

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1966 - 71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 14th May, 1968

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

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., F.Z.S., (*Speaker*); Mr. K. N. R. HUSBANDS; Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., (*Leader of the House*); Mr. R. ST. C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; Hon. N. W. BOXILL, (*Minister of Communications and Works*); Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P.; Mr. J. B. SPRINGER and Mr. H. B. ST. JOHN, LL.B.

Prayers were read.

Mr. SMITH entered the House and took his seat.

CHAPLAIN WELCOMED BACK

Mr. SPEAKER: Before the business of the House is further proceeded with, on behalf of myself, and I am sure on behalf of all of us, I take pleasure in welcoming back our Chaplain, Rev. F. A. Cayless, who has been on sick leave and who is now very much better and is almost completely restored to health.

CONGRATULATION TO JUSTICES
OF THE PEACE

Mr. SPEAKER: I also take pleasure in congratulating all hon. members who, since our last meeting, have had conferred on them the honour of the Commission of the Peace. (*Cheers*).

EXPECTED ARRIVAL OF UNITED
KINGDOM PARLIAMENTARIANS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have also to inform hon. members that I have been advised that the party of members of the United Parliament who will be presenting to us our Independence Gift on behalf of their Parliament - the gift of a library - is expected to arrive in Barbados on the 8th June for a weekend during which the presentation will take place.

UNCERTAINTY OF TIME OF MEETING
OF THE HOUSE

Mr. SPEAKER: There are no Minutes for confirmation. I must also express my regret to hon.

members at the apparent uncertainty or confusion as to the time of today's meeting. The House was last adjourned until 12 o'clock noon today and for some extraordinary reason, the Order Papers were first issued stating the time as 2.30 o'clock p.m. That, I know, caused bewilderment amongst hon. members. I trust that that is not the reason why there is not as full a turnout of members as one normally sees. I express my regret. I can do no more.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I do not know if I am in order, I appreciate your regret in this matter; but would you let us know who is responsible for that?

Mr. SPEAKER: I assume that the hon. senior member for St. Joseph rose on a point of order, but it can only be, as that experienced hon. member, that experienced parliamentarian knows, the Clerks-at-the-Table, unless there was an error in printing, and the Government Printer who had been notified of 12 o'clock noon, put 2.30 o'clock p.m., in the first instance.

Mr. SMITH: Whether it be the Clerks-at-the-Table or the Government Printer, regardless of whoever it may be, I am hoping that this will not occur again. Should it occur again, I am not taking it so lightly. Someone must be punished for it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I share the hon. member's hope that this and other similar errors will never recur.

BILL RETURNED FROM THE OTHER PLACE

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Other Place, the Dairy Industry (Regulation and Control) Bill, 1968, which has been passed with certain amendments thereto made by that Chamber.

Messrs. LYNCH and YEARWOOD entered the House and took their seats.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister of External Affairs, I am commanded to lay a Statement of sums of money paid over to the Accountant General by the Commissioner of Police during the quarter ended 31st December, 1967;

Also, the Quarterly Digest of Statistics for September, 1967.

On behalf of the Hon. Minister of Health and Community Development, I am commanded to lay the Local Government (Pensions) (Amendment) Regulations, 1968.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:-

The Financial Statement of the Barbados Marketing Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 1966;

Also, the Financial Statement of the Barbados Marketing Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 1967.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister of External Affairs, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of \$5,500 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69 Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1968-69 No. 2, which form the Schedule to the Resolution;

Also, a Bill to grant an additional sum of money out of the Consolidated Fund and appropriate the same for the service of the Island for the year ended on 31st March, 1968.

On behalf of the Hon. Minister of Health and Community Development, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Mental Health Act, 1951.

REPLIES LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Oral Replies to the following Parliamentary Questions are ready:-

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 152, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter;

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 161, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James.

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 162, also asked by the hon. senior member for St. James.

Mr. HINDS entered the House and took his seat

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Sugar and Fancy Molasses Production and Export Control Act, 1940.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting in order to deal with the money Resolution for \$5,500 of which notice has just been given.

REPLIES LAID

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Oral Replies to the following Parliamentary Questions are ready:-

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 29, asked by the hon. junior member for St. George;

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 70, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James;

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 79, asked by the hon. junior member for St. James;

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 92, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James. 12.25 p.m.

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

Is it a fact that meat stored at the Barbados Marketing Corporation was found unfit for human consumption by Health Inspectors?

2. If the answer to the above is "yes", can the Minister state whether the spoilage was due wholly or in part to the negligence of any employee or employees of the B.M.C.?

3. Will the Minister also state if such employee or employees was or were suspended from his duties as a result of any investigation carried out into the matter?

4. If the answer to (3) is in the affirmative, will the Minister state if the suspended employee or employees received any pay during the period of suspension?

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

What is Government's policy with respect to making appointments to the Post of Education Officer in the Ministry of Education?

2. What is Government's policy with respect to seconding officers or teachers to such posts in the Ministry of Education?

3. Was a Mr. L. S. Wellington of the Staff of Harrison College due for secondment to the Ministry of Education to serve as an Education Officer?

4. Has the Post of Education Officer ever been advertised as vacant or has there been an advertisement or advertisements calling for applicants to fill the post?

5. When was such an advertisement published and where?

6. How many applications were received as a result of such advertisements?

7. Were applications received from suitably qualified teachers with experience?

8. Was Mr. L. S. Wellington one of the applicants for the post?

9. If the answer to No. 3 above is in the affirmative, was the secondment a recommendation of the Public Service Commission?

10. If the answer to No. 9 is in the negative, will the Minister state who made the recommendation for secondment?

11. Were the powers of the Public Service Commission in anyway usurped in the matter of seconding Mr. Wellington to this post?

12. If the answer to No. 11 above is in the affirmative, will the Minister state who is guilty of such conduct?

13. Has Mr. L. S. Wellington taken up the post?

14. If not, why not?

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

Does "diplomatic immunity" extended to foreign diplomats, their wives and families, cover the actions of the wife of the United States Ambassador to Barbados in bringing a dog into this country without permission through Seawell International Airport?

2. Would Government state to what extent the life of the dog population in this country has been exposed to rabies and other communicable diseases since February 15th, this year when the offence referred to above was committed?

3. Is it a fact that Government directed the services of the Government Veterinary Officer be available to the wife of the United States Ambassador to Barbados, in sending the dog under reference out of the Island?

4. Has Government learned that the United States Ambassador, is laying claims to such extra-territorial rights as there are under the terms of the Vienna Convention?

5. Will Government state what representation was made to a Minister of this Government on the subject of bringing this dog into the country prior to the commission of this offence?

6. Will the Minister take such steps as he deems necessary to see that the law is complied with in respect of the illegal entry into this Island of the dog above referred to?

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

As acidity of soil and elevation have shown that lands at Farley Hill, St. Peter, with the necessary water supply are suitable for the cultivation of pine trees, would Government consider experimenting with such lands there as could be made available for the cultivation of the CUPRESSUS or CYPRUS species of pine, a pine which would be ready for the Christmas tree market in this Island after a short period of two years?

2. Would Government give urgent consideration to the above with a view to encouraging the boys and girls from the adjoining parishes in becoming actively engaged in Government's diversification scheme whilst carving a future career for themselves and others and aiding in the local production drive?

12.35 p.m.

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

1. Has a dietitian been appointed to the Staff of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital?

2. If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, has the officer assumed duty? If so, when? If not, why not?

3. If the answer to No. 1 is in the negative, are the duties of dietitian being performed at this Institution? If so, by whom?

4. When last was the post advertised as being vacant and what were the minimum qualifications stipulated?

5. Were any applications received? If so, from whom and how many such were received?

6. What were the best qualifications of those applying?

7. How long has the Queen Elizabeth Hospital been without the services of a dietitian as qualified academically and practically as Government seeks?

8. What are the academic qualifications of the officer now performing the duties of dietitian and how many years' practical experience does the officer have to his or her credit?

9. If the post was advertised, what was the minimum salary attached thereto?

10. What salary is being paid to the officer now performing those duties; and for how long has the officer been serving?

11. Has Government offered training abroad to anyone to qualify for filling this post in the near future?

12. If not, why not?

13. Does Government consider a nutritionist as a qualified dietitian?

14. If the answer to No. 13 is in the affirmative, on what principle does Government apply in making the assessment?

15. How long has this post of dietitian been vacant?

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

Is Government aware that the cane-fire vigilance squad of the Royal Barbados Police due to carry out special duties in the Northern Parishes of this Island on the night of Tuesday, April, 23rd, 1968, did not leave Central Police Station at the scheduled hour?

2. Is Government aware that the long delay was due to an outbreak of near-riot conditions, firstly in the barrack room, and secondly in a police van and thirdly in the yard at Central Police Station in which the policemen involved engaged in torchlight-smashing, baton-tossing and stone-throwing?

3. Does Government realise that men who were on duty and due for relief at the scheduled hour were thus delayed and caused to work extra hours whilst this exhibition of bad manners was taking place?

4. What steps have been taken, if any, to prevent a recurrence?

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

Would Government give consideration to raising the school-leaving age to 18 years for all children attending Senior Elementary Schools in this Island?

2. Would Government seek to increase the staffs and equipment at such schools with a view to having the children benefit from instructions given according to their aptitudes, interests and abilities?

3. If the answer to the above is in the negative, would the Minister please state why?

Mr. HOPPIN: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Minister of Communications & Works:

Is Government aware that there is no standpost at Bayley's Alley, St. George?

2. Is Government aware that the nearest standpost to the said district is three-quarter miles distant?

3. Is Government aware that Sweet Vale No. 1 Pumping Station is situated in the said district?

4. Will Government take steps to have a standpost erected at Bayley's Alley as soon as possible?

Mr. HOPPIN: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Minister of Communications & Works:

Is Government aware that the road leading through Bayley's Alley, St. George, is now well-nigh impassable?

2. Will the Government take steps to have the present road repaired, or a new road constructed, as the case may be, in the said district?

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

Is Government aware that of 808 candidates from Barbados who took English Language in June 1967 of the University of London Examination for the General Certificate of Education (Overseas) Ordinary Level, the passes revealed a mere 19.9%?

2. In view of the fact that some of the candidates who took this exam are candidates in Government approved schools and Government-aided schools, would the Minister offer an explanation as to what could have contributed to this low percentage of passes in English Language?

3. Would the Minister compare the English Language results with the French results which returned a 26.6% pass from 94 Barbados entrants in the same June, 1967 exam from the said University?

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

Will the Minister cause a bath and latrine to be constructed at Westmorland, St. James, for the use of the inhabitants of the said district?

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

Is the Minister aware that the Fairchild Street and Cheapside Markets are already too congested to cope with the trafficking in meat, vegetables and fruit that daily takes place there?

Will the Minister take steps to have the said Markets extended?

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

Will the Minister state whether Bim Beverages Limited has been granted the right by Government or any Government sponsored agency to make use of artificial sweeteners in the manufacture of soft drinks?

2. What is Government's policy as to the use of artificial sweeteners in the productions of soft drinks?

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:-

Is the Minister aware that there is a water main and a standpost at the road known as Bridge Gap, Black Rock, St. Michael, but that no water service is yet available to the residents of the said district?

2. Will the Minister see to it that a water service is provided without delay?

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

Will the Minister state whether any part of the pier attached to the Hilton Hotel is rented to a private individual or firm?

2. If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister state the name of the person or firm, and the terms and conditions of the rental?

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

Will the Minister lay or cause to be laid as soon as is practicable the long promised Statement of the Commissioner General for Barbados and Guyana as to the activities of the booth of which he was in charge at Expo' 67?

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

Will the Minister state how many trips were made by the Commissioner General for Barbados and Guyana in his capacity as such (a) from Barbados to Canada and (b) within Canada itself in connection with Expo' 67?

2. Will the Minister state the costs of such trips?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I should like Your Honour's ruling. A Question No. 110, relating to this same matter, was asked by the hon. and learned senior member for St. Thomas and answered two weeks ago. The reply was printed and circulated with today's documents. I wonder, in the light of this, whether Your Honour would allow an identical question, or the same question bearing on an identical topic?

Mr. SPEAKER: I will give the matter my consideration, and will rule as soon as possible: as soon as I have had an opportunity of so considering it.

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

Will the Minister state the total amount of money paid to the Commissioner General for Barbados and Guyana as subsistence allowance during the trips to Canada in connection with Expo' 67 and the rate per day of such allowance?

2. Will the Minister state the total cost to this Government of the Hotel and other accommodation paid on behalf of the Commissioner General for Bar-

bados and Guyana during his trip to Canada in connection with Expo' 67?

3. Were the monies paid in respect of the said accommodation additional to or included in the subsistence allowance above referred to?

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to grant an additional sum of money out of the Consolidated Fund and appropriate the same for the service of the Island for the year ended on 31st March, 1968, be now read a first time.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I beg to second that.

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

12.45 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Mental Health Act, 1951, be now read a first time.

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

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Sugar and Fancy Molasses Production and Export Control Act, 1940, be now read a first time.

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

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

THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (TEACHERS) (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1968

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 1 under Government Business stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (Teachers) (Amendment) Order, 1968.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, this Order made under the Civil Establishment Act, 1949 merely seeks to add three posts to the Teaching establishment in view of the requirements of the School for the Deaf. It is a very simple Order, and there are three teachers, as I said before, required: two teachers and one Head teacher.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to second that.

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

THE PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) (No. 2)
REGULATIONS, 1968

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the day stands also in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the draft Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, 1968.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution seeks to rationalise a difference which exists between the Public Employees Pensions Act of 1961 and the main Pensions Act of 1947 in order that continuous service should be counted for purposes of pensionability under the 1947 Act as is now the case under the 1961 Act.

It is a comparative simple measure, Mr. Speaker and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

THE MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD
TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT)
REGULATIONS 1968

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Regulations, 1968.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution before the House is one which should have been here some years ago, but for reasons known best to the powers that then were, it was never implemented. Those of us who were around town going to the Empire and Olympic Theatres will remember that when pictures like "King Kong" and other cowboy pictures.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I cannot hear the Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not regard that as a point of order, but I will ask the hon. member if he would try and speak a little nearer the microphone so that we can all hear him well. We like to hear the hon. Minister.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I think what I was saying is quite clear. I do not even need a microphone. Anyway, I said that this Resolution before the House should have been here quite some time ago, but those who were in power then did not see fit to bring it. Then I went on to say that those of us who were in town during the 1930's and early Forties when such pictures as "King Kong", Richard Dix and some of the other cowboy pictures were being shown at the Olympic and Empire Theatres will remember that there used to be a human cry to see the stampede that took place at the entrances, and quite a number of people in my opinion used to indulge in watching peo-

ple fighting and tearing off each other's clothes to get into the theatre or into almost any place. This is something which maybe certain people in the community then thought to be a good thing, being what we were, just misfits in human society, and therefore they never thought it fit to pass legislation regulating the entry into these public houses as well as into public transport, and as a result of this we have this bad behaviour handed down through the years. I remember that one night a man was killed at the Olympic Theatre because the pressure outside was too great for him and he suffocated.

The Barbados community is one that always seems to be somewhat complacent until something severe happens to shock it out of its state of complacency, and overnight people want a complete change. I am not saying that this is what prompted this Resolution to be before this Chamber, but some of us here will remember that during the early part of this year, speaking under correction, two youngsters who were trying to board a bus as it left the stand opposite Rediffusion, were mixed up in the crowd, one boy fell and the bus went over his chest. The other boy was in a very bad condition, but Valhalla was not ready for him yet; so he has recuperated.

When people come here from overseas and see the way in which residents of Barbados have to catch a bus, it is really amusing to them, and sometimes you see tourists taking pictures of these things to carry back and show their families. What is more pathetic, Mr. Speaker, is that the same Barbadian who resents all his life the idea of waiting his turn to get on a bus leaves here and goes to Britain, a completely foreign and alien country to him, and will stand up at the bus stop until he is frozen to death. He would be something like Purdy Fallar, and he is not going to rush in front of anybody to get on to a bus.

12.55 p.m.

If he can go out of his country and show such good manners, there is absolutely no reason why he cannot show some good manners in his own country. From time immemorial we always say that charity begins at home, and there is absolutely no reason why manners should not begin at home also. Mr. Speaker, we all were appalled at this youngster losing his life in the way in which he did, because we do not like to see people lose their lives, and it may be because he was so young - he was cut off without seeing much of the wonders of the world. That is why we are here today asking the House of Assembly to approve this Resolution, and I am asking the residents of Barbados, since this is their country as well as my country, to make this country a good country for all of us. I am appealing to all and sundry, the robust and the strong, the meek and the mild, the halt, the lame and the blind, that when they go to a bus stop and they happen to find someone there waiting for them - that person may be in as much a hurry as he or she who has reached the bus stop is - to get in line. There is absolutely no reason for doing otherwise, as Sparrow has said: "Don't fret; everybody goin' get."

If we all line up at the bus stop, even if you do not catch the bus you wanted to catch, most likely somebody will pass down and give you a lift in a car, or there will be another bus that you can get. It is better to wait for fifteen minutes and catch a bus properly than to rush in one minute and lose a foot, or it may be a life. Losing a life at times is not so bad; but when you become permanently maimed and disabled and you are poor, then you become a burden not only to yourself and your family, but to the entire community. I am sure that none of us will want to see any of our loved ones being mangled in this fashion.

As the Regulations have set out, any time you find more than six persons at a bus stop, it is their duty to form a line or not more than two lines, one behind the other in single file. If you go to England you do this, and if you go to the outside world, you do this, and there is absolutely no reason why you cannot do it here. This is not an imposition which I would consider burdensome. I want to send this out to all and sundry, that if you contravene the law, you will be punished severely for it. (Mr. HINDS: Severely?) Yes, you must pay money in the Court. You might be punished in the Court, or you might be punished by nature, that is, you may go rushing to get into a bus and you may fall under the bus; so you are still paying a severe price. You are paying a severer price than if you are hailed before a Magistrate; but it is our duty, and especially for the members of this Chamber, it is about time that we become a little more responsible to the community and stop being led by the community. Since they have put us here to lead them, it is time that we start to lead them. It is not for the sake of a vote that we are going to make people feel that they can do wrong things and they are right. If your child does something wrong, you will chastise it, and there is absolutely no reason why you cannot tell your friend that he is wrong when he does something wrong. I will read out the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Regulations, 1968; they are as follows:

"In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by section 7 of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937, the Chief Technical Director, Ministry of Communications and Works, hereby makes the following Regulations -

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Regulations, 1968.

2. Regulation 53 of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Regulations, 1952 is hereby amended by inserting immediately after paragraph (1) the following as paragraphs (1A) and (1B) -

"(1A) Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph (1), when six or more persons are waiting to enter a motor omnibus at any stopping place or terminus, they shall -

(i) form and keep a queue or line of not more than two abreast and so as not to cause any obstruction;

(ii) comply with the lawful directions of any member of the Police Force in uniform.

(1B) No person shall take or attempt to take any position in any such queue or line otherwise than behind the persons already forming the same, nor shall any person enter or attempt to enter a motor omnibus before any other person desiring to enter the same motor omnibus who stood in front of him in such queue or line."

3. The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Regulations, 1965 (L.N. 25 of 1965) are hereby revoked."

With those few words, Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. LOWE: I beg to second that.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the Minister opened his remarks by saying that those who were in power did not see fit to pass a Resolution of this nature, and more than once I have warned the Minister that it is not what he does, but it is how he does it. He is trying to do something in the interest of the public, and he should be only too glad to see that he has got the first opportunity to do it. Since the ones who were in power did not see fit to do this, I am wondering if any accidents through people trying to rush and get first on the bus, have occurred since his Government was in power. I wonder if any happened, and if it is only one that caused him to bring down this Resolution. The Minister must be careful in saying these things because they were in power now for nearly ten years, and it is only now at the very last hour that he has also seen fit to bring down this Resolution. I am sure that school children have lost their lives in the bus stand, far less losing a limb during his time, but yet the others did not see fit to do this. Therefore, as to those children who lost their lives and their limbs, the Minister could have prevented that by bringing down a Resolution of this sort.

1.05 p.m.

This Resolution could be in here if he was really thinking in terms of the people. It could have been inside here from the very week that he was made a Minister. He knew that there would be no trouble to have a Resolution of this nature passed; but he was thinking so much about what the others did, that he wanted to follow suit and waited back until deaths occurred.

Now, Sir, queueing is nothing new because it happens in most countries. The Minister says that you will be punished and punished severely if you should violate these Regulations. I am sorry that the Minister did not have here set out in these Regulations what would be the punishment. I am wondering if he knows what will be the punishment because it is not here in the Regulations or in the Resolution, and it should be here for us to see.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, now that we are going into this matter we should go into it more fully and do not come here with it in a piece meal way. Queueing up is one thing, but there are a lot of things that can cause trouble and cost life and limb relative to the hopping on and off of buses.

The Regulations say a police in uniform. Now, you have bus poles all over the country. Is it the intention of the Minister to place a policeman at each bus pole to see that these Regulations are carried out? The Minister knows the travelling public as well as I do. Especially on Saturdays when some of us can be very merry or in other words 'have a few up', at a bus stop people are already there, but one of these people comes up and rushes in front of them so as to hop the bus first, and there is no policeman there.

Now, Sir, these Regulations will be of no use as far as that bus pole and the majority of the bus poles in the country are concerned. You will meet some trouble because except a policeman is in uniform - the travelling public is told by this Resolution of only a policeman in uniform whom you will have to obey.

I feel, Sir, that some authority should be vested in these Inspectors they have at Highways and Transport. I think they have Grade 2 Inspectors, but the Minister will know whom I mean better than I myself when I say Grade 2 Inspectors who are charged with certain responsibilities. I think that they should be able to ask one to get out of a bus or ask a bus to carry on if they see people behaving badly. I am speaking under correction.

Why not give these same Inspectors some authority to keep law and order in the bus stand and at these bus poles? Here it is that in the Fairchild Street Bus Stand you will be having people queueing up, but there may be no policeman in uniform. I am wondering to know how the Minister or the Director expect to keep law and order in the absence of the Police. While you may have policemen at these bus stands in the City area, you have people who will have to queue up at all the bus poles.

You have Inspectors all around the country inspecting buses and passengers because they are looking to see how many passengers are in the buses and how much money is in the bag. Yet these Inspectors cannot keep order. People are not going to queue up although they should. I have seen it in England that a particular individual tried to pull a fast one on some passengers. I saw a particular man who was not a policeman - in other words he did not have on a police uniform.

Before I go further you may have a policeman in his private clothes; but you say here in the Regulations a policeman in uniform. So a police officer who is in his private dress has no authority either. That is how this is drafted, and that is how the Director has passed it on to the Minister for his approval.

Well, I saw this particular person come up and ask that chap to come out and he had to fall out of the

line and go at the entire end. The bus came along and picked up as many as it could, and all the while this particular chap was at the end of the line until another bus came.

Now these Regulations only say that a policeman in uniform is to see that you must queue up in twos and nothing more. Taking it from the Regulations and from the Minister that is all there is to it - that the law of the land is that there must be queueing up in twos and that is the end of it; but if a man, no sooner than the bus arrives, runs to the front and gets into the bus, what direction is there, what Rule, Order or Regulation, what law can you charge him under for breaking the Regulations? If I am wrong, the Minister can correct me. Don't let me go too far.

I feel that this is only a start. They may be waiting to see how the public will react. I say that because I see that the Government are really timid about doing certain measures in here for the protection of the people. I can see that clearly and I will prove it.

Now, Sir, there are no Regulations or anything to tell us about the authority of the Grade 2 Inspectors who see that the buses come in and go out on time. They are there for that purpose; but I think that the authority mentioned in these Regulations should be more vested in them than in the police because they are practically on the spot. The police may be there occasionally. Now, Sir, that is where I am saying that the Government is trying now to pass certain measures and leave out certain measures which will protect the public.

1.15 p.m.

Now, Sir, I am going to say this regardless of what it may cost me. It cannot cost me anything, because to lose my seat I will lose nothing. But this is for the protection of the country. Here it is: you are called upon to queue up, say, at a bus stop at Waterford. You are called upon to queue up and get on the bus in an orderly manner, but while you are waiting there some person may drive along in a motor vehicle that is not road worthy - in other words, it has no brakes and no horn, in some instances, and wipe off the queue completely. That may be done through faulty brakes, through faulty steering or otherwise. Would that be any help to the Government or the public?

You are trying to protect them from losing a limb, but you are not trying to protect them from losing their lives. The lives of the driver, the owner of the vehicle, the occupants of the vehicle as well as the people who are waiting on a bus, may be in danger. The Ministry, or this Government, is trying to protect the pedestrians on the street. Every individual who owns a public service vehicle must have it inspected, and that is a very wise thing to make sure that vehicles are road worthy. On the other hand, you allow another person to take up anything with four wheels and drive it along the road and do any kind of damage.

Mr. Speaker, I am not against such people. It will be said and it can be said that I do not want certain people to own a motorcar. I can remember, speaking subject to correction, that when Third Party Insurance was first introduced, the Opposition at the time severely criticised the Government by saying that they wanted to get the people off the road and they did not want certain people to own motor cars. We have to make up our minds to accept such criticism. Now every birth causes a pain, but the pain does not last forever. The pain must be soothed at some time - sometimes in no time. I have not heard of any person going out of existence as a result of Third Party Insurance, because it is to protect the people.

As I understand it, Sir, there are two kinds of Third Party Insurances. Third Party means that the Insurance Company will pay the other side, but not you. I wonder whether the Government knows that, after a vehicle has reached a certain age, the Insurance Companies usually inform its owner that they can no longer insure the vehicle comprehensively. The Insurance Companies themselves have seen the danger in it, and they are telling people that they can only insure certain vehicles in accordance with the law. In my opinion, if legislation for insuring vehicles was not on the Statute Books, the Insurance Companies would not insure vehicles at all. It is the Government's duty to take what I am saying here seriously, and see to it that we protect the travelling public.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think the hon. member has dealt sufficiently with that point. May I suggest that he now return to the queue?

Mr. SMITH: Yes, I can return to the queue. I think the Regulations mentioned something about buses. It is not a bus without a passenger; so do not expect me to talk about queueing and not about the people. You are not asking us to call on animals to queue up. We are not queueing up animals; we are queueing up human beings - the travelling public - and my reference is in connection with the travelling public. I may have referred to the question of insurance in order to make my point valid so that the Government may know what I mean, but we are dealing with the people.

Now that this Government has seen the wisdom - more wisdom than the last Government, taking the Hon. Minister's word for it - I am trying now to help them, if they need my help. I do not think they would need my help, but I want to help the people, if not the Government. I want to get things straight, Sir, because I do not want it to be said, or I do not want you to think, that I am travelling out of my bounds. It is stated here: The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Regulations; so if I refer, Sir, to motor vehicles and roads although it did not mention "on the road" - this document says "and" and I am saying now "on". I still feel that I am in order when I deal with this one.

I am dealing with the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, and this is the point that I want the Minister to see: authority should be vested in the in-

spectors to keep law and order. The Inspectors should be given authority so that if one wants to break the line and go in front of any passenger - I am not talking about the policeman in uniform - they could take the necessary action. The policeman who is not in uniform would not have any authority either, as far as I am concerned. The Inspectors should be able to tell a particular offender to "fall out", and if he refused to "fall out" he should not be allowed to get on the bus. It will be necessary to do something of that sort in order to keep law and order. If one knows that if one disobeys an inspector one will not reach one's destination by the time one wants, one will obey the Inspector.

1.25 p.m.

In other words, he would not break the rule at all, no matter how late he is for work. Now I think the Minister should take all this into consideration and let the Director or whoever is responsible for this know that he did very little here. I feel that this Resolution should be deferred and brought back in a proper manner after considering all the points I have raised, and from the looks of the Hon. Prime Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister, it seems to me that they halfway agree with me. If that is so, the Minister should be called upon to defer this until today week and bring it back giving certain authority and powers to these Inspectors so that we could not get chaos in the bus-stand, because you may get more chaos in the bus-stand now with these Regulations as they are than if you did not have them. There are some fire-side lawyers who know the law backwards who would go there and make trouble because a policeman in uniform is not there, and would have no regard for the conductor, driver or inspector of the bus, and you cannot tie a policeman to every bus pole. This may not happen in the City, but at other bus poles in Oistin Town, Holertown or Speightstown where you have a lot of people collecting at a bus pole, if there is no policeman in uniform there, we would be no wiser.

I feel, Mr. Speaker, that at the present moment this is only a start, and more power should be given to the inspectors.

Another point is this: I understand that you have these Land Rovers, and they are all licensed as private vehicles, but some are being used publicly. I feel that some distinction should be made that if one has a Land Rover which is only doing private work just like a private car, and another is doing a public service - and I see some of them doing a public service - they should be inspected too if they are doing public work. I am drawing these things to the Minister's attention under these amendments and regulations.

Another point, Mr. Speaker, is that at certain points certain connections and installations are being made in the road, and where you have busy streets, no work should be allowed at peak hours. I do not know if any of the Ministers has ever had cause to travel or meet an appointment, and through the installation of these things in the road during peak hours he has had to wait practically ten or fifteen

minutes before he could get the green light. At the peak hours the work could be slowed down and the people could easily catch up afterwards, because if they are going to finish working at 4.30 p.m., it would not be more than one hour in my opinion, and they could afford to rest off until that time and put in the other hour's work after, because you have to think in terms of the travelling public at the particular time. These are things that you have to think in terms of.

Now, Sir, the last point is a matter for the Minister. I have raised this point in this House already that the Inspectors at Highways and Transport have to work a whole day, turning out to work like any other Civil Servant and leaving like any other Civil Servant, but at any time of the night, on Sundays and bank holidays these men are called out to do their public duty. It is not fair to call on these men after hours and not pay them for it. Now the night belongs to even the prisoners. You cannot go to the Glendairy and call out the prisoners after the time has passed. These prisoners belong to the Queen, the King or whoever it is, and you cannot call them out after they turn in, but these men are called out all hours of the night and are not paid for it. You have other Civil Servants who get paid for what they do extra. I drew this to the Minister's attention some time ago, and up to now nothing has been done to remunerate these people for their services, and I am saying here and now, and I would be glad if it appears in the Press, that these men should not come out after they have turned in and let the Government do what it likes with them. I am saying to these people on the floor of this House not to turn out until they are paid for the work they do after hours.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has made that point. I think he has gone far enough on that point for the purpose of this Resolution.

Mr. SMITH: Yes, sir, I am trying to get the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act working perfectly well. Mr. Speaker, I know how you may feel in this matter, but in certain things you must allow a little latitude.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have allowed; that is what I was pointing out.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, you have not allowed sufficient yet. It is a little bit more that I want to get this matter straight. I know that you feel these men should be paid, and I believe you are very much surprised to know that they are not paid, because you are ordered out too, but I feel that a berry is there for you when you leave your nice warm bed.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am now fully seised of the point that they are not paid.

Mr. SMITH: When you have to leave your nice warm bed with your charming wife, I do not think you are doing it for nothing. If you expected that nothing was in it, you would not go; but these men know that nothing is in it, but they have to go because they are afraid of losing their jobs. The Government should not set such an example by calling on people in their

own time. The police have to protect the community and they have agreed to these conditions, but there are doctors some of whom do not come out after hours, no matter how many people may die, because you cannot hear them; they take the receiver off the cradle.

1.35 p.m.

These people should be paid. I can tell you that they go out with a certain amount of fear, because sometimes you go to an accident especially when both sides "have got up a few", and when the Inspector arrives and he is not on his "p's" and "q's", there is a possibility that he will get some lashes. The policemen have to go out and I presume that they are being paid, or at least they get one day out of every four by way of off duty; but these Inspectors do not get any off days. I am drawing to the attention of the Minister for the second time that it is not fair, and he should check on it and see that these people are paid. In the same way that the Director took it upon himself to draft or submit these Regulations to the Minister for his approval, why cannot the Director draft the same thing and see that these men are paid? I am sure about that, but it is not fair and I am appealing to the Minister and I am saying that these men should not go out. Let the Minister and the Director go out because all of them are responsible for it. I would not say that the Government is responsible for it, because I believe that if a Resolution of such a nature should go before the Cabinet for the purpose of paying these men, I doubt that the Cabinet would turn it down. It is the Director and the Minister, because the Minister knows about it. I draw it to his attention and he failed to carry out his duty, and if he fails to do something, I will do something else.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, I am not going to be long. I am just going to reiterate the point raised by the hon. member on my right who has dealt with sub-paragraph 2 of paragraph 2 of these Regulations which reads that persons should comply with the lawful directions of any member of the Police Force in uniform. I think that the idea behind the force of this part of the Regulations is that members of the public who are waiting for any buses might not be embarrassed while they are trying to form a queue. In other words, if twelve people form an orderly queue but one or more of them tries or try to interfere with the formation of that regular queue, what is going to happen? Provision is made in sub-paragraph 2 of paragraph 2 of these Regulations that if a policeman is there, those who would form an ordinary queue might not be embarrassed; but, as has been pointed out, more often than not, no policeman will be present. Nowadays, if a policeman is found on the beat in a particular area, you do not see one again - I speak of Speightstown - for quite a while. Of course, after 4 p.m., the frequency of visits becomes less, because nowadays, everybody knows that, to a large extent, the Police Force depends on Motor transport. They depend on motor transport, and not on foot duty as used to be the case years ago. Well, we have progressed, but how often will it be possible for a policeman in uniform to go to the assistance of the orderly

formation of a queue or assist in the orderly re-formation of a queue? Let us use our commonsense. You will get some individual, probably in high spirits, or he is just an anti-social chap, and he tries to break up the queue. The Regulation does not make any provision for a policeman or a constable to go to the assistance in that case. It might. Even if the Regulation made provision for the assistance of an Island Constable to go to the assistance of the formation of the queue, that would be something. I say this, that this is such a wide loop that you can run something bigger than a bus through it. To depend upon the infrequent presence of a policeman in uniform, as specified in this sub-paragraph, to preserve the orderly formation or the re-formation of an orderly queue is really saying too little. It is really demanding too little.

I do not think that this is going to work very well; I think that we are going to have some trouble, because too infrequently are policemen to be found in places like the rural districts of this Island at bus termini. I think that this provision needs tightening up. I think that the Minister would do well if he would see to it that there is a further tightening of this wide loop through which something bigger than a bus may enter. That is all I have to say, and I say it in all good faith and, of course, hoping to assist the Minister in this respect.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I wish to add a few words in respect of what my colleagues, the hon. senior member for St. Peter and the hon. senior member for St. Joseph have said, but in so doing, I made a note here and it tended to disturb me when the Minister, while introducing this Resolution, mentioned places like England, and I imagined he would have made reference to a place like North America where people will queue up until they freeze in order to board transport. I wonder if the Minister has ever taken the opportunity to go downstairs in a subway station and see people not queueing, but husbands are pushing away wives in order to get into the train, and husbands are pushing away sons and daughters in order to get into the train. However, I am in favour of queueing up. I wish to make that abundantly clear, but it is not fair to say that the Government which was once in power never thought it fit to bring down such a Resolution. You may as well argue on the other side, that the present Government took some seven years and months to bring down this one, and if this were a priority, they would have brought it in immediately.

1.45 p.m.

What I wish to draw to the Minister's attention, just as an observation, a suggestion, to the Hon. Minister, is that it would be a very wise thing that the Police Force be cautioned to use their discretion in this matter. You have children boarding buses after school on evenings to get home. I am quite sure that many children would not be aware of the fact that there is a regulation whereby a Policeman in uniform can make an arrest because they would be breaching the law.

What I feel would be the ideal thing - supporting my colleague the hon. senior member for St. Joseph - would be to extend or to increase the services of the Inspectors or Sub-Inspectors, whatever you may care to call them, but increase the Transport Board's force whereby on evenings, in particular around the peak hour, they would be in a position to direct. Put them in uniform and give them some degree of authority whereby they would be able to direct those persons who are about to board buses that it is in their right to queue up, rather than using the Police immediately.

What also I think is very important, and the Minister should bear this in mind, is that they must extend, increase the bus service during these peak hours, because when a man leaves work at 4 o'clock on evenings and goes into the bus stand and he is going to hear that a bus going to St. Joseph or St. Andrew - the last bus - is only carrying 40 people, he cannot help rushing to get into the bus.

I am not objecting to queueing. I am supporting the Resolution from the point of view of queueing up; but what I want to draw to the Minister's attention forcibly is that you will have to get the Police to use their discretion in this new venture.

I would suggest to the Minister that there should be an increase either in the Inspectors or in people who will go into the bus stand on evenings and direct the travelling public that they should use these queueing lines. If you just go along with the idea that you pass a Resolution and it becomes law tomorrow, some unscrupulous policeman might walk up and arrest two or three children trying to get into a bus because they know no better. If he wants to make an arrest, he might arrest one of these children. Of course, they are leaving loopholes for defence lawyers, especially the traffic experts, to earn what my friend the hon. member for St. Joseph, would call a "berry" more.

I would suggest that you increase the number of officers or whatever you care to call them and let them go into the bus stands on evenings where you get this big rush to the buses and direct people to queue up. Over a period of time I am sure that the Barbadian public will adjust itself to the matter of queueing up. The Minister may say that when you go to Canada you find people queueing up. There may be some truth in that; but I have seen them rushing to get into subways, trains and buses in North America and in the Caribbean Islands.

Although I support the Resolution, it would be a good idea for the Police to use their discretion in this matter. Secondly, increase the bus service by way of making more trips and thirdly increase the staff of the Transport Board for the purpose of assisting Inspectors and Conductors.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, queueing is a very good thing; but what we want to address our minds to is this: are we going to ask the people to queue two abreast on the narrow streets that we have here?

It is quite alright at a bus terminus. There may be sufficient room to accommodate queueing; but some of our bus stops are really in cane bunches, so to speak. A lot of people waiting for buses at this present time find themselves having to wait on private premises. Are we going to legislate here for queueing by these people on the private premises of other people?

It is not the case where at these bus poles provision is to be made to accommodate even a limited number of people waiting to catch a bus. It is not so at all. In relation to that, Mr. Speaker, while we must favour and appreciate what a good thing queueing must be, one has got to bear in mind that the travelling public, particularly at peak hours, is made up of what we should say are legitimate travellers; but in addition to the legitimate traveller who is the type of person that has a job to go to and who has to get there at a particular hour, at many of these bus stops you find a lot of nuisances, a lot of young men, probably carrying brief cases - disillusioned some of them - but they are people who in many cases cause trouble at these bus poles because a person who is really and truly going to a job at a particular hour and has got to depend on transportation by bus to get to the job is denied a seat by a lot of people who have collected enough overnight to come to town on mornings and you see three, four or five of them propping up Harrison's Corner or somewhere else around Bridgetown, while people who have got to go to work are left in the suburbs or may be in the country districts.

You can have queueing, no doubt, but there must be an adequate bus service. Yes, you can queue, Mr. Speaker, but a person who has to depend on the bus might live a quarter of a mile from the bus stop or may live in a village and the bus may not pass their village and they might have to go down to the main road.

If that person knows that the bus will get to the stop at 8 o'clock, that it is going to run on schedule and that it will be passing the point where this person will embark, say, 15 minutes before time, he can leave home at 7.30 and be ready when the bus reaches there at 7.45 and there will be no problem; but here is a case where a lot of people have got to assemble at these bus stops; their jobs have been threatened each morning that they are late; but they are there and when the bus comes it cannot accommodate the number of passengers. When you expect another bus to come, you get a report that two or three have broken down on the way.

What will be the position of these people who have been at that bus stop before 7.30?
1.55 p.m.

But the case is that the jobs of these people stand threatened by an inadequate bus service. It is all right to talk about people queueing. Yes, we will queue; it is good to have the people queueing, but you must provide an adequate bus service before you ask the people to queue. If you ask them to queue you

should make provision in order that they may not have to queue two abreast on the narrow streets of this Island. When you ask them to do that, you are endangering their lives and the lives of motorists.

