off at one time. Sometimes it can be done; it depends upon what Bank it is negotiated with, or who holds the mortgage or the Deed of Trust or whatever they say. That is the most important point I want to raise. The sum of 5 1/2% per annum over a period of fifteen years with interest being payable at the rate of \$351.50 U.S. per month is really \$770 - odd per month in our currency. If you are paying 8 per cent you would have to be paying nearly 11% actually to do that.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The amount of money being left in - the hon. member, being a Real Estate magnate would understand leaving in something - we are paying 5 1/2% of \$86,000. That is what we have to find. It is \$43,000 U.S. left in or, roughly speaking, at an exchange rate of \$2.00, \$86,000 Eastern Caribbean currency. What we are paying is 5 1/2% on \$86,000 Eastern Caribbean. We are not paying 8% on it; if we were paying 8% on it, whether it was U.S. or Eastern Caribbean, we would be paying more. That is why, no matter what the conversion factor is, interest rates throughout the world tend to stabilize around a certain point. The reason why it is 5 1/2% is not because the mortgage rate in the United States today is 5 1/2%, but because there is an unexpired term from the existing property owner. In other words, if we want to buy a property and went to the Bank and said: "I want a mortgage on this property"; what they would say is "I am very sorry; the mortgage rate now is something like 7 1/2%." I have heard quotations in other States like Illinois as high as 9 or 9 1/2% but now the mortgage rate - the F.H.A. is approving loans at 6 3/4 % or 6 7/8%; therefore the market rate - the F.H.A. being the Federal Housing Authority, as the hon. member would know, is the organisation that the Mayor of Washington used to head. The point is this; the market rate for mortgages now in America is not now 5 1/2%; we are only getting 5 1/2% because we are taking the unexpired term of 15 years. If we were to wait until next year, we would only have fourteen years; so they are passing over to us something which the mortgagee has been bound by, say, 10 or 12 years ago. He agreed to lend us this money at 5 1/2%; but if we had gone to the Bank or to a Mortgage Finance Company and asked them for something, we would probably be paying 8%. This is why we think it is advisable to take over the mortgage. (ASIDES) It is \$4,730 at 5 1/2%, and if we had to pay 8 % it would be \$6,880.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE 1968-69 No. 15

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS - NON-ESTABLISHED STAFF

A Resolution for the sum of \$8,100 was called.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The next Resolution, Mr. Chairman, is a Resolution for the sum of \$8,100. The

wage rates and so on are set out. We already have a chauffeur and Messenger who attends both to the office and the Ambassador's Personal needs, and the sum of \$4,025 U.S. - or approximately \$8,100, Eastern Caribbean Currency - which is what we are asking for, will be required to see us through to the end of the financial year. I do not think that this is an exorbitant sum and I therefore beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, I hope we are assured that the Prime Minister will be giving instructions to follow the habits and customs of other diplomats in hiring nationals who are in the United States as far as possible.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, in answer to the hon. member, what we try to do is to hire Barbadians; but what we try to avoid is transporting Barbadians from Barbados to the U.S. and having to pay passages, give them house allowances and so on. (Mr. MOTTLEY: We are not asking that.) We are looking around now for an ex-policeman type of person with a wife who would be congenial to this kind of work because we have to look after our security as well. Hon. members will be pleased to hear that the High Commissioner for Canada has recently employed a very good friend of some of the hon. members here, who was a former taxi driver from Two Mile Hill by the name of Mr. Thompson. He is in charge of the house and everything in Ottawa. I understand that he is doing a very good job, and we have an ex-policeman called Mr. Harper in New York. Even from a strictly security point of view we do not approve of hiring persons from outside unless we have to do this, because even the United States Government is capable of planting people in your place. I say that without any hesitation whatever. This is part of the acknowledged practices that you try to get as much information as you possibly can, and therefore you have to be careful.

I am very glad to say that our High Commissioner has been very good in this respect, and we managed to find suitable people, Mr. Harper in New York and Mr. Thompson in Ottawa, who are really performing a very good job. Of course, in London there is no problem, because there are so many Barbadians who are looking for jobs that we have not had to go outside except for one Receptionist who was there and we inherited her. She went to school in Barbados and has been married to a Barbadian.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Don't you think the salary offered to the caretaker should be explained? That seems to be very low. Is that going to be a whole-time job or what? Is he going to have rooms on the premises and so on?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: They will have accommodation, and when I say "accommodation", I mean that they will have quarters because it is a very large house. I do not know if the hon. member has seen the picture, but it is a very large house. Living

quarters are to be provided there because we would not like, if there is a function on and the Ambassador goes out, there will be nobody on the premises. The husband-and-wife team is the ideal kind of situation.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Prime Minister if this \$75 per week U.S. is in keeping with what the Americans would pay a house-keeper for doing such duties. We know that house-keepers in the United States of America are paid very high wages per week. I wish to know if this is going to be in keeping with the wages paid by the American families.