Mr. Speaker, on this question of who should be considered a legitimate traveller or otherwise, it will call for much more consideration than the Minister has given it. You have a number of young men and women who have to reach their jobs in Bridgetown and elsewhere. It does not appear as if we will ever have enough buses to accommodate our passengers. There are times when workers have to get to their jobs, and some provision must be made for them. We do not know whether the time has arrived when workers employed by firms should have their work badges or something on their uniforms, so that the conductor will know that they are legitimate travellers. There are no two ways about it, Mr. Speaker, our bus service is very limited. On whatever route you travel you will find the bus service very limited indeed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER: This sitting is now suspended until 2.30 p.m.

On resumption:

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the bell be rung, as there is no quorum.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. member; let the bell be rung.

The bell was rung by the DEPUTY CLERK and a quorum was obtained.

QUESTION TIME

BARBER GREEN ROADS

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Question Time. Question No. 29 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. George.

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

Is Government aware of the darkness of the Barber Green Roads at night in the rural districts which poses a danger to both pedestrian and vehicular traffic?

If the answer to the above is in the affirmative:

Will Government have lights installed on the Salters to Chas. Rowe Bridge Highway and at the junction of Jehovah Jirah and Market Hill Highways in the parish of Saint George?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the replies are as follows:

Government is aware that the Barber Green Road surfaces are black when laid and the provi-

sion of street lighting will lessen the risk of accidents to pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

Government has under consideration plans for improvement of street lighting facilities throughout the island and consideration will be given to the possibility of installing street lights in the districts mentioned, when the street lighting programme is being prepared.

2.35 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: Parliamentary Question No. 70 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James who is not present in his place.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, we propose to lay the Replies which we have tabled even if the questions are not asked.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the Hon. Leader of the House for his assurance.

Mr. CRAIG entered the Chamber and took his seat.

QUESTION re STREET LIGHTING ALONG HIGHWAY 1.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows:-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Can the Minister treat as a priority, the street-lighting along Highway 1, between Porters and Mount Standfast a street frequently used by hotel-guests and workers leaving the hotels late at night?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

"The possibility of improving the lighting along Highway 1 will be considered when the street lighting programme is being prepared."

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary, when does the Minister envisage that the street lighting programme will be prepared?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Within the near future, But, Mr. Speaker, if I am allowed to explain a point to the hon. member, we were about to embark on a programme of street lighting, and just as we were getting tenders in, there was the devaluation of the pound, and this put us in a very precarious position, because the lights we were planning to get were those I mentioned to the House early last year as installed in the back of Hincks Street, and they were coming from the hard currency area. Since then we have had two local firms producing lights which we are hoping to use. We have installed some in the old Hospital compound, and we are hoping to put some of these on the streets in the near future.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, have any additional lights been installed by Government since

they took over from the Councils and how many? I am sure this would not embarrass the Minister.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Nothing the hon. member can ask would embarrass me.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thought I saw two hon. members on their feet simultaneously.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: No, Mr. Speaker. That was only one and a half.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member should not be ashamed of his brevity.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the reply to the hon. member's question is that as far as I remember no lights have been installed so far.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The hon. member said that the lights for the street lighting programme which they envisaged come from the hard currency area. Is there any possibility of getting these lights from England or Australia? Philips make lights in England, and that is where we imported them from.

Mr. SPEAKER: What question is that?

Mr. MOTTLEY: The question is this: Is the hon. member aware, speaking of the Bridgetown City Council, that there were a number of lights which we wanted to instal that were in the hands of the Electric Company when the Government took over from the Councils and these lights came from areas from which Government could continue to get them - such lights as have been used on the Hastings and St. James Roads?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware of the fact that the Electric Company still has street lights in stock.

Mr. MOTTLEY: If the hon. member does not mind, I want to make the question quite clear. Is the hon. member aware that when they took over the Council there were a number of street lights which were imported and kept by the Electric Company because they had to instal them? If he is not aware of that, will the hon. member enquire and find out? I am not asking you; I am telling you.

Mr. SPEAKER: You have to be asking him; you cannot be telling him now.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I thank you for that, because he wants to ask me a question, and now I am giving him the answer he wants to tell me the answer. I have said "no" to his question. I have been to the Electric Company and we have investigated this. There are no lights at the Electric Company available for street lighting at this stage.

The hon. member also said that we could get these lights from England and Australia. Australia is a hard currency country, Mr. Speaker; but I have

told him that we are looking into the possibility of making the lights here. (A VOICE: You cannot make those lights here.) Mr. Speaker, that is the trouble. If Mr. Butcher did not make the type of bus we are seeing now, nobody would believe Mr. Butcher could make a bus. I am saying that we are making the lights here. I am trying to give the House the information, but he is arguing with me about something I know. That is the type of mentality you get. The lights will be made here and that is what we are examining, because we feel that the money will be inside the country, and it would be a cheaper light than what we get from overseas.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I am not in any way trying to be difficult, knowing that the Minister can get a bit angry at times.

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

Mr. CRAIG: Yes, Sir. When the Minister says "in the near future", would the Minister state whether he means some time this year, or would his contention be that the near future would be some time between now and 1971?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am answering this question for two specific reasons. One is to prove to the hon. member that there is nothing he can say to get me hot at this stage; and when I say "near future", I could not mean 1970, because I do not know if I would be around in 1970. When I say "in the near future", I mean that we are examining this thing now and hope to have these lights installed this year.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I think the hon. member might have made a mistake and I am giving him a chance to check on it. The hon. member said that lights are being made here, I think he is wrong, and what he means is that they are making the fittings here. The hon. member knows that the lights which we installed and to which I referred are nothing Mr. Butcher makes. If he is talking about the fixtures and fittings, they were always made here. Does the hon. member mean the lights or the fittings? He might want to correct himself because this will go down in Hansard.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question has been put.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I cannot understand what is wrong with hon. members today. I said the lights will be made here. I do not know what the hon. member means by fittings. It is known that we do not make fluorescent bulbs here, Mr. Speaker, and if the hon. member wants to be technical, a fluorescent bulb is not a light; it is a lamp. What I am trying to say, Mr. Speaker, is that we are going to make the things here ourselves with the exception of the two fluorescent lamps. We are making the stand, assembling and everything else here. I am giving the information which I have as Minister, and if they do not want it, I am finished.
2.45 p.m.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I would not like to mislead the people. I believe that the Hon. Minister is absolutely honest in what he has said. He has given the information which he has, but you cannot make the lights here, nothing to suit this public. You make the fittings here.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is not a question.

Mr. MOTTLEY: You make the fittings here. I will give the Minister a chance to correct what he has said.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member cannot make a speech. (AFTER A PAUSE) Is there any other supplementary question?

Mr. MOTTLEY: The hon. member is assuring us that the fixtures and fittings will be made here. I just want to make my position clear. Being the person who is responsible for the installation of more lights than anybody else, I thought that this scientific lighting would have been here by now. The fixtures were always made here; that is nothing new.

Mr. SPEAKER: What is the question being led up to?

Mr. MOTTLEY: It is being led up to the fact that the lights are not made here.

Mr. SPEAKER: No, no, that is a statement.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The Hon. Minister made a statement, but he said that it was according to his information. (AFTER A PAUSE).

Mr. SPEAKER: Apparently, the Minister cannot shed any more light on the matter.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Because he has not got either the fittings or the fixtures.

HARDSHIPS DUE TO ABSENCE OF PROPER AMENITIES IN PILE BAY DISTRICT

Mr. SPEAKER: The next question to which the reply has been laid is question No. 92, standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James. That is on page 6, left-hand column.

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

Is Government aware that the residents of Pile Bay District, St. Michael, suffer great inconveniences and hardships due to the absence in the said District of proper roads, water and electricity?

2. If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, will Government take the necessary steps to alleviate the inconveniences and hardships complained of?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

"1. No, Sir.

2. The Pile Bay District is a private tenantry. It is already supplied with water. Electric supply is available. A recently constructed private road allows reasonable access to the district."

GOVERNMENT POLICY re PARENT-TEACHER BODIES

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question to which the Reply has been laid is Question No. 152, standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter. That is on page 10, left-hand column.

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

What is the policy of Government relative to Parent-Teacher bodies or groups functioning at Primary, Senior Elementary, Secondary Modern or Comprehensive or Secondary Grammar School level?

2. Does Government consider Parent-Teacher relationship an indispensable link in any system of education for the upbringing of the youth?

3. How many Parent-Teacher bodies are at present functioning amongst Government-maintained Schools; how many amongst Government-assisted and approved schools?

4. What assistance of any kind, except the availability of school buildings for meetings, has Government rendered to any Parent-Teacher body or bodies during the school-year ending 1966, and the school-year ending 1967?

5. How many meetings held by these bodies have been addressed by Education Officers of the Ministry? And if addresses were given, was the initiative taken by the Ministry or was it merely in honour of a request from the Parent-Teacher body so addressed?

6. How many teachers and how many parents are actively involved at Primary, Senior Elementary, Secondary Modern or Comprehensive School or Secondary Grammar School level in the Parent-Teacher movement in this Island?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to the hon. member's Question is as follows:-

(i) Parent-Teacher Associations are considered desirable. Heads of Schools are encouraged to organise such associations and to report on their progress. The officers of the Ministry of Education and the Social Welfare Officer, give assistance wherever possible.

(ii) The Parent-Teacher relationship is not an indispensable factor, but the existence of active Parent-Teacher Associations help considerably in the education of the youth.

(iii) The number of Parent-Teacher Associations at present functioning is fifty eight (58) broken down as follows:-

Primary and all-age	--	50
Comprehensive	--	3
Grammar	--	2
Aided-Independent	--	3
Total	--	58

(iv) The assistance rendered by Government apart from the loan of school buildings, was as follows:-

For the year ending 1966:

40% of the total cost of Pianos for the following schools

(a) Pine Primary	--	\$366.00
(b) St. Catherine's	--	\$240.00

For the year ending 1967:

(a) Twelve (12) lectures were given by officers of the Social Welfare Department.

(b) Six (6) lectures were given by School Attendance Officers of the Ministry of Education.

(c) Twenty-four (24) lectures were given by Education Officers of the Ministry.

(d) A first-aid class run by the Royal Barbados Police Force was organised by the Ministry.

(e) The Visual-Aids section of the Ministry of Education arranged film shows for two Parent-Teacher Associations. Schools are also notified of films of the Mobile Cinema Programme, which would be of interest to Parent-Teacher Associations, so that parents who are interested could attend when the film is shown in their district.

(v) There were twenty-four (24) meetings of Parent-Teacher Associations which were addressed by Education Officers as follows:-

Primary and all-age	--	22
Comprehensive	--	1
Aided-Independent	--	1
Total	--	24

Twenty-three (23) of these addresses were at the request of Associations and one (1) was on the initiative of the Ministry of Education.

(vi) There are four hundred and fifty-seven (457) teachers and three thousand, one

hundred and seventeen (3,117) parents actively involved in Parent-Teacher Associations in this Island. The break down of those totals are:-

	Teachers	Parents
Primary and all-age	293	2,380
Comprehensive	61	240
Grammar	65	355
Aided-Independent	38	142
Total	<u>457</u>	<u>3,117</u>

2.55 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I realise that the hon. member might find it difficult to raise a supplementary on the basis that this question has a considerable amount of information. If he wishes, we can proceed to the other question and he can have a look at this and put up a supplementary in another few minutes.

Mr. SPEAKER: The only problem is that it will be 3.15.

Mr. HINDS: Can you allow the Questions to remain on the Order Paper and allow me to debate them at a later stage?

Mr. SPEAKER: Not to debate them.

Mr. HINDS: To ask a supplementary.

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, and it is so ordered that these Questions will stand over until the next meeting of the House.

PLAYING FIELD AT ST. JUDES

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 161 standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

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

Will Government acquire (compulsorily or otherwise) the lands adjacent to the St. Judes Mixed School, St. George, for the purpose of providing a playing field for the inhabitants of the area?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

The plans for physical development on an island-wide basis which are currently under study include provision of a playing field at St. Judes.

Mr. HINDS: Can the Minister tell us if the plans include lands adjacent to the St. Judes Mixed School?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I cannot say that. I would not know.

Mr. HINDS: That is why you have not replied to the question.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: It appears, Mr. Speaker, that it has been recommended that a playing field at St. Judes is desirable, and upon this basis the Ministry is acquiring land, as far as I can see.

PLAYING FIELD AT BOURNE'S VILLAGE

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 162, Page 12 left hand column, standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

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

Is the Minister aware that there is no playing field at or near Bourne's Village in the parish of St. George?

Will the Minister see to it that such a playing field is provided to service the needs of the inhabitants of Bourne's Village and the Flat Rock area?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

"1. Yes, Sir.

2. Bourne's Village and Flat Rock are comparatively small Villages. While it is the Government's policy to provide playing fields wherever communities develop, financial and other considerations dictate that priority should be given to the more populous districts. The needs of the Villages in question will be kept in view."

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: Those are all the questions to which replies have been laid and in respect of which hon. members are in their places. We will now proceed to Private Members' Business, and the first Order of the Day is to resume debate on the second reading of a Bill to repeal the West Indies Hospital Fund Limited Act, 1964. When this matter was last discussed in this Chamber the hon. senior member for Bridgetown was making his final speech in reply. The hon. member may now resume.

Mr. MOTILEY: Mr. Speaker, this Bill has been on the Order Paper for quite some time and we have heard the pros and cons. I have put in the necessary documentary to show that it is an unadulterated fraud that it is being carried on.

I came here today not really to prolong the agony or to make any long speech. How well I know that numerically in Party politics numbers would be against me, and I would not win the vote of the day. But this I do know, that might is never right. I think

I do not remember who said it that the mighty should never use their might in things unsaid, nor should the fortunate deem that their prosperity will last for ever.

I have put in for the benefit of members on the other side evidence to prove the reasons why this Bill should be amended. I have given them the opportunity, and at this stage, even today, I am willing if Your Honour is right, despite the garbled reports which have been presented, to let hon. members, Ministers of the Crown have the right if Your Honour so pleases, to say that the statements I made relative to the Post Office are incorrect whether it would be a point of order, or if as Your Honour knows, you can give that opportunity to an hon. member, Minister of the Crown or anybody else that they may dispute any statement that was not a statement of fact.

It seems therefore, Sir, only one thing to do in this matter. If they do not judge today, they will judge tomorrow or next year or in 1971 as to the bona fides of this Hospital Sweep, what is going on, and whether it has done Barbados any good.
3.05 p.m.

I categorically denied the statements which were made in here by the Hon. and learned Prime Minister regarding the statements of money paid in. I still deny them today; but with the sort of Press that you have in this Island, when a member of the Opposition denies a statement made by a Prime Minister no opportunity is taken to go into the merits or demerits of the case, and some people try to make out that the Opposition is one which is just stirring up strife, or to make out that the Minister is one who is just glossing things over for the benefit of getting a vote passed.

I know conscientiously that in the hearts of hon. members of the Government, they do not feel that this is a wrong move. I know conscientiously they feel that what has been happening here is not the best thing for Barbados. I do not think it is necessary for me to repeat the reasons why, together with the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, I gave this Bill my support. Together with my colleague the hon. member for the City we gave this Bill our support; so to anyone who might think that here is a man who gave support to a Bill just a few years ago and comes back today to castigate and to put up a case against the very Bill he supported, I may say that all of us who voted for this Bill - those of us outside the Government in the know - voted for it because we felt that the words that came from the lips of the Prime Minister and from those who were in the know who told us about the \$72 million, and who told us about the \$500,000 annually were correct. None of us could then deny the fact that we wanted to see Barbados get this money and, therefore, we gave them an opportunity to do so.

Now, when we find that the operation of this institution, or of this organisation I would prefer to call it, is going on in such a way that we have not col-

lected what was portrayed to us by the Hon. Minister of Finance, who was then in charge of it, and we have not collected what was alleged to have been paid into the Courts, or into the Treasury of this Island, we have to take a different view of things. The activities of the organisation are such that they make most of us, who are in Barbados and are interested in getting all we can for it, hang our heads in shame.

Mr. Speaker, I have brought evidence to this House which I know has shocked hon. Ministers; I have brought to this House evidence which I knew had hon. members of the Government feeling sad that they had to be loyal in respect of Party politics, and, if there was a free vote on this matter, this Bill would be triumphant and it would win out and win the day.

Up to now there is, - if you went to a law court - nothing but blackmail. If you went through the Post Office - I think of men like Marcus Garvey who got prosecuted for less than this. Whatever you did in respect of this you would have to say: this, at least, is wrong. How often can I repeat that might is not right? If the numerical strength of the Government in this House gives it the right to deny the passing of this Bill to repeal the West Indies Hospital Fund Limited Act, then I say that some day.....

Mr. Speaker, let us take another look at the matter. If there is the idea - they tried to make out that the Ministry of Finance was finding work for people. You have Bingo and all the other games of chance operating in this Island. In the United States Governor Rockefeller started a lottery. I do not think the money is to be earmarked for a specific project, but the lottery is to help the national revenue.

In Trinidad, next door - it is not always right for us to take as examples some of these places; sometimes we must take them as a warning. Surely as you listen to the radio at night, you see on the television, and as you listen to Rediffusion, you can hear the games of chance. According to the argument used by the Prime Minister of this country, the idea was to find work for people and to get revenue for the country. I categorically deny this. It was a reckless mis-statement to say that the idea was to find work for people and to get revenue. It is absolutely untrue. We know of the statement made to us in the Hansard about \$500,000. Everybody knows well enough what has happened.

If, therefore, the argument is going to be finding work for people, why should not the Government run an entire lottery in the country? Why should we have letters and handbills going out and printed by the Advocate Commercial Printery? Despite what one member of this House got up and said, when I passed around documents here, that I was tricky enough to get Hinds print them - the depth of that cancerous mind will be found out one day.
3.15 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is not referring to any member of this House.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I might not be.

Mr. SPEAKER: Of course he must not by name.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I know I must not and I might not be doing so, but I say that the cancerous mind of the member who said so.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not referring to that. I am referring to the name which was called. I just want the assurance that the name of any hon. member of this House was not being called in respect of having allegedly printed something.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I am not talking about a printer. I said "Hinds".

Mr. SPEAKER: Therefore a member of the House is not thereby being referred to. I accept the assurance of the hon. senior member for Bridgetown.

Mr. MOTTLEY: As Your Honour accepts that assurance, I will go on. I sent around literature in the form of hand bills setting out that this sweepstake was being run for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for the Leader of the House and his colleagues to read. One might ask if this is the only argument to convince the general public, what is the member for Bridgetown making a row about? What difference does it make? You have lotteries and gambling, and people take chances. If you are generally going to run a lottery, let the State itself run it. As I said, it is not necessary for us to take example from Trinidad or the State of New York where Rockefeller has just instituted one and where Dr. Eric Williams has just instituted another. I am no paragon of virtue, Mr. Speaker, and because I have reached this age would say that I do not think we should gamble, because I realise that it is human nature to take chances: so if the State came in here with such legislation to control the organising of a lottery from which they would get the benefit for the State, I would be the first to support it; but surely, Sir, I cannot be a party to this one-sided, dishonest, unfair organisation which I have proved beyond the shadow of a doubt is being run in this way.

Now this is not a criticism of the first attempt by the Government, because I believe myself that the Government was told that this organisation would pay \$500,000 a year, and the desperation for capital to improve the situation in this country was such that any Government would have taken a chance. But having done that and it is proven beyond the shadow of a doubt that it has failed, what can you do? Mr. Speaker, if you were presiding there not as Speaker of this august Chamber but as a Judge or as Judge and jury, having heard the case which was made out for the retention of the West Indies Hospital Sweepstake, and having heard the case supported by documentary evidence which I have made out, you could come to no other conclusion than that this Bill should once and for all be eliminated from the Statutes of this Island.

Now as I said, Mr. Speaker, any Government would have taken the opportunity when it was repre-

sented to them what would happen, but the Clerk of this House can well remember that when I succeeded in getting this Bill to go to a Select Committee, I was told what the situation was and how much money the individual owned, and I asked then to be told how much the Hospital Sweepstake had been capitalised at. At that stage the Solicitors were brought in and we were told by them that the bankers were the Bank of Nova Scotia, and up to the present we have never been told what it could be capitalised at. Having watched the situation for some time, and having received all the communications which I have from time to time, and brought them in here, even though I do not for a moment feel that the Government Party would support this Bill, I repeat, now that the Prime Minister is here, that if the argument used by the Prime Minister is one of finding employment, since there can be no hope of getting the revenue which we had hoped for, the Government at this stage should take over as well all the other games of chance and run a lottery as is done in Trinidad and New York, as I am not so naive as to feel that this could not happen in Barbados.

Mr. Speaker, I have given all the evidence necessary and I repeat what I said in my opening remarks. It is your right, and I suppose the right of members of this House, to give any hon. member the right to dispute any of the evidence which I have brought here and which I have passed around for every hon. member to see. Under the circumstances, when the motion is put that this Bill be repealed, although we do not have the numerical strength to have this Bill repealed, nevertheless I feel I am discharging my conscience, and if it is not repealed today, the time will not be far distant when it will be repealed because something will have to be done not only for the good name of Barbados, but for what has been happening. For disciplinary purposes members of the Government Party in the House will have to vote "no" to this motion, but for other reasons they must feel that under the circumstances this West Indies Hospital Sweepstake must be repealed since it has portrayed to the world that it was being run for the benefit of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital which was opened by Prince Philip.

3.25 p.m.

Any organization, during its teething period, will have some trouble. I listened to this very carefully, and I believe that an organization will have some trouble during its teething period, but there is no justification during a teething period to put up any system of fraud in order to extract money from people through a system of fraud. You cannot say that a period of one year, two years and three years is a teething period. That is not good enough. I am not here to bring up the Canadian laws or the American laws or what not, but I feel that, at this late period, the Government of this country should certainly bring together all the games of chance in this country including the West Indies Hospital Sweep, and run a lottery for the benefit of the general revenue of this country. It is human nature. I am not a racehorse fan, I am not a sweepstake man; I am not one of those who feel that the hundreds and thousands of

people who like to take chances at sweepstakes, Bingos and what not, should not be given an opportunity. I feel that they should be given an opportunity and therefore I feel that, in the circumstances, I have made my case out. I repeat that, although hon. members will have to vote otherwise, they will realise that, in the circumstances, a strong case has been made out and there can be no reprisals as to why we voted for it. If a similar case had been put by a Government which wanted money, either for carrying out a crash programme or for carrying out social amenities, and we thought that they would get \$500,000 a year, like my colleagues and the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, we would have voted for it, and it may be that we would vote for it again tomorrow. On the other hand, if we see that it is wrong, we are bound to draw it to the attention of the general public and it is for the public to judge.

Mr. Speaker, despite the garbled way in which my side of the presentation has been put, and the red herrings which were drawn across the line - the question of providing employment is one which we all felt is not the case in this matter, because when it was raised with us in here, it was not a question of providing employment or anything of the sort. There are many other statements which I could make in here, but I am not given to making statements unless I have proof for them. Those statements which I have made, have been backed up with proof through the Post Office and through the Police Department and I feel that after all of my years in Barbados where I was born, I do not think that this company has done this country any good. Get them out as you may, get from the Customs, get from the Emigration Officer the number of people and the names and addresses of people who come here from Canada, the United States of America, England and from wherever they come, mail out these things to them, mail them out under fictitious names, collect them from the Post Office under fictitious names, have no Post Office numbers for them, have a Post Office number, a number which does not exist, have them delivered in the Post Office because when they have not got a lot of numbers outside they deliver them to you - all of these things I have gone carefully into. But above all, when you walk down the street in any country outside of Barbados and somebody shows you something which has been printed at the Advocate Commercial Printery in Bridgetown setting out what is the first prize and that this Fund is for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital - and it goes further, opened by Prince Philip - you cannot answer this. There might have been other ways of trying to push the scheme, but do not push it by saying that it is for the Hospital in Barbados and do not push it by saying that it is for the poor, little, unsupported children in Barbados. That is not fair; that is not right. In the circumstances, I have already moved that this Bill be now read a second time.

The question that this Bill be now read a second time was put and resolved in the negative.

A division was taken as follows:-

AYES: Messrs. LYNCH, MOTTLEY, HINDS, CRAIG, SMITH and St. JOHN - 6.

NOES: Mr. YEARWOOD, Hon'bles J. C. TUDOR, E. W. BARROW, A. DaC. EDWARDS, N. W. BOXILL, Messrs. LOWE, CORBIN,

On Mr. SPRINGER being called upon to vote.

Mr. MOTTLEY: *(Sitting)* Mr. Speaker, I do not think that the hon. senior member for St. Michael can vote on this Bill. He has disclosed his interest in the Bill. It is a matter for Your Honour.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have been informed that the hon. senior member for St. Michael has said that he has an interest in the Bill. That information I have obtained from the Clerk-at-the-Table. I do not rule that the hon. member is disentitled to vote. Accordingly his vote may be recorded.

The division continued as follows:-

NOES: Messrs. SPRINGER, WEEKES, and HOPPIN - 10.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have been informed that six hon. members have voted "Aye" and ten hon. members have voted "No". The result of this vote is that this Bill cannot now be read a second time.
3.35 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day, that is Order No. 2, stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Leader of the Opposition to resume debate on the passing of a Resolution that this House note the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals for the Fiscal Year 1967-68 contained in a Statement made in the Honourable House on 30th June, 1967, by the Minister of Finance.

When debate was last adjourned on this matter the hon. senior member for St. Joseph was on the 15th August, 1967, addressing the Chair. That hon. member may, if he wishes, resume.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I never love to flog a dead horse; but it was my intention to lash the Government from now on until the next Budgetary Proposals come down. It was my intention, and I am capable of lashing them every Tuesday until the next Budgetary Proposals; but as I have said, there is no use flogging a dead horse.

But, Sir, it is shocking and disgraceful and it is a let down to the electorate of this country that here it is the Budgetary Proposals were introduced into this Chamber - I think it was in May or June last year, and the Opposition has not got a reasonable chance to reply to the proposals. It is, Sir, that the people of this country were called upon to pay the necessary taxes whatever they were and they have had to adhere to the proposals and everything of that sort, but their representatives did not have a chance to say in full how they feel about it.

Now, Sir, I feel that no sooner than the Hon. Prime Minister had finished laying his proposals, immediately after that, if not the same day, the Opposition should have had their chance of replying to these proposals.

Now, Sir, I note with regret that after the Hon. Prime Minister finished his address on this matter - the hon. senior member for the City's Bill should not have taken precedence over the reply on the Budgetary Proposals.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If the hon. member would give way.....

Mr. SPEAKER: On what is the Leader of the House speaking?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On a point of order. The hon. member is addressing the House on an Item of Private Members' Business. It is the right, in fact the duty of private members on the other side to fix their own priorities on the Order Paper whenever the House is about to be adjourned. I would have thought that consultation between the movers of No. 1 and No. 2 would in any case have made it possible for No. 2 to become No. 1 as the hon. member is now suggesting.

This is the second part of my point of order. It is wrong for the hon. member to make it appear that the Government is responsible for this. As everyone knows, there were three or four Privilege Motions and numerous Censure Motions which came in between the tabling of Order No. 2 and today's date. Some of them have been dealt with more exhaustively than other matters on the Order Paper. I decline to accept for this side any responsibility in any way for the matter about which the hon. member is now complaining.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, that is a very long point of order. I think that was a gallon. I can remember very well after the Prime Minister made his speech, and I think that the House adjourned the same afternoon, the Hon. Leader of the Opposition introduced his Resolution and therefore that should be Order No. 1; but the hon. senior member for the City's Bill appeared as Order No. 1.

I am sure about it. Who is responsible for that? That is why I am saying that no sooner than the Prime Minister finished his speech, the reply by the Opposition on the Budgetary Proposals should follow regardless of whatever was on the Order Paper. I was surprised when I saw it on the Order Paper as No. 2 when it should be No. 1. Who is responsible for that? I do not know if it is the Government, the Clerk or who, but I can remember only too well. I do not know whose fault it was but I am sure that it appeared as No. 2.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. I think that the hon. member has already had the explanation given that Private Members' Business on the Order Paper is fixed by private members themselves. The Bill which has just been disposed of in a fitting manner - when it was given notice of, the hon. senior member for the City asked that the Bill be put as No. 1 on the Order Paper and the Leader of the Opposition agreed and on each and every subsequent occasion no objection was made to the order in

which Private Members' Business appeared on the Order Paper.

On each and every adjournment of the House it was possible for anyone of them to reverse the order of items as they appeared on the Order Paper. The truth is that they had nothing to say about the Budgetary Proposals.

Mr. SPEAKER: No. That is not a point of order. 3.45 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, since the Hon. Prime Minister says we had nothing to say, I would start up. He is now starting me up, and I will not finish it until today year. I am saying that anything of this sort that is so great and material to the people of this country - the Prime Minister has the power to tax you, me and everybody. He has the power, the opportunity and everything to do whatever he likes. That is his privilege, and it should be our privilege soon after he finishes - when last an Order Paper was fixed in here? I was surprised, and I expected to see the Budgetary Proposals and replies as No. 1. It came to me as No. 2 on the Order Paper, and it should be No. 1.

I think the hon. senior member for the City would remember when he was Leader of the Opposition that the Budgetary Proposals and the replies always appeared as No. 1. If I am not mistaken, I think he moved that it be No. 1. If the Leader of the Opposition did not move it as No. 1, then I feel it is the duty of the Clerk, or whoever is responsible, to make it No. 1. That is what should have been done, but they put it as No. 2.

What has happened now, Sir? The Government got the idea - I am not now speaking for my Party - that they can put over these fast ones, but I know every bit of it. If it were left to me, I would not let them get away with anything. Here it is: you have Budgetary Proposals that are very important, and they adjourn the House to 2.30 p.m. Almost every meeting they are adjourning the House to 2.30 p.m. If they wanted the people to hear what we had to say, they would have given us a chance by adjourning the House to 2.00 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The hon. member must not generate more indignation than he can conveniently contain.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: It is just an observation, Sir. If the House is adjourned until 2.30 p.m. any Tuesday.....

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

Mr. SPEAKER: I have not yet heard what the hon. member is about to say. He must be allowed to complete his sentence, and then I will rule.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the charge that the Government is putting one over on the Op-

position in moving the adjournment until 2.30 p.m. on any Tuesday cannot be substantiated, because it is nearly always done on consultation.

Mr. SMITH: That is not a point of order. If you have not heard him, Mr. Speaker, I have heard him.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Secondly, a meeting of the House starting at 2.30 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: That is a speech and not a point of order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I was saying that a meeting of the House starting at 2.30 p.m. cannot prevent Private Members' Business from being dealt with.

Thirdly, it is not true that this side of the House.....

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, this is a speech and not a point of order. You can lock me up now; I can go to jail.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: It is not true to say that this side of the House is in any way preventing.....

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, this is a speech, and I am not sitting down.

Mr. SPEAKER: Standing Order No. 28 dealing with interruptions - Will the Hon. Leader of the House and the hon. senior member for St. Joseph be seated.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Certainly, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Standing Order states:

"No Member shall interrupt another Member except -

(a) by rising to a point of order, when the Member speaking shall resume his seat and the Member interrupting shall simply direct attention to the point which he desires to bring to notice and submit it to the Speaker or Chairman for decision; or" and so on.

Now, the Hon. Leader of the House has risen, as he has stated, to a point of order. It is his duty, as the member interrupting, simply to direct attention to the point which he desires to bring to notice and submit it to the Speaker or Chairman for decision. He is directing attention to a point which, as I now understand it, is threefold in its significance. It is a threefold point of order. The hon. member is making what I understand to be the third.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Thirdly, it is not true, as the hon. member has suggested and has repeated, that this side of the House is in some way responsible for a particular Order not being Order No. 1. Just as I have the right, when the House is being adjourned, to say which of Government's items I

would like to take at the next meeting, so, too, the Opposition has the right to say which of its items should be taken as Order No. 1. If the hon. member finds that Order No. 2 has not been Order No. 1, then he has to blame the Leader of the Opposition. He should draw the House's attention to that desire, if he wishes to make it.

Mr. SPEAKER: In respect of this point, which has generated a certain amount of heat, I have had the Clerks of the Table prepare me a statement in connection with this matter. On the 8th August the hon. and learned Leader of the Opposition moved the Resolution, and it was seconded by the hon. and learned senior member for St. Thomas. That is on the 8th August. On the following Tuesday, the 15th August, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph spoke on the Resolution. On the following Tuesday, the 22nd August - and I would ask hon. members please to note this date - the hon. senior member for Bridgetown moved, seconded by the hon. and learned Leader of the Opposition, that the West Indies Hospital Sweepstake Bill be now read a second time. On the following Tuesdays, namely, the 29th August, the 5th September and the 12th September, debate on that Bill continued.

That is an explanation of why, as from the 22nd August, 1967, this matter has been No. 1 on the Order Paper, or, at least, has had precedence over the Budgetary Proposals. That is in accordance with the information supplied me.
3.55 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: According to the information, Mr. Speaker, I made the speech, and even the biggest fool would have expected that it would have been returned on the Order Paper as No. 1. Imagine my making a speech on this particular Resolution and the next Tuesday it appears as No. 2!

Mr. SPEAKER: According to the information supplied me, on the 15th August, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph spoke on the Resolution. On 22nd August, the hon. senior member for Bridgetown moved, seconded by the hon. and learned Leader of the Opposition that the West Indies Hospital Fund Limited Act be now read a second time, and discussion on that took place on 22nd August and continued on 29th August, 5th September and 12th September. I will also draw this to the attention of hon. members: the Bill in the name of the hon. senior member for Bridgetown was read a first time on 13th June, 1967. The Resolution on the Financial Statement was first given notice of on 4th June, 1967. Let the hon. member proceed.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, you have just read that on 15th August I was speaking when time ran out. On 22nd August the hon. senior member for Bridgetown moved the second reading of that particular Bill because you had called Order No. 1 and the Bill was Order No. 1. Imagine, Mr. Speaker, that a Resolution is before the House on which an hon. member was speaking when time ran out, and before it was disposed of, another new Order took

its place. That matter should have remained as No. 1, but it came up as No. 2 on the Order Paper. Today I find myself with two Order Papers; so that will speak for itself. How did I come by two Order Papers? Is everything going right? Regardless of what the Leader of the Opposition does, this Order should have remained as No. 1.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, we have been trying to explain something to the hon. member who despite his twenty years in here still has not learnt the procedure of the House. The point that we attempted to convey to the hon. member was that an Order which is an Order No. 2 can only become an Order No. 1 if the person responsible asks for it to be promoted on the Order Paper. Now I would like to point out to the hon. member that his concern only started today at a comparatively late time, because he spoke on the other Bill which has been disposed of this afternoon way down just before me on 7th November; so if he considered that the Resolution on the Financial Statement was of such great pith and moment, he could have declined to speak on the Hospital Bill which at that time they thought more politically opportune.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is now going beyond the point of order.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: That was in parenthesis, but the hon. member obviously considered it more important that he should speak on 7th November on that Bill rather than on this one. What I am trying to point out to the hon. member.....

Mr. SMITH: I am not letting the Prime Minister get away with that. That is not a point of order. I was giving him time to talk, but he is trying to take advantage now.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I have not finished my point of order, sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: The parenthesis was becoming somewhat extensive.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I had finished the parenthesis a long time ago. The point I am trying to make and on which I am asking for Your Honour's ruling so that the hon. member would stop wasting the time of hon. members.....

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I object to the hon. member saying he is assisting me and saving me from wasting time. I am not wasting time; it is he who is wasting time, and if he wants me to waste time, I can waste it.

Mr. SPEAKER: It seems to me that grave disorder is perilously approaching. We could hardly be closer to it.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, if I may conclude my point of order, when one makes a point of order, I understand it to be correct that it should

be a point of order and Your Honour should give a ruling, and the ruling which I am asking Your Honour to give at this stage is that it is competent for any member of the Opposition, primarily for the Leader of the Opposition, on the adjournment of the House from time to time to readjust the items under Private Members' Business on the Order Paper. That disposes of the whole matter; so how can the hon. member say that we set the Order Paper?

Mr. SPEAKER: Now I have no hesitation in ruling on the point as requested by the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister. I am afraid it is in respect of a practice which has recently fallen into disuse or which has hardly ever been used in this session; but when the Hon. Leader of the House moves the adjournment, it is for him then and there to set the Order which he wishes for Government Business. He should resume his seat if he gets any intimation whatsoever from the Opposition that they want to fix their Private Members' Business in a certain order if the order is different from what appears on the Order Paper of that day. But as I said, that practice - it is hardly correct to say it has fallen into disuse - but I have hardly even known it to be used in this session.

Looking at the Order Paper for the 8th August, I see on that date in the name of the hon. senior member for Bridgetown under Private Members' Business, No. 1: Second reading of a Bill to repeal the West Indies Hospital Fund Limited Act, 1964; No. 2: Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals. I turn to 15th August and I see No. 1: hon. senior member for Bridgetown - Second reading of a Bill to repeal the West Indies Hospital Fund Limited Act; No. 2. Financial Statement. I turn now to the Order Paper for 22nd August, and I see No. 1: hon. senior member for Bridgetown - Second reading of a Bill to repeal the West Indies Hospital Fund Limited Act; No. 2 - To resume debate on the Financial Statement. Again I turn to 29th August and there again I see No. 1: senior member for Bridgetown, No. 2 - Hon. Leader of the Opposition; and so it goes on so far as I am able to see by taking a quick glance with the West Indies Hospital Fund Limited Act as No. 1.

In the absence of the Order Paper being fixed in respect of Private Members' Business at the instance of a private member, it remains the same, and that order was before any other, and before the Budgetary proposals. Let the hon. senior member for St. Joseph proceed.
4.05 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I can remember only too well that when I was speaking on this particular matter, time ran out and on the next Tuesday it should have appeared - I am saying this, I do not know how you would rule or what the Prime Minister would do, that on the following Tuesday the hon. senior member for the City's Bill appeared on the Order Paper as Order No. 1. I would not say that you do not understand, I would not go so far as to say that, it would appear that the Prime Minister

did not understand or he does not want to understand. This is a matter which was debated. Take, for instance, under the Standing Order, if a matter is being debated, it can remain on the Order Paper for three hundred million years, but one which has not been started, is struck off in three months. That is the big difference; this Bill was started. The hon. senior member for St. Thomas spoke, and, speaking under correction, I think that I was the second person who spoke after that hon. member on the same afternoon. How on earth did the Order appear on the Order Paper as Order No. 2 on the next Tuesday? I want the hon. member to understand that. How did it get there? It had no right there.

The hon. senior member for the City's Bill was not started. It appeared as Order No. 1 and he took his chance as the Order appeared as No. 1, but it should not have appeared as No. 2.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let me explain. The hon. member has asked a question and he has repeated the question to make it quite clear what the question is. When this matter was first discussed and at all material times, it was Order No. 2 on the Order Paper, the fact that it was being discussed and time ran out on it did not mean that, according to the procedure in respect of parliamentary matters, it was then to be promoted to Order No. 1. It remained as Order No. 2. It could have been promoted to Order No. 1 so that the discussion could have been resumed immediately we reverted to Private Members' Business on another day, if only a request had been made, and if it had been agreed to, if a vote had been taken on it and the vote had decided that it would be Order No. 1; but the mere fact that we are discussing No. "X" and time ran out, does not mean that that Order becomes the first thing on the Order Paper for the next meeting. It does not. It keeps to its original number, on the day when it was being discussed unless an hon. member had moved when the business for the next meeting was being fixed and the motion was carried or it was requested and there was no objection that it be promoted to Order No. 1. That is why it has remained as Order No. 2.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, you said that I asked a question and you gave a reply. How did this matter come to be started as Order No. 2 and this Bill was Order No. 1? How did it happen that the hon. senior member for St. Thomas started it as Order No. 2 and I finished off with it as Order No. 2? How did it get there for us to start it as Order No. 2? Well, I will await that reply before I start to speak. How did it get to be started as Order No. 2?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, this is a matter for you and me, it is not a matter for him. *(Laughter)* It is a matter for you and me.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: *(Standing)* I will take on either one or both together. *(A PAUSE)* The hon. member

knows that I do not mean that seriously. The Hon. and Learned Prime Minister rose and said: "On a point of order", and I must listen to the point of order. Of course, in any event, time is running out.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, my point of order is very simple. It deals with the Order on the Order Paper. The Standing Orders are provided and so it did happen that the Orders should be called in the sequence in which they appear on the Order Paper. If Order No. 1 is called and the hon. senior member for the City in whose name it stands, was not in his place or he was not ready to go on with it, then Order No. 2 is called and so on until the end of the Order Paper. It is as simple as that. That happens in here and it has been happening for the twenty years that the hon. member has been a member of this House and it still has not percolated.....

Mr. SPEAKER: No, no. The point of order was made quite clearly and concisely.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I still remember that the Prime Minister said that I had nothing to say at the time and that is what is happening. I will prove to him that I have something to say. Now, Sir, I just asked you that question and what the Prime Minister said, I know that you know; but it looks to me as if he cannot credit you with that much ability to reply to me. I thought that he was coming down with something from the Temple at which he went to school, Grays Inn or whatever Temple he learnt in. I thought that he was bringing down something so that, poor me, I would have to step to one side, and you and the hon. member would talk. I did not know that it was that simple thing he was coming with.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is between two gentlemen of the long robe.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, the day is coming when you will be hearing me say how I feel about these long robe gentlemen. *(Laughter)* All of them. That day is coming fast. I am not going to die before that happens, although I expect one belonging to me will be coming with a long robe too. Yet, I still have to speak my mind.

Mr. SPEAKER: Speak before he comes then. *(Laughter)*

Mr. SMITH: No, Sir, not before he comes. When he comes I will tell him what to do. In fact, he is a Smith. Now, Sir, this reads as follows:-

"Right of Members to direct the attention of the Chair to supposed breaches of order." Hon. members get up in here on points of order and make speeches. I am going to read this.

"Although it is the duty of the Speaker to interfere in the first instance for the preservation of order when, in his judgment, the occasion demands his interference, it is also the right of any member who conceives that a breach of order has been committed, if the Speaker refrains from interfering

either because he does not consider it necessary, to do so or because he does not perceive that a breach of order has been committed, to rise in his place interrupting any member who may be speaking and direct the attention of the Chair to the matter provided he does so the moment the alleged breach of order occurs."

4.15 p.m.

Well, Sir, I would not go any further, for when the Hon. Prime Minister got up I simply asked you a question. That was not a breach. I feel that it is my privilege and yours too, Sir; but he got up on a point of order. I did not say anything about it. I did not try to twist anything that he said. In other words I was not even speaking to him. I was speaking to you and he got up on a point of order.

I am still wondering and would like to know, if the Bill was No. 1, how the Resolution could be started on before the Bill. The Prime Minister said that there could be a possibility that the hon. member might not have been in his seat at the time that you passed from No. 1 to No. 2. That is likely to happen; but in this case the hon. member was in his seat and I remember starting out so well and I pointed out to the Chamber that the broadcasting apparatus was not in its place. It was not fair.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On a point of order. The hon. member is accusing me by inference of unfairness in the matter of the broadcast.....

Mr. SMITH: I am not accusing the Minister. He did not let me get so far, but I may.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I said by inference. The facts are as follows: when the time came.....

Mr. SMITH: The Hon. Leader of the House should sit. A breach of order has not been committed by what I have said. That is known and you know it, Sir. He is talking about inference. I have not inferred anything about him. Not yet.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House rose on a point of order. I therefore have to listen to the point, if any, to be made.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The hon. member said that he was disappointed because the facilities for broadcasting his speech were not present. That is what I understood him to say. I am saying that I had announced to the House that three speeches would be broadcasted - the speech of the Prime Minister, the official speech from the Opposition and a reply from the Government if necessary. That was said and understood before the Budgetary Statement was made.

Mr. SMITH: Sir.....

Mr. SPEAKER: There is such a loud aside that at times I can hardly hear the hon. senior member for St. Joseph.

Mr. SMITH: Before I go on, is that a point of order made by the Hon. Leader of the House?

Mr. SPEAKER: I so rule it.

Mr. SMITH: That it was?

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes.

Mr. SMITH: Thank you, Sir. (*Asides*)

Mr. SPEAKER: It is hard to hear the hon. member with the noise at his immediate right for which he is not responsible.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, I started out by lambasting the Government for not having the apparatus in this Chamber for the Opposition to speak so that the electorate of this country could hear. I do not know anything about the Hon. Leader of the House promising about one speech or two speeches; but this I would let the hon. member know here and now.

After I was so plain on it the Hon. Prime Minister began to say, or to instruct rather, that the apparatus should come, and the hon. junior member for St. John told him "No, you cannot do that now behind Cammie's back." He is there. Let him get up and deny it. After all, the Prime Minister was willing. Sometimes when you get him on the right side he is as fair as a Bible. The hon. member for St. John said: "You cannot do that; you would be exposing Cammie;" or words to that effect.

When it comes to the point that we are dealing with, we are doing the people's business. Regardless of how the Government looks at us over here or looks at me, I am doing the people's business and I will die doing the people's business until the time comes for me to say it is finished, or my people say it is finished. As long as I am here I will represent the people of Barbados. It is not St. Joseph that I am looking up to. I believe I will get more votes in St. Michael than in St. Joseph. It is not what we do, but how we do it. If any member over there would take a bet, I would bet him and leave St. Joseph and come down here and I will be here again.

Now, Sir, it is not fair to us. I was not going to say a thing. I think I told you this morning that I am not talking on it, that I would just make a little joke and sit down; but when the Prime Minister got up and said that I had nothing to say that is insulting my intelligence. He may not think I have any. He started the ball rolling and I have decided to talk until he brings the other budget.

We have to pay for the apparatus. We have to pay for the broadcasting Corporation. Now, Sir, it is so broad that it deals with spending money and although I will not stray it is very elastic.

4.25 p.m.

I can hit at C.B.C. and remain in order. Now, Sir, when the people of this country can sit and listen to the Hon. Prime Minister's speech and the

hon. senior member for St. Thomas' speech, and they cannot hear the hon. senior member for St. Joseph's speech, this is a serious matter. I feel that I am as much a representative in here - I do not mean in Bay Street - as the Hon. Prime Minister. He is not sitting in two seats and I in one. The people in St. John have not elected him to two seats; they elected him to one. The people in St. Joseph elected me to one seat, and the people in St. Thomas elected the hon. senior member for St. Thomas to one. Why is there so much difference now? Those are the people who have to pay for this apparatus, and I have to pay for this apparatus. Is it fair now to allow the Hon. Prime Minister and the hon. senior member for St. Thomas to have their say and I cannot have my say, too? The people in St. John cannot come to St. Joseph and elect me; so why should I sit back because a member of my Party gets his say? I want mine, too.

Sir, you are an old politician and I should not say this to you, or to most members on the other side of the House, but we are all one until Election Day. On Election Day every man has to take his corner and he has to satisfy the electorate. I am not going to let my Party prevent me from returning here. I do not think that the Prime Minister - of course, he would be no use without his Party; but if it came to a show-down he would say: "Every man for himself." Do not think I am going to sit here and let it be said, as the hon. members on the other side used to pester me with it, that I am a dumb man!

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid the hon. senior member for St. Joseph will live to fight another day. I do not mean that in any unpleasant way. We will now deal with Government Business.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, on a point of explanation, I think the hon. member who has just sat down should be aware that his Motion is now Order No. 1, Order No. 1 having been disposed of earlier. It has now reached the heights he wanted it for a very long time.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is not now Order No. 1 because we are on Government Business, unless the Government is prepared to give way.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: If the hon. member assures me that he will wind up in five minutes, we will be glad to give way.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this is seriously meant. If the hon. member wishes to dispose of this item now - the Prime Minister says that he undertakes to vote for it, if he wishes to wind it up within the next five minutes or so.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I point out that there are other hon. members who have not yet spoken on the matter. I am afraid I could not allow that very pleasing gesture even to meet with the serious consideration of the House. We will deal with Government Business.

When the sitting was suspended for the luncheon interval, the House was discussing the Transport Board Resolution in connection with queueing, and the hon. junior member for St. Peter was addressing the House. If he desires to continue, this is now his opportunity.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I said earlier that queueing is something that we on this side of the House would like to see in operation, but there are so many things lacking that we feel to make queueing possible and workable there should be ticket-vending machines at the bus stops or some of them. There should be ticket agents at every bus terminus, and we should have at peak hours, say, during the morning hours, particularly when workers in in the City and factories have to depend on the buses to get them to their jobs, you should have tickets of a special colour, which would make it much more convenient for a conductor, if an intended passenger presents a ticket of a particular colour - maybe a red ticket or whatever it is - it gives that passenger the prior right to travel at that particular time on the bus, because what really happens now, Mr. Speaker, is that quite a number of people wait for very long periods on a bus, and, when a bus comes along, people who have no special purpose for travelling at that particular time often force themselves on the bus and deny people who have legitimate business of the right to travel at that particular time.

Now, in such a case, Mr. Speaker, you would find that there should be a ticket available for intended travellers who - there is so much noise on both sides of the House, Mr. Speaker.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the good fortune only to hear the hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. What I am saying is that there should be another type of ticket for the casual traveller, that is, persons who do not have any special business at any particular time. That is why you should have ticket-vending machines at certain bus poles, or at certain points near the approaches to villages. That is the type of thing that should be obtaining, if we really want to make a success of this queueing system.

Again, Mr. Speaker, there are some passengers who travel with a basket, or a bit of luggage, that is allowed on the buses. There is also the passenger who, at times, carries with him some luggage that makes it a little difficult if he were called upon to queue, because it would mean that a passenger who is carrying an extra heavy package would arrive at the bus stop and take up his position in the queue with his luggage.

4.35 p.m.

If a passenger who is carrying an extra heavy package arrives at a bus stop and takes up his position, it means that if a bus passes and could only

accommodate the passengers up to his point, he would have to move with his package so as to be the first in line when the next bus passes. That is why I say that some provision would have to be made to accommodate persons carrying such packages in excess of what the buses permit if we are going to have a proper queueing system.

At this stage we should enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works what is the Government's policy with regard to the operation of pick-ups and mini-buses, because I want to say here and now that it cannot be denied that they fulfil a very useful service in community travel and accommodation, and unless something is done to protect them and the travelling public, we do not know exactly how successful queueing can really be, because we know that many of these pick-up vans and mini-buses have been carrying passengers with luggage that cannot be carried in the modern-day buses. We should therefore know if there is any decision to (a) permit the increase in the number of pickups and minibuses now on the road or (b) restrict the assistance they now lend to the public, since we know that on Routes 1 and 2 and elsewhere the police have been exercising considerable vigilance over the activities of these mini-buses and pick-up vans. The drivers of them do not know when they are doing right from when they are doing wrong in many instances, and the time has come when the Government should not adopt this type of piecemeal legislation. In other words, it should be established once and for all whether the pickups and mini-buses will be allowed to operate within prescribed limits, provided they are not unduly interfering with the buses on the routes; and since queueing is to be engaged in, we are to wonder whether we are not to expect queueing for those persons who intend travelling by these pickups and mini-buses. The whole question of the transporting of passengers whether by the Transport Board, the Elite Bus Company and the Rocklyn Bus Company has to be taken into consideration.

I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that the Minister knows the difficulty experienced by the many hawkers and hucksters who have to depend on these vans which take them up from points where there are no bus stops, and thus perform a service which the buses do not offer to the travelling public. If we are to have a successful queueing system, Mr. Speaker, I think we should seek to implement those few points I have raised in respect of vending machines, the issuing of what might be called a master ticket, first travel ticket, or whatever name is best suited so as to prevent persons from being left by the buses, and give preference to people who have a job to go to over persons who have not got to travel at specific times.

I heard the Minister mention the punishment which would be meted out to those who contravene the law with respect to queueing, but it is not good enough to have policemen in uniform in readiness to pounce upon those people who do not queue or attempt to get a seat on a bus without observing the

law with respect to queueing. After you have made every necessary provision for the protection of the intended passenger, then one is safe in having the police exercise all the vigilance possible to see that the law is observed; but if, as I said, there are people who have a job to go to, certainly something should be done to help them, and in the case of workers employed by firms and business houses a system should be arranged whereby the workers can have special tickets bought for them in advance to cover their weekly travel, which ticket should be of a particular colour or description to entitle the holder, if he presents himself at the bus stop at the specific hour, to be accommodated on the bus, provided there is room.

I think I have made my points, Mr. Speaker, and if they are gone into. I think it would help to make queueing to be appreciated by the travelling public, and I am sure that everybody will do everything possible to make it a success. As I said, provide those necessities where people can go to the bus stops and insert their coins for the distance they intend to travel.

4.45 p.m.

Not only that, Sir; it will also assist the Transport authorities and it would assist the concessionaires in a very great measure because it would reduce the bungling which takes place between the Inspector and the conductor on the question of the waybill. Believe me, Sir, I doubt whether some of these waybills could really and truly be checked whether by the Transport authorities or by the other two concessionaires; but, in any case, we are just asking that these things be attended to before queueing is really introduced.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I have come at the end of this queue, and I do not intend to keep either myself or other hon. members waiting for the bus for too long. I heard the Minister introduce this Resolution in terms of the necessity for controlling the crowds going to see "King Kong" or Richard Dix at the Empire Theatre, and I was really not aware that we were dealing with the crowds at the Empire Theatre today. I do not think we were controlling the crowds at the Yankee Stadium, if Shamos O'Brien ever drew anything which would be called a crowd. *(Laughter)* Mr. Speaker, the Minister has had his say. He said that the previous Government did not do anything about the problem of queueing, but there is a little history, a little parliamentary history.....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: On a point of order. Mr. Speaker, I really did not intend to interrupt anybody on the opposite side in his speech, but this is the third or fourth speaker on the opposite side who made this statement. I never said that a particular Government did not do anything about the problem of queueing; what I said was that the Governments of the 1930s and the early 1940s, but apparently I mashed somebody's sore foot.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is not a point of order; that is a point of explanation.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, the necessity for queueing perhaps has only developed during and since the late war. I refer to the war with which the Prime Minister claims familiarity, and I do not really think that the Government of the late 1930s or 1940s could altogether be blamed for not introducing queueing before. As it is, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that from your vast experience and knowledge not only of the Road Traffic Regulations of this fair Island, but also of Britain, you will be aware that the Resolution today follows very closely on the Regulations now in force in Britain and, no doubt, such arguments as I heard you yourself express as to the desirability to make fewer than six persons queue, I am sure, have been considered and have not found favour; but certainly the argument which you yourself mentioned to me, that you can still get a situation at a bus stop when two old ladies are standing up waiting to catch a bus and three tough, strong persons, may be Hamus, Ramus and perhaps Shamos, come forward and will be able legally to force the old ladies aside and thrust their way into the bus. I have no doubt that the legal experts who are responsible for advising the Minister and his Ministry have advised them on this point, but Mr. Speaker, the Minister should not speak as if this matter is coming into the laws of Barbados de novo because there is a long history with this queueing Resolution.

Way back before the Democratic Labour Party took office, before the Minister, I believe, was Minister of Communications and Transport, recommendations had been made as to the introduction of a system of queueing and they came into fruition in 1965 when Regulations were then made by the Director of Highways and Transport. Those are the Regulations which are referred to in Paragraph 3 of the instant Resolution which is Legal Notice No. 25 of 1965, when Mr. Hayward produced Regulations for queueing, but the Government left those Regulations not brought into force until on the 13th February this year. I must really be pardoned if I suggest that it is remarkable that the Minister, in introducing his speech about this Resolution, could not make reference to the fact that Question No. 147 on the Order Paper calls on the Government to introduce a system of queueing, because on the 13th February, I asked the Minister in this House to introduce a system of queueing and now, in May, such a system is introduced. You only had to look at the Order Paper; it is on page 9 at the bottom right-hand corner, Question No. 147.

I would also like to draw to the Minister's attention the incompetence on the earlier occasion when, in 1965, Regulations to bring queueing into force, Regulations to impose a system of queueing were made - I would like to draw his attention to the incompetence of the then legal advisers, whoever they were, evidently to take account of the fact that all amendments to the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Regulations have to be brought to the House to be debated here. In 1965, what was done was that the Regulations were drafted as if they were subject to negative Resolution and not to affirmative. I think

the Minister will find that that is the reason why it has been necessary to revoke the earlier law relating to queueing and introduce this particular Resolution which is to be debated in the House. Nevertheless, I do not intend to differ from what hon. members who have spoken on this side of the House have said, but, as my Question suggested in February, I am certainly very glad that a system of queueing at bus termini and stopping places is now going to be instituted in Barbados; and I can give the Minister notice that I will not require an answer to Question No. 147 because the Minister, by introducing this Resolution, has answered my Question and given me very full satisfaction indeed on the point. I do not think that the Minister could deny that that Question was well founded in justice and in commonsense as far as queueing at bus stands in Barbados is concerned.

4.55 p.m.

I welcome it. The only thing is Paragraph (1A) which says that the persons to whom this applies must comply with the lawful directions of any member of the Police Force in uniform. It seems to be such as to make people think that perhaps they do not have to comply with the lawful directions of a member of the Police Force in uniform in respect of other activities carried on in the bus stands, because as far as I know if a policeman tells people not to use obscene language, not to spit in a bus or not to use the bus stand as a urinal and they do not obey, they will be visited with the severe penalties of the law. They will be punished if they fail to obey his directions on that occasion as they will be if they attempt to break queues or fail to form queues.

I welcome the Resolution, and I am wondering if the Minister in his reply will say that he welcomed my question.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, no one could have thought that such a simple Resolution would have taken from 12 down to 5 o'clock; but I would say again, I believe - I am not too sure - that the Leader of the Government has to carry some of this blame because I have warned him repeatedly. I do not eat in here, and if no food comes in we will get through with the legislation much more quickly.

(Asides)

Mr. SPEAKER: Now.....

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I cannot sit here and allow the Minister to be talking about if no food comes in here. That is real, real gutter snipping. I am surprised at him. He should be down on the wharf catching cray fish or flies or something. I would not stand here and hear that from anything like him.

Mr. SPEAKER: I did not know to what the Hon. Minister was leading up, but it would seem that he made an unfortunate beginning. Will the Minister proceed to deal with this queueing Resolution?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: You are entitled to your opinion and so am I. You may feel that I made an

unfortunate beginning, but I do not feel so. Strangely enough, I seem to have offended someone because when I did so I heard a lot of epithets being used. I am not asking you to ask anybody to withdraw anything that he said because I do not intend to withdraw anything either.

One would have thought, Mr. Speaker, that a simple matter like this should have had the blessing of this Chamber. (*Asides*)

Mr. SPEAKER: I regret that the gavel seems to be mislaid.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Apparently, Mr. Speaker, I have said something; some innuendo has been wrongfully or wrongly, I am sorry if I offended the senior member for St. Joseph when I mentioned food, I am very sorry I offended him.

I have said here before, Mr. Speaker, and I would continue to say, if anyone doubts, watch when 20'clock comes in here during a debate and you will see a stampede to get to the.....

Mr. SPEAKER: That does not arise. The question of queueing does not arise in respect of that.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, they do not queue up for dinner. Strange enough, that is why we had this long talk because they think that I am going to insist that they queue up to get into the mess hall.

Mr. SPEAKER: Please deal with the Resolution. (MEMBERS: Shame, shame.)

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Who is talking about shame?

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the Hon. Minister proceed and let him proceed in silence.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: There is no one who can stop me from speaking. I intend to speak, and if you don't want to hear, go outside. Can I be allowed to speak without being interrupted by the hon. senior member for the City?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member will be allowed to speak without being interrupted by anybody. Let the hon. member speak on the Resolution.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: About three weeks ago I said in this same Chamber when we were speaking about Dr. Martin Luther King.....

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Yes, Mr. Speaker.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member for the City has risen on a point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: He has not said that he is on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: He so said. Let me not be contradicted by any member of the House.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I have my rights as anyone else.

Mr. SPEAKER: Not to contradict the Chair. (A MEMBER: Name him, Sir.)

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, what have I done that the hon. member referred to me? (*Asides*)

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member make his point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: That is just like all the other things that take place in here - wasting time. I said a few weeks ago in this Chamber that the world has failed because man within himself is a failure. When I was introducing this Resolution today I particularly said to the members on the opposite side of the Chamber that this was a matter for all of us, as leaders of the community, to try to make sure that it would work. From the beginning everyone on the opposite side started off by saying that this might fail.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of explanation. As a member who has spoken, I ask the Minister not to include particularly this hon. member if he is suggesting that I said that it must fail.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have heard no such suggestion about the hon. and learned member for St. Thomas.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: This is the only time I have got up and now I am not allowed to speak. I did not interrupt anyone. I can stay here the whole night. (A MEMBER: You cannot say that anyone said that it must fail.)

Mr. MOTTLEY: He said so and I am saying that it is not true. I said that it was long overdue. Why should he say that anyone over here said that it must fail?

Mr. SPEAKER: I trust that the junior member for St. Thomas will proceed without interruptions.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Should such a simple matter that every one wants to succeed take so long? What I was saying, Mr. Speaker, when I spoke just now about man being a failure - I heard speakers in here today saying that you will have to have policemen in uniform at every bus stop. If the society in which we are living is such that we need policemen to tell us right from wrong, it is a sick society.

Furthermore, I never said for one moment that you must have policemen in uniform to arrest somebody. The Police are there to see that law and order is carried out. Why does it say policemen in uniform? We are all Barbadians and we know that we have some quacks going around trying to fool

people. If they are not policemen, sometimes they are doctors or someone from National Insurance. That is the reason why we had this written in - policemen in uniform; but it does not mean that the policeman is there for the sole purpose of apprehending people.

Every day policemen come in here, at least they are in the yard. I do not know the last day a policeman in the yard arrested anybody. All that the Regulations are asking the general public to do is to obey a police officer in uniform; but I want to point out to the senior member for St. Joseph that a policeman, as far as I know, unlike any other man in the community, is never off-duty. A policeman leaves his post to go home to see his family. Immediately he gets home something happens in his vicinity and everyone wants to know if a policeman is on the beat and he has to go out to keep order. 5.05 p.m.

Even a police in civilian clothes, who happens to be at a bus stop and sees disorder taking place, can produce his badge - I believe policemen carry some form of identification card - and say: "I am a policeman, and I am asking you to comply with the law." That is all. But for the length of time spent on this matter, one would have thought that I would have got something constructive coming from the other side of the House. I am always willing to accept suggestions from the other side. What do I get in here today? I was almost vilified for coming in here with this matter.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, I am sure that the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, if he were on the scene, could not get pass "Tyrol Cot", because he was not allowed to play with other black children like us. He would not have known about "King Kong" and Richard Dix in the days of the Olympic and the Empire which I spoke of. I was not using any epithet, or any bad meaning, towards the Party which he has the misfortune to belong to.....

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I not only remember "King Kong", but I seem to remember a short, fat gentleman, looking something like Shamos O'Brien, being ejected by the police the same night that I saw "King Kong" at the Olympic, if he wants to know.

Mr. SPEAKER: I heard the hon. and learned senior member for St. Thomas state a point of order. What is it that he has submitted for my decision.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, what I am submitting for your decision is an involved point of order. The Rules of the House of Assembly are now under consideration by a Select Committee, and while the law prevents us, Mr. Speaker, from going into what has been discussed at the Select Committee, for example, you are not allowed to say that certain hon. members - Mr. Speaker, I will not say it even though it relates to acts of spite over and above, for example, what was done in November last year when the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and the hon. senior member for St. James were suspended.....

Mr. SPEAKER: That cannot be a point of order.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, you have asked me to explain what my point of order is.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there is a point to explain.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I am trying to explain it, Mr. Speaker. Look at it in this way: the hon. junior member for St. Thomas.....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL rose.....

Mr. SPEAKER: There are two hon. members on their feet and, again, we are getting perilously near to that which constitutes grave disorder, although we are so near the end of the day's meeting and this remaining Resolution.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. What I am saying, in effect, is this: the hon. junior member for St. Thomas said I would not know anything about "King Kong" because I was not allowed to go across the doors of "Tyrol Cot" to play with little black children like him.

Mr. Speaker, if that is a proper remark to be made in the House of Assembly; if an outrageous lie like that, a disgraceful lie, is a proper remark to be made in this House, it has to be treated frivolously. I have treated it frivolously by saying that if I did not go to "King Kong", then the police put him out. That is all, Mr. Speaker, but it has a little realism about things. If he wants to say something ignorant, and he cannot understand what hon. members are saying when they reply.....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, he said that maybe when he went to see "King Kong", I was being apprehended by the policeman. That is possible. I would never be above a policeman apprehending me, unlike some of his family.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member proceed?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I will proceed. I want him to understand that he cannot get lower than me, matter how he tries. I know him better than he knows me. Getting back to queueing up - (Interruption) got arrested for procuring in England. (Another member: What is procuring?) Pimping and living on immoral earnings.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Is the hon. gentleman saying that any member on this side, particularly myself, has ever been arrested for living on immoral earnings?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member could not say that in this House.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Thank you, Speaker, First, it is not true, and, second, even.....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Nobody expects you to be true. It is true.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the Hon. Minister proceed with his business?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I am proceeding; he is my business, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid, not outside St. Thomas.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The hon. senior member for St. Joseph said that in order to have this queueing implemented and effective, we would have to put a policeman at every bus stop. I consider this to be a very puerile statement, because in the countries where queueing is done you do not even see policemen close to the bus stops.

The hon. senior member for St. James said that in the subways in New York there is always a stampede to get into the train, but what he did not say, Mr. Speaker, is that the trains are almost 200 yds. long, and when the driver is up to the front of the train, it is only allowed to stop for a certain amount of seconds; therefore, you have to board a train quickly. If you miss one you will catch another, but that is something completely different from waiting at a bus stop. In a subway the driver does not have to look to see who are boarding the train.

Mr. Speaker, when you are waiting at a bus stop, the driver knows that you are likely to board his bus. You cannot compare these two things. The senior member for St. Joseph went on to speak about people working in town on the highways during peak hours and so on. If he is referring to the Mitchell Construction Company, these people have to put in the pipes and repair the road for use by the Public as quickly as possible. I do not take that as an insurmountable matter, or anything that should be mentioned here.
5.15 p.m.

I am going to say again to all the members on the opposite side not to start off this queueing with a defeatist attitude hoping within their hearts that it would fail. It seems to me, Mr. Speaker, that those who were high and mighty and in their lofty castles enjoyed the situation of which I spoke earlier at the Olympic and Empire Theatres as well as what was going on in the bus stand, and they are annoyed with me now because I have decided to call a halt. It is our duty as well as ours and that of the entire community to see that this works. It is true that you are going to get some people who want to disobey the law. You get these in every walk of life and there are no exceptions here; but it is the majority that counts everything you go to do, and if those people who are constantly to get into a bus before people who are there discover that they are in the minority, they will eventually join the line like anybody else. *and therefore appealing to all and sundry to assist in making this queueing the success which we are going it will be.*

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

Mr. SPEAKER: That, if I mistake not, concludes Government Business for the day.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Earlier today, Mr. Speaker, you mentioned that amendments to the Dairy Industry Bill were referred to this Chamber from the Other Place.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. member for reminding me. I will enquire of the Leader of the House whether he thinks it necessary to have copies made.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I do not think it is necessary, Mr. Speaker. There are just typographical errors. On page 5 for example, there is just the substitution of the term "dairy keeper" for the word "person". This read before "as from the commencement of this Act no person shall sell or offer for sale any milk, etc. etc." With the amendment it would read "as from the commencement of this Act no dairy keeper shall sell or offer for sale any milk unless he has first been granted by the appropriate authority a dairy keeper's licence".

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member would give way.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the hon. member concluded?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has given way. It does not appear to me that that is an amendment, with all due respect to the Other Place, that we can accept, and I am respectfully going to suggest that we have a look at that; and I will give you an illustration of what I mean. If a person does not have a driver's licence, you do not say "no unlicensed driver shall drive a car without a driver's licence." You say "no person". I think perhaps hon. members had better have a look at these amendments because in good faith they may have thought they were improving on our draft, but they may have messed it up, to put it in a polite way.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will instruct that these amendments be printed and circulated.

Will the hon. senior member for St. Andrew not seek to proceed further this afternoon?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: As Your Honour pleases

Mr. SPEAKER: Copies will be printed and circulated to hon. members in due course.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this concludes our business for today's meeting.

The Order Paper having been fixed.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 28th May, 1968, at 2.30 p.m.

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

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

THE
House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1966 - 71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 18th June, 1968.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 2.45 p.m. o'clock today.

PRESENT

His Honour J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., F.Z.S. (*Speaker*); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Minister of Health and Community Development*); Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., (*Leader of the House*); Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (*Minister of Trade, Tourism, Co-operatives and Fisheries*); Mr. R. St. C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE; Hon. N. W. BOXILL, (*Minister of Communications and Works*); Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD, (*Chairman of Committees*); Sir G. H. ADAMS, C.M.G., Q.C., B.A., D.C.L. (*Hon.*) (*Leader of the Opposition*); Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P.; Mr. L. S. CRAIG, and Mr. J. B. SPRINGER.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that there are no minutes available for confirmation today.

PAN AMERICAN UNION

I also have the honour to inform the House of my receipt, on behalf of this House, of a Resolution from the House of Representatives of the United States of America extending greetings on Pan American Day to the other American Republics.

I had the honour to receive a copy of this Resolution, the Hon. Leader of the House being present, from His Excellency the American Ambassador, and I have already thanked him, on behalf of the House, for the presentation.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

I have the honour to inform the House that I have on my behalf received a Resolution, signed by the President of the Senate, the text of which reads as follows:

The Senate has the honour to acknowledge the Resolution of the House of Assembly

of a Message dated 28th May, 1968 requesting the appointment of a Select Committee of the Senate to consult jointly with a Select Committee of the Honourable the House of Assembly upon The Dairy Industry (Regulation and Control) Bill, 1968 which was passed by the Senate with amendments on 9th May, 1968.

2. The Senate has today duly appointed Senator Maurice A. King and Senator E. Lisle Ward to be a Select Committee of the Senate to consult jointly with a Select Committee of the Honourable House of Assembly upon the said Dairy Industry (Regulation and Control) Bill, 1968.

(Signed) E.S. Robinson
President.

Senate Chamber,
6th June, 1968."

HIS HONOUR'S RULING

There is a matter on which I had promised the House to give a Ruling at its last meeting, and the Ruling is as follows:

On 14th May, 1968, my attention was drawn to a Question asked by the Honourable Senior Member for St. James, as follows:-

"To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

"Will the Minister state how many trips were made by the Commissioner-General for Barbados and Guyana, in his capacity as such (a) from Barbados to Canada, and (b) within Canada itself, in connection with Expo '67?"

2. "Will the Minister state the cost of such trips?"

The Honourable junior member for St. Lucy, Leader of the House, requested my Ruling in respect of such query inasmuch as Question No. 110 which -- he said -- related to the same matter, had been asked by the Honourable and Learned senior member for St. Thomas, and had been answered two weeks previously. In the light of this, he queried whether I should allow an allegedly identical question (or a question relating to an allegedly identical topic) to be asked in the same Session. I promised to rule.

give
on No.

Question No. 110 was as follows:-

"To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

"1. What is the total cost of travel undertaken at Government expense by the present Chairman of the Tourist Board, since 1962 to date?

"2. What journeys to Canada were made by the person concerned between August 1st, 1966, and Election Day, November 3rd., 1966, and how long a time was spent on each occasion?"

Perusal of said Questions reveals that Question No. 110 was in respect of travel undertaken by the Chairman of the Tourist Board, whereas the Question asked by the honourable senior member for St. James referred to travel undertaken by the Commissioner-General for Barbados and Guyana, in his capacity as such. Although it may be common knowledge that the holder of the post of Chairman of the Tourist Board is - or was - also holder of the post of Commissioner-General for Barbados and Guyana, yet, inasmuch as the several queries referred to two (2) separate and distinct capacities, I do not deem the Question as asked by the honourable senior member for St. James, to be out of order; nor do I deem same to constitute a repetition of - or be identical with - Question No. 110 previously asked by the honourable and learned senior member for St. Thomas.

I therefore direct that the said Question remain on the Order Paper for reply by the appropriate Minister.
2.55 p.m.

PAPERS LAID

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

The Public Officers Loan and Travelling Allowances (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1968.

The Consumption Tax Order, 1968.

Notice under Item No. 34 of Part III of the First Schedule to the Customs Act, 1962.

Selected Monthly Indicators of the Barbados Statistical Service for the period October 1966 - October 1967.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:-

The Barbados Harbours (Amendment) Regulations, 1968.

The eleventh Annual Report and Statement of Accounts of the Transport Board for the year 1965-66.

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 the following:-

A Resolution to place the sum of \$482,345 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69, Part 11 - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 4 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$19,068 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69, Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 5 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$11,338 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69, Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 6 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to authorise the Minister responsible for Finance to borrow by the issue in the Island of Treasury Bills sums of money not exceeding five million dollars and such sums as may be required to pay off at maturity Bills already lawfully issued and outstanding.

A Bill to amend the Exchange Control Act, 1967.

On my own behalf, I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Bill relating to the appointment and control of land surveyors and to the survey of lands in Barbados.

A Bill to make provision for the grant to poor prisoners of legal aid in certain criminal cases.

A Bill to amend the Town and Country Planning Act, 1965.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 167, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph is ready.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question

83 asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas is ready.

Also, Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 154, asked by the hon. junior member for St. John is ready.

Also, Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 164, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James is ready.

Also, Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 165, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James, is ready.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

"BE IT RESOLVED that this House notes with consternation a report of a Resolution recently moved and considered in the Other Place purporting to declare that the Honourable and Learned member for St. Joseph, the Leader of the Opposition, has been guilty of a breach of the privileges of that Chamber by giving notice of a resolution in this House on February 13th last complaining of a breach of privilege by the Leader of this House which contained the following paragraph and which was the basis of the objection in the Other Place to the said resolution of the Leader of the Opposition on the ground that "it is intended to intimidate this Honourable Senate and is calculated to obstruct members of this Honourable Senate in the discharge of their public duties":-

"This House moreover, will view with grave displeasure any action by the Honourable Senate which, by entertaining or approving of the aforesaid request purports to make arrangements for the accommodation of certain of the members of this Honourable House."

This House recalls the fact that the resolution of the Leader of the Opposition was duly submitted to His Honour the Speaker and passed by him as being in order before it was read out to this House, and deems the action of the Other Place in considering the resolution referred to in paragraph 1 above a grave and unwarranted censure of the Speaker of this House and a gross breach of its privileges;

This House, moreover considers that the attempt in the Other Place to call to account, let alone to criticise and censure the Leader of the Opposition in this House for words spoken in this Chamber is a gross and unforgiveable breach of its privileges and should not be condoned;

This House accordingly places on record its grave displeasure at the action of the Other Place and calls on it to apologise to Mr. Speaker and other members of this Honourable House for this blatant infringement of one of its fundamental rights and privileges."

QUESTIONS

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Questions:-

To enquire of the Minister of Housing:

Is the Minister aware that the houses owned by the Government along Princess Royal Avenue forming part of the Pine Housing Scheme are in a dilapidated state of repair?

2. Will the Minister rectify this state of affairs as soon as possible?

To enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:

Is the Minister aware that because of the increased business at Hometown, St. James the Hometown post office should be extended as soon as possible?

2. Is the Minister aware that the driveway leading to the said Post Office is too small to accommodate the members of the general public who attend there?

3. Will the Minister see to the extension of the driveway and Post Office referred to as quickly as possible?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

1. Will the responsible Minister make an investigation into the case of Mr. Humphrey Mason of 8, Martins Road, Pine Housing Area, St. Michael, who has alleged in complaints to the appropriate departments of Government that he was imprisoned during the month of September 1966 for non-payment of maintenance arrears which had in fact been already discharged?

2. If Mr. Mason's allegations are substantiated will the Government make an ex-gratia payment to him as compensation?
3.05 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. It strikes me that that question cannot properly be addressed to a Minister since it deals with a matter which would not, I think, come under the official responsibility of the Minister. I would like Your Honour to rule on that because this is how I feel about it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will give the matter my consideration and ruling.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:

Is the Minister aware of the need of more postmen to be attached to the Hometown Post Office?

2. Is the Minister aware that a requisition in respect of increased postal staff has been applied for in respect of the Hometown Post Office?

3. Will the Minister use his good offices to see that such increased staff be made available as soon as possible?

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

Is the Minister aware that the playing field aback of the Pine Parkinson School designated for youth of the inhabitants of the Pine Housing Area is in dire need of repair?

2. Will the Minister give instructions that the said playing field be levelled and brought into use as soon as possible?

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:

Will the Minister see to it that the road aback of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital leading from River Road to Constitution Road be repaired so as to form a trunk highway to divert the traffic from Belmont Road into the City as a trunk highway?

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On separate motions of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the following Bills were read a first time:—

A Bill to amend the Exchange Control Act, 1967.

A Bill relating to the appointment and control of land surveyors and to the survey of lands in Barbados.

A Bill to make provision for the grant to poor prisoners of legal aid in certain criminal cases.

A Bill to amend the Town and Country Planning Act, 1965.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960, be now read a first time.

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

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

EXTENTION OF QUESTION TIME

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Question Time be extended until 4 o'clock. I think that that is reasonable because.....
(A MEMBER: You will have to suspend the Standing Order.) Mr. Speaker, there is the appropriate Standing Order which I cannot recall at the moment. Unless hon. members opposite wish to suspend all the Standing Orders, I do not know what their desire is. If you wish.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I wonder if the Hon. Leader of the House would give way to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I would suggest that the Standing Order affecting the time only be suspended. This is not intended as a threat, but it does not look as if we are going on beyond 7 o'clock, so that we can suspend the Standing Order affecting the time.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I take the hon. member's point. I beg to move therefore that Standing Order 14 be now suspended until 4 o'clock.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS and Mr. SMITH rose to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the Opposition caught my eye first.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I think that the hon. senior member for St. Joseph did not notice the time. We have only five minutes and therefore I agree that Question Time be extended until 4 o'clock.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that Standing Order 14.....

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I beg Your Honour's pardon, I believe I made a mistake. Standing Order 14 should be suspended without qualification as to the time.

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, that is the motion.

The question that Standing Order 14 be now suspended was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

3.15 p.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, before we go into Question Time I wish to intimate that I had two questions outstanding - No. 83 in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, and No. 79 by the hon. junior member for St. James. If any hon. member on the other side would like to ask those questions, they may be now taken.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: None of us will ask those questions and I think that the reasons are well known to hon. members. The hon. senior member for St. Thomas is out of the island and he will return. The hon. junior member for St. James is ill and cannot walk easily, but he will come back as soon as he can.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: My reason for that is that when the replies are given they are always printed, and because an hon. member is not here it does not mean that he has forfeited his seat so that when the Order Paper is sent out he will not see the reply.

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

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

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

QUESTION TIME

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 167 standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, Page 10, right hand column.

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

Will Government consider immediately the pressing necessity for paying out to old resigned labourers in the Sugar Industry such benefits from the Provident Fund that are due to them?

2. If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister state when and how the Fund will be distributed?

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

"A plan for the establishment and operation of a Provident Fund for sugar workers has been approved and the necessary legislation is being drafted and submitted to interested parties for their comments.

2. It is proposed that the Fund be administered by a Statutory Board comprised of representatives from the Barbados Worker's Union and the Barbados Sugar Producers' Federation with the Chief Labour Officer as Chairman."

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I did not hear the Hon. Minister too well when he first started; but will the Minister state how long the process will be with this particular Bill to which he referred? I did not hear him too well; so, if I ask a simple question, he will forgive me.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The position is that the Bill has been already drafted, the Bill for the establishment of the Fund; but it would not be right for me to come to the Legislature with a Bill to establish the Provident Fund except it has been sent to bodies like the Sugar Producers Federation and the Barbados Workers' Union for their comments.