12.20 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW rose.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The rule that when a member is speaking other members should be silent has not yet been suspended.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: In answer to the hon. senior member for St. Thomas if the hon. member wants me to reply - he cannot accuse me of any discourtesy. Any discourtesy will have to come from his side. As far as I can understand, careful enquiry was made from the authorities and other sources and this is the kind of wage rate that we will be expected to pay. As a matter of fact, I do not think we could have got anyone for much less.

Probably you could get them for this because it is a Barbadian who likes the idea of free living and accommodation. I know that we have to pay the chauffeur probably a little more than this, and pay overtime as well. If he works overtime, I think he gets double time after 6 o'clock in the evening.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of five Resolutions in Committee of Supply.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day is order No. 4.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to move that Order No. 7 be taken as the next Order of the Day. It stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister.

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

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

BILL TO AMEND INCOME TAX ACT, 1921

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in my Budgetary Proposals made in June, 1967, I proposed an increase on income allowance for wives from \$420 to \$540, the removal of the limit on medical expenses which could be made in respect of only two children and allowing it to be made in respect of all dependent children, and extension of the medical expenses claims to cover such expenses incurred overseas. Before, we did not allow expenses incurred overseas.

The third proposal which affects Income Tax is the grant of an allowance in respect of expenditure incurred on scientific research, and those are the proposals which are really contained in this amending Bill.

Now, Sir, this Bill should have been available for the income year 1967, but at that time, shortly after the introduction of my budget, we had a Canadian Technical Assistance adviser, Mr. Douglas Lambert, who has only recently returned to Canada, and as a result of his labours and consultations it was deemed advisable that the proposals take effect from the income year 1968 and not 1967.

That is the reason why this was not introduced before, because we were taking a close look, and there were certain complications about introducing it so late in the year. Members will appreciate that PAYE starts contemporaneously, and that half of the year had already passed.

So in this amending Bill, Mr. Speaker, provision for allowance in respect of capital expenditure incurred in providing machinery or plant for scientific purposes is made in Section 2, and this will be written off over a period of five years.

Also, Mr. Speaker, in the same spirit, buildings used for scientific research in the definition "industrial building or structure" will qualify for the industrial buildings allowance.

The other three amendments are more personal and more comprehensible to the ordinary citizen because they affect and touch the taxpayer in a much more satisfactory manner congenial to the taxpayer in that the limit on the number of children for whom medical expenses can be claimed has been removed so that any number of children on whom medical expenses have been lavished will have the benefit of this removal of the limit. Also the question of claims for expenses overseas which hitherto had not been allowed, will as from the year of assessment 1967 - the income year 1968 be allowed - so that any expenses incurred during this year in which the income was actually earned, will be allowed.

12.30 p.m.

The last amendment, of course, which is the simplest one of all, and which the married women will appreciate, is the increase in the deduction or allowance which you can set off in respect of a married woman's earned income from \$420 to \$540. Hon. members have been pressing for some years now for the separation of the taxable incomes of husbands and wives. That is something which we are looking into very carefully, and any amendment in this respect which will be made will be made in the new legislation which is coming in. I am not promising anything but I am looking into it very closely. There are pros and cons in that it can also be argued that married women are keeping single women out of jobs. That is one angle that you have to look at, too. Of course, married women are usually more competent at these jobs and more employable, and they frequently get married because they are more competent. You can not penalise single women; they are penalised badly enough as it is already by being single, and we cannot let the married women get all of the sweets.

I am not saying, Mr. Speaker, that we have made a decision on this, but we are looking into it very closely. If we do not entirely separate the assessment on husbands and wives, at least, I can promise that we will be making some substantial change along the lines of the last Clause here of increasing the married women's allowance. I now beg to move that this Bill be read a second time.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I think I should say that the information given to us by the Prime Minister as to the impending separation of the income of husbands and wives will be well received by the majority of husbands and wives in this country. It certainly puts a tremendous hardship, especially upon those younger people who have children and have to contend with the high cost of living. Wives go out to work; children have to be educated, and the meagre sum which is given for educating children, especially if they have to go to a University or even to Harrison College, is not very much. One wonders what is going to happen in this country, if things go on at this rate! When I was young it was bad enough; but today, with the cost of living as high as it is, things are very much worse.