I have given them a limited time to let me know their comments, and I would say that in a few weeks' time it will be in the Legislature.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, in addition to the Barbados Workers' Union, is there not another Union which has more members than the Barbados Workers' Union in the Sugar Industry? One branch alone has more members than the Barbados Workers' Union.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of the fact that there is another Union. I am not aware that that Union has more members in the Sugar Industry than the Barbados Workers' Union.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Will the member then say that recognition depends on numbers? Suppose there are only a dozen. If this is a registered Union, it is a registered Union.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I find it difficult to understand the hon. member. He asked me if I was aware that it had greater representation of the sugar workers, and I just answered the hon. member's question.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Is the Minister aware that he suggested, that he implied that he did not know the number of sugar workers in the Sugar Workers' Union? I asked if recognition depends on numbers.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the hon. member asked me whether it represented a bigger number of sugar workers than the Barbados Workers' Union. I answered that after a Union is established it has to be recognised. No one is questioning the fact that that Union is recognised. As far as I am aware the Barbados Workers' Union is the accredited representative of the sugar workers generally in this country, and it is to the recognised Trade Union and the Union which represents the biggest interest in any individual sector of the economy of the island that we sent and asked for comments.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: In view of what the Minister says - not that I accept all - does the hon. member agree that a registered Union whose members may be affected should be asked to send delegates to a conference with the other persons whom the Minister has mentioned?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has been President of a Trade Union years ago. He knows that if there is an industrial dispute or something of the sort between employers and employees, these disputes emanate from the fact that a Trade Union has been accredited representation of these particular workers, and has been acknowledged by the employers as the accredited representative of these workers.

As far as I am aware, the Barbados Workers' Union is the accredited representative of the sugar workers of this country, and they are so recognised by the Sugar Producers' Federation and the Sugar Producers' Association, as the case may be. He should know that because he was the President at some time of the Barbados Workers' Union. Therefore he should know that that Union is the accredited representative of the sugar workers of the country.

Mr. SMITH: Is the Minister aware that there is another registered Trade Union in this country representing sugar workers?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am aware that there is another Trade Union purporting to support sugar workers, and it is called the Sugar Worker's Union or something of the sort; but the point I am stressing is that for the Sugar Producers' Federation the accredited representative of the sugar workers is the Barbados Workers' Union. It is for that reason that I have sent this Bill for their comments. 3.25 p.m.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: He used the word "some". He ejaculated more than once "some". The whole object of starting the other Union is that the sugar workers were fed up with the Barbados Workers' Union. Did the Hon. Minister not hear me say that some sugar workers have notified the Sugar Producers' Federation that they are nothing to do with the Barba-

dos Workers' Union? (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Not true.) I object to that remark. Of course, the Hon. Member is speaking while in his seat, but that is a crude remark to make. I object to it as being offensive, because it is a crude remark to make that what I have just said is not true, when I myself wrote a letter to the Sugar Producers' Federation in connection with the matter. (*Asides.*)

Mr. SPEAKER: I am trying to hear the Hon. Leader of the Opposition complete his supplementary question. I am having a little difficulty in so doing, but I am doing my best. Will the Hon. Leader of the Opposition continue his supplementary question or questions?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: The supplementary question was: Did the Hon. Minister not hear me interrupting and saying that the Barbados Workers' Union represents "some" of the sugar workers and not all?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I like to be polite at most times. I think I have made it clear that, as far as my Ministry is concerned, we deal with the Union that has been granted - if I were dealing with the shirt industry I would deal with the Union that the garment industry recognised as the accredited representative of the workers in the garment industry. As far as I am aware, the Barbados Workers' Union is still the accredited representative of the workers in the sugar industry.

I am not aware of any letter being sent to the Sugar Producers' Federation stating that the sugar workers do not want to be represented by the Barbados Workers' Union. As a matter of fact, we have just completed negotiations for the sugar workers in this country just a few months ago, and it was with the Barbados Workers' Union that the Sugar Producers have been negotiating. That is the Union, as far as I am aware, and as far as the Government is aware, that is the accredited representative of the sugar workers in the country. Until this is changed, until the sugar workers in this country decide that they want another Union to represent them and they cease subscribing to the Barbados Workers' Union, and until that reaches me, I will have to act as I have acted recently in respect of the Provident Fund legislation.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Is the Minister unaware that there is a difference between "some" and "all"? In his last answer, the Hon. Minister referred to the Union representing the sugar workers. Is not the Minister aware that the Bustamante Trade Union and the other Trade Union both represent sugar workers in Jamaica? I have another supplementary question, but I do not want to put both together.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am aware that there is another Workers' Union in the country, and I am not saying that it does not have sugar workers as its members. The question is: What is the number of sugar workers represented by this Union *vis-a-vis* the number of workers represented by the Barbados Workers' Union. The position is that if this new Union was the accredited representative of the workers, in

January and February when we were fighting to get money for the sugar workers in this country the negotiations would have been carried out with that Union instead of the Barbados Workers' Union.

Up to this moment I have never heard of any dispute, or of the other Union doing anything in respect of representing sugar workers in this country. Until that Union takes away the lead from the Barbados Workers' Union, if it can, I will have to recognise the Union that is recognised by the employers and the majority of workers in any particular industry. If the Union mentioned by the Hon. junior member for St. Joseph was representing, let us say, the majority of the Port workers and entered negotiations with the Port as the accredited representative of the Port workers and I had to deal with legislation for the Port, then I would treat that Union in the same way as I have treated the Barbados Workers' Union. If the Union is the accredited representative of the workers in a particular field, I will make my representations to the Union.

I am fair, and the Hon. member can rest assured that, if and when the time comes that that Union has the strength and the following of the workers, it will gain just as much recognition by my Ministry as the Barbados Workers' Union. If the Union represents the majority of a particular interest in the country, the hon. member can rest assured that it will be given recognition not only by the employers, but by the Ministry of Labour.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Does the Hon. Member realise that he has said the same thing three times at least in replying? Does he put the basis on numbers? The Hon. Minister says that he does not know the numbers of the other Union. I ask again what I have asked before: Is recognition going to be dependent on numbers?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I deal with the Union that is recognised by the employers in this country as the accredited representative of the workers, and with which the employers are willing to sit down and negotiate for wages and so on for the workers. If the Union is recognised by employers in a certain industry, I will make representation to that Union. I have made that clear; therefore, until the time comes when the other Union is able to satisfy the country that it has the strength to represent a particular bloc of workers, I will have to make my representations to the Barbados Workers' Union.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Does the Hon. Member mean what he says when he refers to a particular bloc when he has been talking all morning as if all the sugar workers must come together?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am tired of getting up like a hopping ball. I do not want to interrupt the hon. member, and I can answer all the supplementary questions he wishes to ask. I want him to be reasonable. The position is that the Union the hon. member is speaking of has not settled any sugar dispute in this country; it is not the Union that the

Sugar Producers' Federation negotiated with for wages for the sugar workers in this country. Perhaps that time will come, but the time has not yet come.

I am not aware that that Union is the accredited representative of the sugar workers in this country. It may have sugar workers among its members, but it is not the accredited representative of the sugar workers in this country and, therefore, I can do nothing else but take my representations in respect of sugar workers to the Barbados Workers' Union. I have said that if and when this Union becomes the accredited representative of any bloc - sugar workers, Port workers, and so on - the necessary recognition will be given to it. As I have said, recognition in the Ministry depends on the Union the employers are negotiating with and not numbers.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Therefore if the Sugar Producers' Federation, or the merchants in Broad Street, choose to ignore the Union, would you not ask a representative of the Union to approach you? You are constantly making the threat by saying "whom the Sugar Producers' Federation recognise." Will the Hon. Minister listen, please. I am sorry to interrupt the Minister.

When the Minister said "bloc", does he not see that that word also connotes a bloc of a particular division of workers? Does the Hon. Minister mean that, unless the Union purports to represent all of the employers and employees in that particular industry, he is not going to give it recognition?
3.35 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, this is the last time I am going to rise. The position is that if the Sugar Producers' Federation or any bloc of employers refuses to recognise the Union and that Union had any strength whatsoever, it could call a strike and force the employers to recognise it. If the Union has any strength, it can bring pressure to bear upon the employers and make the employers recognise it. You have an instance where the Barbados Workers Union tried to get into one of the industries in Grazettes and the employers did not want to recognise it, and the Union was strong enough to bring pressure to bear on them. If a Union has the following and the employers refuse to recognise it, all they have to do is to tell the workers to sit down.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Does the Hon. Minister tell the world that seriously? Is he telling the employers in this Island that the only way they can be forced to do anything is by a strike? Has the Minister already forgotten what has just happened in the sugar industry?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, unless the hon. member misunderstands me, I said that any Union that has the strength, if the employers refuse to recognise it, can call on its workers to sit down. The weapon that is used by the Union is the strike weapon. The hon. member will remember what happened at the Foundry some years ago. He knows that the weapon which the Union uses, if it has the strength, is the

threat of a strike, especially if it is an important industry. If the Union has the strength, it will call a sit down, and then we will see in this country which Union is the accredited representative of the sugar workers. It was the Barbados Workers Union that called on the people not to cut the canes. If the hon. member's Union had the strength, he would tell the people to cut the canes, but this is not the case.

I would like the hon. member to know that I am reasonable, and if and when the time comes that I have to make representation on behalf of his Union, the hon. member can rest assured that it is going to be done. When it has the strength, then it will be recognised.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary, I would like the Minister to say how the Fund would be distributed.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I did not hear the hon. member.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister has asked the hon. junior member for St. Peter to repeat his question.

Mr. HINDS: With respect to Question No.2, how will the Fund be distributed?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I said it is proposed that the Fund be administered by a Statutory Board comprised of representatives of the Barbados Workers Union, the Barbados Sugar Producers Federation, and the Chief Labour Officer as Chairman. The people employed by the Board will have Civil Service status, and it is for this Board to form policy. Regulations are usually drafted by the Board for the administration of the Fund. The answer is given in my second reply. I cannot tell the hon. member how the Board at this stage will administer the Fund. I can appoint the Board, but I cannot tell you how the Board will administer the Fund. I know what will happen is that the Government, having been advised by the Committee which went into the matter as to what should be paid to the workers, have recommended more than what has been suggested by the Committee. A certain figure was suggested by the Committee, the Government has decided to add to that figure, and the Board will have to draft its Regulations and devise its policy as to how it is going to operate. This is all I can tell the hon. member on this question.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, since the Board is responsible for the making of the Regulations, can the Minister tell me now if this Board is already working on the Regulations or whether they are awaiting the passing of the Bill?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member was in here before me and can teach me the rules of this House. His junior colleague, the Leader of the Opposition, can tell the hon. member that the Board could not be appointed until the legislation has passed both Houses of the Legislature; so the Board could not be working. The Board will be comprised of the Chief Labour Officer, three representatives from

the Sugar Producers Federation and three from the Barbados Workers Union, and they will draft the policy of operation; but this Board can only be appointed after the legislation is passed.

DISREPAIR OF ROAD FROM FOSTER HALL TO BATH

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 154 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. John.

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows:

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Is Government aware that the road leading from Foster Hall, St. Joseph, by way of Newcastle to Bath is in an acute state of disrepair?

2. Will Government, bearing in mind the importance of the said road as a medium of tourist traffic along the St. John coast and as a medium for plantation owners and peasants in the area for transporting their canes to factories during the crop season, treat the repair of the said road as an urgent priority?

3.45 p.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:-

"1. Yes, Sir!

2. The reconstruction of the collapsed retaining wall at Newcastle has been completed and other sections of the road are being repaired."

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw to your attention at this moment that as to Question No. 152 standing in my name, the reply has already been given, and you gave permission that my submission.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I am coming around to that just now.

Mr. HINDS: I thank you, Sir.

REPAIRS TO ROADS AT DRAX HALL AND PARISH LAND

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question to which the Reply has been laid is Question No. 164, standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James. That is on Page 10, left-hand column.

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

Is the Minister aware that the roads at Drax Hall and Parish Land in the parish of St. George are badly in need of repairs?

Will the Minister have the said roads repaired as soon as possible?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

The roads at Drax Hall and Parish Land, St. George, are privately owned and therefore do not qualify for repairs at the expense of Government.

Mr. GRAIG: Mr. Speaker, there is just a supplementary question and I hope the Minister will answer it. The question is this: "Is the Minister aware that the roads at Drax Hall and Parish Land...?" Therefore I take it that there is more than one road at Drax Hall. Will the Minister state whether all the roads at Drax Hall are privately owned?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, as far as I know, Yes, Sir, because Drax Hall is a plantation and I always remember that when I was a boy, I used to hear people talk about Drax Hall and Kendal as the two biggest plantations in the Island.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Is the Minister aware that a plantation can own both sides of a public road? Is the hon. member aware that I own a part of Spooners Road, but it is a public road?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am aware that the hon. member owns a part of Spooners Road, and I am also aware that the hon. member refused to give permission to make that road passable. (ASIDES.) The hon. member has asked me a question and I am answering it.

Mr. SPEAKER: Both are irrelevancies, and please do not let us pursue anything about Spooners Hill Road by way of a supplementary question.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I might mention Broad Street between Da Costa's and Knights Limited. They own a part of Broad Street, but it is still a public road. That is all I intended to say, but, as usual, the hon. member shoves in a nasty remark which is utterly untrue.

Mr. SPEAKER: Dear, dear, please!

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: That man sits there and tells lies.

Mr. SPEAKER: Please! please! please! I will ask the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to withdraw that remark.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I will withdraw it because Your Honour has asked me to withdraw it, but the hon. member constantly sits there and tells lies, and if nothing is said, it goes out to the public as being true. (ASIDES.)

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. member for withdrawing the remark in deference to the Chair.

ABSENCE OF ELECTRICITY IN DRAX HALL AND PARISH LAND

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Question to which the Reply has been laid is Question No. 165, also stand-

ing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James. That is also on Page 10, left-hand column.

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

Is the Minister aware that there is no electric service in Drax Hall nor in Parish Land in the parish of St. George?

Will the Minister use his good offices to see that electricity is installed in the said districts as soon as possible?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:-

There is an electric service in a section of the Drax Hall area. The Barbados Light and Power Company has plans for the extension of this service in the near future.

Information has been received that the Barbados Light and Power Company has not received any petitions for the provisions of an electric service in Parish Land and consequently has not included this area in its expansion programme.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister can tell us whether the Barbados Light and Power Company's programme for this particular area is part of its Community Project Programme or its commercial programme as such. (After a pause.) Mr. Speaker, I am wondering if the Minister understands what I mean by "Community Project" in the first place, by the Barbados Light and Power Company.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member is trying to be facetious, I will deal with him to suit. What does he mean by "Community Project"? The Barbados Light and Power Company, like the Barbados Telephone Company, the Coca-Cola Company or any other company is here to make money. If the Barbados Light and Power Co. instal light and you use it, it is evident that you have to pay for it. What does the hon. member mean by "Community Project" or "Commercial Project"? I do not understand that. Both of them go together. If the Company puts in light as a facility, you have to pay for it. It is something just like the Waterworks. We put down water and you pay for it. It is a facility, and therefore I do not know what the hon. member is trying to ask.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Minister understands that the Barbados Light & Power Company sets out a programme, or rather lays out a programme to go into a particular area whether it has requests from people in a particular area for services or not. (A PAUSE).

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I see that the Minister indicates that he probably will not be answering the question, but genius does what it must, while talent does what it can. May I just ask this supplementary question and I hope the Minister will answer this one. Is it the policy of the Barbados Light & Power Com-

pany or of the Government that electricity is only given in places where petitions are made?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: It is not the policy either of the Company or the Government, but the Company in installing electricity always installs it in places where it is most likely that the people in the area will utilise the services. This is a natural, commonsense thing; any village idiot would know this. I have known where Mr. Arthur Bethell wanted to put electric light in Spring Vale, but it was not economically viable for the Company at the time to plant the poles down there, so that they charged Mr. Bethell something like \$2,000 or \$3,000 to run the poles and the wires to his home. As a result of that, they put the transformer to take the current down by Mr. Bethell's home. It is only recently that I have been able to get the Company to put in a transformer higher up in order to serve the people in the community. If you have a built-up area, it is evident that the Barbados Light & Power Company will try to get the service in there because they are sure that the standard of living here is such that the people are going to use these facilities. On the other hand, if it is an area where the people can ill afford at the time to use the facilities, you must remember that this is a place which, as I said before, is trying to make money, and no investor is going to have \$100,000 or \$200,000 tied up for over ten or fifteen years without knowing that he is getting back his returns. If you are going to do that, then you are not a wise investor.

This is just what happens with the Company. What we have been doing, what the Democratic Labour Party has been doing since it came into power, is that we have been giving full co-operation with threatening the Company with nationalisation - we have been getting full co-operation from the Company, and the Company's programme for this year is an extensive one. Sometimes you see them put the poles here and they do not come back to put up the wires on the poles until some six months after. That is so because they are trying; as Sparrow has said: "Don't fret; everybody goin' get". Barbados was not discovered today; it was discovered over three hundred years ago and it had people representing it before the Democratic Labour Party came into power. Why did they not know about this electricity when it was much cheaper at the time?

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Minister seems to be warming up, but I do not think that it is necessary for him to do so. I do not think that he has really answered the supplementary question, because if he thinks.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Well, let the hon. member put a further supplementary question.

Mr. CRAIG: That is what I am going to do, Sir. If the Minister says that it is not the policy either of the Barbados Light & Power Company or the policy of the Government to wait on petitions, then I can conclude that it is the lack of proper representation in the particular constituency whereby the representatives of that constituency fail to get in petitions for these people. Hence, Mr. Speaker.....

Mr. SPEAKER Where is the question mark?

Mr. CRAIG: I am putting the supplementary question now.
3.55 p.m.

The Minister says that it is not the policy of Government, it is not the policy of the Electric Company. What would be the policy of getting electricity in these areas? If he can answer that, I would be very grateful.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I do not intend to prolong this, but I have to set the record straight. The Electric Company, far from what the people were told years ago, has not yet been nationalised. It is still a private concern.

I, as Minister of Communications, have to go some times and plead and beg, because if they have their programme they are not waiting until people like me come to them. Their programmes have been fully earmarked. The Electric Company has placed poles in certain areas that they have not managed to get back to yet.

Mr. Speaker, you yourself know that there are certain parts of St. Lucy where you never thought you would see light. There are also parts of St. Andrew, and the same thing applies to St. Thomas. The whole island will get.

Barbados was not discovered six years ago. It was discovered some hundreds of years ago, but electricity came to Barbados somewhere in the early 1700s and only now some people know that people should get light. What was happening with 17 years of representation on the other side?

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 152 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter, Page 8 left hand column. I allowed that question to stand over at a previous meeting of this House.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker as far as I understand, this concludes Question Time.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: On a point of order, Sir, I first said 4 o'clock. Then I understood that it was indefinite. No hour was fixed.

Mr. SPEAKER: A question has been raised as to the interpretation of the motion which was passed earlier as moved by the Leader of the House as regards to suspension of Standing Order 14. Will the Deputy Clerk read the motion as it was passed?

Mr. CLERK: "It has been moved and seconded that Standing Order No. 14 be suspended."

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I want to make my position clear. When the Leader of the House first intimated this, he mentioned 4 o'clock. In order to regularise the motion he merely stated that he wanted to suspend the Standing Order as such. The idea behind it was that he wanted to stop at 4 o'clock.

Mr. SPEAKER: My interpretation of it is that Question time may continue until the end of Private

Members' Business which is 4.30, and that at 4.30 we automatically revert to Government Business.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, that is your interpretation, but my understanding about it is that the Leader of the House asked that it be extended to 4 o'clock, and I understand that it was 4 o'clock. This indefinite period I do not understand. I understand that 4 o'clock was mentioned. If I did not understand it like that, I would not have agreed with it - not to run until Private Members' Business is out, but 4 o'clock

Mr. SPEAKER: Question Time is part of Private Members' Business. It normally ends at 3.15 p.m. and Private Members' time normally ends at 4.30 p.m. By the suspension of Standing Order No. 14 my understanding of the intention of the House - certainly my interpretation, my understanding was that by the suspension of the Standing Order Question Time continues beyond 3.15 p.m. to the end of private time, namely 4.30 p.m.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I must repeat that I understood that the motion was for 4 o'clock. Then I was told no, that the motion of the Leader of the House was indefinite. I do not mind if you go on or not go on, but it was as plain as daylight because I corrected the word in my motion.

Even if I may appear to be correcting Your Honour, Question Time is not Private Members' Business. Any member of the Government can get up and ask a question. My reply to the hon. junior member for St. Thomas will be mild and polite. It does not matter to me whether we go on with Private Members' Business. Nothing has been decided on that.
4.05 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: It is a practical issue, Mr. Speaker, which arises out of the present circumstances. I understand that we do have one or two more Questions for which replies are ready, but the hon. members who asked them are not present in their seats. In view of this, we cannot continue with Question Time and I would suggest that Question Time has really come to an end on this occasion. There is no reason why we should not revert to Private Members' Business until 4.30 p.m.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I make this appeal to the Leader of the House. If we had put off Question Time because we had started late, automatically we should put off everything else, including dinner. If you change 3.30 to 4.00; change 4.30 to 5.00; and change 7.00 to 7.30. That is only fair. Why should you deprive members of their time for Private Members' Business?

Mr. SPEAKER: Let hon. members understand that my Ruling is that, as a result of the suspension of Standing Order 14 today, Question Time which normally would end at 3.15 would go on if there were Questions to carry on with, of course, until 4.30 p.m., which would be the expiration of Private Members' Business. I am saying that that is my interpretation and my Ruling as to the suspension of Standing Order 14. That is all I am saying; but if hon. members do

not want to proceed with Question Time and to proceed with other business - there is a Question in the name of the hon. member for St. Peter.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I do not want to question your Ruling, but it strikes me as very strange that we are dealing with two things: Question Time and Private Members' Time. If you are going to suspend Question Time to a particular time, it should not be for you to rule that it should go to 4.30 p.m. because it would encroach on the time for Private Members' Business. Private Members have agreed to give up some of their time, but not all of it; so let us carry on now with Private Members' Business until 4.30 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make one observation. My friend, the hon. member for St. Joseph, does not seem to appreciate that Question Time is Private Members' Time. The Questions are asked by Private Members in the Chamber and answered by the Government. Now, certain hon. members are not here and we cannot answer the Questions, although we have replies for them. Hon. members on the other side cannot come over here and do Government Resolutions. We have the replies, but the members on the other side who asked them are not present. Our answering Questions on this side is conditioned by the presence of members on the other side.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Peter is here, and there are two Questions, I understand, for which answers are laid and the Questions are in his name. If that hon. member does not want to proceed -

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, before I proceed to Question No. 152, I think it may be appropriate to draw Your Honour's attention to the fact that at page 5, left hand corner, today's Order Paper, Question No. 72 was asked by me almost one year ago on the 27th June, and the only reply that I have received, so far to any part of that Question, is what came from the lips of the Minister of Labour not many minutes ago when he pointed out that when the Barbados Workers' Union was trying to get into the garment industry at Grazettes it discovered that the employers were unwilling to let their employees become members of the trade union.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is either that the hon. member's eye-sight is worse than mine or *vice versa*, but I have that on page 3, and that is what is worrying me.

Mr. HINDS: It is on page 5, but my Order Paper is dated a different date from Your Honour's

Mr. SPEAKER: Mine is dated 18th June. The hon. member is simply drawing attention to the fact that no answer has been laid for that Question. Does the Hon. member want to proceed with Question No. 152 standing in his name?

Mr. HINDS: Yes, if the Minister is ready. The question is in respect of the Parent Teachers' Association. I am sure that this will go on beyond 4.30 p.m.

It is a lengthy question, and I have quite a number of supplementaries, which are very pertinent, that I would like Your Honour's permission to ask.

Mr. SPEAKER: Of course I do not know how satisfactory to the hon. member will be the answers.

Mr. HINDS: The Minister of Education will give the answers, Sir.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think we had given an undertaking to the hon. member that the supplementaries could be held over. I do not have the file here at the moment; so I would not be able to assist him with any supplementary questions which he may ask arising out of the answers. I take it that notice has now been given that he wishes to pursue the matter, and I will bring along the file next week.

Mr. HINDS: Thank you. There is another question about the Mental Hospital and a policeman beating his wife.

Mr. SPEAKER: What is the number? Is it No. 42? In the case of the two members who are not present, I will allow the answers to stand over this meeting, but I hope that arrangements will be made for other members to take care of all of these Questions at the next meeting at Question Time.
4.15 p.m.

Apparently there are no more questions which hon. members are willing to deal with now, other than those which I have allowed to stand over.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I am merely drawing to Your Honour's attention that the clock is fast, just as the Public Buildings clock is fast by Greenwich Mean Time. Your Honour did not rule on a previous occasion what time we go by, but the Public Buildings' clock has for some time been two minutes fast. It is now saying or about to say a quarter after four.

Mr. SPEAKER: Would the Hon. Leader of the Opposition care to say what is the time by his watch and I will tell him whether it agrees with the Speaker's time?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: It is just fifteen minutes and thirty seconds after four o'clock.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid the hon. member's chronometer is two minutes slow, according to the time of the Chair. Would the hon. member please set his watch?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I have been told that this make watch is guaranteed by the makers to be slow or fast two minutes in a year.

Mr. SPEAKER: And the Hon. Leader of the House suggests that this is the day.

We have arrived at the stage where there are no more questions proposed to be discussed, and we re-

vert to Private Members' Business, the first Order of which is to resume debate on the Budget Resolution, and when the debate was last adjourned the hon. senior member for St. Joseph was on his feet, He is now perfectly entitled to resume.

RESOLUTION RE BUDGETARY PROPOSALS

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, on the last occasion, I think I ended on the point I was making relative to National Insurance. The Hon. Minister was not in his place then and I am proud to see him now. I will not repeat all I have said, but I will continue on points which I did not make on the last occasion.

I had already made the point with respect to salesmen in this country canvassing supermarkets and so on for orders to deliver eggs and poultry from Trinidad, and I asked the Government at the time what they were doing in the matter since it is true. After I mentioned it, sir, some of the poultry dealers here confirmed what I said, and they said that the product from abroad was being offered at a price cheaper than they could sell it here. The Government should go into this matter and not allow these people to come here and push our local dealers outside. I understand that Trinidad has done and is doing their utmost to help the poultry dealers there by subsidising the feed to help them to compete with other countries. I wonder if the Minister is willing to do likewise here or whether he is going to sit back and allow everything to go to ruin just as at the beginning of the crop season when we nearly had all the canes burnt down before the Government did anything. But I will get to that later.

Now I also understand that the Poultry Breeders Association had approached the Minister since February asking for help, and up to now nothing has been done.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, I would like the hon. member to say which Minister, because there are two Ministries concerned in this matter, and certainly it is not mine.

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The reason I rose on a point of order is because I am Minister of Agriculture responsible for poultry industry; and there is the Minister responsible for Trade. I want to know which Minister the Poultry Breeders approached.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, it appears that the Minister is very touchy. Is he only responsible for Agriculture and not the Government? Do you mean he has nothing to do with anything else in the country apart from Agriculture? If he can do any good, say, in the Ministry of Communications or the Ministry of Trade, is he nothing to do with it? What kind of Cabinet is this? As I said, Sir, the Poultry Breeders Association approached the Ministry for help so that they would be able to supply their product much cheaper to the consumer, because the price of feed

especially since devaluation of the pound, is causing great concern in that industry like most industries, and yet since February nothing has been done. I cannot remember the date the letter was sent but I do not think a reply has been given to them.

Now, Sir, if we want to help the people of this country, both the consumer and the producer, the Government has to do just as Trinidad and I presume the other countries are doing, that is, do everything possible to help. These people can fly over from Trinidad and come into our little island to offer much cheaper poultry and eggs. We want them cheaper; but if that is being done, then it is tantamount to telling the people here who are already operating to pull up their stakes, although the Government will still be saying that we cannot encourage unemployment. 4.25 p.m.

Every little "nay nay" industry they try to let come in here - I see, Sir, that you are looking very surprised when I say "nay nay", but the Prime Minister referred to it the last time when he was here, and if the Prime Minister can say "nay nay", then I should be saying "no no". (Laughter)..

Mr. SPEAKER: I am wondering how that will appear in the *Official Gazette*.

Mr. SMITH: The Prime Minister used it, and if the *Official Gazette* did not take three or four months before it comes out, I am sure you will have seen that word "nay nay" used by the Prime Minister at the last meeting.

Mr. SPEAKER: I wish it was only three or four months.

Mr. SMITH: Is it more, Sir? If the Government allows that state of affairs, the Poultry Breeders' Association will have to quit. Would that be fair to them? The Government must do something. I understand that they are losing money now. I will not tell them to stop the importation because if it is coming in cheaply, I will gain; but at the same time when I am making full use of a cheap leg, there will be some families who cannot even see a feather. In other words, when you and I will be able to buy a cheap chicken leg, the people here who have been put out of work, will not be able even to see a feather. I would not like to see that I am getting nice, cheap legs - mean fowl ones - (Laughter) while other people cannot even get a fowl's back. (Hon. N.W. BOXILL: Fowls or chickens?) Mr. Speaker, I want you to speak to the hon. junior member for St. Thomas and tell him not to interrupt me when I am speaking.

Mr. SPEAKER: At least he should not let me hear him.

Mr. SMITH: It might be the canopy there which takes away the sound from there.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member need not be so modest. What he was talking about interests me greatly.

Mr. SMITH: Sir, the Minister was all in a hurry to jump up and say that he wanted to know which Minister I was referring to, but why did he not jump up and say: "Not so, neither the Government nor anybody in the Government knows anything about this approach or about this letter being sent raising a distress flag and asking for help"? Why does he not deny that now? Although I would doubt that he would. When we come to this CARIFTA, Free Trade Area or something of the sort, we stand to lose from that. Trinidad can bring in their supplies here and put us out of commission.

At this stage, it now being 4.30 p.m. of the clock,

Mr. SPEAKER: We have now come to CARIFTA at 4.30 o' clock p.m. (*Laughter*). When the consideration of Private Members' Business comes to an end.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day under Government Business stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House:-

To move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of the Island.

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

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1968-69 No. 3

A Resolution for the sum of \$124,000 was called.

HEAD 16 - PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

ERECTION OF A MEMORIAL

Head 16 - Prime Minister's Office - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 16 - Prime Minister's Office - Item 29 (New) - Erection of a Memorial - for the sum of \$4,000 stand part of the Schedule. In truth and in fact, this is merely a revote of a sum which was passed by Resolution No. 12/1968 under which funds were provided in February of this year for meeting the cost of beautifying the site of the late Sir Frank Worrell's grave which is at Cave Hill, but the money could not be beneficially utilised before the end of the financial year, with the result that the \$4,000 lapsed and we are asking for this money to be revoted so as to carry through the work during the financial year. I beg to move that this Head stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 40 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

ERADICATION OF YELLOW FEVER MOSQUITO

Head 40 - Ministry of Health and Community Development was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in moving the passing of this Head which is for the sum of \$120,000 to supplement the amount which was included in the Estimates for the continuation of the eradication of the Aedes Aegypti Mosquito, I think it is only fair and right that I should give a little background very briefly to hon. members who have not had very many years experience in here, and who may want to hear something about this campaign. The Aedes Aegypti Campaign was started in 1956 as part of a regional approach to eradicate this mosquito from the Caribbean area and from the South American continent, and it was sponsored by the Pan American Health Organization, the World Health Organization, and the UNICEF and the respective Governments of the area. The UNICEF supplied insecticides and, in some cases, vehicles used in the Campaign. The Pan American Health Organization supplied the expert technical advice, vehicles, insecticides and the main form of equipment which is sprayed cans. Of course, this Government has always been responsible for the cost of the local personnel and the cost of transport. 4.35 p.m.

Between 1956 and 1965 it was run on an island wide basis; but in 1965 the Government reduced its contribution, and certain retrenchments in the way of personnel became necessary, and the campaign was then confined to the St. Michael and Christ Church areas where the breeding of the mosquito was most persistent.

Only one spray gun was used to cover the other areas of the island, and during the course of the whole of that period the volume of breeding of the Aedes Egypti mosquito was very much reduced, but complete eradication was never achieved. That brings us up to date as to now.

Therefore, Sir, the supplementary Resolution in the sum of \$120,000 which we are asking the House to vote here today is for carrying on the campaign in a more expanded form. As the note sets out, for a number of reasons the Aedes Aegypti Eradication Campaign has so far had only limited success. It is considered that an expanded programme is necessary if satisfactory results are to be attained.

It is proposed that the Programme should be put in charge of a Chief Public Health Inspector who will be assisted by 3 Public Health Inspectors as regional supervisors, and a field force of 15 squad leaders and 75 aedes inspectors instead of the present field force of 8 supervisors and 50 inspectors.

Plans for an intense three (3) year drive have therefore been drawn up in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organisation, and the additional funds required are to assist with the financing of this new effort during its first year of operation.

Further assistance is expected from PAHO throughout the implementation of the new proposals.

Of course everyone knows that the *Aedes Egypti* carries Yellow Fever. If there are any further questions or any further information I will give it. I merely say that we will now increase the staff, and a training course is now in progress for the 75 new Inspectors whom we expect to be carrying on the campaign. From the 1st July we expect to launch the campaign as such and the new Inspectors are being trained so that they will be *au fait* with their duties, and from the 1st July we will be ready to start actively the campaign on an island-wide basis, and not only in St. Michael and Christ Church.

I beg to move that Head 40 Item 164 stand part.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, I for one will support this Resolution; but while I support this I should also like to make some observations. What forcibly strikes me is that this Addendum says at No. 2 that for a number of reasons the *Aedes Aegypti* Eradication Campaign has so far had only limited success. It is considered that an expanded programme is necessary if satisfactory results are to be attained.

From the Minister's comments, Sir, it would appear as if this campaign was going on for the past twelve years. For what reason we have had only limited success over a period of 12 years I must confess is a question that the Minister will have to answer.

I am quite sure that all Barbadians will hate to know today that some reckless journalist ever put one single item in a newspaper, either local or abroad, that there is an outbreak of Yellow Fever or that there is only one case of Yellow Fever reported in Barbados because from one of the Prime Minister's recent statements he said where the economic power of Barbados will soon lie in the hands of tourism; and if such a report came out in a newspaper, one could rest assured that every hotel in Barbados would certainly be closed down overnight.

If the Hilton Hotel would be closed I do not know, because reading the New Commonwealth only recently I discovered that the Prime Minister said that it was never built as a commercial enterprise - that is one of the most amazing things I have ever seen - that it was built so as to give hoteliers in the outside world an incentive to build hotels in Barbados. I know that he could not be misquoted because it was an article written for this magazine in which other prominent

Commonwealth Prime Ministers also wrote for this magazine. So, as far as the Hilton having to close down is concerned, it does not matter because it is not a commercial venture.

But, Sir, what really bothers me is that the *Aedes Aegypti* is a domestic type of mosquito. He breeds primarily around houses and where there are vases of flowers or in places where clean water can be found. That is where you find him most. Like the Curepe, he also breeds in garbage, and the garbage disposal of this country, Mr. Chairman, is one of great importance.

It is one that can breed mosquitoes, and it can breed rats, and a recent thing now breeding is a thing known as culling where you find children and old people particularly going into dump heaps in search of refuse which they consider as good - good refuse out of refuse. It is not a good sight to take a stroll down Broad Street or any one of the side streets around this time and find children and old women culling.

If that is so and we have only had limited success over a period of 12 years that we have used the spraying system, there is also I believe another very important factor that Government must look at and correct and that is an incinerator for this country. 4.45 p.m.

In 1965 they gave it some consideration and, after an expensive search around Florida by some Health Inspectors and other persons that Government had sent up to Miami, it was decided that to have an incinerator for this country would cost approximately \$1 million.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order or explanation. I would just like to get the record straight. Government did not stand the expense of sending up the delegation. They went up at the expense of the makers of the incinerator.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, I thank the Hon. Minister for his very kind information, but I believe that it even makes my point stronger. If the makers are interested in putting an incinerator in Barbados to get rid of the garbage, if the makers are interested in putting an incinerator down here in the interest of Barbados, then what is the Barbados Government interested in?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member. It merely proves that the makers of the incinerator are interested in business. If they had sent it down here for \$3 million, it would be of interest.

Mr. CRAIG: I am quite sure, Sir, that the Hon. Minister would know that at that time it would not have cost \$3 million, but I am sure if it had been put down for \$3 million, it would have been better than giving C. B. C. \$2 1/2 million to fritter away. If the makers are interested in business, they are just like Thomson. He was interested in putting C. B. C. there when the Barbados Government was called upon to find \$2 1/2 million, while an incinerator, which should have been here to take care of the rats that carry a disease called jaundice and which would have taken care of the same *Aedes Aegypti*, was not provided for the people in this country. It would have cost \$3 million then, but the Government thought it would have been wiser to give C. B. C. \$2 1/2 million.

Another thing that strikes me is this. From where are the people who go around spraying recruited? As the Minister said, they are given a two-weeks' course, I am told. How can a man who is under the supervision of three Chief Public Health Inspectors, and then placed under the supervision of 15 squad leaders who, I believe, are the people who have worked on the campaign before, do a proper job? I am confident that the Minister will agree with me that the salaries which are paid to these 75 *Aedes* inspectors are so low that they cannot attract a suitable person to carry out the campaign and because of that the young men who go around spraying have found themselves in the very awkward position on several occasions where they make reports that there are no *Aedes* mosquitoes around.

On the other hand, these people are so inexperienced that only some time ago at Marine Gardens a lady by the name of Mrs. Hull had her house sprayed and \$300 worth of fish in her aquarium were destroyed. (*Asides.*) Whether she is black or white, I am not concerned with her colour. Whether she is a Barbadian or not, she was living in Barbados and fish in her aquarium valued at \$300 were destroyed because of the lack of knowledge on the part of these young men who do this job. They sprayed the woman's fish, and it cost her \$300. Unfortunately, she is not in a position to recover this money.

What I think is very, very important is that these people should be paid proper salaries in order to attract a better type of person with a better type of mentality to do the job. I am quite sure that along with the incinerator we would find ourselves in a position of not taking 13 years to eradicate these mosquitoes, which can knock the whole economic structure of the country off its legs by way of one single case of yellow fever reported - and, as the Minister says, the *Aedes Aegypti* carries yellow fever.

Quite recently we heard of three persons who got off a yacht on the West Coast and came into Barbados. They said that they were in Martinique and, because of the unrest in France, they got off at Paradise Beach or Coral Reef. Let us assume that one of these persons could have been carrying the disease of yellow fever. One single mosquito could have stung

that man during the night and caused a lot of trouble. It is not merely a question of spraying, but you will have to get rid of the garbage on the streets. You merely have to go through St. James and places on the West Coast where you have "A" Class Hotels, and you will see the condition of things. You can go into the villages: Sea View, Orange Hill, Carlton and so on and you will see garbage heaped up there for weeks. This is something that will have to be done on an Island-wide basis. My contention is that spraying is not the only thing to be done in order to control the mosquitoes. I have been reliably informed from a critical source that these mosquitoes also breed in garbage; therefore, an incinerator should be a priority so far as Barbados is concerned.

Mr. Chairman, you live in the Parish of St. John and you know of the conditions up there. I am quite sure that there is a dump in St. John, and when you pass there at night you have to hold your nose. You merely have to pass by Clapham to understand what I am talking about. Government should think of getting the help of the Pan American Health Organisation. The Minister said that the makers of the incinerator invited people to see the operation of the incinerator. It is now Government's duty not only to try to eradicate the mosquito by way of using spray guns, but also by installing an incinerator. That, I am quite sure, would be a credit to this country.

Mr. Chairman, I hope the Hon. Minister, knowing him as well as I do, will give me whatever information is at his disposal in relation to this matter, and I am confident that he will force the hands of Government as much as he can in order to see that there is a proper disposal of refuse in this country. 4.55 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I think that I can say that the Minister is in possession of an abundance of evidence which will bear out that his asking this House to vote this sum of money cannot be considered to be in the best interest of Barbados. The Minister ought to know that there are three things outstanding upon which the success of this type of campaign must depend. The Minister has come to us for money; but apart from money, Mr. Chairman, there is the need for administration. In addition to that, and very essential is the need for trained and efficient personnel.

Now the Minister must know that in Jamaica Dr. Peat, who was then Jamaica's Chief Medical Officer, after a campaign had been conducted for ten years at a cost of £45,000 per year trying to eradicate this same mosquito, was man enough and had the conscience to warn the Jamaica Government to abandon the campaign. Now we have been told, Mr. Chairman, that this spraying campaign has been carried on for years and, as the Addendum tells us, with limited success. Before the Minister decided to come and ask this House to vote \$120,000, did he set about to diagnose the cause for only limited success, or is it not one of those cases where money has been spent for a number of years in finding employment for a number of people, and you go on year after

year to find that even after this \$120,000 have been spent in its first year we will be faced in a second year with a request for more money with only limited success?

I have it here, Mr. Chairman, that on the 5th March, 1958, Dr. F. N. Grannum, who was Senior Medical Officer of Health in Barbados, said that an initial survey into the mosquito population in Barbados had revealed that there were 14 in every hundred houses which bred the mosquito. I am to wonder if the Minister can tell us on the eve of this new campaign what percentage of houses carry the mosquito, especially in the Christ Church and St. Michael areas, because however you look at these two parishes, when it comes to the question of housing and population, they are almost the whole of Barbados. You will find, Mr. Chairman, that it is not merely a question of coming here and asking for \$120,000.

Dr. Byer was our Chief Medical Officer here, and after the campaign had been going for quite a number of years, he found it absolutely necessary at one time to take stock, so to speak. I did not agree then with his method of stock-taking because, as I said at that time and will say now, he set out to take what we call a swipe at the general public, in that he attributed the lack of success to the unwillingness of the public to permit the spraying to go on inside their houses. But, Mr. Chairman, what was of very much importance at that particular time was that with a force of Public Health Inspectors of something like 80 strong, he charged that the Public Health Inspectors were not giving the fullest cooperation; but he had not one word to say about the 33 *Aedes Aegypti* Inspectors.

I am to say at this stage that one of the things that has caused our Public Health matters to be in the present state of erosion is that it has always been found that Public Health was taken and put into the hands of medical men. Now, Sir, Public Health is a preventive exercise; the medical man is concerned with the curative end of it; and if you put Public Health in the hands of medical men, there must be erosion at some particular point, and we have had an abundance of experience in this respect here in Barbados. When the Central Government in this Island decided to take over Public Health, one of the most important aspects or facets of Public Health still remained in the hands of the Interim Commissioner, and that is scavenging. They have not touched scavenging, and they do not intend to touch it; it is onerous, it is smelly, and it is on account of not having people specially trained in Public Health matters to administer these Public Health schemes that Barbados has always been doomed to failure in matters of Public Health.

Now, Mr. Chairman, you will find that money is one thing, but what we find is that the taxpayer as such does not really get to know that every request for a dollar through the medium of this Chamber is a request for a dollar out of the taxpayers' pockets. Hence, when the Minister gets up and tells you he wants \$120,000 to assist in eradicating the *Aedes Aegypti*

mosquito, the Minister knows or ought to know that he is asking for \$120,000 to play the possum, and we want to warn the Minister to open his eyes and ears. We appreciate all that Pan American Health Organisation, World Health Organisation or any other body might attempt to do for us. We are not unmindful of all they may try to do; but nevertheless there is no point taking all these experts and sending them down here to do all paper work. You want people who will come out and go alongside the Inspectors and train them.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of explanation, this is exactly what Pan American Health Organisation is doing. This present campaign will be supervised by three experts of Pan American Health Organisation who are at present engaged in training the personnel for the last two weeks, with another two weeks to run, making four weeks' training. Some of the old Inspectors are being trained to bring them up to date; all are not new.
5.05 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, it is an easy thing to teach children how to operate an old musket. When you want soldiers to go on the battlefield, they have to undergo a period of training in musketry. The Minister seems to think that this is a case of going and throwing mould on night soil. It is not that. The Minister has to be taught now; I have been listening to him, Mr. Chairman. Many of the Public Health Inspectors in this Island are people who underwent years of meticulous study in order to gain what they call their R. S. I. Certificate in those days. What is the Minister telling us now? That he can now take a man and train him for two weeks and then somebody gives him his presence for two weeks more? That is responsible for this very limited success with which we are faced in the notes in this Addendum.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, this whole campaign is being properly conducted. Do not let us be misled with wild statements of this kind. The whole thing is being run under Public Health Inspectors who have been properly trained and who have been seconded for this work. Over and above that, we have Pan American Health experts conducting and training them and bringing them up to a higher standard. There are a few additional people who might not be one hundred per cent Inspectors although they have been working for years in the *Aedes Aegypti* Campaign. There are one or two new ones. This debate can go on if you want it, but I have already given all the information.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the Minister gave us what information he had and I am now giving the Committee what information I have. That is what I am doing, and I am even giving the Minister some information. What is the Minister telling this Honourable House? All the Addendum to the Resolution tells us is that there will be three Public Health Inspectors who will work as Regional Supervisors. There will be a field force of 15 squad leaders, and then there will be another 75 *Aedes* Inspectors instead of the present field force of 8 Supervisors and 50

Inspectors. Mr. Chairman, the Addendum tells us that after a number of years the Government can only report limited success. I maintain that the success is limited because they do not have trained personnel; they did not have people with administrative ability; but they had money. I am telling you, Sir, that in Jamaica - and remember that in matters of Public Health training, Jamaica has always towered head and heels over us in Barbados, because I think it is still operative that our Public Health Inspectors go from here to Jamaica in order to receive some sort of training. That has been so for many years, even if it is not so today. You will understand, therefore, that in a place like Jamaica where they spend £45,000 per year, the Chief Medical Officer, after spending this money for ten years, told them that it was a waste of time and a drain on the Treasury, and he suggested to them that they should abandon it. In the face of these facts, and in the face of our own Minister, according to the notes in the Addendum to this Resolution, telling us that after all the years in this particular Campaign in this particular field with fifty Inspectors and 8 Supervisors - what the Minister might not be willing to admit is that in this Island we have people who are trained, efficient and qualified, people who have given their lives' work for Public Health, and the Government is unwilling to accept the advice, free gratis and for nothing from people - I mean dedicated people - who have served this community, and I believe that they sleep and breathe and dream of Public Health when they put their heads down in their beds at night.

There are people in this Community who, we are assured, have had the distinction of having to take some of these same World Health Organisation and Pan American Health Organization people when they come to Barbados and teach them the job of Public Health and teach them Public Health matters. What you will find, as has happened in the past, is that they will take a medical man and entrust to him Public Health matters. There will always be professional conflict, conflict of interests, and in all of these things the community stands to suffer. I do not, for one single moment, suggest to the Hon. Minister that he must tell the World Health Organisation or the Pan American Health Organization that they are not worrying with the Campaign now; no, Sir, it will look bad. They have already started it; but what we are trying to urge on the Minister is this, that he should see to it that the Barbados public gets the maximum benefit for the money which it is going to spend. Too often have we found that a Minister comes in here and makes a statement, and he feels that having made that statement, that should be an end of the matter. It is not so in this particular case because, Mr. Chairman, I well remember that after Dr. Byer had compounded his prescription without having diagnosed the case of the patient, I wrote in my newspaper at the time saying that it was the biggest piece of intellectual dishonesty that this Island had ever witnessed in matters of Public Health in this Island.

5.15 p.m.

I maintain so today in respect of Government coming to this House and asking us to vote \$120,000 before seeking, investigating, trying to diagnose the

cause why our success has got to be put down on paper after so many years as only limited.

I had asked earlier if the Minister would be willing to tell us at this stage in how many houses out of over 100 houses they were finding this mosquito. It is on the basis of that that we can then begin to discuss this matter in perhaps a little calmer atmosphere, because it is not merely because these organisations are lending us their support, but the question is can we eradicate the *Stegomyia fasciata* - the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito. Can we eradicate it?

My contention is that we are wasting precious time. The approach that can guarantee us success, because the Barbados Government is just a sort of appendage to the Pan American Health Organisation and the World Health Organisation. The Barbados Government is putting up \$120,000, but they are not masters of the situation in this battle to eradicate the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito. We are just baggage men, baggage carriers, so to speak.

The Government does not - I repeat - does not possess anybody, any qualified officer at Enmore or wherever you go in this island. The Government does not have the personnel sufficiently equipped to carry out Public Health matters generally if we are to achieve the maximum success at this stage.

It is for that reason that the scheme will for ever fail. If the Government cannot get the proper advice, it is to be expected that every move the Government makes in matters of Public Health will be wrong. You will know, Mr. Chairman, when the roof of a house is leaking, a bundle of shingles might be necessary or part of a bundle. You do not go searching for a motor mechanic; you get a carpenter.

But, Sir, the Government here has gone on throughout the years and the most remarkable thing is this; that our local people who give their lives to promoting public health, what did they receive in turn? They were being ignored, and their advice ignored. The parish of St. Michael, Sir, had the services of a Chief Public Health Officer who, I remember, years ago made a Report for the benefit of the Government on Public Health matters.

We then had an American Consular Officer here, and the American Consular Officer got hold of a copy of that Report and passed it on to Washington, and a host of inquiries came to Barbados. They wanted to get copies of that particular Report that had been prepared by the Chief Public Health Officer that we had in Barbados, in St. Michael.

Copies of that Report were sent to Washington, and many of the things that you find now being worked upon in the files of the World Health Organisation and the Pan American Health Organisation are based on what was in that Report by a little man from Barbados. But in Barbados itself the Report was held to be of no value whatever to any one.

This is the type of thing you find. People dedicate their lives to this kind of work. Public Health is something that one should not go into because of its remunerative rewards. In Public Health a person

has got to be dedicated. It is a life's work. It is not a job. People have got to burn the midnight oil, so to speak. They have got to become familiar with every sort of disease and disease carrier, and that is exactly what some who have been in Public Health for many years have been able to do.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are appealing to the Minister not to be merely taken up by any grandiose scheme by these organisations, by these various bodies; but it is imperative that we look at, that we examine ourselves to see to what extent, to see where we have fallen down or where we have not.

You will understand that I have got again to ask exactly how serious is the Minister, because the Minister told us here, standing on his feet, that the Government found it necessary in 1965 to reduce its contribution to this *Aedes Aegypti* campaign. We are to wonder if the same Minister will jump to his feet again and explain what led the Government to take that action in 1965.

5.25 p.m.

If Government found it necessary to reduce its contribution to this programme in 1965, then let us know now what has happened between 1965 and today to make the Minister come here and ask us to vote \$120,000 to assist in one year's vote in this particular campaign. I am sure, Mr. Chairman, that the Minister cannot say it is not a reasonable request. If this Honourable House was told in 1965: "We are reducing the amount of money we have been spending in eradicating the *Aedes Aegypti*", then what would have been the position? For that matter, if in 1965 the Government found that it had achieved so much success, I am sure that it would not have proved itself so abysmally ignorant of Public Health matters as to have said it has so eradicated the mosquito that it could reduce the amount.

We feel that any Government that by the end of 1965 had found that it had achieved so much success, at least for a year or two would not have attempted to reduce the amount by one cent and it would have carried on with its contribution. We also feel that it is the Minister's duty now to rise and let us know what happened in 1965 to cause him to reduce the amount, and what has happened since then to cause him to come to the House to ask us to vote \$120,000 for this particular campaign. These are the things with which we are concerned.

Now comes the question of breeding, or the breeding period for the mosquito. We want to repeat that it is not within the province of the medical man to go into such minute details. This is the subject of study; for the man concerned with Public Health. That is what the Minister should tell us about. I would like to know what information the Minister has on the breeding period. Is it a case where we are going to engage in the spraying type of campaign that has failed in Jamaica, that has failed everywhere, and has failed in Barbados for 10 years and more? Are we going to continue with the spraying campaign under this new set-up?

Mr. Chairman, it is no question of serving old wine to the old type of mosquito. If you were to apply

this to our own day-to-day life, you would find that you will take home some kind of insecticide to spray ants or house pests, and you will go home and find at times that it will be necessary to drown a particular type of insect in order to get rid of him.

Let us look now at the other side of the fence. Let us look at the yellow fever mosquito. Its presence at any stage is likely to cause alarm, and it can cost Barbados a large sum of money - not only \$120,000 a year; it could cost us that in a minute. The presence of this mosquito, as the hon. senior member for St. James has already said, can cause economic distress; it can bring our tourist industry to nothing. Do you not think, Mr. Chairman, that the Government is to be looked upon in the terms of being neglectful and to some extent wicked in toying with a matter which could have such dangerous and dreadful proportions?

Mr. Chairman, time and time again, matters of this sort have come up to be dealt with by the present Government. It is only when the Government is goaded into action and driven that one can find the Government making an attempt to do something. Now, Dr. Byer blamed the members of the public for not co-operating. Are we to find that, again, we are to be told to throw our doors open to an Inspector? I must say that they are called Inspectors, but after a man has had two weeks' training we are called upon to throw our doors open and welcome him. He is not doing community service because he does not know what he is doing.

We feel that if success is to be achieved, then it will call for more than the Minister has told us. Now, Sir, we are going to have 75 Inspectors; 15 Squad Leaders, and 3 Public Health Inspectors. Who is going to be at the head of them? You have one Chief Public Health Inspector, and you will find that days and months may roll over before either of the 3 Public Health Inspectors who will be the Regional Supervisors, or the Chief Public Health Inspector, will see one of the 75 field force to know what they are doing.

5.35 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, all these Inspectors could have learnt in two weeks is the amount of book work that is going to be involved in the campaign. We want to hear from the Minister what additional information he has on this very vital matter, because it is not merely a matter of voting money to eradicate mosquitoes. What assurance can he give us that the percentage of breeding is going to be reduced by the spending of this \$120,000 in one year? What guarantee has he got? If he had trained personnel, equipment and administrative machinery, we feel that the Minister would set about searching himself and give us some indication of what is to be expected by the end of the year, but he has been given charge of this Resolution for \$120,000, he puts it before the House and moves that the Resolution do now pass.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I went to the trouble of giving a background to this entire *Aedes Aegypti* campaign from back down

In 1956, and imagine the hon. member saying that I merely came and asked to vote the money! I gave the background from 1956 to the campaign which had been started by the Barbados Labour Party Government when they were in office. It is nothing new. We carried it on from their time and concentrated on two parishes, but with the help of Pan American Health experts, we are expanding the programme to tackle it and try to eradicate it altogether. With one breath the hon. member says we are wasting money, and with another breath he says we should do more. He does not seem to understand what was said apparently.

Mr. HINDS: The Minister got up and made mention of eradicating this mosquito. I want to ask the Minister to re-examine the whole scheme of things and tell this House if he is serious when he speaks of eradicating the mosquito, or whether he is not more concerned and does he not feel within himself that he should tell the House that they are attempting to control the breeding of the mosquito. The question of eradicating the mosquito will never be accomplished, and the Minister ought to know that. Evidently they do not know the meaning of words. Ask yourself this question, Mr. Chairman. For more than ten years you have been fighting and doing everything, and on your own admission you say there has only been limited success. In 1965, Mr. Chairman, just over two years ago, the situation looked so hopeless that you decided amongst yourselves that it was a waste of money, and the Government was not going to give the amount which it had been giving in the past years. It is on the strength of that evidence that we are to examine this case. You want \$120,000 now. I am willing to sit down at this stage and hear what the Minister has got to say on what led him to reduce their contribution in 1965, and to tell us at this stage before they enter on the new campaign in how many houses out of every hundred do they expect to find the breeding of this mosquito. I said earlier what Dr. Byer found in his day and what was his Report, and also Dr. Grannum's Report. Let us hear what the Minister has to say now.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Chairman, speaking on this Resolution which concerns the programme of the Pan American Health Organisation and which is to try to eradicate the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito, I can assure you that in this Island of Barbados we have to be thankful, because I scarcely hear of any yellow fever cases. I have heard so much this afternoon about this campaign, but the thing I was listening to hear I have not heard. Now as long as there is a world, a war will have to be declared by every living human being in the world against the pests that exist. We have to fight against and try to eradicate these evils from taking over. I am calling on every citizen of this Island to co-operate with the Sanitary Inspectors in fighting against the pests that exist today.

Some years ago I was Chairman of the Public Health Committee in the Northern District Council, Mr. Chairman, and I found out the cause of the breeding of rats, mosquitoes and flies. In visiting the hotels, I saw large cans of waste food and waste

matter which were transported from the hotels to the dump heaps, and that is where the flies and rats were breeding.

5.45 p.m.

We are trying to eradicate them in one way and they are increasing them in the other way. (Laughter). We are fighting our best to get rid of the mosquitoes, flies and rats, and the big people today are feeding them. What are they feeding them with? With food which should be fed to pigs or buried. As long as you allow the people of Barbados to throw this stuff and filth and refuse against the street, you will always find flies and mosquitoes and rats. All the stuff should be buried, and when we bring down legislation to cause people to bury the stuff and all the refuse or burn it, that is the only possible means of eradicating such evils. When we talk about the Sanitary Inspectors, if the people do not cooperate with the Sanitary Inspectors, that is where the evil is existing. The Sanitary Inspectors do not go out into the jungles, and you can say that the mosquitoes breed in the jungles too. Along with the World Health Organisation which is coming down here to begin the campaign to find out whether we have the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito in this Island or not, I am asking the whole of Barbados to cooperate with these people. If the hon. junior member for St. Peter has said that the Public Health inspectors are not qualified, which I have not seen, well, let the qualified ones come and help us.

Do you think that this sum of \$120,000 is as much as the people of Barbados? If we have to assist that campaign with \$120,000 in order to help search for this kind of evil, is that too much for us to pay out? That is not so much. We are fighting against an army or armies of evil. We are fighting these pests which we see around - the rats, mosquitoes flies and all of these pests - and we say that there is a limited success. Mr. Chairman, do you know why it is a limited success. I will tell the hon. junior member for St. Peter that as long as the world lasts, we have to fight this evil and that is why there is a limited success. We must continue this fight right on and on until the end of the world. Do not let us feel that we will fight it today and not tomorrow. We have to try and cut down the percentage of the evils; otherwise they will take over and we will come down. It is a battle which we are fighting, and the only possible means of success is to allow the householders to assist and see that they wash and keep their water barrels clean at least once a week. Wherever water is caught and it is stagnant, they should try to get rid of it. Wherever there is stuff, instead of throwing it against the street, they should have it burnt or buried. That is the only possible means of getting rid of the evil of housing the mosquitoes. We ourselves are encouraging it. Any time you see that a person has filth or stuff or waste matter around his or her home, it is that person who is encouraging the evil. Mr. Chairman, until legislation comes into force to use drastic measures on every householder to see that he or she has his or her stuff burnt or buried, we will have this evil. You go through the street, and in certain alleys you will see the onions and the various kinds of fruits which have been spoilt, all strewn

along the street. I am scornful to see the flies coming up in the air when one passes; they are enough to strangle you, and people do not have a can or some other container to transport this stuff to the various dumping heaps. I am sure that unless we assist and try to help the Public Health Inspectors, this evil will continue to exist.

Mr. Chairman, I do not see that there is any reason for criticising the expenditure of this \$120,000. This Money will be spent and we will see the benefit of it at some time. You have Inspectors here, and the first thing that an Inspector has to learn is the difference between the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito, which causes the yellow fever, and the other mosquito. He has to know one mosquito from the other, and as soon as he knows one mosquito from the other, he is a master. All he has to do is to try his best and destroy it. He must use as much spray as he can and kill these pests. Sometime ago, I went to Wanstead. I was called there, and the first thing I saw was flies piled up for about two or three inches on the surface of the earth. What was the cause of that? All the waste matter, waste food and so on, was sent from the stores and piled up there. The flies were like a smokescreen when they went up into the air. I had to stand a distance away from them. We have caused that, whereas that stuff should have been buried. We talk about having an incinerator and we need one. If they are not going to bury the stuff, then we need an incinerator, and that is the only possible means of getting rid of all the evil which is existing. What we should bury, we keep on the surface of the earth. Wherever there is a can, a bottle or whatever it may be, with stagnant water, let us try and get rid of it. If we want to have a healthy community, then we have to try and assist the Inspector at every hand. They will die as well as we will die as long as that kind of evil is existing. I am hoping that in this campaign which is going on, they will search in every street, in every lane, and in every crevice in order to get rid of this *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito. I hope they will search under the shelves, under the beds, in the water in the barrel - wherever these mosquitoes are. Mr. Chairman, I have much pleasure in supporting a Resolution of this nature.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, some years ago when the World Health Organisation made this recommendation for the eradication of the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito, I was a member of this House and I was Chairman of the then Commissioners of Health of St. Michael, which I had been for about fifteen years. I will repeat what I said then. I am one of those people who do not think that people's health can be measured in pounds, shillings and pence; but I am also one of those people who believe that you have to be guarded in your expenditure, even although you are dealing with the health of a community. The sum of \$120,000 might sound small in dealing with the eradication of the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito, but I am sure that the Minister would like to tell me a few simple things which I will enquire of him. The common mosquito, the *Anopheles*, which buzzes around you at night and which breeds in stagnant water and so on, I think that that has always been with us; but the *Aedes Aegypti*

mosquito, I am told by the authorities and experts, is the mosquito which carries yellow fever. Yellow fever in parts of the Caribbean - I am thinking of Haiti, it actually won a war there. You can go into St. Paul's Churchyard and you can still see some of the tombstones, of people who died of yellow fever. Until scientists discovered that yellow fever was carried by the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito, it was felt that a lot of these houses here in the Cheapside area or in the Bay Street area should not be interfered with because if you interfered with them, the dust, just as in the time of cholera, would affect you and you would get yellow fever or what is commonly called Dengue fever.

When I was Chairman of the Public Health Committee and before that, Chairman of the Commissioners of Health of St. Michael, every Friday morning the Chief Public Health Officer, the Medical Officer - it must be understood that men are trained in medicine and then they branch out in Public Health - who is appointed by the Government or his Assistant - and they have been medically-trained men - together with the Chief Inspectors would bring in to us all the reports and we would follow the reports for each parish, I would say in those days, as to what was happening. Why I am surprised about this money today is that I have been told - and I have read - that the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito is not a mosquito, contrary to what the last speaker has said, which breeds in stagnant water or anything of the sort. It breeds in clean water. Within recent months, we have not been getting a tremendous amount of rain in this country. I cannot think of any obstruction recently, since the law was made clear and known to everybody, by anyone preventing inspectors or the lads who were trained to detect the *Anopheles* mosquito from the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito from doing their job. I would say with quite a sense of responsibility, that the difficulty has been, and we have discovered it, that on several occasions where a youngster had been appointed to look up and inspect and find the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito, when he reported on such matters and the officers who were experienced went behind him, they found out that the mosquitoes were the ordinary mosquitoes and not the *Aedes Aegypti*.

5.55 p.m.

This resulted that I think there was a man from Trinidad who was working with Dr. Senn, at the time working with the World Health Organisation. He gave lectures and demonstrations pointing out the difference between the type of larvae and mosquitoes which they would find breeding in vases, in tins outside where people would put a few old paint tins, on shelves and the like, but not in stagnant water as has been suggested by the last speaker.

I think that I have made myself clear. It is not £. s. d. that I value but I think of the people's health, but what I would like to know is: will the Minister tell me or tell this House having asked now for an additional \$120,000 - Dengue Fever and Yellow Fever are compulsorily reportable diseases - can the Minister tell us now, or if he has not got it there, tell us later how many such cases have been reported within recent

months as compared with the last year or the last two or three years? All Dengue or Yellow Fever cases have to be reported, and the Director of Medical Services must have these at his finger tips.

It is compulsory that doctors in this island must report these cases. It is known by medical science that yellow fever is carried by the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito. If it has been found that there has been such an increase in reports of yellow fever or Dengue Fever within the last two or three years, I would say "yes" I have been a sufferer of Dengue Fever myself and it is not anything nice. I would say "Yes" immediately the Government is right to come for this; not just to say, to ask for the \$120,000 because you are increasing staff.

I repeat, Mr. Chairman, that when I was Chairman of the Board I remember well that every Friday morning we would go into this matter, and this incidence of the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito had been reduced to something below two per cent. The comparison was made every year, every month, every week, and we found that it had been tremendously reduced.

What has caused it now to be so increased that you have to ask for more money to pay such additional staff? This idea of not getting cooperation can be given the damndest lie that you have ever heard. Householders of this country have given and are giving cooperation in this matter. People have been lecturing. Inspectors and Public Health Officers have been lecturing to people of the danger of having utensils left with water that can breed *Aedes Aegypti* mosquitoes.

There was one difficulty which we faced when I first started, and that was from the type of person going around who, because he was invested with some authority, felt that he could be impolite to people when he went to their houses and wanted to spray. When this hurdle was got over everything went smoothly, and then, I repeat, less than two per cent of the cases have been reported.

While I am willing to vote for the Resolution, surely this House is entitled to know if you have got such an increase in yellow fever or Dengue Fever - and I repeat that you are bound to know because the medical officers are bound by the law of this country to report it to the Director of Medical Services and it has got to be reported to the Ministry. Therefore this House should know now what has been the increase.

If the increase is such, I am still worried because this is not any question of nasty water. This is not any question of garbage or anything of the sort and the Minister knows that. This is not garbage or anything of the sort. It is a fresh water thing. They live in vases, and they live in houses and outside, and as far as I am concerned, while I am prepared to vote for this today, what I can say is that up to 1965 - and the Minister cannot deny this - up to 1965 this was a tremendous success, and I challenge any Medical Officer, be he Vaughan-Wells or anyone else, to say that it was not. Those were the figures shown then. What is happening now that it is not a success? What has happened?

This is not a question of garbage disposal or anything of the sort. Is it a question of building new houses or whatever the case may be? I do not know. Will the Minister let us know? Particularly I want to know the incidence of Dengue or/ and yellow fever as reported. I repeat that that is what the Minister should tell us.

With all these people you are taking on now, to the average person like myself larvae are larvae. We do not know the difference between the *Anopheles* and the *Aedes Aegypti*, and unless these young men are trained by Public Health Inspectors you are wasting time. I remember that before my time in this House we had a Malaria campaign carried on here and a wonderful job was done by our trained Inspectors here in Barbados who all qualified themselves to do this job.

In the circumstances I am sure that the Minister will like to tell me the answers to the question I have asked and enlighten us on the matter so that we can vote freely, with a free conscience, for this \$120,000.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, with reference to the last remarks I have heard from the member who has just sat down, when I read the Addendum I was frankly amazed. I remember when I was coming back here that in the course of a conversation with the then Premier asking how the campaign was coming on, he gave figures and he said that we had succeeded to a great extent. I was just amazed.

I got up only to urge, to accompany the member who has just sat down, in asking the Minister to tell us what is the percentage of success from the year it started until now. I can hardly imagine that the then Premier would tell me the reverse of what was the truth.
6.05 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I think it is my duty, first of all, to assure the House that the incidence of yellow fever is almost non-existent, and it is under complete control. It is not that any increase has taken place. The incidence of yellow fever is very low. I cannot give you the exact figures, but, speaking from memory, I think there have been three cases over the last two or three years. The main reason for bringing this Resolution here is that Barbados is now a member of Pan American Health Organisation, and a big campaign is being conducted throughout the entire area in order, I again repeat, to attempt to eradicate the *Aedes Aegypti* mosquito. If you can control the breeding, you can control the eradication. One member spoke of controlling the breeding, and that is a way of eradicating. Apparently the hon. member has been well briefed.

The hon. junior member for St. Peter, apparently, has someone in mind who can be of great assistance in this campaign. Nobody is debarring him. If he wants to apply, his application will be given due consideration, and for that reason I would give him an interview tomorrow. If you have a man who can assist, then send him forward. Nobody is saying that our experts do not need assistance. We have three

specially trained Pan American Health Experts in Public Health conducting this present campaign, and we have conducted a Training Course for Public Health Officers for the first time in recent years for the entire Caribbean. I think it was a 4-months' Course which has recently been completed; so to get up and say that we have wasted the taxpayers' money is not right.

For the first time more Nurses are being trained; Public Health Inspectors are being trained; Ward Assistants are being trained; Matrons and everybody are being trained for the first time. I will read from my file for the benefit of hon. members. We are now a member of the Pan American Health Organisation, and a big campaign is being conducted throughout the entire Caribbean and the Americas. As a result of Resolution 18, which has been approved by the 17th Meeting of the Executive Council of Pan American Health Organisation which was held in Trinidad in October, 1967 - the Resolution reads:-

"That the Executive Council affirms its conviction that the areas still infested with *Aedes Aegypti* constitute a serious threat to countries and territories that have already eradicated the mosquito, as repeated reinfestations that have occurred in several countries in the Hemisphere indicate.

For that reason the Governing Body of the Organisation is convinced that the success of the Continental Eradication Campaign can only be assured if all sources of reinfestation in the Americas are promptly eliminated, and again call upon the Governments of countries that are still infested to do everything in their power to achieve eradication of the vector as soon as possible."

Now, I want to assure the House again, because unless you say one thing about ten times some members do not seem to appreciate what is said. The incidence of *Aedes Aegypti* has decreased infinitesimally - it is almost non-existent. We have trained personnel. We have Experts from Pan American Health Organisation. Here is the base for Pan American Health Organisation; we have all of their experts assisting us, and we are making a determined effort with this \$120,000 and our trained personnel to eradicate the mosquito on this occasion for all times. It is only now that we were able to get the Pan American Experts to help us. I am not trying to fritter away the taxpayers' money; I am trying to see that trained personnel are at the disposal of the Pan American Health Experts under a properly conducted campaign to eradicate the mosquito for all times.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Now, if this side of the House wants to take the Hon. Minister seriously - of all Ministers, I think we can say in all sincerity that we expect and look forward to the Hon. Minister being more frank than his Colleagues, and we have no desire to criticize him as a Minister or for his readiness to give us information - how does he square his information with the Addendum? It

says "limited success", and he says "non-existent". Which is right?

Mr. MOTTLEY: The Minister does not write the Addendum. I rise to congratulate him, because I happened to be Chairman of the Public Health Department of 93,000 people and I knew that was so. I congratulate him for saying it was non-existent, because I knew it was so. Up to 1965 it was non-existent, but I do not know it could have gone on to 1966, 1967 and this year. I know that the work was carried out; so when you get idiots getting in here and saying that people would not co-operate, that is absolutely untrue. When the Minister says it is non-existent, I can understand the position which he has adopted. He wants to make assurance doubly sure now. When he says that he is training these youngsters now to avoid coming back. I feel that whatever you do you will still have a few mosquitoes with you.

The question put by the Leader of the Opposition, I am not prepared to answer, but I am sure if the Minister had written the Addendum he would not have put "limited success". It was successful, and I know about this matter.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The Addendum was not approved by me; I happened to have been in Geneva.

The question that Head 40 - Ministry of Health and Community Development stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of one Resolution in Committee of Supply.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

6.15 p.m.

On separate motions of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, the Resolution was read a first and second time and agreed to.

THE MENTAL HEALTH (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1968

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the hon. junior member for Christ Church, Minister of Community Development, and it is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Mental Health Act, 1951.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as the Objects and Reasons set out, this Bill seeks to amend the Mental Health Act, 1951-24 in a few particulars, and it is done in order to provide that a medical officer on the staff of the Mental Hospital should be one of the medical practitioners to be appointed for

the purposes of section 6, which deals with various bodies who will examine suspected cases; and also to empower the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital to order the removal of sick persons detained under the provisions of sections 14 to 20 or under section 54 of the Magistrates' Jurisdiction and Procedure Act, 1956-57 to another hospital for the purpose of receiving medical or surgical treatment unavailable in the Mental Hospital.

The object of this is merely to facilitate the patients - I refer to the second part of the amendment - of the Mental Hospital who can secure better treatment and better medical aid at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, so that if in any such case the Medical Superintendent is of that opinion, he can transfer a patient in a quick and expeditious manner from the Mental Hospital to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in the interest of the patient. At present he has not got the power; there is a lot of red tape, because it has to go through the Governor-General, and it is very cumbersome and takes a long time. So the object of these amendments is to bring the Act up to date and expedite the procedures, and to vest greater power in the hands of the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital in order to enable him to perform his functions, duties and responsibilities more efficiently and effectively.

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

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

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

On the motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, 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.

Clause 4 was called. It reads as follows:-

4. Section 13 of the principal Act is hereby amended by repealing the proviso to subsection (3) and substituting the following -

"Provided that the recommendations shall not be signed by -

- (1) any person who would be prohibited under section 11 from signing a medical certificate;
- (ii) any registered medical practitioner on the staff of the Mental Hospital; or
- (iii) any member of the Visiting Committee who is a medical practitioner;

and shall contain a statement that the recommending medical practitioners are not so prohibited."

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 4 stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I well remember that there was some concern at one time or other about establishing a psychiatric wing at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and when we find that this Bill seeks to give the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital authority to transfer a patient from the Mental Hospital to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, I am to wonder if the real object of this Bill is not to accommodate not so much the patient, but more so the Medical Superintendent. In other words, there are patients who might be admitted to the Mental Hospital and it might be learnt that there is much more to be gained financially by having the patient transferred to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. I wonder if this Bill as it now stands is not intended to give the Medical Superintendent an opportunity to practise at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, because the Medical Superintendent, as I understand it, is entitled to practise at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and that may be the object of having this psychiatric wing established there. You might find that this is not a case of accommodating the patient and getting him out quicker, but it might be a case where this Bill is being used for the Superintendent to transfer a patient quicker from the Mental Hospital to treat him at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital where there is a Specialist fee attached. That is what we are concerning ourselves with, and not as the Minister tells us, to give him authority where previously there was a lot of red tape. If it is a case of having to go through this red tape but not for the benefit of the patient and getting him cured any more quickly, we are not concerned with that aspect of it at all. Let the red tape remain. We are not here to merely accommodate any medical practitioner or any other man to make money quickly out of the sick people in this community. We are willing to accept that in modern medicine, the tendency is to have psychiatric wings attached to the main Hospitals, but we want to be made doubly sure, Mr. Chairman. 6.25 p.m.

I am sure that the Minister will jump to his feet and give us the assurance that it is not a case where we are making it easier for the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital - in other words, here is a case where the Superintendent at the Mental Hospital can write a discharge certificate or a transfer certificate and by the time that you are transferred from down there, the doctors up there are ready to receive you at the Ward at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the fee which a doctor cannot charge you at the Mental Hospital, he can charge you ten times that fee at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for his Specialist services. We just want to be assured that that is not the case.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in the first place nothing which the hon. member says is likely to happen, but the hon. member was speaking on the wrong Clause as I see it. We have got as far as Clause 4 and the object of Clause 4 is to repeal the proviso to Sub-section 3 and to substitute the following therefor: The proviso to Sub-section 3 as contained in the 1952 - 42 Act, - I am just trying to be accurate. We are going Clause by Clause, are we not? We are now doing Clause 4 and the motion is to repeal the proviso to Sub-section 3 and substitute the following: And the proviso occurs in 1952-42 Act. The proviso is :-

"Provided that the recommendations shall not be signed by any person who would be prohibited under section eleven of this Act from signing a medical certificate or by any member of the Visiting Committee who is a medical practitioner and shall contain a statement that the recommending medical practitioners are not so prohibited."

We are substituting for that proviso what is set out here in the Bill. What is set out in the bill is this:-

"Provided that the recommendations shall not be signed by -

(1) any person who would be prohibited under section 11 from signing a medical certificate;

(ii) any registered medical practitioner on the staff of the Mental Hospital; or

(iii) any member of the Visiting Committee who is a medical practitioner;

and shall contain a statement that the recommending medical practitioners are not so prohibited."

Answering the hon. member's point directly, I just want to draw that to his attention. What we are doing is amending the 1952-42 Act in which the proviso is mentioned. This Mental Health Act has been amended by the 1952 Act; so that this is the third amendment. The first Act was the Mental Health Act of 1951 and the second is the amendment to the 1952-42 Act which we are now considering. Speaking generally for the benefit of the hon. member, in the next Clause, I think that we are adding an additional Clause. As to the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital, I will explain that at present he has to get the consent and authority from the Governor-General, but under this amendment he will have the necessary power. I said that just now. He will be able to transfer a patient to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital on his own accord provided that he thinks fit. That is the object of the amendment and he will assign the patient to a medical practitioner at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital who will be in charge of that patient while that patient is at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital until he or she is sent back to the Mental Hospital.

As to this question of the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital being able to practise and all of that, if he is allowed to practise, then he is allowed to practise. Is there anything wrong with that? He has not got to go to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital to practise; he can practise at his home. If he is allowed to practise, if that is one of the terms and conditions of his service, it is one of the terms and conditions of his service whether he goes to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital or to his home or to the Mental Hospital which would be the proper place for him to practise. That is beside the point. What we are doing here is to assist the inmates who need medical or surgical treatment which can better be given at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. We have to do that, and the hon.

member talks about the Superintendent of the Mental Hospital getting fees and all of that, and I do not understand this sort of loose talk. The Superintendent of the Mental Hospital is already entitled to practise and what is the talk about doing something to put more money in his pocket? How can you arrive at that?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I should just like to enquire of the Minister if he is telling us now that a patient transferred from the Mental Hospital is not going to receive mental care while at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Let the hon. member just answer that one question.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I have explained that if there is a mental patient who needs medical or surgical treatment which can better be given at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, he will be sent there for that treatment and then he will be returned. He will be assigned to a special doctor, but he will continue to be followed up; he will not be abandoned. I do not know what question the hon. member is asking me, really.

Mr. HINDS: My question to the Minister is this: Is the Minister telling us now that a patient transferred from the Mental Hospital to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital will not and cannot receive mental nursing care while he is at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: He will continue to get all the mental nursing care. He will continue to get all the care including surgical and medical additional care. This is an improvement; this is not a backward step. (*Asides*). We are willing to change the system of nursing. There will be nurses at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital who will be sent to the Mental Hospital for mental training, and who will be able to continue giving the necessary treatment and *vice versa*.

The question that Clause 4 stand part of the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division: 6.35 p.m.

Clause 5 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that Clause 5 stand part.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of one Bill in Committee.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House, but I am afraid that we are unable to proceed with this Bill in view of the fact that a Committee of this House and the Other Place have been appointed to meet, and we have not yet reported - in fact we have not yet met. So we now proceed to Order No. 4 on the Order Paper which stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works, the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, and it is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited Act, 1939.

BILL TO AMEND THE CABLE AND WIRELESS
(WEST INDIES) LIMITED ACT, 1939

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, Sir there are two sections of the Cable and Wireless Act that will be repealed. Be it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Assembly of Barbados and by the authority of the same as follows:-

1. This Act may be cited as the Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited (Amendment) Act, 1968.

2. Section 5 of the Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited Act, 1939, hereinafter referred to as the principal Act, is hereby repealed and the following section substituted therefor -

5. All telecommunications equipment imported for the working of the telegraphs shall be exempt from import duties."

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, is the hon. member suggesting that we cannot read?

Mr. SPEAKER: I have not heard that said nor implied. I think that the Minister was speaking *ex abundanti cautela*.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I was trying to point out for the benefit of members on both sides who did not read the Bill; if that is the feeling I would just move that the Bill be read a second time.

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

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

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that you do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on the Bill.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: 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 4 inclusive were called and agreed to.

On separate motions of Hon. N. W. BOXILL, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, the CHAIRMAN reported

the passing of the Bill in Committee, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

BILL TO AMEND BARBADOS HARBOURS
ACT, 1960.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works and it is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, it has been said that members on the other side can read. This Bill has been circulated and I beg to move that it be read a second time.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I do not know if the explanation in the Objects and Reasons will agree with what the Minister will say. Will he explain the objects a little more?
6.45 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: If no other member than the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, who has just spoken, wishes to speak on the Second Reading, then the Hon. Minister may reply and exercise his final right.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, this Bill arises out of a most anomalous situation. What has happened is that the Port Manager discovered that there is in the tariff book at the Port -- (An Hon. Member: We cannot hear you.) I am sorry. (*Asides.*)

Mr. SPEAKER: If any hon. member is addressing the Chair, will he please stand.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I am asking you to agree to amend the proviso to section 49 of the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960-29 to provide that the period of limitation for the recovery of an overcharge or an undercharge under the section shall run from the date of the acceptance of the goods or the rendering of the services, as the case may be, in respect of which the rates of charges were overcharged or undercharged. This situation arose as a result of something taking place with, I think, the firm of Gardiner Austin, and then the Port Manager discovered that the law provided for one way, but it did not provide for the other way. It was not clear to the Crown Law Officers whether it was for goods or for services, and it was a bit ambiguous. That is why we are now asking that it be clarified once and for all. I now beg to move that the Bill --

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion has already been made.