I think it remains for us to say that we hope the promise made by the Prime Minister, although vague, will be carried out in the not too distant future and that we will have the separation of earned income between husbands and wives, and that there will be something substantial that will relieve husbands from having to put their wives in doubt. I know of many young men in this country whose wives are working, but when they put the two salaries together and compare the amount with what they have to pay in income tax, they come to the conclusion that their wives are really working for nothing, or for about \$40 to \$50 a month. The salary of a wife seems to be a lot when put with her husband's salary, but when income tax is taken out it is a different matter. I think we should say on this side of the House how much we ap-

preciate the sentiments expressed by the Prime Minister that there will, in the not too distant future, be some substantial relief, if not in separating the earned income, in some other manner.

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

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

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

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

Clauses 1 to 6 inclusive were called and passed.

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

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

MOTOR VEHICLES TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1968

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

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, before you put the question, I would like to have some information. I was not in here earlier this morning, and I would like to know when this House will be given an opportunity to get something to eat.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I give the hon. member the assurance that it will be in about fifteen to twenty minutes.
12.40 p.m.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Do I understand the hon. member wants to work a low gear?

The question that Order No. 4 be the next Order of the Day was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

THE MOTOR VEHICLES TAX (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1968

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 4 stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, and it is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles Tax Act, 1960.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, this Bill arises out of my Budget proposals. At the moment it is intended that motor omnibuses should be exempt from the payment of the Motor Vehicles tax, but 'motor omnibus' has been defined variously as a vehicle having seating accommodation for more than six passengers. From experience we know that the minimum seating of a motor omnibus is in the region of twenty-four passengers, and there is an intermediate range of vehicle used chiefly by hotels and people like that and by supermarkets - I am sure you can get expert advice on that from not very far at hand, Sir - and other places who take advantage of this definition of motor omnibus, so that no Motor Vehicle tax is paid on these vehicles. The idea of the exemption for motor omnibuses was because of the high cost - let us say, \$23,000 or \$25,000 - and a motor omnibus is part of the public transport system. We did not feel when this tax was introduced - in fact I should not say that we did not feel because it was introduced in 1960; but it was not felt, and I was a member of the House at that time, that the people who had to run public service transport should be subject to this tax, and I am sure it was not intended that the hotels along the West Coast and supermarkets should be exempt.

Now one of the anomalies of this legislation is this: motor vehicles with seating accommodation for more than six passengers come in and do not pay the tax, but when they go to the Department of Highways and Transport to be licensed, they are then licensed as a bus. They come in duty free - when I say "duty free", I mean tax free; it is not entirely duty free because it is by way of being a kind of consumption tax and not an import duty. So between the Bridgetown Harbour and the Pine, they lose their identity as buses, and by some queer quirk of fate they are then licensed up there as taxis to carry not more than six passengers, although the Comptroller of Customs has looked at them at the Port, counted the seats and decided they could carry twelve passengers and therefore were buses. We think that the Licensing Authorities are wrong because they should use the same yard-stick up there that the Comptroller uses. They cannot have it both ways. Either they pay the tax as not being buses and go up there and get the licence as not being buses, or alternately they should pay the tax as a bus.

At the moment these vehicles are coming into the Port fitted out with seating accommodation for, probably, from eleven to fourteen passengers; the seats and everything are there. The Comptroller of Customs or his officers look at them and say they are not subject to this Motor Vehicles tax because they have seating accommodation for more than six passengers; so they come under the definition of a bus, and they do not pay the tax there. They go up to the Pine to license the vehicle and they cannot be licensed as a bus because they do not have a concession; so they have to be licensed as a taxi, and they put on the sign "Licensed to carry not more than six passengers". It is nonsensical. (A VOICE: They could take out the seats.) You mean they could take out the seats on the ups and put them back in on

the downs! In other words, what we are trying to correct here is an anomaly. There is a conflict in the way in which the Comptroller of Customs is interpreting the law and the way in which the Licensing Authorities are interpreting the law. What we are saying, therefore, is that for fifteen seats they must pay the tax, and then take their chance up there on getting a licence for a vehicle that can carry not more than fifteen passengers.