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

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on this Bill.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: 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, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part of the Bill.

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: What seems strange is that this Act was passed in 1960; it is 8 years now since it was passed without anyone discovering anything wrong with it during that period. I understood the Minister to say that it provided for only one thing and not the other, and I understood him to mean that it provided for an overcharge and not an undercharge; but when you look at the section of the Act it does not.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I was misinterpreted, and I will read an extract from my file for the benefit of the hon. member. It states:

"While discussing a claim for a refund from Messrs. Gardiner Austin for a refund of harbour dues with someone from the Attorney General's Chambers, it has been observed that the wording of section 49 of the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960-29 would appear to be in need of amendment. As you will note, this section makes provision for the collection of undercharges, but provides that there will be a limitation of six months. It would appear that, as presently worded, the limitation of six months refers only to goods and not the services, and it would seem desirable that this provision should also be extended to harbour charges."

that is the reason for the amendment, Sir.

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

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of one Bill in Committee.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this concludes Government Business for today's sitting. I am asking the leave of the House to give notice of a Resolution, which I could not give notice of earlier today because a copy was not available.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is seeking the leave of the House to give notice of a Resolution, which he could not earlier have given notice of, and, in the absence of any objection, leave will be granted to the Hon. Member. There being no objection, leave is granted to the Hon. Leader of the House to give notice of the Resolution which he has just mentioned.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I should like to thank the House. 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 \$11,710 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69 Part 11 - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 7 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

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

Mr. Speaker, before the House rises, I wonder if it would be in order - I believe the other side of the House is aware of this - for the House to record the passing of a Resolution of Condolence arising out of the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy?

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not rule it to be out of order. Let the Hon. Leader of the House proceed.
6.55 p.m.

RESOLUTION RE DEATH OF SENATOR ROBERT F. KENNEDY

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the passing of the following Resolution.

"BE IT RESOLVED that this House place on record its sense of deep shock and extreme abhorrence at the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy, a candidate for the Presidency of the United States of America;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States of America and to the sorrowing widow and relatives of the late Senator."

Mr. Speaker, much has been said expressing the shock and horror of this very tragic event, and I am sure that the House, as of course everybody else in this Island and everybody else in the whole wide world are still benumbed by this traumatic experience. But as I am always saying, Mr. Speaker, on these occasions, these shocks are first and most felt by the bereaved family, because every loss is first of all a loss to parents, or children, or wives or husbands, and I am sure that we need not, indeed, we cannot add at all to all that has already been said, but we can express our profound and unutterable sense of shock at this tragic assassination.

It seems strange, Mr. Speaker, that in a world in which we are trying courageously to make things

better as times goes by, we are still thrown back into the primeval and uncivilised atmosphere of settling or trying to settle political differences through violence. This must be abhorred by all of us who believe in the democratic process and of freedom of discussion and freedom of association, and I therefore think that the people of the United States deserve the sympathy of the rest of us, because as I have said elsewhere, I think that they are trying - the majority of them - to better the conditions of life in that country, and to wipe out the causes of those circumstances which lead and have led to such tragic shocks in the past.

Senator Kennedy was by every standard a most distinguished and most enlightened American, and his country first will feel his loss, and with the country the rest of the world. I am sure he was regarded everywhere as a citizen of the world, and, like his brother, had made his name and his ideas felt and understood far beyond the confines of his country. So what is in effect an American tragedy is also a world tragedy, and it is fitting, I think, Mr. Speaker, that this House should express its deep sense of shock and extend its sympathy to Mrs. Kennedy and to the President and people of the United States.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to second that Resolution. Nothing that any of us can say now can add to the feeling of revulsion and shock, as the Hon. Leader of the House has said, that the whole world or most of the whole world who believe in democracy have already said and written. I should like, however, to repeat what I have said almost privately, one may say, to some members of the Press, who were asking the opinion of some of us. Occasions like these should warn us that even in the most seemingly civilised countries, the minute we depart from playing the game in a democratic way, playing the game in our private lives, in our professional lives and in our political lives - we sow the seed that sooner or later here and there in some country or other produces results of this sort. In short, to begin by disliking your opponents because they differ from you in politics, to continue by abusing them at every opportunity, to stir up strife in crowds in public, inevitably lead to a disregard for law and order. Not everybody might have the French temperament or the Arab will to explosion, and therefore not everybody will be lawless and beat up policemen or their opponents or shoot people with whose political views they disagree; but all human beings are after all the same, white, or black, Jew or Gentile, East or West; and we in a community that seems quite peaceful have got to take the lessons that occasions of this sort offer us and be on our guard, less wittingly or unwittingly we start off the small spark that eventually ends in violent explosion.

The assassination of Senator Kennedy is a lesson for us in Barbados as much as it is a lesson for countries less peaceful than we are, and I think it is fitting that while we deplore - and truly deplore - no matter what our nationality, that such a tragic thing

should have happened, we must say to ourselves that it might also happen here.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, it is less than five years ago that we in this House have had the unfortunate duty to move the passing of a Resolution on the death of the very distinguished, not only man of America, but Leader of the world, President John F. Kennedy, and more recently on the death of the Rev. Martin Luther King and now Senator Robert F. Kennedy. These three men have shown to the world that they were interested in the underprivileged and the poor not only of the Americas, but of the world, and it is unfortunate that they should have been destroyed by assassination at such an early age.

We in Barbados, like the people in other civilised countries, feel that this was a shock, and we do hope that what we say here today will be able to soften the blow to Mrs. Kennedy and the entire family of Senator Kennedy. I have read on several occasions what was said of Senator Kennedy, how ruthless he was in pursuing the cause of justice, but I do not think that any person can be too ruthless in pursuing the cause of justice, fairplay and righteousness, because it has often been said that you cannot keep truth sullied and down forever.

Mr. Speaker, I join with the other Speakers, in associating myself with the remarks in passing this Resolution in respect of the untimely death of Senator Kennedy of the United States. I do not want to say what has so often been said, that something is wrong and that America is a sick community. It looks to me that now that the Latin American countries are becoming more civilised, a country like America is now becoming less civilised.

Mr. SPEAKER: I beg to associate myself with the tributes paid by all three speakers in this House to the memory of a very great American. I feel as deeply as they have expressed the loss to civilisation and to humanity by the assassination of Robert, brother of the former President of the United States. I associate myself with the passing of this Address which I invite hon. members to signify their concurrence in in the customary manner of this ancient Chamber by standing with bowed heads for two minutes in their places.

Members stood in their places and bowed heads for two minutes.

7.05 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: In view of the unanimous passing of this Address, I shall direct the Clerks at the Table with the minimum of delay to ensure that this Address is transmitted to the proper quarter, which I take to be *via* the United States Ambassador to this nation, who would be requested to convey the Address to the President of the United States, and also to the sorrowing widow and relatives whom I would interpret to be the parents and the brother. To the Clerks at the Table, let that be done not later than tomorrow morning.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think that Your Honour will be announcing the suspension of the sitting at this time, but we have come to the end of our business. I wonder if it would be in order for me to move the adjournment of the House so as to save us from coming back in at a quarter to eight. We are in the middle of .. (Asides). Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 25th June, 1968 at 12 o'clock (noon).

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

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, it does not arise now as you will see, but I should just like to remind the Hon. Leader of the House that I understood him to have promised that in future we will fix the Order Paper at the time of the adjournment of the House. It does not matter this afternoon, but I just want to remind the Hon. Leader of the House of that now for the future.

Mr. SPEAKER: Government Business.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, under Government Business, Committee of Supply will be Order No. 1 and everything else will follow *seriatim*.

Mr. SPEAKER: Private Members' Business.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I was saying that it does not matter this afternoon, but I do not mean the routine fixing; I mean the order in which each item comes, what you take first, second and third, under Government Business and under Private Members' Business. Under Government Business, Mental Health, Cable and Wireless, whatever it is in the order one, two and three.

Mr. SPEAKER: Government Business is requested to be as it is now. Private Members' Business.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I said to the Hon. Leader of the House that we can get together as to fixing the Order Paper as regards the items to be taken. As to the hon. junior member for the City, for instance, I asked him if he would like his Order to be dealt with first and he said "No." Doing it in that way, the Government fixes its Orders and we fix our Orders and that is announced when we are adjourning. That is only the old practice.

Mr. SPEAKER: Well, we have not yet adjourned and the moment is now appropriate for Private Members to fix their business.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Yes, Sir, but I said that we are not doing it this afternoon. I was reminding the Hon. Leader of the House that in future we will do it in that way, that Private Members will get up and say: "We want so-and-so first, so-and-so second," and so on. We have been doing that for years and years and it has been stopped.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I should just like to make my position clear. I have indicated how I want Government Business to run. I said that Committee of Supply is to be Order No. 1 and everything else is to follow *seriatim*. I therefore do not wish to be associated with the point which has been made by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. As I understand it, it is for them to fix their own Order Papers. As I further understand it, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph's matter is Order No. 1 and I do not know how the Hon. Leader of the Opposition could be asking the hon. junior member for the City if he wants his matter to be made Order No. 1. I just want to dissociate myself from that, because I do not wish this side of the House to be blamed next week if the hon. senior member for St. Joseph finds that his Order has given place to another.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have been in this House for a long time and it has been the custom all the time when the House is to be adjourned, for Private Members to ask that Order No. 6 be placed as Order No. 1 or Order No. 8 to be placed as Order No. 1 or Order No. 3 to be placed as Order No. 1. What is all this fuss about now? This has always been decided between Private Members.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 25th June, 1968, at 12 o'clock (noon), was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

7.15 p.m.

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1966 - 71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 25th June, 1968

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12.15 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., (Minister of Education); Mr. J. W. CORBIN; Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (Minister of Trade, Tourism, Co-operatives and Fisheries); Mr. R. ST.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE J.P.; Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (Minister of Agriculture, Labour and National Insurance); Mr. W. C. B. HINDS; and Mr. J. B. SPRINGER.

Prayers were read.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL and Mr. HOPPIN entered the Chamber and took their seats.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: Once again I have with regret to state that there are no Minutes available for confirmation.

PAPERS LAID

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

Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for two months ended 31st May, 1968.

The Customs Duties (The Barbados National Stadium Corporation) Order, 1968.

The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1968.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: On behalf of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and

Minister of External Affairs, I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Resolution to place the sum of \$7,619 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69, Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 8 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1968.

On my own behalf, I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Resolution to approve the leasing of a parcel of land to the Barbados Light and Power Company Limited for the purpose of maintaining a sub-station already erected thereon.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 142, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, is ready.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I should like to draw to your attention that at the last sitting I gave notice that Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 79 asked by the hon. junior member for St. James and 83 asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas were ready.

QUESTIONS

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Questions:-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

How many applications for permits (often referred to as Work Permits) have been received by Government for persons to serve on the Staff of Sandy Lane Hotel during 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1968 to date?

2. How many were granted? How many if any, were refused?

3. Who was the "Issuing Officer" in each case for the years 1966, 1967, and 1968 to date?

4. What jobs were the Work Permit Holders to do in each case in each of the years 1965 to 1968 to date?

5. Were these jobs beyond the ability or capacity of Barbadians to perform?

6. What prompted the Issuing Officer to act in the manner he did in each case?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware that a fully satisfied judiciary is indispensable to the progressive and orderly development of a newly-independent Nation?

2. What steps have Government taken or propose taking in the immediate future to ensure stability, avoid frustration and maintain a fully-staffed judiciary for the effective functioning of our present judicial system?

3. Will Government give immediate consideration to proposals submitted which seek to lay the foundation for the achievement of the aim set out at No. 1?

4. If not, will the Government please state why?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is it a fact that members of the Royal Barbados Police Force whose off-duty leave was suspended or curtailed during the recent spate of cane-fires have accumulated in some cases, as many as 13 days leave?

2. Is it a fact that some members have been advised that for the 13 days leave so accumulated they will only be given 3 off-days?

3. If the answer to No. 2 is in the affirmative, will Government take steps to restore full leave due to all members of the Force or pay full compensation therefor by way of cash?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware that during the month of May, 1968, there were outbreaks of food poisoning at schools in the Parish of St. George where school meals are served and that during the school week ending 21st June, 1968, there were similar outbreaks at such schools in the parish of St. Michael?

2. At which schools did the outbreaks occur?

3. How many children were affected at each school where an outbreak occurred?

4. What action was taken by the Ministry of Education when notified of these outbreaks?

5. Has the origin or the source of poison been traced in each case?

6. What steps Government propose taking before the food-poisoning situation worsens?
12.25 p.m.

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware that the number of druggists presently engaged in the dispensing of medicine is hopelessly inadequate to cope with the needs of the Island's population?

2. Is Government aware that the list of Druggists as constituted at February, 1968, does not present a true picture as to the number of registered druggists, since some of the names thereon are of persons long dead?

3. Will Government assist the local Pharmaceutical Society in ways and means of enrolling more under-studies to fill the needs of the profession and assist it in discharging its very grave responsibility to the community?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Is it a fact that Orderlies at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital have been threatened with disciplinary action being taken against them for not co-operating with a Casualty Doctor during the month of June, 1968?

2. Has such threat arisen from an Orderly refusing to switch off the lights in the Casualty Department at about 11.30 on the night of June 3rd this year as requested by a doctor who sought to use this means of getting rid of the numerous patients seeking medical attention at this Casualty?

3. Who was the doctor summoned to the Casualty Department to attend an accident victim of motor car L-333 on the night of June 3 this year?

4. Was it the duty of this doctor to attend other-patients waiting for more than 5 hours at the Casualty that night?

5. Will the Minister cause an investigation to be made into the doctor's conduct on the night of June 3, 1968, in the light of the numerous people who suffered long hours waiting at the Casualty without receiving medical attention?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Have examinations of the Scheme and Record Books kept at Schools receiving the hot-lunch provided in the Government's School meals Scheme disclosed any number of lessons or teaching periods lost to pupils through teachers and pupils being engaged at school meals during hours detailed for the teaching of classroom subjects?

2. If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, will Government take steps to remedy the situation by having meals served punctually and not late lunches as now occurs at some schools?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Will Government increase the domestic staff at all schools now serving school meals to children, so as to relieve teachers who are willing to assist in a supervisory capacity, but are very dissatisfied at their being required to perform purely domestic chores to assist the Scheme?

Will Government explain if the "packaged Lunch" served to children in the Government's hot meals scheme at least two days per week is a hot meal or a warm meal or a cold one?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

In view of the fact that possession of four subjects at "O" level G.C.E., instead of five as formerly, are the academic requirements for recruitment to the Teaching Service of this Island, will Government seek without delay to make the necessary adjustments in respect of Relief and Supernumerary teachers who then qualify for promotion from List "B" to List "A" of the Ministry of Education?

2. Will the Government, upon regularising the anomalous situation created by adopting this new qualification standard, seek to place teachers transferred to List "A" in the corresponding salary scale without delay?

3. Has the reduction of the academic qualifications for entry into the Teaching Service shown any appreciable increase in the number of persons applying for entry into the Service?

4. If the answer to No. 3 is in the negative, will Government investigate to determine if lowering of academic standards or inadequate commencement pay is responsible for the poor response from persons seeking to enter the Service?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Will Government seek to acquire an area of approximately two acres of land at Gill's Terrace at Speightstown in the parish of St. Peter with a view to providing a mini-Park and recreation centre for children resident in and around the Speightstown area?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Is Government aware of the indignities suffered by Civil Servants working at Her Majesty's Customs at the Bridgetown Port by having to submit themselves to being searched at the gate when proceeding off duty?

2. Will Government, without in anyway endangering the Security of the Port, take steps to protect Customs Officers from such harassment?

3. Who holds the keys to the Sheds in the Bridgetown Port overnight?

4. What control does Government have over its Customs Departments in the various Sheds and

elsewhere at the Port after Customs Officers take their exit?

5. Will Government take steps to ensure more humane considerations and better working conditions for Customs Officers working in the Bridgetown Port?
12.35 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the suspension of Standing Orders 5, 14, 16, 18, 19, 38, 40 and 45 for the remainder of the day's sitting. In doing so, I wish to give hon. members opposite the assurance that at the appropriate time I will move that Private Members' Business be done.

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

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day 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 services of the Island.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE (CAPITAL) No. 4

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, as the Addendum sets out, the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the premises occupied by the Transport Board is planned in two stages. The first stage involving resurfacing and drainage of the area is nearing completion. The supplementary provision of \$226,600 now sought is to implement the second stage of the plan which provides for new offices and workshop accommodation.

The provisions under these items in the current Estimates have been fully committed on the approved programme of work. The new development plan will include an extensive programme for the further development of the water services, and the supplementary provision being sought is to carry on the programme pending approval of the full plan.

The supplementary provision of \$226,600 now sought is to implement the second stage of the plan which provides for new offices and workshop accommodation.

In this Resolution, Mr. Chairman, the Transport Board is asking for money for additional mains and standposts and the replacement of mains. As all hon. members here know, the Transport Board came into operation some time in the 1940s, and the reason for this, as I have said repeatedly in this House is that prior to that you had the Liberty, the Federal and the National and everybody getting into the spree. People who went to Panama and the United States of America and had a few cents thought that the best investment was either in buses or a rum shop.

A number of people had buses, and what happened was that sometimes you caught a bus at 7 o'clock to go to work and sometimes at 9 o'clock you were still on the road because the driver was trying to cut out another driver and he goes half-way in the journey. Sometimes you caught a bus in Dayrell's Road and then you found yourself in St. Lawrence.

That used to go on until the Director of Highways and Transport - it was then the Central Road Board - and the powers that were decided that it was not good enough, and therefore the bus owners must come together and form routes, and these routes were given to concessionaires.

In those days, Mr. Chairman, you had such concessionaires as the Progressive, the General Motor Bus Company run by Eckstein, the Diamond, the National and the Liberty, and these concessionaires were plying their trade. Then some time in 1955, I think it was, the famous statement was made that "bus fares would be raised over my dead body."

During that time a tyre used to cost about \$5 to \$6, and an outer case today costs \$25.00. Gasoline was sold at 23 cents a gallon, and fares were three cents. Strangely enough I remember when I was a child and the tram used to run - that was in the early '20s - you used to catch the tram by the Drill Hall. If you go by Bethel Church now, you will still see the sign "Cars stop here," and you used to pay four cents in those days.

I think that we have come a long way, considering the rapid changes that have taken place in the last few years and yet still we have been able to keep them.

In 1955 the concessionaires were asking for a cent or penny more on bus fares, and it was resisted most strenuously, and as a result, the buses were taken over by the then Government in power. A part of those who wanted to give them up gave them up, and the Government then in power became the concessionaire.

That is something that I have never advocated, and I never will. Be that as it may, this Government

came into power in 1961 and we had to take over the buses which they had taken over in 1955, and no provision was made for taking over these buses other than taking them over.
12.45 p.m.

Some of us will remember quite distinctly that where the Bus Stand is was where the Central Road Board was. They took over the buses before they were prepared for them, and they put all of them in there. Those that could be removed were put on the road, and those that could not be removed had to be demolished. As a result of that, we have suffered a heavy loss in the bus service.

Some time ago I had to come here and ask the House to write off about \$2 million; then we had to lend them \$900,000 and stand a bond for them. As you will see, Mr. Chairman, the Transport Board has never, from the day the Government took it over in 1965 until now, made a profit. The first time it has ever made a profit since it was in operation was in the year, I think, 1966. The Transport Board has always been a liability. It was removed from Fairchild Street to Roebuck Street, and then certain suggestions were made that it should be removed to various places. Apparently, it now seems that it has reached its final resting place at Weymouth. The condition of the yard, as hon. members would know, was most deplorable. The condition of the workshop is most deplorable. The reason why I am here today asking for this money is due to the fact that the Transport Board has no proper offices; it has nothing proper other than a few buses and some good workers. Apart from that, it has absolutely nothing good.

The last time when I came here asking for some money, we paved the yard and made it better than what it was. We have now decided to paint the office at the Transport Board, and that is why I am asking for money so that we can have a proper office and workshop for the people who work at the Transport Board. I know that hon. members on the other side will want to ask questions and debate this matter, because I am asking for a large sum of money. I am willing to answer all reasonable questions; I will explain anything that I have not mentioned in my speech. I do not want to go on saying things about the Transport Board. The fact remains that the Transport Board belongs to all of us, and if we want to see it succeed, then all of us have to do our bit. If we do not pull our weight, then we will be doing what some of the people in this world have failed to do, that is, to turn back the hands of the clock. We will be going back to the 1920s when we used to get a bus at seven o'clock in the morning and reach our destination at ten o'clock or ten-thirty. We do not want to see this Island going back to the state in which it was in the 1920s and, therefore, I am asking hon. members to support this Resolution.

Mr. Chairman, with regard to Item 21 - Additional Mains and Standposts, you will know that water is my pet subject, and I am always admonishing people in this country about the improper use of water and pointing out how important it is to

conserve water. I have been mentioning it so often that it has become my theme song. Mr. Chairman, at the moment there are about twenty-nine million gallons of water in Barbados. Right now we are pumping approximately 16 1/2 million gallons of water a day. We have more than an adequate supply of water for the residents at the moment.

The fact that we are having a water shortage in certain parts of St. James, St. Joseph and St. Thomas is that certain people, for some misguided reason or other, seem to think that the water in the Island belongs to the Democratic Labour Party and that, if they waste the water, they are hurting the Government in power. Nothing could be more stupid! The water belongs to the people in the Island. The water is pumped from underground sources; we dig wells; we get water; we experiment to see what is the draw-down per second; and if the water is good it is pumped from the earth into a reservoir. What some people do not seem to understand is that a bucket cannot hold any more after it is filled. If a reservoir is made to hold thirty million gallons, then it cannot hold more than thirty million gallons. If you cut a coconut, the water will spout out.

Mr. Chairman, when people attach a hose to a pipe and leave it running all day and night, they are running the water out of the reservoir. Let us assume that we have over 33,000 services in the Island. Let us assume that one-fourth of these services were to have hoses attached to them and the pipes are left running all night; it can easily be seen that the water in the reservoir will decrease rapidly. That is why you will find that the people who get water from Castle Grant Reservoir suffer so much for water. Castle Grant Reservoir was built in the days when people like you, Sir, and me were made to carry a bucket to the pipe in order to get water. It was not so easy for us to get water.

Not so long ago people paid their money to have water installed, and they had to go around begging people to instal the water. Sometimes they had to wait for a year before they could get a connection made. Nowadays the standard of living has gone up, and almost every single person is trying to get water installed in his home.
12.55 p.m.

Nearly all of us are fighting to get our children into Secondary Schools and we are getting sophisticated. We do not want our children to be seen at the pipe with a bucket any more, and there are good reasons for this. When you go to the pipe, you get into an argument with somebody over who got there first, which may end up in a fight or even in the Courts, and that is where you get a lot of hungry, starving lawyers preying on the masses. The hon. senior member for Christ Church need not look at me like that. I said "hungry, starving lawyers", and I do not think he would be one of them.

Mr. Chairman, what has happened is that if you take a place like the Castle Grant Reservoir which is the most heavily tapped in the Island, that was

built for a capacity of 2 1/2 million gallons of water, and was more than adequate for the supply and demand; but since we have made water accessible to everybody, it is no longer adequate. When these people get a notice from the Waterworks Department to pay a deposit to have the water connected, they carry on extra money and go to the store and pay down on a length of hose which they connect to the pipe for the purpose of watering. I will give you an instance. There were two people in St. Philip who had water installed, and early one morning some time last month one woman went to her neighbour's house to get a bucket of water. The neighbour in surprise asked whether her pipe was turned off, and was told that it was not, but her husband had told her not to take off the hose. That is the kind of thing you get going on. If you had the time to leave here now, Mr. Chairman, or to go tomorrow you would find that people have a hose connected to the pipe watering trees. This is not fair to the community or to themselves, because I say without fear of contradiction that there is no place in the world where you can get water piped to you as pure and as cheaply as you get it here. Hon. members on the opposite side know this, but they are afraid to tell the people when they see them wasting water, that it is their water they are wasting; but they make it look when I speak about wasting water as if I am trying to build up a case against somebody. People will realise what I am saying is true when one day they wake up and discover that there is no water. At the present time we have something like 29 million gallons of water, and we are pumping at a rate of 16.5 million gallons a day. If you want to prove that what I am saying is true, any day that you have heavy showers, they stop one pump at nearly every station, because the demand is not so great. It proves quite conclusively that quite a number of people are watering their gardens, canes and trees in the evening.

Mr. Chairman, I think I have explained enough on this matter, and I would be quite willing to answer any further questions.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Minister seems to be very polite today. The only joke he made at which I could laugh was when he referred to hungry lawyers. I wonder how many in here are hungry. Now the Minister tried to make out a case for the shortage of water, especially in St. Joseph, and said that hon. members on the other side are afraid to tell people not to waste water. I wonder if the Minister thinks it is only since he became a Minister that water is being wasted. Is he trying to tell us that it is through the wastage of water that we cannot get any in St. Joseph? The Minister told us that more water is being used, more is being wasted through people turning on their hoses at night and things of that sort, but he failed to tell us whether he has made any effort to remedy this situation. Do you mean that Minister knows all this and has not

made a case? How many cases have been made for the wastage of water in the Island? Can the Minister tell us how many cases were made out at the Police Station in St. Joseph?

I can tell the Minister that when I was a boy people were prosecuted for wasting water, but today I do not hear of any such prosecutions. The Minister knows that water is being wasted and expects hon. members on this side to go around and watch the standpipes and tell people not to waste water. He has not referred to the Police or any other limb of the law, but he has referred to hon. members on this side who are afraid to tell people not to waste water.

1.05 p.m.

He would not say if he knows that the people who are responsible are afraid to make cases. It is only because he can tell us or let the public feel how he is thinking about members above here, and he wants us to go around and be pipe-watchers for him. I am sure that the Minister cannot tell me now how many prosecutions have been made against people for wasting water. He does not know anything about it. As far as I know, none is being made. That is responsible for our suffering; that is responsible for the people of St. Joseph to be paying water rates when they are not getting any water.

In this Resolution, as far as the Minister has gone, he has not explained anything about this money for which he is asking, any more than what is written here in this note. This is what it says:-

"The provisions under these items in the current Estimates have been fully committed on the approved programme of work. The new development plan will include an extensive programme for the further development of the water services, and the supplementary provision being sought is to carry on the programme pending approval of the full plan."

This is to carry on the programme, but really and truly the Minister should let us know the part of the programme for which this money is being spent. He should let us know if it is his intention in this programme to extend the reservoir at Castle Grant. He says that it is too small and I believe it is too small. Something is wrong up there. It is only early last year, and if it is not early last year, it would be late in the year before last, that we were suffering so badly from the lack of water up there I am willing to know what has gone wrong overnight, especially in my area. There is a certain area from which we could never get water and I understand that it is above sea level or something of that sort; but around my area and around Parks Road we have never suffered from the lack of water like that. Something is wrong, but the Minister is not letting us know what they are going to do with this programme. He asked for the money, he told us about the wastage and some of everything, yet he may have forgotten or failed to let us know what is going to be done. Mr. Chairman, I will tell him what I have heard - I will swear that it is correct - that recom-

mendations have been sent up - I do not know if it is to his Ministry or where - for a new reservoir at Castle Grant and it was said that that will cost too much money. It is a pity that I cannot let the hon. member know the source from which I got this information, but for the longest time we have been suffering up there, and it is getting worse. It has gone down now to his constituents; it has gone from us down to his constituency, and nothing can be done. The Minister has refused to tell us now the programme, what is going to be done to relieve us from such a plight. I wonder if he knows. The Addendum to the Resolution tells us that they are only carrying out the provisions under these items in the current Estimates or that the provisions under these Estimates have been fully committed on the approved programme of work. I would not expect him to tell me the approved programme of work, but I was expecting him to let us know where this amount of money is to be spent and when it would be spent. We have been passing money for the longest time for projects and they have not materialised yet. This water question is a very serious one. The people in St. Joseph have got the idea that I am a reservoir. I had to tell them that it is not I; I cannot do anything. Up to now the Minister cannot tell me what is wrong up there. He should be in a position to tell the people and me what is wrong. It is not sufficient for him to say that there is a water wastage. There was a water wastage before he or I was born. He should let us know what he is about to do as far as Castle Grant is concerned. This is a programme which you are carrying out, and you are asking for money to carry out the programme. Let the people in St. Joseph know what to expect. Every time I ask about water up there, I get a lot of hanky-panky excuses and a lot of sweet talk, but let us get down to business. The Minister should tell us:

We have a report from somewhere and we are either going to build a reservoir or we are not going to build it, or we are carrying everybody from St. Joseph to St. Thomas or St. Lucy. The Minister should tell us what they are going to do up there. It is not that I am talking for the sufferers; we are suffering and I am one of the sufferers now. I have to be paying water rates, and still I do not get any water. I understand the Minister to say that the wastage is responsible for it. I understood him to say that the reservoir is small; I want to hear him say that the reservoir is small and they intend to replace it with a larger reservoir and some of this money is to build a bigger reservoir. Let him tell us the exact thing; do not let him tell us about any wastage. Wastage is an excuse for little children, and not for big men. The Minister is lacking in his duty. He knows that it is a question of wastage and he should make cases and prevent the wastage. I will take the Minister to a certain house in Beckles Road and point out to him that this person is not hiding to do it at night as he says some persons do. In broad daylight he can see the hose spouting water all round the house.

1.15 p.m.

I am only telling him what is happening; but you are not suffering from it down here; so people in

Beckles Road, Bridgetown, and St. Michael can waste it as they like. I just understood that as much water is used to wash down certain pig pens in a certain farm that could dry any reservoir. I have just heard from one of my colleagues - he did not call any name - that there are so many things at this farm that if you start to wash them down it will dry any reservoir, even Castle Grant.

We do not have anything like that at all in St. Joseph. The Minister said that he is quite willing to answer questions. Tell us what is the position at Castle Grant. More besides, I do not think that I will be paying any more water rates, because I do not get any water. I am going to stop paying. Poor me, I am so unlucky, that the mistress asked the servant one day to go for a bucket of water and she said: "I did not come for that." Even the servant refused to go for it; so you know how I am standing.

The Minister must try to do something.

The other Item is supposed to be Transport Board. Now, Mr. Minister, you are asking for \$226,600 to provide for new offices and workshop accommodation. Now, you have reconstructed the yard and have made it passable. You have finished that phase of the work. Now you are asking for \$226,600 for offices and workshop accommodation.

Well, Sir, do not think I am trying to be funny, but when it comes to workshop accommodation you really should have come to us with a breakdown, because is it to accommodate the workmen, the buses or what? Is it to buy tools or what? Workshop accommodation. I would like to know the final plan.

Now we come to offices. Now, Sir, you have some rat traps running on the road that we call buses. It is time now that you replace these old traps and put proper buses on the streets. Now, don't you think that it would be wiser, if you do not have anymore money, to take a part of this \$226,600 and try to replace at least three or four of these old things that you have going along the streets? Are you not ashamed to be a Minister and seeing these old things on the road? Well, I am not a Minister, and I am ashamed.

Now, you want offices and workshop accommodation. You want this accommodation. As to the people down the Harbour Road, down in that bus stand, it looks to me as if the sun strikes you more fiercely down there than in any other part of the island - and the people down there are sticking up in the sun and waiting the arrival of the bus, and you are going to spend \$226,600 on offices and cannot even, or would not even, I would say, put a shed down there.

I do not know if you have sanitary conveniences down there; but I am sure that you do not have sheltering accommodation. Really and truly, if I were the Minister in charge of this and I did not even intend to put up these sheds, I would really put it in the Resolution; but you are so honest that you do not even mention bus sheds. You mention that it is for offices.

What kind of offices are you building now? They must be really new model offices or something because the money sounds so much to me. Before you go that distance, try and take these things off the road first. I say that because someone may soon have to action the Board for dropping out of one of these buses. You have some old buses that must be from 1940 to 1942 or 1946. There are some old-time things on the road, and you are asking now for money to build pretty, pretty offices while the people are driving about in rat traps. It is not fair to the people.

I do not know, Sir - everything is Government, but I am thinking that Combermere School is no longer there. I think that the Social Welfare Office has moved out. I am wondering what is being done with the place that the Social Welfare Office used to occupy.

Cannot the Government or the Board rent it or beg for it or do something to make the office right - fix-it-right for the Transport Board and save this \$226,600 and put the money into new buses?

Well, the Minister would know what is being done, or what is to be done with the building up there. You had the Social Welfare Office next door. I believe that they had moved to somewhere else, to the old Hospital building or somewhere. Can't you use that for offices? After all, how many offices do you want for this Department? Do you have an office for each bus? Do you have a clerk for each bus? I would think that you would only have an office for the Accountant, the Manager, the Assistant Manager. I do not know how many you have up there. This money sounds a lot to me - \$226,600.

Now, Mr. Minister, take a look at the buildings that the Social Welfare Officer used to operate from and see if you cannot make a bargain for that building. I do not even think that the whole building is worth \$226,600. I am in agreement that you must have proper offices and decent offices for the workers, that you cannot get work done except you have nice offices; but there are some offices of this Government in which I am sure I do not know how people manage to work.

So, I am very glad that you are thinking about the Board's offices, but you must remember to do something about the buses. And now, whilst I am on it, I can understand that you are trying to help local industry and that we are trying to keep money in the island; but if the people that are responsible for supplying or building these buses cannot supply them to meet the demand, order at least a half dozen from outside so as to relieve the position.

Now, Sir, at the peak hours you see people standing up and buses pulling out and not stopping. You have about 24 people and you can only carry 2 or 4 and the buses go along and leave people at the bus poles. It is not good enough at the peak hours.

1.25 p.m.
At the peak hours, wherever you turn, on Tweedside Road, Hastings, Worthing, Black Rock

and so on, you can see people queueing up waiting for buses. It is a question of putting more buses on the road. Sometimes you see a bus going to relieve another one that has broken down, and as soon as it takes up the passengers and goes a few yards it breaks down, too. You want replacements as well as new engines.

Sir, after an engine has been working for five or six years continuously, you should not worry with it when it starts to give trouble. You should get a new engine and instal it in the chassis; it is the engine that counts. If you have an engine that is giving you trouble, you should discard it completely and replace it by a new one. If the body is 'okay' and the chassis is 'okay', then all you need is a new engine. All you have to do is to set aside a few dollars, and ask that a survey be made to see the number of engines that should be replaced by new ones. You are not buying a new body or a new bus; you are merely buying a new engine.

If you accept my advice, you will be surprised to find that you will make money in the bus service. I should not be telling you this because I am a seller of spare parts and I am doing damage to my trade. I am honest and I will continue to be honest. I cannot sit idly by and see money going down the drain without helping the Government to save its money. Of course, several bus bodies should be discarded. Do not put a new engine in the 1946 bus bodies. You will have to scrap the open bus and put a good bus on the road.

Be nice to the passengers and try to give them a bus shelter at the Harbour Road bus stand, or wherever a bus shelter is needed. It must be remembered that some people have to stand in the sun or in the rain while waiting to catch a bus; so let us give them bus shelters. Do not give them a small bus shelter; let us give them a proper bus shelter. I am considering a motion for the reduction of this vote by \$1 as a protest against the treatment meted out to passengers who have to stand in the rain and in the sun all day waiting for a bus.

The Minister is now asking for \$226,600 to build offices to accommodate not more than 20 clerks. He is going to 'fix-them-right', while several people who are waiting for a bus at Harbour Road bus stand are being fixed wrong. Do not call this criticism; I merely want to see something done for the people; but if I have to criticise you, I will do so. Do not do something to make 20 people happy and leave 20,000 others unhappy. It appears to me that this Government likes to do that. The Government is looking after 20 people and doing nothing to help 20,000.

Now, Sir, let us get the bus sheds. The Bank Hall buses are now back on the road, and you must give us the bus sheds now. The Minister may not travel on the Harbour Road, but I have to travel on that road regularly. Perhaps the Minister goes above, but I like to travel below. You must see to it that the people get bus shelters wherever shelters

are needed. Nowadays the people have to queue up, and this is causing greater hardship. I may be able to hop a bus and get in quickly, but according to the law recently passed I will have to queue up and board the bus. You have made provision for queueing up; so let us make the necessary provision for the bus shelters. The Minister must certainly go into this matter.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, this is a very important Resolution, and you must look carefully at a Resolution of this nature when you are in public life as long as I have been. What I have done privately, I can now make known publicly. I think it is public knowledge that the present Minister - I do not throw bouquets out just because I want any favours done. I have privately complimented the Minister for the stand he has taken in a matter concerning public property. He put his foot down on some Estimates submitted by his Department, and a private firm gave an estimate for half the amount and did the work in half of the time. While I have had to congratulate him for this, let him accept some things now which I do not understand.

The Minister wants \$226,600 and the Notes to Supplementary Estimates 1968 - 69 No. 4 state:

"1. The reconstruction and rehabilitation of the premises occupied by the Transport Board is planned in two stages. The first stage involving re-surfacing and drainage of the area is nearly completion. The supplementary provision of \$226,600 now sought is to implement the second stage of the plan which provides for new offices and workshop accommodation."

1.35 p.m.

I have been in here long enough, and I do not think anyone has anything to regret when it comes to the practice, habit, custom and usage of this Chamber in asking for information. Now if you come in here and ask for money to implement the second stage of the plan which provides for new offices and workshop accommodation, you should submit the plan. I have been in here over twenty years, before there was a Minister and when you had the Executive, and we have been accustomed to seeing some sort of plan of what you were doing. This is \$226,600 and not \$26,000. Rumour has it and it is known that we lost practically \$1 million on the seven-storey Treasury Building. I am not accusing anybody of carrying away the money, but it could have been built for \$1 million cheaper, and I commend the present Minister for the stand he took in seeing that people do the work. The Prime Minister said that 25% of the money was going down the drain. Are you then asking us to vote this money to buy new offices and a workshop at the Transport Board without a plan, when we know what happened to Combermere School when it was situated on that site? I remember that Mr. J. T. C. Ramsay condemned the school from which we had to evacuate the children, send them to the Garrison, and then build a new school, at Waterford. It has been a habit to pass a plan around to the Opposition, and if the Minister has

not forgotten it, I would like him to pass it around, as this would avoid unnecessary criticism. I could launch out and say that you are going to erect buildings on land that is sinking, because I am not in a position to see whether you are erecting a steel structure. I presume that it is going to be done departmentally, and I commended the Minister for not doing certain things departmentally when he saved \$100,000 recently. On the other hand, when you say that the second stage of the plan provides for new offices, how are you going to ask us to vote this money without showing us the plan?

Mr. Chairman, hon. members in the Opposition do not seem to realise what is happening. To ask us to vote \$226,600 without showing us a plan is like signing a blank cheque, and I urge the Minister to tell us something more about it. The Addendum to this Resolution certainly does not provide the necessary facts for the Opposition to see. The Government backbenchers may know of it, but members of the Opposition know nothing of it, and therefore when you ask us for \$226,600 to implement the second stage of the plan, you must tell us what the plan is. You should tell us whether you are going to re-construct or pull down and put up new offices on a different site. We know the history of the old Combermere School, and for over twenty years we have had debates in here on this matter of the submission of plans. This is not really a criticism of the Minister, but this is submitting to the Minister what has happened to the Combermere School, and saying that it is time we know some of the facts. How could I vote for this?

Now, Mr. Chairman, I listened very carefully to the entire part of the hon. member's speech in relation to Item 2 which seeks \$225,745 for the extension of water supply. Now if the hon. member disbelieves anything I am going to say, he can turn to the Minister of Health and ask him this. Any time you are dealing with a system of expansion of water supply, if it included standpipes or otherwise, plans are brought here to show members of this Chamber what is being done. I do not think anybody would be so stupid as to oppose the extension of water supply, but it is the duty of hon. members on this side to enquire from the Government what they are going to do, since the Note states that the new Development Plan will include an extensive programme for the further development of the water services, and the supplementary provision being sought is to carry on the programme pending approval of the full Plan. You must tell us more about this for the simple reason that the Minister knows well enough when he spoke just now about the supply of water in Barbados, that while I do not want to condemn the suggestion about the wastage of water, I want to tell him that this is not the sole reason for the shortage. The standard of living in Barbados has risen rapidly.