I think perhaps it would be better if I pointed out the difficulty a little more vividly by referring to the legislation. I should like hon. members to refer to Section 2 of the Motor Vehicles Tax Act, 1960, where they will see that "motor vehicle" has the meaning assigned to it by subsection (1) of section 2 of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act of 1937. In Section 2 of the 1937 Act, "motor vehicle" means any mechanically propelled vehicle intended or adapted for use on roads, but does not include vehicles constructed exclusively for use on rails or other specially prepared tracks. Let us now look at "motor-cab" midway up the page. "Motor-cab" includes any motor vehicle kept or used for hire or reward for the conveyance of not more than six passengers whether at separate fares or otherwise. That is how these vans are being licensed now as motor cabs, but they are not, according to the Motor Vehicle and Road Traffic Act, supposed to carry more than six passengers. If they carry more than six passengers, they are buses. They come in as buses, but they get licences as cabs. In the Schedule to the 1960 Act, if you look at "goods vehicle", the pick-ups come under that heading and they are all right because a "goods vehicle" means a motor vehicle which is so constructed as to show that its primary purpose is the carriage or haulage of goods, merchandise or other loads.

12.50 p.m.

I have always contended that there is nothing wrong in a goods vehicle carrying passengers, not that it is carrying goods - this is a moot point - but it is constructed primarily to carry goods; so that if you have one of these pick-up vans with an open tray behind, it has been primarily constructed to carry goods, but, according to this Act, there is nothing to prevent it from carrying passengers. It may be that I am advising people to pirate on the Transport Board routes, but that is my construction. If you construct it not to carry goods but to carry passengers, that is where we are getting the trouble now, not from the old-time pick-ups, but from the new ones which are constructed like buses but are carrying more than six passengers. It is your construction rather than what you are doing. It may be that this is another anomaly in the law. If you are constructed to carry passengers, you are only exempted from the tax if you are constructed to carry less than six passengers. 'Six passengers or less' is a motor cab, but they are coming in here constructed to carry 12 or 15 passengers; they are not paying taxes as buses, but they are going up there and getting licences to carry 6 passengers when they have seating accommodation for 15.

That is the whole situation in a nutshell. The question as to how these things are going to be used is, as far as I am concerned, immaterial. It is a question for the licensing authorities. What we are concerned about is a tax position. Either you are a bus or you are not a bus. If you come with all of this seating accommodation and you are not really in the \$25,000 odd bracket and you do not have a concession of your own to run as a bus and you belong to a hotel, we feel that, in the same way that a taxi driver has got to pay this tax, you should pay it too. That is all it means. If taxi drivers have to pay this motor vehicle tax, then private car owners have to pay it. Bus Concessionaires do not have to pay the tax because they are running public service vehicles legitimately. We feel that if you do not run a large Public service vehicle on a concession and you want to be licensed as a taxi, therefore you should pay what the taxi drivers pay too. I am not going into the implications; there are no implications, as far as I am concerned, other than the collection of money. What is going to happen with the licensing of these things and pirating and so on, I am not going into that because it is irrelevant to the consideration of collecting some more revenue from people who may be competing either with taxis or buses and are getting away with it now. I do not think I have any other references to give hon. members, but I think that they can understand the motivation behind the putting-on of the tax. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I should just like to enquire from the hon. member.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the hon. member seconding the motion?

Mr. HINDS: Yes, Sir. I would like to enquire from the Prime Minister what amount of tax these buses will have to pay. I understand that they enter the Port as buses so constructed with the amount of seating, but between the Port and the Pine they lose their identity and they are licensed to carry only six passengers as a taxi cab. My information is - I am not speaking in the case of the hotel owners of these station wagons, but there are a number of private operators who have these station wagons constructed for accommodating between 12 to 15 passengers, but when they go to the Pine, they are refused permission to carry more than 6 passengers. They are clamouring for a licence to carry more than 6 and they are refused. Is it a case where this Act makes provision for those people who want to carry more than six persons, once the vehicle is so constructed and will they be allowed to carry more than 6 persons, as they have been carrying? In other words, as soon as they get to the Pine they are told: "You are a taxi-cab and we can only register you as a taxi-cab to carry 6 persons." There may be a case where the hotel owners are glad to be registered to carry only 6, but I mean the private operators who want to carry more than 6. I would just like to hear what is the position with regard to them.

Hon. E. W. BARROW rose to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is there any other hon. member.....