One of the things I have been criticised for is the fact that I refused to bend when it came to implementing or bringing about an incinerator in this country, because I took the advice of a doctor friend of the World Health Organisation, as we realised

how much water would have to be used daily with an incinerator; and that is why I stood out for a sanitary land-fill. Ninety-five per cent of the houses being built in Barbados today are carrying the water-borne system of sewerage, and therefore it is not a question now of providing standpipes. Nobody wants to go to a standpipe today. As soon as a child goes to school and enters a different environment, she asks her father for a water-borne system of sewerage, and when you have that, you know what will happen. Dr. Senn made a survey here and found that we could very well supply water from wells in the sheet water area to the water-borne system of sewerage, in the absence of any other sewerage system, comes from Bowmanston and other reservoirs and the various wells which we have, and therefore there is nothing wrong in providing these facilities.

I heard the hon. member talk about providing greater and more reservoirs. This has to be done. It is not merely a question of the wastage of water. It is a matter that the standard of living has improved so rapidly in this country that you have got to provide a greater system of water supply. As the Note sets out, this is asking for \$225,000 for the new Development Plan which will include an extensive programme for the further development of the water services. To me it is not merely a question of saying that I represent St. John or St. Joseph and you should tell me whether you are running water along Breedy Village or Sargeants Village. Every member of this Chamber is entitled to know if you have a scheme for the extension of water supply - and this has been so for all the time I have been in here - by virtue of a plan which you should supply to this House where you intend to supply this. If you are going to extend water in Lodge Hill area or in the Hillaby area or some other place, you do not want to get a blank cheque and say it does not matter, you can go and apply it in the Christ Church area. There must be a plan.

1.45 p.m.

I repeat, if the hon. member thinks that that is not so, let him ask the Minister of Health who is sitting just next to him. That has always been so, and for this expansion, this is what we would need to have. In these circumstances, I hope that the Minister will be able to give a greater detail about the water system, where do they intend to carry it, if they are building reservoirs, if there are to be other wells, where do they intend to sink wells and along what area the trunk lines will be run. That is not asking for anything which the members of the Opposition should not know. The members of the Opposition are entitled to know that. If you look possibly at the Waterworks Act, you will see that the members of the Opposition are entitled to know. The Minister there could tell you that we are entitled to know these things. Therefore, I will reserve any further comment until the Minister is able to tell us something further about this and be able further to tell us what they intend to do at Combermere, if you are pulling down the old buildings, if you are putting up new buildings, workshop and offices, what are you going to do at this particular site. Let us know. We have had a tremendous lot of trouble in

this area about twenty-two years ago and we should know what is being done. I am warning the Minister that unless you have very competent people you might find yourself in a similar position to what you found yourself in with the Treasury Building; and I certainly would not like to see that, because, after all, it is the taxpayers' money; it is everybody's money.

I would like the Minister to take what I have said very seriously. Let us know if it would not be better, with all of these estimates which you have, to advertise this work and get other estimates and let private enterprise put up these buildings. Mr. Chairman, I have always been a private enterprise man. You will see that you have been saving thousands of dollars and you will save a lot more if you will just follow my advice. I hope that the Hon. Minister will take my observations in good faith. I am not being a severe critic at this stage. I hope the Minister will agree with me that we are entitled to know more about the offices which he is putting up, that he will agree that we are entitled to know about the scheme as to the water and not just say that you are putting in water. The information in the Addendum to this Resolution is not sufficient for hon. members of this House. It is just something which you might put on paper.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, the points which have been made by the previous speaker, and in particular, the point which he made about the entitlement of the members of this side of the House to greater information, is unquestionably a valid point. He has also said that it is not a question so much of where you are going to put water or where you are going to run buses and things of that kind. Now that the Government has taken over all aspects of Local Government, it is on the floor of the House of Assembly where what one would previously call parochial politics and parochial matters must come. Under the Item "Transport Board", I have been checking the reports of the Statutory Boards and I have discovered that the last Report of the Transport Board to this Legislature, as far as I know, is for the financial year 1964-65. That is the one which was circulated in the *Official Gazette* either this week or last week. It was the last one and that came with the *Official Gazette* last week. Mr. Chairman, that could hardly be a satisfactory state of affairs because we are in the year 1968 and this is a Statutory Board in which the Government has invested a tremendous amount of capital, and therefore the Legislature is entitled to know about its operations.

The last Report I have, I have checked. It is not a cyclo-styled copy; it is a printed copy for the financial year ending 30th September, 1965, which would have been presented with the Director's Report in 1966; but, in any event, and under the law, within six months they should send in a Report to the Cabinet which should be circulated to the public through the Legislature. At the Estimates time I raised certain questions in respect of the bus service from the Silver Sands area to Bridgetown and the Hon. Minister, in replying, said that he had been up there and he had seen three buses at one time; but the

position is that the service in that area is totally inadequate to cater to the demands of the service. It is one of the most remunerative routes. The service from Silver Sands to Bridgetown particularly on mornings between 7 o'clock and 9 o'clock, is not sufficient and it is now that we must draw this matter to the Minister's attention. I know that they are getting some new buses, but my understanding of the position is that when the new buses are delivered, as soon as you deliver two or three, there are some old ones which are so unserviceable that the Directors find it necessary to take out the old ones and replace them with the new ones, so that in effect, what you were getting is not the net gain of the amount of passenger seats available that is necessary to cope with the traffic. A true indication of the inadequacy of the bus service, not only on that route but also on the St. James route, is the number of pick-ups and other alternative means of transport that you get at your disposal. In the last Report of the Transport Board, there were complaints about the number of competitive vehicles or about the competition which the Board was facing from these vehicles. In order to survive, these vehicles must be getting passengers; and the true position is that if the Transport Board had the equipment at its disposal to run an adequate service, people would prefer to travel in the comfort of the buses of the Transport Board than in these pick-ups.

1.55 p.m.

To say or suggest that the service is adequate on these routes is, in my opinion, to make a suggestion which bears no relation whatever to the facts. Now, Sir, if we had up-to-date Reports of the Director annexed, even if he did not have a detailed architectural plan - we want to see what the building would look like.

Now, Sir, as regards to water, there is an area between Seawell main road and Providence, a branch road that goes to the Police Training School. There is an arrow on that road which indicates Seawell Airport. If there is a road that needs a main, it is that road. For the last three years fires have been sweeping down by that road. Sometimes there are burning canes. Once they let go a flare at the Airport because the Tower wanted to draw attention to some small aircraft, and the flare caused a fire.

Because of cane fires taking place every day, and because there are a number of chattel houses in the area, people have to take steps to protect their houses, and the people have a sense of insecurity. I understand that the Minister has visited the area, and I take it that he invited the Minister of Health to come along with him. I take it that he must have had complaints from people in the area.

Now we have Edey Village in the back. There again and at the Ridge you get cane fires sweeping down. These are major highways to Seawell Airport. Every year it happens. In Edey Village, it is known that there was a gentleman who set fires year after year, and all that happened was that he goes down to the Mental Hospital. He is a sick man. I am suggesting to the Minister that it is absolutely necessary that conditions in Edey Village be investigated.

I would really like to know what machinery there is in the Ministry for receiving suggestions as to where mains are needed. Under Local Government you used to go to the Councils.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

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

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

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended for one hour.

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

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

2.05 p.m.

On resumption:

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

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

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

QUESTION TIME

Mr. SPEAKER: There are certain questions which were not put earlier today because of certain reasons, and I am prepared to allow these questions now to be put either by the hon. members in whose names they stand on my Notice Paper, or any other hon. member who has been authorised to give notice of same.

On my Notice Paper I see that there stands in the name of the hon. and Learned senior member for Christ Church, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition a question in connection with Civil Servants serving as Directors in Commerce. That hon. member is now in his place.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance:

1. Will the Minister state whether there are any General Orders and/or Regulations or Administrative directions relating to Civil Servants being appointed as directors of:

- (a) Public Companies in which the Government is not a shareholder
- (b) Private Companies in which the Government is not a shareholder

If the answer to the above is "No", will the Minister state whether Government intends to pass any such regulations.

2. What is Government's policy in relation to such appointments of Civil Servants by such companies?

3. Will the Minister state whether any civil Servants have applied to the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance for permission to be directors of:

(a) Public Companies in which the Government is not a shareholder.

(b) Private Companies in which the Government is not a shareholder.

4. Will the Minister state whether permission has been granted to any civil Servant or servants above the post of senior Clerk, and if so, what post or posts are held by such civil servants and in which department of Government?

5. Will the Minister state what criteria are taken into account in granting such permission?

6. Will the Minister state if any of the above have applied to the Public Service Commission for such permission?

To enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:

1. Will the Minister state what sum of money was received from the Southern District Council in respect of licensing fees for motor cars and other vehicles licensed in the parish of Christ Church in respect of the financial years 1966-67 1967-68?

2. Will the Minister state how much money is estimated to be received from the said parish in respect of the said licensing fees for the financial year 1968-69?

3. Will the Minister state how much money was expended in the construction, maintenance and/or upkeep of roads in the parish of Christ Church in the financial years 1966-67, 1967-68 in respect of those roads which were taken over from the Southern District Council by the Central Government?

4. Will the Minister state how much money is proposed to be expended in the parish of Christ Church on roads taken over from the Southern District Council by the Central Government in the financial year 1968-69?

To enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:

1. Will the Minister state what sums of money were expended in the parish of Christ Church by the Central Government on street lighting in the financial year 1967-68? If any sum was expended.

will the Minister state whether any new lights were installed?

2. Will the Minister state what sums it is proposed to expend in the parish of Christ Church in the financial year 1968-69 on street lighting and how many new lights and where these lights are proposed to be installed? If any, and on what basis is the selection made?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware that the roads known as Carters Gap Road, Rawlins Road and the subsidiary roads in the Silver Sands-Carter Gap area are in a bad state of disrepair: Will the Minister state whether the Government proposes to repair the said roads and if so when?

2. Is the Minister aware that there are a number of tenantry roads in the Gall Hill and Lodge Road area in the parish of Christ Church which are unsurfaced and unpaved and expose the users thereof to great inconvenience especially in the rainy season: Will the Minister state whether the Government proposes to pave the said roads and drain the same properly?

3. If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, will the Minister state in what financial year?

4. Will the Minister state whether his Ministry or any other Ministry of Government has called on any tenantry owners to pave and properly drain any roads in the parish of Christ Church pursuant to the Law of this Island under the Public Health Acts, since the take-over of Public Health and Roads by the Central Government?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

1. Is the Minister aware that there is a large tenantry situated between the St. Lawrence School and Harmony Hall and abutting on the St. Lawrence Bridgetown Oistin main road in which there are no proper roads or drainage?

2. Will the Minister state whether it is Government's intention to properly pave and drain the said roads? If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, will the Minister state when Government proposes so to do?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

1. Is the Minister aware that part of the road system in the Rendezvous Fairway Gardens area was repaired and repaved by the Southern District Council when it was in control of the roads in that part of Christ Church?

2. Is the Minister aware that the residents in the said Rendezvous-Fairway Gardens area were promised by the Southern District Council that the balance of roads in their areas would be repaired

but that the Government took over the roads before this was done?

3. Will the Minister state whether the Government proposes to complete the work started by the Southern District Council? If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, will the Minister state in what financial year?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware that there are no proper parking facilities in the Oistin area in the parish of Christ Church?

2. If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, is Government prepared to create parking facilities in the said area?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

1. Is the Minister aware that during the rainy season the area between the Post Office in Oistin's and Top Rock is very badly flooded?

2. Will the Minister state what are Government's plans, if any, for creating a proper drainage system for this year.

3. Will the Minister state in which financial year Government proposes to implement the same?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

1. Is the Minister aware that there is acute traffic congestion on the Oistin Highway especially during the afternoon in the fishing season?

2. Will the Minister devise ways and means to relieve this acute problem?
3.10 p.m.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Question:-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Will the Minister state the number of Ministers of Government (other than the Prime Minister) who during the past two years have occupied Government-owned houses or flats in this Island?

2. Will the Minister state the names of any such Ministers and what rentals each such Minister paid in respect of the occupation of such houses?

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. senior member for St. James assure me that the second question is also part of the question which he handed in?

Mr. CRAIG: Yes, sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I accept the hon. member's assurance. Unfortunately they are not a part of the

questions which have been handed to me and are on my Notice Paper, but these things do happen.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following question:-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Will the Minister take steps to acquire, compulsory or otherwise, the parcel of land south of and adjoining the Holetown Post Office for the purpose of providing an Esplanade for the use of the parishioners of Saint James?

Mr. SPEAKER: There is one more question on my Notice Paper for this morning. It stands in the name of the hon. senior member for Bridgetown whom I do not observe instantly to be in his place.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I am asking your permission to ask the question on behalf of the hon. member. I am doing so at his request.

Mr. SPEAKER: I accept the assurance that the request made by the hon. junior member for St. Peter is on behalf of the hon. senior member for Bridgetown. Let the question be put.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the hon. senior member for Bridgetown, I beg to give notice of the following question:-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware of the acute embarrassment caused to the members of the Anglican Clergy in this Island due to the non-implementation of the agreement between Church and State as to the dis-establishment of the Anglican Church?

2. Will the Minister take immediate steps to have this matter finalised?

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 114 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Joseph.

QUESTIONS re IMPORTED FOODSTUFFS

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows:-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Is Government aware that the increased cost of imported foodstuffs on the local market has had the effect of raising the cost of living to heights beyond the reach of the incomes of the working class people?

2. If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, will the Government consider immediately the advisability of re-introducing the subsidisation of essential commodities which are used mainly by the poorest class of working people?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

"1. Government is aware of the increased cost of imported foodstuffs on the local market. These increases were largely due to the devaluation of the pound sterling and increased costs. In an effort to keep the cost of living within the reach of consumers, Government extended the range of control of essential foodstuffs from the 5th December, 1967 and a comparison at 13th February, 1968 in the cost of 32 items of foodstuff since the devaluation has shown that prices of 17 items have not been increased, 6 items have increased by less than 10% and 5 items by more than 10%. The prices of 4 items have actually decreased.

2. Does not arise."

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, it was impossible for me to follow the Minister closely on such a long reply. If I am in order, I would ask that the replies be printed and circulated before I ask any supplementaries.

Mr. SPEAKER: In any event they will be printed and circulated. If the hon. member is asking to be allowed to await the printing and circulating before he asks supplementary questions, I will consider that request sympathetically.

Mr. SMITH: Will I then be in order to ask questions after they have been circularised?

Mr. SPEAKER: There is precedent for it, and we will follow the precedent on this occasion.

I am reminded *aptos* the precedent that a similar request was made by the hon. junior member for St. Peter in respect of Question No. 152. Let the hon. member proceed.
3.20 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, the Reply states at No. 1 that Parent-Teachers Associations are considered desirable. I am to wonder if the Minister is aware.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is to enquire if the Minister is aware, not merely to wonder.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I am to enquire if the Minister is aware that a book bearing the title "Suggestion to Teachers" was distributed by the Ministry of Education to our Teachers here in which it is stated that Parent-Teacher relationship is an indispensable link?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: no, Sir, I am not aware of that.

Mr. HINDS: Now, Sir, I am to enquire if the Minister is aware of the fact that any Parent-Teacher bodies such as are given in his Replies - to be functioning - one of the difficulties is that the Teachers are found to dominate rather than the Parents.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes, from my own experience, I think that I can remember that being a problem, but I do not think I would put it quite like that, that the Teachers are found to dominate. What I think has happened - and I think the hon. member would realise that this can happen too - is that in these Organisations Parents, quite wrongly, in my opinion, tend to feel that the most of the argument and the talking must necessarily be done by Teachers; until they get accustomed to running their own Organisation, they tend to leave it to the Teachers to make suggestions at meetings, to move motions and make speeches. That is until they get accustomed to the idea that it is an Organisation of Parents and Teachers, and not a Teachers' Organisation. It has however been my experience that when once they have got to understand that these Organisations are so designed that the Parents of children should share as fully in the running of them as the Teachers, this initial shyness wears out, and the Teachers never have as much say or as much dominance in the conduct of their affairs as formerly. That has been my experience.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to enquire of the Minister if he is aware that since the tabling of this question, there has been a considerable awakening amongst the Grammar Schools and Primary Schools in this Island with regards to the forming of Parent-Teachers Bodies.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that I cannot assist the hon. member by saying that I am aware of this, since the questions have been tabled. It is however within my knowledge that within the last - I would say - eight or ten years, but more particularly, say, within the last five or six years, that more and more schools with their teaching staff and the parents of the children all become aware of the necessity of Parent-Teachers Organisations. I do not imagine that this awareness has been more evident since the questions have been tabled than it was before. If the hon. member wishes to tell me that, I am quite willing to believe him, but I myself was not aware of that.

Mr. HINDS: I wonder if I could enquire of the Minister if he is aware that in his Primary and all-age schools there are 293 Teachers and 2,380 Parents involved in the Parent-Teacher movement. I wonder if the Minister is aware that this only applies to 50 schools in the Island.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: This could quite possibly be so. That is the whole point of the hon. member's question, as it must be the policy of the Ministry to get more and more schools with their Teachers and Parents of the children more and more involved in these organizations. Therefore, if it is true that only 50 schools are indeed so organized, this is too small a number by far, and we must hope that more and more schools will become aware of the value of the Parent-Teacher Associations. I myself have always stressed the necessity of that, and a lot of the problems now arising out of discipline, for instance, in the schools would be solved if they were more P.T.A.'s

in the schools. I agree with the hon. member that 50 is a small number, but we hope that with renewed interest, by this time next year or even before this, there may be as many as 100 or 150. That is what we wish to encourage.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I am to enquire if the Minister is satisfied that in the 17 Government-aided schools, only three schools have Parent-Teachers Bodies associated with them. In these 17 schools which are Government-aided independent schools, only three schools have Parent-Teacher Bodies attached to them.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No, I am not aware of that. I am not at all surprised at it. These are Primary institutions, and it is to be hoped that the proprietors and principals and the people who run these schools will see the necessity and value of establishing P.T.A.'s, as we approve the principle of it with respect to the Government schools.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, this may be my last supplementary question. I am enquiring if the Minister is aware that the difficulty in having more Parent-Teacher Bodies affiliated with schools is that there has been a marked lack of liaison between the Ministry of Education, Headteachers of Secondary Schools and of Primary schools, and I should say to an even greater extent between the Social Welfare Department and the schools.

3.30 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: This can be so, of course; but we are dealing with a voluntary association of Parents and Teachers, and in any voluntary association I think that you have to rely on the motivation of the individuals in the venture. I have already assured the member that as far as the Ministry of Education is concerned, P.T.A.s will be promoted in ever-increasing numbers.

Mr. HINDS: If I may ask one more.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am afraid that the hon. member has himself at a disadvantage. It is now half past three.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Peter indicated that his question before the last would probably be the last.

Mr. HINDS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I am finished with that.

Mr. SPEAKER: It will go off the Order Paper.

Mr. HINDS: Yes, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am thankful for the co-operation of the hon. member. We will revert from now.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: We are well aware that the motion was to have a half hour of Question Time. My colleague has pointed out that he brought in Replies to two Questions asked by the hon. senior

member for St. Thomas. He is suggesting that if the hon. member is willing to ask the questions, he is willing to dispose of them. In that case I am willing to move a further extension of Question Time until 3.45 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I point out that there is another question asked by the junior member for St. Peter, No. 157, which was asked since he completed reading the question which was at the time to revert to other business. I only draw that to the attention of the Hon. Leader of the House so that perhaps he might.....

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

The question that Question Time be extended until 3.45 p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 157, Page 10, right hand column, in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter, which he read at a previous meeting immediately after the completion of Question Time was called. I am afraid that the answer to No. 157 is not presently in the House, and I will direct that that Question remain on the Order Paper.

No. 83 standing in the name of the hon. and learned member for St. Thomas, on page 6, top right hand column.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Minister of Transport:-

1. Is the Minister aware that residents on and near the main Highway from Shop Hill as far north as Dunscombe in the parish of St. Thomas are finding great difficulty in getting buses to Bridgetown, especially in the early morning?

2. Will the Minister take steps to remedy the situation?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the replies are as follows:-

1. No, Sir.

2. There is evidence of occasional overcrowding at peak hours in the morning period and the omnibus service is being re-scheduled to eliminate this.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister state if this re-scheduling has taken place since this question?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I will assume so, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Will the Minister state if he considers that the reply to Part 2 is consistent with the reply to Part one, that the second part is consistent with the first part of the reply? If he requires further elucidation, he says that he is not aware that the residents are suffering any difficulty in the early

morning. Will he say that these two replies are mutually inconsistent?

Anyway, Mr. Speaker, I will like to thank the Minister for taking such prompt steps following my question to do away with the inconvenience in the parish which both the Hon. Minister and myself represent.

Mr. SPEAKER: Do I understand that to be a supplementary? Should it not be: "Is it not a fact that the Minister has taken such prompt steps?"

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Private Members' Business be now taken until 4 o'clock.

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

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 1 under Private Members' Business is to resume debate on the passing of a Resolution in connection with the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals for the Fiscal Year 1967-68. When debate on this subject was adjourned the hon. senior member for St. Joseph - according to the official report the hon. senior member for St. Joseph on the 14th May was still speaking. On the 28th May, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph was still speaking, and on the 18th June, the hon. member was speaking when Government Business was called. The hon. member may continue to speak.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I will continue to speak, and continue to speak and continue to speak.
3.40 p.m.

I will continue to speak, but it has just been drawn to my attention by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas that the Leader of the Opposition would like to reply to these Budgetary Proposals. I intended to wind up, but if I do so he may lose his chance to reply. If that is so, and I am not in order, I would not mind moving that the matter be deferred until the next sitting.

Mr. SPEAKER: Private Members' Business will end, according to the motion which is now before us, at 4 p.m. I know the hon. senior member for St. Joseph is quite capable of taking care of himself until 4 p.m. without concluding.

Mr. SMITH: I thought it was 4.30 p.m. for Private Members' Business.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Standing Order has been suspended, and it has been decided that Private Members' Business should conclude today at 4 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: I do not think I was present. On the other hand, I may have been speaking and I did not pay attention to what was going on. Then I am in order to carry on. I can carry on until today week with-

out going to sleep, Sir, on the Budgetary Proposals.

MR. SPEAKER: But the Chair does not guarantee to do a similar thing.

MR. SMITH: I will not ask for your guarantee, Sir. I will continue. At the last meeting I was making a point relative to what was happening in this country with poultry farmers. I ended up by saying that it was only last Sunday when I heard over the radio that quite a number of things are coming to this country from Trinidad in relation to this same trade business. I am not against things coming into this country, because I understand that refrigerators will be at least \$100 cheaper. I do not know if they will be \$100 better. Now those poor people who have not had the opportunity of buying a refrigerator before can buy one now at a cheaper price. That is a very good step and it shows that CARIFTA, as far as Trinidad is concerned, is doing good work.

Mr. Speaker, I am still wondering to know what we have to send to Trinidad. Now the people in Trinidad will flood us with their goods, but I wonder what this Government is thinking of sending to Trinidad, as far as CARIFTA is concerned. I will continue to warn the Government to be very careful in this matter and to protect all of us. A word to the wise is enough, because I have heard that Jamaica has come in very quickly although it pulled out just as quickly, but Jamaica also has its reason for coming in. In view of what the Minister of Trade in Jamaica had to say, we can clearly see that Jamaica had something to lose by keeping out of the CARIFTA Agreement.

The three big countries involved in this Agreement, I am sure, have everything to gain. I sincerely hope that little Barbados will gain something too. As far as I can see, the few small industries that we have in this country may not be able to meet the demands inside and outside of Barbados. On the other hand, the other countries may be producing the same items that we are producing here, and I do not know if the other countries would allow Barbados to send them similar goods. That is what I am afraid of, and you will pardon me, Sir, for rambling about in this matter, because I have not yet been told on the floor of this House what is the real meaning of CARIFTA as far as Barbados is concerned. Therefore if we should land in trouble, I do not think that, at least, the Opposition can be held responsible for it.

I think I heard just last week that St. Lucia had debated CARIFTA, but the members of the Opposition said that they did not have sufficient time to investigate the matter. However, CARIFTA was agreed to. As far as St. Lucia is concerned, it has done more than Barbados. I cannot remember our debating the matter on the floor of this House. If we have debated it, then I might not have been present. Sir, suppose it was not debated, what can one say? The only thing I can say is that the Government, and it is true, just does not care anything about the Opposition. The

Government is the Government of the country, and what it says is all right; but it is not fair in dealing with such an important matter that any Government of any country should take it upon itself to make a decision in this matter without having debated it in the House.

As a matter of fact, I would not even say that the Government made the decision. The Leader of the Government took it upon himself to commit the entire country in things of this nature. I do not know anything about it; I was not told anything about it; but as far as I can see the other countries are gearing up to grapple all the business and to do all the trade, but I cannot see what Barbados is doing to capture trade from outside.
3.50 p.m.

We will only be standing by to spend our money with the big countries and make them richer and bigger, and we will remain smaller; and it is a fact that we have to pay more. We would not mind buying their goods if they were buying ours to even it up, but if I have to buy yours and have nothing to sell, it is a first-class agreement for these large countries.

With respect to CARIFTA, you would be surprised to know that the Prime Minister of Guyana flew into Barbados and had talks with the Prime Minister of Barbados, and out of the blue we were committed to CARIFTA. Two men met and it was started, and we have to sit back and take the time from them. That is why I am very much afraid of so much power. Too much power corrupts. To 250,000 people one man can say "come", "go", "die" or "live"; and this is a very serious matter. I would not have to say much on this if we were suffering from the lack of establishing our industries and expanding them, because I know that when we agree with the other territories we would be doing something for the people, finding more work for them and bringing more money into the country. I would do as Jamaica or any other big country did: jump in the line very fast; but here it is: we have to buy and have very little to sell.

I do not know, Sir, if we were suffering for a bigger market for our rum, because I do not go too far from Barbados. My money is not so big to carry me to big countries, but I go around the small Islands, and everywhere I stop I see our old Eclipse rum. I feel that the people of these countries drink nothing but Mount Gay; so I do not think we would be doing very much for rum by signing this Agreement as far as the rum industry is concerned. I regard the other things as small because they employ few people. You will have noticed what came to our country last Sunday: all the big electrical appliances from next door. There are businessmen here who, I hope, will be able to do some business, but I am still worried about how long we will have to keep time with the others before we can do some big export trade. I think I saw in this morning's papers that another beer factory was set up in Trinidad. If they are manufacturing beer in Trinidad, would they allow

us to flood their market with our beer and let their factory close down? I do not know how the agreement is worded although something was circulated about CARIFTA, and that is the thing that is worrying me. If we are manufacturing something here, are we going to allow other people to bring in theirs and shut us completely out, or is the agreement such that we cannot allow "A" or "B" because we are manufacturing it? I still think that we stand to lose more. The other small territories who do not have industries have nothing to shout about; but if we had sat and discussed the agreement in a way in which we could ask questions and put things together, I would be wondering now as others are doing. I would not doubt that some Ministers on the other side are wondering also. I want to know how far we are protected as far as this is concerned. I cannot even see the Prime Minister to ask him a question which I am sure he would answer and save me from going all out now; but I am very unhappy about it knowing that we are a little fish trying to get into a big pond, while the big fishes in the big pond have more chances than we do.

If the other people had taken on Jamaica in what she wanted to do, she would not have come back with us; but she failed; her plans backfired on her, and in quick time she is back on to CARIFTA; but if the others had guts, they would leave her out and let her wander about at least for a time. However, all I can hear from the Leaders of the other territories is that they are happy that Jamaica has seen the error of her ways and has come back in. The Leaders of the other territories have their arms wide open.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid the hon. senior member for St. Joseph may have to continue another day. It is now 4 o'clock and it was decreed that we resume Government Business at that time. When the Sitting was suspended, the House was in Committee of Supply.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, before Your Honour leaves the Chair, I should like to ask leave of the House to give notice of a Bill which did not arrive in time when I was giving Notices earlier.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is seeking leave of the House to give notice of a Bill which he was not in a position to do earlier today, and unless there is any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted. The Hon. Leader of the House may proceed.
4.00 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice 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.

BILL READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a first time.

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

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

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: On the last occasion of Government Business, the House was in Committee of Supply.

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

HEAD 102 - MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On the suspension of the sitting, the House was in Committee of Supply and the hon. senior member for Christ Church was speaking on a Resolution for the sum of \$482,345. I observe that the hon. member is not now in his place.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, with respect to this Resolution for the sum of \$226,600 for the Transport Board, all we have before us in addition to the few remarks from the Hon. Minister in introducing the Resolution, is the Report of the Transport Board, and this Report is in respect of the financial year ending September 1965. Attached thereto is the Report of the General Manager of the Transport Board for the same period. Now, one point which was made by the Hon. Minister certainly does arrest my attention. He made reference to the days when one caught a bus at 7 o'clock in the morning on one's way to work to find that at 9 o'clock one still found oneself on the road on the way to work; but, Mr. Chairman, I am to say that a similar condition exists today. The Minister ought to be aware of that because wherever one goes on the routes that are expected to be served by the Government Transport Board's buses, one cannot escape experiencing the mass suffering of people; and if we were to take the Report of the Manager of the Transport Board, although, as I say, this Report is in respect of the year ending on the 30th September, 1965, we have nothing else to guide us. But if we were to take the Manager's Report, we can only come to the conclusion that he was honest when he wrote in this particular paragraph, the second last paragraph from the end of his Report, as follows:

"The service to the public, although not fully satisfactory, has been maintained at the highest level of efficiency that is possible with the present fleet."

If you were to turn elsewhere in this Report, you are going to find that the same Manager sets about to contradict himself; because in speaking of the present fleet, he makes mention of the Mercedes Benz buses which are fast deteriorating and 21 gasoline units which are becoming obsolete. This then, Mr. Chairman, begins to give us some sort of a picture

as to the type of service that the Transport Board is offering to the general public. Now, Sir, the Minister has given us no information as to the plans of the Board respecting the information contained in this particular Report to which I am referring, because here in this Report the Manager of the Board makes mention of an imminent removal of the depot and as regards the workshop, he gave some information that the staff is working under intolerable conditions.

Now Sir, there is no doubt, from this Report and from what the Minister has said today, that there is the intention of providing better workshop accommodation.

4.10 p.m.

We would have to say on this side of the House, Sir, that if new offices are to be there and workshop accommodation is to be provided, we are entitled to know and to see the plans of the Government, and be satisfied that they themselves know what they are really about when they come to this Hon. House for the sum of money mentioned in this Resolution.

The Minister is very careful at times to tell us that the buses are our buses, that the water is ours; but are we to understand that the offices that are to be built and the workshop that is to be built - are these not ours also?

We feel, Sir, that the Transport Board or the Transport Authority would have had some plans prepared. They would have had their estimates before they attempted to come to this House for this sum of money; but the Report of the Manager gives us quite a bit of information which can be used to advantage to help the Minister, so to speak, in getting this Resolution through.

Now, mention has been made by the Minister of the various routes given to concessionaires. We must accept it as a fact that the Transport Board, the Transport Authority, or whatever you may call it is a concessionaire in the same light as the Elite Motor Omnibus Company and the Rocklyn Bus Company; but unfortunately for the Elite and the Rocklyn Bus Companies, they do not have the taxpayers into whose pockets they can dive from time to time to supplement their income from the buses. So you will understand that the Elite and the Rocklyn have got to be ultra careful in the conduct of their business, and they have got to show the type of interest that one is not likely to find being displayed in the operations of the Transport Board; because the Manager tells us of the increase in fares, and he was at some pains also to tell us about pirate buses.

Now, at one point in the Manager's Report he makes mention of pirate buses on Routes 1, 1A, 1B, 1C, and 1F. I want to tell the Hon. Minister this, Mr. Chairman, that if the pirate buses are operating on these routes, the Report of the General Manager of the Transport Board is in itself a sufficient justification for the retention of these pirate buses on these particular routes, because the Manager has

not hidden it. What he did not do is to tell us how many breakdowns, how many times breakdowns occur in the old dilapidated fleet on the various routes, leaving people to suffer. I can speak of what happens on Route 1, 1A, 1B, and 1C. I can see it and I know it for myself that even with the pirate buses functioning as they do now, there is still quite a lot of suffering by the travelling public.

One has got to remember that the pirate buses very often have to take the type of passenger that the Government buses would not take. These are the type of passengers who carry what the Minister will refer to as extra baggage. But beyond that, there is a type of passenger who has got to board the pirate buses because it is the surest means of his getting to work, getting to his job on time.

This is no sport, Mr. Chairman, There is a fleet of about 97 buses belonging to this organisation, this Transport Board, and the Manager has reported in this light; he tells us that it is impossible to maintain the fleet at peak performance because of the inefficiency of the gasoline units and the fast deterioration of the diesel units and the lack of enough spare replacements. That is the position of the Transport Board.

Mr. Chairman, suppose a decision was taken now in the light of the Manager's Report that these buses that are so unserviceable are scrapped forthwith. What would become of the travelling public? So you will understand that a case can be made out successfully for the retention of the pirate buses on these routes, Route 1, 1A, 1B, and 1C, because you have a fleet of old shacks. A considerable percentage of the buses plying on these routes - one has got to see it, and one cannot escape seeing it. As you go on within a distance of two miles sometimes, two or three buses during peak hours on mornings or evenings have broken down on the road, and the throngs of passengers are there just standing by looking one at the other not knowing what to do.

The Transport Board does not have a fleet capable of carrying out its contract. That has got to be admitted sooner or later.

4.20 p.m.

Under such conditions it is only fair, reasonable and just, to take into consideration the fact that, while the units of the buses are in such a state of disrepair, the members of the travelling public still have to be served. If that is the case, then what one has to bear in mind in respect of these pirate buses is this: I understand that the pirate bus operators, who call themselves minibus operators, have recently petitioned the Minister of Communications and Works in the hope that something would be done to permit them to carry more passengers than they are allowed to carry at the present moment.

One might find that, in the light of the Report, the Minister might try to make it appear difficult to entertain the petition from these operators; but what we would like to urge upon the Minister is this: The

capacity for carrying passengers on these minibuses, pickups, or what name suits them best, should be carefully considered. Some are licensed as cabs and taxis and, undoubtedly, there is the necessity for amending the law with respect to this particular type of motor vehicle which carries passengers for hire.

Perhaps, it may be argued, that in view of the fact that the Island is now - I can only say - expected to be served by three concessionaires, it would be difficult to give permission to a minibus operator, to ply for hire on the same routes that have already been allocated to concessionaires. The complaint is made, even in this Report, that the bus operators do not operate in a manner designed to fill any inadequacy in the service, but the General Manager charges that they operate deliberately to deprive the Board of passengers.

Mr. Chairman, in your parish, are you going to tell me that the people who have to come to town on mornings and travel back home on evenings, or to go to and fro on their business during the day, would prefer to travel in a pickup van with several crocus bags of vegetables and so on, if they could really and truly rely on the Transport Board, or any other Bus Company, to give them the type of service they look for: buses in a reasonable and respectable condition, buses running according to schedule and the like? If they knew that they could get a proper bus service, then these minibuses and pickup vans would automatically have to go off the road. It is not true or fair to accuse these pickups or pirate buses of deliberately robbing the Transport Board, or any other concessionaire, of passengers.

Mr. Chairman, we have seen, and the Minister must know, too, that these pirate buses definitely fill a need in the community at the present moment. The Minister also knows that, even when the Transport Board has its fleet of buses up to date, with the increased amount of travelling by the public generally, there will still be the need for the retention of these minibuses. We are sure that the day the bus services are maintained at a standard demanded, or expected, by the travelling public, there will be no problem, as the General Manager said here, "that the attention of the Director of Highways and Transport, the Police Department and the Ministry of Communications and Works, have been drawn to the recent increase in numbers and sizes of these pirate buses operating on these roads."

Mr. Chairman, there would be no necessity for the police to become involved in this matter, because if passengers refuse to travel on a pirate bus on a route served by a good bus service, the pirate bus will be run out of business. It will be argued that the pirate bus is competing against the regular buses. If it is competing, then it will be doing so in respect of the fact that it takes a passenger up at a particular point, and it succeeds in getting him to work in Bridgetown on time and prevents him or her from being dismissed.

One thing in favour of these minibuses is this: travelling from Boscobelle, St. Peter, on a minibus,

one has to pay 32¢ to come to Bridgetown. If one travels on a bus owned by the Transport Board one has to pay the same 32¢. If one travels on a pickup van one has to pay the same 32¢. The minibus, or the pickup van, does not charge a penny less than the regular bus. Mr. Chairman, if the fare is the same, would one not prefer to travel on the general bus? One would feel that there is greater safety surrounding one in the general bus. The atmosphere in the general bus is expected to be different. When you get into a minibus you will find buckets of fish, dolphin, and so on in it.

4.30 p.m.

People leave their homes early on mornings, and on account of being able to travel on these buses, reach their jobs on time. Are you going to tell me then, Mr. Chairman, that if a bus service was of such that the customer could rely on being driven, so to speak, in state into the City and back or elsewhere, that they would not prefer to do so on the general buses, rather than in the type of conditions that I have complained of on the minibuses? It is not fair, and what we must say is this: I am to encourage the Minister to do all he possibly can to reduce the suffering of the general public by encouraging the present fleet of minibuses to do this: carry their passengers without overloading, see that they carry these passengers under cover of insurance. I further encourage that the minibuses do not stop at the regular bus poles at the same time as the general buses to cause an obstruction or to make it appear to the buses run by the respective concessionaires that there is competition between them so to speak, because the minibuses, as I have said, are merely operating to serve the public and the returns to the operators are not in truth and in fact so great. We are willing to admit that some of these minibuses can take up their load of passengers and, not having direct routes along which they must ply, make shorter cuts. Travelling on Route 1, it is quite possible, although I see it seldom happen, that a minibus on reaching Eagle Hall might for the convenience of its passengers travel along the President Kennedy Drive or go down Barbarees Hill road which is not open to the buses of the concessionaires. You will also find that minibuses can make stops at various points along various routes where it would be very inconvenient for the regular buses to make these stops.

While the Transport Board might claim that it suffers a loss of passengers, and while the other concessionaires will also make the same claim, we are to maintain that the day a census is taken of the travelling public over a period of time and it is known definitely what are the requirements of the travelling public by way of buses and the type of buses, we would then be in a better position to say that the Transport Board must have a fleet not now of 97 buses, but maybe 127, because that is my view from what I have seen. In addition to this, Mr. Chairman, is the attitude of the staff of the Transport Board. It has happened on more than one occasion that something goes wrong with a bus while en route to Bridgetown or to the country, and as a matter of fact there seems to have been no directive given

whether the bus driver must leave his wheel because the bus is now out of service and go to the nearest telephone and telephone the Transport Board, or whether it should be the conductor's duty. From this, Mr. Chairman, there is considerable delay when a bus stops before the conductor and driver reach agreement as to which of the two must inform the Transport Board that they cannot carry out the terms of their schedule in the particular instance. When a decision is reached after a considerable time, a telephone message is sent through to the Transport Board and the first mechanic who wants to get out of the Transport Board yard jumps into a jeep and goes to wherever the bus stalls, and it is only after he has reached the spot that he finds he has brought out every piece of tool except the one he needs to service the bus. He then starts to quarrel with the conductor and driver for not telling him what they wanted, and all the time the passengers are becoming angrier and more despondent about the whole service. He will then in turn either drive back to the Transport Board or send through another message for another mechanic or somebody else to bring him the piece of tool he wants. As a boy going home from school or from Bridgetown, when these buses were owned by private concessionaires and one stalled, every passenger got out and helped to push it, put our mouths to the funnel leading to the gasoline tank and blew, and the bus would start, everybody would get back in and the bus would go. Today that bus goes out of commission for a week as a result of a little stuff in its jets.

I want to say here and now that I learnt from the Highways and Transport Inspecting Department that the Elite Motor Omnibus Company is maintaining its fleet and is doing a reasonably good service. From my experience of the Rocklyn Bus Company, considering that they have this uphill task and the very heavy strain on their buses, we have got to commend the owner, bearing in mind that the lady is showing us that she has been able to succeed throughout the years where men have failed by way of managing her business; but as I have said earlier, the Elite and the Rocklyn Bus Companies have got to be very careful about the maintenance of their units, keep them well serviced and see that as soon as something is wrong it is put right before they allow their units to leave the garages. It is not so with the Government buses. There is not that type of interest; so you will understand that by having the taxpayers to appeal to, that is the type of thing that is obtaining at the present moment.