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Some other hon. member may want to speak. I forgot that we are not in Committee; but if it is just a question of an explanation - I think I have finished my speech, but perhaps some other hon. member may want to speak before I reply.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I clearly understand the Prime Minister on this matter. What really is making it very difficult for the people in this country is this. You have funerals and people have to go to funerals. They have to go 'cross-country' and so on, and they cannot get a bus to take them. There are people who have a taxi or station wagon; you should license it for carrying 12 persons; they should be given a licence, but not to run on the routes where the buses are running. If you give these people a licence for carrying 12 persons, you will find them running up and down and going into the bus stands or near the bus stands, and when they make six trips, a bus may be only there waiting to move off with two trips, and what we are trying or what we tried years ago to get away from, we will be creating again. In this case, however, on a Sunday afternoon when people want to go to Church or to a Service of Song or a funeral, these vehicles should be allowed to carry them. It is only this morning that a chap misunderstood the speech on the Budget and he went up to the Pine. He is licensed to carry 6 passengers, but his vehicle can carry 12. He misunderstood the Prime Minister's speech and thought that this was his chance and he went up to license his vehicle. He was told: "We cannot do it". I told him that he misunderstood the position. The reply he got from the people up there was this: "We have not heard anything from the Speech yet; so we cannot do anything." They knew that they could not give him a licence. However, if this particular chap or anybody else has this particular vehicle which can carry twelve persons, they should allow him to license it to carry 12 persons, but not on the routes operated by the buses. If there is a special occasion, let them apply to the people up there, so that whenever they get chartered for a funeral or a wedding or a Service of Song, they can get permission to carry passengers because they are not in a position to hire a motor car at all times, and a bus is not available.

1.00 p.m.

I have something to say about a certain concessionaire. I would not say it now because I do not want it to be thought that I am against my former colleague; but this is what my former colleague is doing now, and it will cause hardship to the people up there.

When they want a bus for a funeral from my former colleague, they have to pay the money beforehand. Now this was never done when he was a politician or a representative of the parish. You only telephoned and the bus would go; whether it carried a load or not, the bus would go.

No sooner than he was disqualified by the people, this is what is happening. He is not altogether refusing, but he is asking them now to pay the money beforehand - cash, C.O.D. and you have to collect

the money yourself. He would not even allow the conductor to collect the money for you; so you have to find someone to collect the money.

Here it is that I have a funeral of my own or someone who belongs to me. I have to pay for the bus and the conductor is not to collect. You will hear: "I will pay you next day" or "when I get back", or "I do not have any change", or "I do not have any money." Sometimes that person who has already paid for the bus does not collect five shillings, but the bus was full.

Mr. SPEAKER: And that person is still an M.P.?

Mr. SMITH: If that person in St. Joseph was still an M.P. he would not do it; so the people in St. Joseph are paying dearly for disqualifying their former representative. They are paying dearly for it. I feel that it is not fair.

The Government has given these people a licence to do a service. If they are doing a service, they should not be able to tell one man that he has to pay first and then refuse to collect the money. They are doing a service, and no one else can go there and transport people.

Here it is now that the man next door has one of these pirate buses or station wagons and is willing to carry the people whether they paid him beforehand or not; but the law prevents him, and the bus concessionaire would not do anything at all. Now, this is where these people should be licensed for 12 passengers. If they want to carry passengers, say, this evening for a funeral, they should be able to apply this morning and get a licence to carry them.

This present concessionaire does not want that service any more, or he would not be calling on these people to pay up their money beforehand. He would not be calling on one man to pay \$15.00 or \$16.00 for a bus for 25 or 30 people to drive in. That is what it means, Sir. One man is paying for 30. That does not happen in the bus service. One man pays for one, or perhaps two or three, before the bus leaves the bus stand.

I hope the Minister in charge will go into that. I am not saying that we should compel the concessionaire to do what he does not want to do; but give a licence to these people so that he will have to apply for permission to take these people. It is as simple as ABC.

But what the Prime Minister says is true. Some of them get away with murder at the Port, and they want to put up another fast one at the Highways and Transport Department. I agree that we want the money to spend, but to quote the hon. junior member for St. Andrew, give these small boys a little more latitude.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I should like to deal first with the points raised by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph. This whole situation in

Barbados has been of some concern to the Ministry of Communications and the Government generally because the officers who have to administer the law - and I speak now about policemen - and the officers at Highways and Transport are in a difficult position.

What they have been doing is to try to accommodate people who have already spent large sums of money - \$8,000 or \$9,000, I do not know how much they cost, maybe \$6,000 in acquiring these Ford wagons that we see driving about the place. It is alright to say that the Motor Vehicle and Road Traffic Act says that they cannot run. The point is that the people in Barbados are using this sort of transport, and people are looking for some kind of subsistence out of this conveyance of passengers.

I do not see any problem with the pickups. I do not see anything in the law to prevent pickups from running. It does not say how you can carry passengers. So long as you construct it to carry flour, you can carry passengers sitting on top of the flour or without the flour. So the next time that one of my colleagues has a case in Court, I hope that he will be able to argue this point successfully.

In the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937 there are three or four definitions which exclude those which can carry twelve, thirteen or fourteen passengers from being considered as anything else than a bus.

The first definition is "motor cab" which includes any motor vehicle kept or used for hire or reward for the conveyance of not more than six passengers whether at separate fares or otherwise.

Then you have the definition of "motor omnibus" which includes any motor vehicle kept or used for hire or reward or standing and plying for hire or reward for the conveyance of more than six passengers whether at separate fares or otherwise.

As long as you carry more than six passengers, you come under the definition of motor omnibus. As the senior member for St. Joseph has pointed out when they get to the Pine - these people have spent money on these things. They have been persuaded by garages to pay down a small down payment and pay the rest in two or three years - when they arrive at the Pine, the Inspectors say: "We do not see any motor cab or taxi, but we will licence you to carry not more than six passengers because if we license you to carry more than six, you may apply for a bus concession."

Mr. Speaker, we are living in a country where the roads radiate like spokes from a wheel. There is no cross country transport. An hon. member referred yesterday to removing people from almshouses. This was our declared policy, and we are trying to rationalise the structure of Public Assistance in this island. It is inevitable that we should have more and more centralisation in our Public Assistance institutions.

People from St. John cannot get to St. Philip easily. They have to hire a motor car. There is no cross-country transportation, say, from St. Andrew or from St. Philip to St. Lucy. There is a definite requirement for this type of vehicle, and it seems to me that we will have to get together and get a new definition for an intermediate kind of vehicle which will be licensed.

1.10 p.m.

I do not like this idea of the Police having to prosecute people all the time.

There is the other side of the picture. Nothing that I am saying now is to be taken as a dispensation for the Magistrates or Counsel to argue that the Prime Minister said that these people have a case. I do not mean a case in court; I mean a case for consideration by the Legislature and the country as a whole.

We have to look at the realities of the situation in Barbados. I know the difficulties as well as the dangers. What is happening now is that these vehicles are paralleling - what in air transport we call paralleling - or running along the same routes the buses are running. One fellow is doing what we used to call in football "double-banking": one in front and one behind. One goes in front of the transport system and picks up people, and you have a fellow behind picking up the others. That is the way in which they are working. If we could restrict them, except on Sundays, Bank Holidays and on evenings after the normal bus hours, to running cross-country routes, we may be able to introduce another system of licensing now on the ring roads around Bridgetown between one parish and another and so on. The problem is a question of administration. Are you going to be able to get them to stick to those routes? This is the problem as I see it.

I do not think that this is a problem we are going to settle by looking purely at the interpretation of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, or by Police prosecutions in court. I think the fact that the general public makes use of these vehicles is an indication either that the bus services are inadequate or that they are providing a service that the Public Transport system is not providing. This is how I see it. I am not speaking purely as Minister of Finance. I think that we have to look at problems as they arise, and not look to the courts as a means of suppressing something which is only a way of a man earning his livelihood. But what I should like to see so far as bus concessions are concerned, is that these people should keep off the bus routes. They can operate on Sundays.

As a matter of fact, if I were like a certain friend of mine who rejoices in the name of "Poor Bob" - one day I went down to see the Chairman of the A.D.C., and I was driving a Volkeswagen Van. I picked up about seven passengers and dropped them at the Hospital. When they got out, three of them tendered me a fare. If I were like a certain friend of mine called "Poor Bob", I would have collected the

fare. I told them that that one was 'on the house', and I did not collect the fare. (An hon. member: When did that happen?)

That happened to be a Sunday afternoon at half-past two, and they did not expect the Prime Minister to be driving a Volkeswagen Van. On that particular day that was the only means I had of getting to St. Lucy. I got into the Volkeswagen Van and went down, and at every bus stop people hailed at me, and I stopped and picked them up. I did not see any buses around. I started at Connell Town, and I ended up with seven people in the van. I did not have any more accommodation for others. These people were trying to get to the Hospital to see their relatives. The buses do not provide a service at that time.

Sir, if the buses want to get the pirate taxis off the road, then they should provide services on the bus routes that we gave them concessions for. As far as the Transport Board is concerned, they are trying their best, but we cannot get the buses either from England or even locally fast enough. I want to say here, Sir, and I am speaking quite impartially now, that I do not think we should try to perpetuate legislation which does not face the realities of the transport system in Barbados today, and I hope that, if we should set up a Joint Committee of members of the House to recommend ways and means of having a third licensing system, the hon. member, who was so trenchant in his criticisms and useful in his suggestions, will be willing to give us the benefit of his advice.

I would just like to say in conclusion that I cannot agree with the hon. member in castigating a former member of the House because he asked for payment in advance. The only people who do not ask for payment in advance are undertakers, because they have to wait until somebody is dead. I do not think that this should be regarded as an indictment, because you cannot expect a person who has been rejected and cast aside to put himself in bankruptcy merely in the expectation of dislodging the hon. member.

Mr. SMITH: On a point of explanation, Mr. Speaker, This former hon. member used to make the people in St. John pay before, but in St. Joseph he would not do it. I am merely showing you what is happening now. No hardship has been created in St. John, but it is created now in St. Joseph.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: We are now in the same boat, Mr. Speaker, and the hon. member for St. Joseph does not have any unfair advantage over me any more. The hon. member for St. James asked me a question, but I think I have covered it in my reply. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

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

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

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

Clauses 1 to 3 inclusive were called and passed.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passage of one Bill in Committee.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

1.20 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I would like to do Order No. 5 quickly. This is the last one.

THE RACING SERVICE BUSINESS(REGISTRATION OF PREMISES) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1968

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 5 is the next Order of the Day. It stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, and is the second reading of a Bill to amend the Racing Service Business (Registration of Premises) Act, 1964.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: The Bill which we have before us is a very short one. I am pleased to inform hon. members that since the Bill was passed, we have collected \$40,000 from two new Racing Services; so that the Bill does not appear to have acted as a deterrent, and I understand there are two more to be opened shortly.

You will remember that in my Budget Statement I said that I thought that these services could bear a higher burden than they were at present bearing; so the proposal is to increase it to \$20,000. I think I ought to make a statement though in respect of the existing services. If you look at the Bill, you will see that it states that "there shall be payable to the Comptroller for the grant or renewal of a Certificate of registration in respect of any premises a fee of twenty thousand dollars." We understand it and the way it was intended was that any new services on and after the 3rd July would pay the full fee of \$20,000, but if you had already paid your fee of \$12,000 for this year, the new fee would not be due until next year. So the other people have five months to run to the end of December. Therefore we are going to collect from everybody before the

end of the financial year; but they will not have to pay in respect of the calendar year 1968 any additional fee, because it is only for the grant or renewal and you will not be renewing or granting unless you are coming in for the first time.

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

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: It is not that I like following Trinidad or any other place, but I do not like the idea of the Prime Minister saying that he is pleased to say that \$40,000 have been collected since the Statement was made. (A VOICE: What's wrong with it?) I am telling you what is wrong with it now. It is human nature to gamble. This country in the next five years will need a lot of money, and it is about time that the Government set up a national lottery, and do not mind what a few old ladies and a few other people are going to say. Rockefeller saw fit to do it in the United States. Since the Bill was passed and you have collected \$40,000, this gives me the idea, and I feel quite frankly that a national lottery is needed, because we are going to need a tremendous lot of money, and you might as well start working on it now by getting somebody to see how it can be worked. Anybody with an extra 25 cents or 50 cents could put it in a national lottery. If this has just been passed and you collected \$40,000, imagine what would happen with a national lottery. You would collect about \$100,000 in a week. You have Lions Bingo, Jaycees Bingo and all sorts of gambling facilities offered, and instead of the Government just getting the rake-off, they should be getting the real sweets in this matter.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this, but when the Prime Minister introduced this part in his Budgetary Proposals, I was a bit disappointed, because I thought the Prime Minister would have taxed them for \$100,000 each. (Mr. MOTTLEY: No!) You are telling me "no"? In spite of what was said in a political campaign when we were locked in battle, I do not know much about this; but in a campaign it is fair for your opponent to find anything to defeat you with. I bow to these things. The Prime Minister dubbed me as a gambler, but I ignore the statements made by the Prime Minister at that time. I am opposed to these Pools in Barbados. They are making a bundle of money, and all they are doing day after day is encouraging a lot of young boys and young men to gamble. You see them lined up every day at these Pools places, carrying grass for horses, so to speak, because they play a 50 cents or \$1.00 chance and invariably they lose, but the fellow who can take a chance with \$500 or \$1,000 is the one who picks up. You see thousands of them playing \$1.00 or \$2.00, and the people who are making the money are the people running the Pools. I am sorry, Mr. Speaker, that the Prime Minister did not hit them for \$80,000 each and run them out. Eric Williams did it in Trinidad and the only place they could come to was to Barbados. Although I am happy to hear that the Prime Minister has collected \$40,000, I am sorry it was not \$40,000

from each. I want to support the Prime Minister in that measure in his Budgetary Proposals. I have no use for these people at all.

Mr. SPRINGER: Mr. Speaker, before you put the question, I suppose I am more acquainted with pool-betting in Barbados or perhaps in the West Indies than most hon. members in this House, including the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, who makes it a habit of losing all the time. As a friend of mine always said, the easiest way to win is to find the horse he is playing and play the other.

There is some merit in the suggestion of a national lottery, but the type of gambling indulged in by the people who play the Pools is entirely different. Now the Turf Club runs what we can call a national lottery. It is run on the same scale as a national lottery. They sell tickets and draw each week; but what the Turf Club collects per week is far less than any single pool house in the Island collects in the same week, because the type of gambling is entirely different. The type of gambling works out this way. You bet at 12 noon and you know at 12.30 whether you have won or lost, and if the races are broadcast and you have more money, you bet again. So the volume of turnover in a day is much greater. A person might start the day with \$5. He might place \$3 on the first race and probably win \$6 on that \$3; so by the time the second race comes up, he has \$9 to bet. He may bet the whole \$9 and win another \$18, put the \$18 on the third race and so on until the last race when he has \$40, and loses all \$40. But he has had a day's fun. That type of gambling is entirely different from a lottery or bingo.

What I would say, Mr. Speaker, is this: the amount of turnover in the island legally is in the vicinity of \$4 million, and we could work it out quite easily. If you took what the two Bingo games pay out per week, combined, it is about \$15,000. If you multiply that by 52 weeks in a year, you will see that is very close to \$ 3/4 million, and then if you take the Turf Club, they pay out \$6,000 per week, which means that at the end of the year they pay out \$300,000. 1.30 p.m.

Now the average pay out is really 30% of what you take. If 30% represents \$300,000, the remaining percentage would represent close to another \$ 3/4 million. If you add to that the other form of gambling like the football pools, which is small now that the racing services have come, if you assume that six racing services take an average of \$2,000 a day, that is a low take. That is what I know. Even over the counter - this does not include betting by telephone. If you take six racing pools at \$2,000 a day, that is \$12,000 a day in gambling, and if you multiply that by 300 days a year, taking out Sundays and Bank Holidays you can see the type of money which is gambled legally, and this does not take into account the days when they gamble all day in Trinidad. Because \$4 million is gambled legally in the island, you cannot assume that if you run a national lottery you would collect \$2 million. (Mr. MOTTLEY: You will collect a \$1 million, though.) If you collect \$1 mil-

lion and you work out the cost of running it, printing and so on, I cannot see it paying to that extent. If the Government is collecting \$3/4 million in the coming year without having any control of the operation, why do you want to get involved? I know it calls for some study. I am not saying that it will work or that it will not work, but if you are collecting close on \$ 1 million without any headaches, and you have the right, if you feel that there is more in it and you can put on a piece more, why do you involve yourself in a headache for an extra \$1/4 million when you have the right to remove the Bingo tax from 20 to 25? You operate it to suit, and why do you involve yourself in this?

As to the New York Lottery, I can say that it is a failure up to now. They are collecting 10% of what they thought they would have collected because the "numbers" in America, which is illegal, has a greater appeal to the people. There are several people who go into the racing pool every day and take up a form and pay two dollars, but who would not buy a Bingo card or a Turf Club ticket. That type of gambling does not appeal to them. I agree that they could be some merit in a national lottery, but with the Government having the control of taxing all forms of legalised gambling in their hands, I think it calls for much more study than just saying we should run a national lottery.

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

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

The three Clauses of the Bill were called and passed.

On motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of the Bill in Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the consideration of that Bill concludes the business of this sitting. I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 30th July, 1968, at 12 o'clock (noon)

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

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 30th July, 1968, at 12 o'clock (noon) was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

1.40 p.m.