4.40 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is for the reconstruction and rehabilitation of the premises occupied by the Transport Board which we understand is planned in two stages. The Addendum to the Resolution tells us that the first stage involving the resurfacing and drainage of the area is nearing completion, and that this supplementary provision of \$226,600 is now sought to implement the second stage of the plan which provides for new offices and workshop accommodation. The General Manager tells us here that the site of the Housing Authority in

Country Road was proposed at one time for the housing of the Transport Board. As I say, we have had no communication from the Board since this particular Report was made, and we would welcome hearing from the Minister - there was also a time when we heard that the buses were to be housed in an area at Deacons Road. All of those things we heard and we would welcome hearing from the Minister if the plan for housing the buses at the Country Road site has been shelved, what is the new plan and what is the reason for deciding to have the workshop at the present site at Weymouth as against this suggestion where the Minister tells us that on two occasions the Minister of Communications and Works, the Acting Director of Highways and Transport, the Town and Country Planning Officer, the Chairman and the General Manager himself visited the proposed site at the Housing Authority at Country Road. I would certainly like to know what has been decided for and subsequently against having that site for the Transport Board. If it is still the intention of the Board or the Government to effect the transfer from one site to the other, we do not see the necessity for spending \$226,600 for placing it at the present site when that site may have to be used for something else. In the absence of better information than that which I have from the Manager of the Board, I would like to enquire from the Minister if there is anything that he can tell us in this particular respect.

On the question of the local production of bus bodies, there is little which anybody would want to say, but we urge on the Minister to do all that he possibly can for the local bus body-building company to speed up matters and have them turn the buses out so as to relieve the present suffering public. There is no doubt about it at all that one can see too many people waiting for too long a period of time on the various routes which are served by the Transport Board, and we would urge that something be done about it. I have observed that provision is now being made at some bus stops where persons can wait for the buses off the main highway. I have not yet seen if, at these waiting points, the provision, when completed, would be such as to enforce the principle of queueing. That is one very important point. If the law requires queueing, any provision which is made for people waiting for buses should be consonant with queueing.

Mr. Chairman, the other part of the Resolution is in respect of additional water mains and standposts and the Addendum reads as follows:

"The provisions under these items in the current Estimates have been fully committed on the approved programme of work. The new Development Plan will include an extensive programme for the further development of the water services, and the supplementary provision being sought is to carry on the programme pending approval of the full plan."

Now, Mr. Chairman, I consider this to be a very dangerous statement, because the full plan has not yet been approved by this House. If we were to accept it today and vote money to carry out a part of the plan, we could not then when the full Plan comes

before us - in fact, the Minister would be in this position where he could tell us: "You have already approved a part of this Plan; you have voted a supplementary estimate for carrying out a portion of this Plan". And if we have carried out a portion of the Plan, would we be then in a position to condemn the other portion of the Plan when the full portion comes before us?

4.50 p.m.

We feel that the object and purpose of this Resolution would have been better served - except in the case of some extreme urgency - and there is no evidence from the cool and calm manner in which the Minister made his presentation of the Resolution, there is no evidence coming from him of any case of extreme emergency where we could not wait until the full Plan is before us.

But since this a question of water mains, I am to ask the Minister what is the position regarding Benn Hill in St. Peter where, as I have told this House on more than one occasion already, water is connected to residences at the bottom of Benn Hill. Why is it, Mr. Chairman, what is wrong, what can be done about getting water to those residences in the middle of Benn Hill?

I feel that the Minister would like to know that water is everywhere. I find that the Minister even tells us what is his intention in St. Thomas. Again I am drawing it to the Minister's attention. I have heard the Minister say that if a bucket is full of water it cannot hold more; but I want to warn the Minister to discuss this matter with his engineers, and they must know that an intermittent supply of water brings about a greater loss of water than a constant supply even in small doses.

If it is known that they are going to get water between 6 and 9 a.m., everybody is going to be at the pipe and try to fill every container in their homes. Whatever can hold water they will try to put water into. If they know that they will not get water until 6 p.m. or 6 tomorrow morning, they will use the water with caution.

But what is going to happen? If the water is coming on again at 6 a.m. tomorrow or at 5.45, all the water caught yesterday and not used then will be thrown away. An intermittent supply of water is dangerous in a respect. It leads to loss of water, and in some cases it can make provision for the breeding of larvae and the like.

So, Sir, if the Minister would consult with his engineers, they might find ways and means that instead of giving a village water for three or four hours out of 12 hours, if it were humanly possible to make water available to the people a few hours more or to give it to them in some better quantity, the Department would stand to gain in the long run and the wastage of water, to my mind, would be considerably reduced.

But this is a case where we are being asked to vote money to carry on a plan pending approval of

the full Plan. When you say 'pending approval of the full Plan' we must take it to mean pending the approval of this Hon. House of the full Plan; but who is to know, Sir, whether we on this side of the House would ever approve of the full Plan submitted by the Hon. Minister to this House?

We would approve provided it is a comprehensive plan taking into consideration the needs, not of any particular remote village, or any particular built-up area or residential area, but provided that the Plan took into consideration the needs of the general public.

Mr. Chairman, there are applications reaching the Ministry and the Waterworks Department from private developers. We are satisfied - we know that the estimates given by the Department in some cases are prohibitive. There is a development, Sir, at St. James which is before my mind now, and the estimate given does not at all encourage the would-be developer to go into the project.

It means, therefore, that houses that can be built - houses the building of which will employ considerable labour - cannot and will not be embarked upon. All of this, Mr. Chairman, is being lost, and we are being urged to vote for this sum under Item 21 and for the sum under Item 22 for additional mains and standposts and for the replacement of mains.

The sum of money involved is so great that it should be accompanied by a plan which should be laid here on the Table before hon. members so that we could get mental pictures of what this scheme, this programme, is going to entail; and it is for this reason that we feel that the Minister up to this point has not done this Committee what he ought.

We were hoping that the Minister would have been mindful enough to have come here and to have completely disarmed the Opposition by laying before us what facts there are, all the facts that could be laid before us. If he had done so, what would we have been able to say? We would have had to commend the Minister or, on the other hand, to sit tight without being able to present any argument. We would have had to accept what the Minister had to say.

5.00 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, I do not want to tire this hon. Committee, but at the Mount, St. Peter, I have asked the Minister repeatedly to see to it that standpipes are placed at the Mount, St. Peter; and in St. Andrew, Sir, you can still find little boys putting their mouths to the pipe-cocks trying to see if they can draw down the water; but all they can suck up is air - no water. I am asking the hon. Minister to detail someone to check on these things that he hears hon. members from this side of the House complain about. I am sure that at Mount, St. Peter, and at St. Andrew he will find two dry standposts. He can turn on these pipe-cocks until they cannot be turned any more: but seldom, if ever, will one drop of water ever come through.

Mr. Chairman, I am asking that the Minister set about investigating these reports, and do what he can to make life comfortable for these people. He says that water is his pet subject. If the Minister is going to play "duck", do not let him duck out of this. The people want water. He gave us some figures here; he says that people believe that the water they get belongs to the Labour Party. (Mr. HOPPIN: Democratic Labour Party.) I did not hear the word "Democratic". I heard the Minister say "Labour Party". I can only think that the Minister means the Barbados Labour Party. In any case our people are not..... (ASIDES)

Mr. Chairman, if the Minister is getting angry, I will talk until tomorrow. (ASIDES)

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

Mr. HINDS: I was saying that our people are not the type of people who like to waste water. In the Parish of St. George, near Redland, there is a pipe, and you can hardly pass there in the morning between six and seven, or in the evening just after six, without finding a number of youngsters bathing under the pipe. I am saying that much more water is wasted than would be wasted if a bath were erected in the area where all the people who have need for such services would go at a convenient time to themselves and get a bath, return home, dress themselves and go wherever they want to go. You will find at this particular pipe that the boys are just spouting the water on each other and wasting it. If you were to erect a bath, you would have a caretaker and the conditions would be different.

Mr. Chairman, these are the things that one must mention. You know, Sir, that it is felt that there ought to be no Opposition. I am not to be blamed for that. We in the Opposition have a duty to do for the public; we are not doing it for ourselves. The Minister, as I have said before, can considerably reduce the argument of the Opposition by putting before the Committee all of the necessary information at his disposal; but the moment a Minister assumes the role: "I am a Minister; I am forever to be Minister; what I care to give I give, and what I do not care to give I do not give." we have to get up on the floor of this House and ferret it out of the Minister in whatever way we can. We need to be informed. We want to be told what the Government is doing: whether it be water services, bus services or whatever it might be. We have the right to ask a Minister to tell us this and that.

Sir, the Minister said that he was prepared to answer any request that was reasonable. There could be a lot of argument on that, but I do not propose to raise any, or to open any avenue thereto, because it is just a case of what a Minister determines, according to his ability, to be reasonable, or unreasonable, in his estimation. There could be long and lengthy arguments, as I have said, on that, but I do not propose to enter into any. I hope that I have said enough to make the Minister understand that his duty will

become increasingly onerous when he assumes the type of, perhaps, pompous attitude which he does, perhaps, even unwittingly.
5.10 p.m.

Mr. HOPPIN: Mr. Chairman, there has been such a long discussion on this Resolution that I do not intend to make it much longer; but as far as the Transport Board is concerned, my conception is that more buses are needed to cope with the ever-increasing travelling public. One of the hazards of the present Transport Board is that the maintenance of the buses is not 100 per cent, because we have concessionaires who have buses of the same make and they are doing an efficient service on the routes which they ply. Another hazard, in my opinion, is that the operational side is not well organised. There are instances, especially at peak hours, where we see people waiting for transport, and the buses do not leave the terminus although they are packed. I feel that on occasions such as that, especially at peak hours, more buses should be out, and as soon as a bus is filled it should leave and take away the crowd that wants to get home. Since this does not happen, it is my opinion that that is where the pirate buses have come into operation.

Now I have nothing against a pirate bus or its owner because the gentleman got his money from somewhere, probably worked for it or won it, and would not like to see it lost; but I feel they should comply with the law, and it is noticeable - especially with these pirate buses - that they do lots of overloading. Of course, the more passengers they carry, the more they stand to gain; but in overloading there is the danger of accidents occurring. This, in my opinion, should be looked after strictly by the Police, but, maybe, the Police are part-owners for all we know or have good friends operating some of these pirate buses.

People who want to get to work on mornings would like to know that at the regular hour they can go out and get a bus to carry them there. On many occasions you see a bus stopped at the side of the road and maybe the driver and conductor are there, and on enquiring what is wrong, you get no reply. If you ask whether they have sent to get another bus or informed the Transport Board that this bus is not in order, you get no answer. This happens especially with the Transport buses because most people feel that as long as a thing is owned by the Government, they have a right to do as they please, and that is why I say that one of the hazards in the Transport Board is the operational service, and the regular contacts which should be made to let people know what is taking place.

The Minister has assured us that the money requested here is for the workshop as set out in the Addendum, and I do hope that these buses which we have, especially some of the new ones which were put on the road not long ago, will be properly serviced. It is surprising how some people can get some engines to last them for years, and some new ones bought by the Government can break down so easily.

That is why I feel that if the maintenance at the Transport Board is of the highest order, we would always have buses available. Sometimes there are no buses to supplement the ones that have broken down because they are awaiting repairs so I hope that with this Resolution for \$226,600 we would see better servicing and the workshop accommodation brought up to a very high standard, and everyone there would be quite satisfied both inside as well as outside.

There was a point made by a former speaker about offices that are to be built. I do remember that when the building housing the present Transport Board was built, there were many questions posed in here by a sitting member, but I do hope that Government will use competent judges in having these offices built so that there will be no cracks or sinking of land, so that money will not be wasted.

Moving on to the second part of the Resolution about water, this is a commodity which every householder would like to have at his disposal. I think this Government has done a very good job in enabling people to get water in their homes. The Minister has outlined the amount of gallons used daily, and he also spoke about wastage. As a boy there was always the term about wasting water, but actually I did not consider it in the same light as the Minister spoke of wasting water. I feel that the amount of water which is being used daily now is due to the amount of services that have been installed, and of course there are some people who are not so strict in having their taps locked off and not dripping. We have a good supply of water here, and technicians came down and proved this to us. We have tapped water in the Sweet Vale area because we have a very good spring there and the Government is building reservoirs. At present a reservoir is being erected at Rising Sun Hill in Christ Church so that the people in that area can benefit. One was recently put at Lodge Hill to enhance the position for the people there, and wherever possible the Minister is giving the necessary assistance.

I feel, Mr. Chairman, that the amount requested here, though a large sum, would help to replace or instal mains in those areas which have not benefitted from the use of water and let them have this useful commodity. I heard the Minister say that he is interested in the subject of water. We both have had the opportunity to be on an island where they did not have rain for over six months, and the water supply was rather scarce. Water had to be brought in by tankers, and that is probably why the Minister is always urging members both of the Government and of the other side to remind people to close their taps. He no doubt has this particular island in mind, because the Government had to use a desalinization plant which operates in Florida as well as in one of our West Indian Islands. I do hope we will never have to use them here, because I have tasted some of the water and it does not taste like our genuine water.

Mr. Chairman, I support the Minister in asking members both on the other side as well as on the Gov-

ernment side to make sure that the best use is put to the water supply we have. With those remarks I feel that this Resolution is a worthy one which we should be all pleased to have here for the benefit of the people of Barbados.

5.20 p.m.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Chairman, I did not intend to speak on this Resolution, but owing to the inconvenience and hardship which the residents of certain districts in the parish of St. Philip are experiencing (MEMBERS: We cannot hear the hon. member.) I feel that it is my duty to draw to the attention of the Minister the hardship and the inconvenience which the residents of certain districts in my constituency must face. The Minister has mentioned that he has been told that a woman in my constituency who has water at her home left her home owing to the fact that her husband had instructed her not to take the hose off the pipe, and she went to someone else's home in order to get water. I would say that in respect of the wastage of water, that is not done in any particular parish. I would say that if water is being wasted, it is wasted throughout the island.

Now, Sir, there are certain parts of St. Philip which do not get water regularly. The districts are Wellhouse, Bayley's and Merricks. At Bayley's School, I think, a tank had to be erected so that the school children can have water daily. The people in these districts have been complaining regularly to me and to the other representative of the parish. I must let the Minister know that taking into consideration the fact that you have Hampton Pumping Station in the parish of St. Philip, it is my opinion that something should be done to alleviate this hardship which these people must face.

In dealing with item 21 - Additional mains and standposts - I think that the time has come when I must let the Minister know that people in the parish of St. Philip are very dissatisfied with regard to the extension of mains. They feel that since the Council has been abolished, that parish has been neglected, (Cheers) and I would be failing in my duty if I did not let this Committee know that the time has come when something should be done for the people in the parish. I deem it my duty to draw that to the attention of the Minister and I hope that he will do something for the people in my constituency. (Cheers) I cannot afford to come here weekly and allow the Opposition to put forward the case for their various constituencies and I sit here and do not explain the grievances of my people. It is the duty of the Minister to know the problems of that parish I am appealing to him to do his utmost for us. (Cheers)

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I have not got a very long contribution to make on this Resolution. What I am worried about is that this is only the end of June. We are just two months away from the Estimates and how is it that the financial procedures in the Ministry of Communications and Works are in such a disarray and disorder that we have the spectacle during March of a supplementary vote for over \$220,000 for additional mains

and standposts and very similar matters relating to water, some of which has been spent even before the House voted the money? Hon. members will no doubt recall the very ugly incident in which the Prime Minister sought to justify it, and I will really congratulate the Minister of Communications and Works on being absent from the House at the time, because there was no justification for the overspending before the House had passed the money, just as there was no justification for passing the money when clearly, in a fortnight, a quarter million dollars was not going to be spent by the Waterworks Department on mains and standposts. One presumes, Mr. Chairman, that the most of this money had, in fact, lapsed and repaid to the Treasury. I was not present, unfortunately, when the Minister introduced this Resolution this morning and I do not know if he made any reference to this being, in a sense, a part revote of a lapsed vote. If it is, he should not have made a reference to this fact. If it is not, no doubt, he will correct me when he comes to make his reply. How is it, Mr. Chairman, that Item 21 - Additional Mains and Standposts - and Item 22 - Replacement of Mains - in the Capital Estimates were only for \$65,000 in March and now we are asked to spend more than a quarter million dollars? Mr. Chairman, any accountant in any company whose estimates, whose costings or planning were so poor, would be fired. The accountant would be fired and perhaps the Managing Director would be fired and, after all, the Minister stands in the Managing Director's shoes as far as the Waterworks are concerned.

What kind of supervision, what kind of oversight is being exercised in the Ministry of Communications and Works if they cannot make their figures balance at the end of the year? If now, when it comes to receiving the money they ask for - \$65,000 - they find that they need a quarter million dollars, that is bad Government; that is a badly-run Ministry. We have had some contributions from hon. members on both sides of the House and for all constituencies, and I am glad to see that the parishes of St. Philip and St. George are at long last giving the appearance of getting representation, notwithstanding the fact that they have not returned members of our Party on this occasion to this Honourable House - I am glad to see that these great parishes are getting their affairs attended to.
5.30 p.m.

I think I am right in saying that for a long time the principal voice to be raised for St. George in here was that of the hon. senior member for St. James who got some dusty answers when trying to get roads in Drax Hall and Ellerton. I am glad to see that those whom they sent to represent them have at long last found their voices and that a Parliamentary Secretaryship has not entirely closed up the voice of the former Chairman of the Southern Council, the hon. senior member for St. Philip.

I am glad to observe that remarks have been made to the effect that many people are saying that since the Council has been abolished certain things have not been done. These remarks reflect criti-

cisms that we on this side of the House made in this House and on public platforms. We are willing to welcome to our ranks those members in that respect, and I dare say at any time.

I think that both sides of the House have made a useful contribution. We know that the Minister of Communications and Works likes to see mains laid down. He believes in water, even if he does not like to see young ladies with dirty feet washing them under the standpipe. He will know what I mean by that.

In spite of that, we had in the Capital Estimates this year for this purpose an amount of \$65,000. How can it be that it now needs in another couple of months a supplementary estimate of almost five times that amount? What control has he got over his Ministry if he cannot do better than that?

The note says that the provision under these items in the current estimates has been fully committed on the approved programme of work. If you propose to spend \$30,000, how can we spend the \$30,000 in the first month and a half, when the \$30,000 was supposed to last a year?

What is the Cabinet thinking of? Is it that the Cabinet cut down on the Minister's original estimate? What kind of Cabinet have you got that now agrees to put back this amount? Is this a Government by commonsense or Government by standing on your head and kicking your feet in the air? We must have some sensible approach to the finances of this country. If only \$8 million could be afforded on the entire Capital Estimates, how is it that a supplementary amount of \$500,000 is now being sought within a couple of months? What was the point of such a small estimate in the first place?

Mr. Chairman, I will vote for the Resolution unless the Minister gets up and says something exceptional about whether it is going to be spent and what is being asked for. I want to be assured that it will improve the water services for all people of this island, the water services in all parishes.

I heard something about water being taken away from St. Joseph and carried to St. Thomas. I know that Shop Hill cannot get water in the crop season. I can tell you that we need water in St. Thomas. I know that architects have advised the people who wanted to build homes in Shop Hill that the water situation is so bad that even if they should involve themselves in the expense of special tanks and other special arrangements they will have difficulty of getting water in their dwellings.

Even if some of the water comes from St. Joseph, to St. Thomas I am sorry for St. Joseph, but we should not be lead into the belief that water in St. Thomas is adequate. Welchman Hall is the wettest place in Barbados, but has got to rely on the rain. I am not going over all that again. Mr. George Best has been rinsed out in this House once, and there is no use rinsing him out a second time. In any case,

I understand that since the last rinsing he has been put through the wringer by his close friend, the Minister, and his activities have diminished and the situation with the people in Welchman Hall has improved somewhat. The Minister is correct. I am glad to see that he is controlling Mr. Best and allowing the residents of Welchman Hall to get water. I have Mr. Eversely to deal with Mr. Best and the Minister.

Now, Mr. Chairman, with respect to additional mains and standposts and the replacement of mains, we are told that the new Development Plan will include an extensive programme for the further development of the water services. I understand that the Plan is awaiting the passage of the Town and Country Planning Bill which is to come before us today or in the immediate future.

It should have been published long ago. The Minister must have known of the new Development Plan which would include an extensive programme for the further development of the water services and he should have been taking that into account all along. I do not believe that the Plan will be a surprise to the Minister. It should have come to him for approval at some stage at least two years ago.

The Minister should have been planning all along to correlate the conversion of the Development Plan with the finances necessary to carry on the activities therein set out.

With those remarks, as I have said, I will support the Resolution; but I would not support the Minister as a good Minister. We are called upon today to cast our vote for the Resolution in these terms; but it is a bad administration, bad supervision of a Department which has caused a supplementary Resolution such as this to come before the House. Only a bad Minister could find himself in this position.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, I really do not know if I should reply or just ask that the question be put; but there were some remarks made earlier in the day which I would like to clarify because they were erroneous and misleading. One was about where the senior member for St. Joseph talked about water, and he said that there was somebody using an enormous amount of water for washing down - he said he was told that somebody closely connected to me or to this side or to the Government was using an enormous amount of water for washing down pig pens.

Well, to set the record straight on that, if he is referring to the Prime Minister, at the Prime Minister's home there is a well and a fan mill and tank to supply any amount of water for washing down pens.

5.40 p.m.

People must not get up in this Chamber for the sake of debate and try, as the last speaker who has just sat down has tried, to make out a case, because

he has fallen flat on his face. He has just said that I am a bad Minister. All right, I am a bad Minister, but I am a Minister. He was a good Minister, but he is not a Minister now. Today is where the difference comes in. I, honestly, thought that the members on the opposite side of the House would have asked something pertinent to the Resolution which is before the House.

Now the senior member for the City made a big hullabaloo; asked for information, and then left. Nobody on this side, as far as I know, has any intention of withholding any information from this Chamber. I do not have anything to hide. When I first introduced the Resolution for \$226,600, the Marshal was not in his place. I have the plans here, and whoever wants to see them may do so. I will give them to the Marshal. I just want hon. members on the other side to understand that whenever I come here with anything I am capable of taking care of myself. Do not let anybody on the opposite side fool himself that this is any Court with a junior female Magistrate in it that he can bully his way through. I have warned the senior member for St. Thomas about his bullying tactics. Whenever he meets me, I intend to repulse him with heavy losses.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of order. There has only been one female junior Magistrate and she was an Officer administering the law. I think there is a Standing Order which says that reflection should not be cast on those persons. I am quite serious about it; he can say what he likes about me. It would be held, I think, to be offensive by any Magistrate to have a suggestion made that lawyers bully their way through the Courts because there is a female Magistrate in the Court.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, apparently the only place in the world that has female lawyers, or female Magistrates, is Barbados, and, apparently, the only place that some people can practise their profession and get away with impunity is in Barbados. The senior member for St. Thomas must understand that when he is talking to me, he is talking to someone who, though not going to any University - thank God for that, because if all the University can put out are people like him, then I am extremely glad I did not attend one. I have attended the University of the world.

I know what is beating the hon. senior member for St. Thomas. His idea about defence is to be offensive and to attack. As I have already told him, my skin is thick; he cannot pierce my skin quickly. He may say something in here and I may retort, but it does not necessarily mean that he had been able to hurt me. I brush him off as I would a fly. Getting back to the matter before the Committee, I have sent around the plans for the Transport Board so that members can see them. As I have said, there is nothing I wish to hide. Even if we were to hide the plans, when the building is built he would still see it. We could not walk about with it in our hip pockets.

The senior members for St. Joseph and Christ Church made some very pertinent points when they asked me to say where we were going to put down these mains. I will give the Committee a breakdown:

Additional mains and standposts - location St. Michael.

Pine Hill	...	820 ft. of main
Advent Avenue, Bank Hall		880 ft. of main
Browne's Gap, Jackmans		952 ft. of main
Flint Hall	...	1,050 ft. of main
Bedford Lane and Green Field		720 ft. of main
Storey Gap, Codrington Hill		845 ft. of main

Christ Church - -

I am sure the hon. senior member for Christ Church will stop stroking the pump now. I hope he has enough water flowing for the time he was stroking the pump, and that he will not break off the lever.

St. George, Green's Tenantry	1,050 ft. of main
St. Thomas	... 700 ft. of main
St. Thomas	... 700 ft. of main
St. John	...

There will be a standpipe at Hothersal Tenantry.
(ASIDES)

Now the senior member for St. Joseph was saying something and he should not have said it, because he knows that it was not fair to make such a statement. He is saying that he does not get an adequate supply of water. He knows that I have spent \$10,000 to run a water main from Bloomsbury Corner over the hill where he lives, in order that he may be supplied more adequately. Whenever he has these problems he always speaks to me personally. He said, "Box, things have not improved." I called the Waterworks Department and suggested that the valve on the other end may be opened too much, and asked that something be done to assist the senior member for St. Joseph. He knows as well as I do that the elevation at the top of Sugar Hill is at the same level as Castle Grant and, therefore, it is always difficult of get water. The water comes out of these reservoirs by way of gravity. You also have a water problem in Brittons Hill although you will find two reservoirs there.

Sir, the problem is that the people who live near the reservoir are on the same level as the reservoir. It must be remembered that the water flows out of the reservoir by gravity, and that is why we always look for a hill to put a reservoir on. Since the water comes out by way of gravity, you generally get a lower supply of water in some of these mains. We have spent \$10,000 to run a water main from Bloomsbury Corner to take water to the house of the senior member for St. Joseph as well as those who live in that area.
5.50 p.m.

Can anyone justifiably come into this Chamber and make the people of this country believe that I as

a Minister would try to withhold water from somebody who is paying to get it piped in? That is not a fair assessment. Anyway the hon. member asked what we are doing about the Castle Grant Reservoir. I said that a lot of water is being wasted and that is one of the problems. If we allowed each person in a home 75 gallons of water per day, they could not use it all, because they would soon tire of bathing. What has happened, as the hon. member knows, is that we have all become a bit more sophisticated, and where years ago a person would only take a monthly bath, nowadays you get him taking a regular weekly bath, and the other person who took a weekly bath is now taking one twice a day, morning and evening; so you must use more water. More water has been installed in the premises of people, and that is why we get this problem. We cannot build a reservoir in Castle Grant for good reasons, and not because, as the hon. member said, it is too expensive. This Government does not consider anything too expensive so long as it is beneficial to the residents of the country; but we do not have the land area. What we propose doing at Castle Grant is to spend \$175,000 to put in bigger mains, and we will pump water from Golden Ridge to Castle Grant, which means that although more people will be using more water from that reservoir, the supply will be able to cope with the demands.

Only this morning, Mr. Chairman, I saw a man go to a pipe in Beckles Road. He was in an invalid's chair, and he had a bottle in which he wanted to catch water, and he opened the pipe to its utmost as though the bottle would not have been filled if the pipe was running slowly. He removed the bottle and corked it, and all the time the water was running, and then he began to wash his face. I am sure this is what happens in nearly every home. When I was a child, an ox-cart skillet or water gave me a full bath. Nowadays it takes more water to wash a spoon than to wash a whole household of clothes. People are not mindful of these things because they simply do not know where the water is coming from and they could not care less. They feel they are paying for it every quarter, and that is the end of it. I know how much is used when I see the bill for the electricity used, and when the Chief Engineer tells me that the table is getting low. We do not want this to happen to our country because Barbados is a one-crop economy and the next thing we depend on is tourism. If we run short of water, no tourist is going to come here to walk about with a bucket to catch water.

It is a fact too, Mr. Chairman, that quite a number of small homes use more water than big homes, because when a person goes out to take a bath, once he opens the pipe he is not locking it off again until he is ready to dry his skin. These are things we have to educate people about, because if one out of every three persons does this, the reservoirs must be depleted, and the pumps cannot cope with keeping the demand up. Quite a lot of water is used in the St. James area. Another place that uses an enormous amount of water is the Hospital; but what can we do? All we can do is to ask people to conserve water as much as possible.

With respect to St. James, we have two new wells to come in: one at the end of St. Michael and St. Thomas by Applewhaite, and two in the lower parishes, one at Molyneux and one at Alleynedale, and as soon as we get these wells in, the residents of St. James as well as of the whole area to the North would be alleviated of their suffering. Only yesterday I passed through St. James and found that the pipe, just before you got to John Moore's had the cock completely off. Another pipe near the Fire Station wanted a washer. Nobody takes time to report these things; so I have to do this; yet people will come and quarrel and say that because of so-and-so you are cutting off their water. As I said before, it is the leaders who must tell people of their responsibilities to the community and stop fooling ourselves because of a vote.

Now the hon. senior member for Bridgetown made enquiries and left. He enquired what we were going to do with the old Social Welfare Office which was formerly part of the old Combermere School building. Everybody knows that that building is a hazard; so we are prepared to take it down because it is really an eye-sore in any case, and erect a new building.

Before I sit down, Mr. Chairman, I should like to say that members on the opposite side were talking about the old buses. There is no doubt that we have quite a number of old buses, and the hon. senior member for St. Joseph said that if he were Minister he would feel ashamed to see these buses on the road. I am the Minister and I feel ashamed, but I am not taking them off because we have no replacements for them at the moment. As is always said, a bad boy is better than no boy at all, and nobody in his right senses throws away dirty water until he catches clean one, because dirty water can still put out a fire. So we have to keep the old buses and patch them as much as we possibly can until we get other buses to replace them.

Now the hon. senior member for St. Philip was complaining about water in his constituency. He is a member of the Legislature and he has a right to complain, but he also has a right to state that I think in the last financial year \$30,000 were spent to put water in one area alone. These are things that nobody will mention. As Andy Capp would say, every job has its occupational hazards.

I think I have answered all the pertinent question that were placed before me; but if there are any which I did not remember to answer, it is not because I am dodging from them, and I would be quite willing to reply if any member wants to raise them.
6.00 p.m.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, I have no intention of making any speech on this Resolution, but I would like the Minister, while he is on this Resolution, more or less to elaborate or explain this to me. He said that in the parish of St. James they are planning to dig these wells and that that would alleviate

the water problems in St. James. If he says that they are going to dig these wells, would the Minister give us any idea as to how soon they will dig these wells? Other places are having water mains and you know, Mr. Chairman, that a man telephoned the Minister at half-past four one morning telling him that he has not got any water. I would like the Minister to make this matter a little clearer.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member should be ashamed to mention in the House that a man telephoned me at 4 o'clock in the morning telling me that he had no water. (ASIDES) I told you that, but I think it is unfair. I did not say anything about digging wells in St. James. I said that we have a well at Applewhaite, we have one at Molyneux and we have one at Alleynedale which are almost completed. When you dig a well for water, sometimes you go down and you feel that you will get water. Just as in the case of oil, you get water, but you do not get the flow of water which you would expect to satisfy the reservoir. What we usually do is to go across under the earth in order to see if we can find the vein so that more water will flow in. That is what has been taking place at Applewhaite and Alleynedale. (ASIDES) They are nearly completed. The well from Applewhaite will throw water - in fact, we intend to run a pipe-line from Applewhaite down to the reservoir at Cave Hill. That will take off a lot of the pressure.

We also have a well at the corner of Codrington which is supplying the reservoir at Lodge Hill right now. When we get all these other wells coming in, it means that we will have a better water supply, and we will be able to lay a better trunk main coming from Alleynedale in order to keep the flow of water for the residents in St. Peter, St. James and St. Lucy - more water than you can use.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the Minister made mention of the old buses and he said that he is not going to remove them until he has replacements for them. I wonder if that would prompt the Minister to make a statement as to the Government's intention about the mini-buses or the pick-ups. Let us hear something about them.

(A PAUSE)

Mr. Chairman, if that is the Minister's attitude, then the question is not going to be put. I have asked the Minister something which he should normally be willing to answer. The question of the mini-buses has been mentioned in the Report of the General Manager of the Transport Board. He has charged these mini-buses with deliberately depriving the Transport Board of passengers. I have made out a case here where they are not depriving the Board of passengers in the way that the Manager has said. I would like to hear what the Government intends to do. Must I understand from the Minister's lack of action that it is too thorny a problem for the Minister to handle? Why can't the Minister answer that? Why can't he tell the mini-bus operators what to expect?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I will say that they are operating illegally. The majority of the mini-buses which are operating on Route 21 and Route 24 are operating illegally. There were some mini-buses or pirate buses as they were called, the owners of which had licenses to operate. There are some mini-buses which are allowed to operate - pirate buses, as they are called. The Government realised that the mini-buses as appears in the Statement of Transport Board, have been a source of headaches to the Transport Board for the simple reason that in February the Transport Board lost \$26,000. What do these buses do? Some of the owners had licenses for routes on which they would operate, but they get bolder now and they go to the buses and tell the passengers: "We are going now; are you going with us?" And the people will get into these mini-buses which do not run on any Schedule. If you want a Statement, the mini-buses are operating in the Island illegally. Those which have the sign "Taxi" written on them are licensed to carry the same number of persons as a taxi, that is: five or six according to the size. The others have the sign "Taxi" written on them and they are being loaded down with twenty or twenty-four persons, and so they are operating illegally. The passengers are also riding at a risk because if they get in an accident, I do not know how they will claim from the people because the Insurance Company will most likely say: "We did not insure you for that." What I would say, is this: the reason why some people use the mini-buses is not because the service of the Transport Board is inadequate, but because some of these mini-buses will travel to the homes of the people and collect them there with their baskets and so on. That is all it is.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, I would not like to hold up the business of the Committee, but if the Minister states that these mini-buses are running illegally, what is the Government doing about these illegally-run mini-buses? What is the actual policy? Are these mini-buses doing a service to the Community or are they doing a disservice to the community. If they are being run illegally, then the Police would be at fault. But what is the Ministry doing about this? What is the Ministry, which controls the Police, doing about it? I feel that since the Minister said that there are some buses which are not in very good shape but you cannot take them off the road, why not give the mini-buses which are now being operated illegally, the right to carry ten or sixteen passengers or such as they could carry, instead of five? That would give you an opportunity until you can get your fleet of buses operating properly. It is as simple as that.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, (ASIDES)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have heard an hon. member shout across the Table calling another hon. member by his name. I am sure that that hon. member knows the Standing Orders. Let the hon. junior member for St. Peter proceed.
6.10 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I do not want to prolong this debate, but I wonder if the Minister

knows how many mini-buses there are at present operating in the island legally or illegally or both. That is very, very important. In other words, we know that the Minister would have within his files how many buses the Elite Motor Bus Company is operating, and he would know how many buses the Rocklyn Bus Company is operating. We know that the Transport Board had a fleet of 97 buses at one time. We do not know what it is now, but the Minister will have the information in his possession.

Here in this Report of the General Manager of the Transport Board he tells us that during the year ending the 30th September, 1965 14,638,275 passengers, including 1,260,638 school children, were carried as against the amount in the previous year. So the Minister would have this knowledge in his files as to the amount of persons on all routes throughout the island that are depending on the bus services.

The Minister would then be able to evaluate so to speak, that is, he would know whether on this particular route this particular concessionaire with his number of units can cope with the situation in his area. Similarly with the Transport Board; so that if you add the number of buses of the three concessionaires and take into account the number of passengers that are likely to travel, you will be in a position to know whether these units can meet the demand.

On the other hand, if you are saying that mini-buses are operating on a particular route and depriving the Transport Board or, for that matter, any other concessionaire of revenue, the Minister would certainly have in his possession somewhere the number of mini-buses on Route 1, 1A, 1B and 1C or as the Minister recently made mention, on two other routes. It seems as if I did not make a note at that particular time, but those routes were mentioned, and the Minister should know how many mini-buses are causing this trouble, especially if they are running illegally.

The Minister should have in his possession the number of passenger buses, those that are licensed to carry passengers and those that have been carrying passengers in exceptional cases. I am just asking the Minister if he knows how many mini-buses we have operating throughout the island. We know that recently a number of these mini-bus operators made a petition to the Minister. I would like to hear what the Minister has to say in regard to these buses so that we may be able to have a true picture of the extent to which they are causing the Transport Board and perhaps the other concessionaires to lose revenue.

Mr. Chairman, if the Minister will not answer, I will have to talk and talk until he does answer. I can cause the Minister to answer. I am not here begging the Minister for a bunch of green bananas. The Minister knows as well as ever - all right, Sir, this is not a matter of sport. I do not know if the Minister knows what is a reasonable question from what is an unreasonable one.

We have here before us a Report from the General Manager of the Transport Board that pirate buses are operating on Routes 1, 1A, 1B, 1C and 1F and have caused on Route 1 a twelve per cent decrease and due to their operations on Route 21, a 24 per cent decrease. He also goes on to tell us that of late there has been an increase in a number of these mini-buses.

Good Father, Mr. Chairman, are we not entitled to know from the Minister if he has the knowledge, that in 1965 when this Report, for instance, was written, that there were so many mini-buses that were causing trouble or loss of revenue to the Transport Board or to other concessionaires?

This is now 1968 and the Minister would have had this information in his files. He should have the knowledge of to what extent mini-buses are really and truly affecting the concessionaires who have a responsibility to the community. For instance, to what extent are these mini-buses really affecting the concessionaires? I do not see how the Minister could seem to believe, seem to dream or expect - we understand that the Minister is not willing to make a statement of Government's policy regarding these mini-buses. We understand that; but it is only reasonable to ask the Minister if he knows how many mini-buses are now operating throughout the island, and to what extent the Transport Board and the other concessionaires are suffering due to the presence of these mini-buses.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is.....

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I have got to draw to your attention one other point on this particular matter. It comes under the question of discipline on the buses as mentioned by the General Manager of the Transport Board, and it would seem as if I might begin to unbutton my coat and get ready for making my speech on this Resolution.

I am sure that the Chairman is ready to stop me the moment that he finds it necessary to do so. Now, the Minister went on to tell us - he called names like Benjie, Sonny Lou and some others who operate pick-ups or mini-buses, but it did not suit him to call the names of all.

I understood him to say that when he came into politics he found that certain of these operators have been operating a service, whether by agreement or otherwise. The position is this then, Mr. Chairman, that when they took over they found mini-buses operating and they continued to operate. They have since, as I know it, given some of them permission to carry more than the normal amount of passengers. Some of them can carry 22 passengers in these mini-buses.
6.20 p.m.

Sir, if they had been licensed as cabs or taxis, as some others have done, they could only have carried six passengers. Now the Minister ought to be in a position to tell us whether those who have

permission to carry as many as twenty or twenty-two are operating legally; what prompted him to legalise the operations; and why is it that he cannot find it possible, or has not found it possible to legalise the operations of all?

I do not mind what the Minister or anybody else has to say. The Minister touched on a very good point: that these mini-buses sometimes take passengers to their homes with their packages in some cases. (An hon. Member: Who said so?) Is that something to be angry about? Is it that you do not want the drivers of mini-buses to operate, because they will take passengers and their packages to their homes? If the mini-buses are operating illegally, are we to understand that these people do not pay taxes? Are we to understand that they do not pay for registering their motor vehicles? I am sure that they do. Are the drivers of these vehicles not holders of drivers' licenses? I am sure that they all have licences.

If we find that these people are not operating legally, the Minister should be able to tell us in what respects their operations are illegal. The mere presence of a mini-bus on the road does not make it illegal. The Minister agrees with me that the people who travel on the mini-buses run a grave risk, because in the event of their becoming involved in an accident the passengers are likely to suffer, and the consequences can be grave if they are not covered fully by insurance. All of these are things which any Government should be taking into consideration. We want the Minister to make a Statement on the operation of these mini-buses. The mini-buses should all be legalised if it is known, as we know on this side of the House, that they are performing a good service.

Mr. Chairman, if we used to award a Gold Medal in that particular sphere of operation, I can tell you that the service that these mini-buses are rendering entitles many of the operators to Gold Medals. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: If we were giving Gold Medals for going to prison, you would have been granted a few.) Mr. Chairman, I could have landed the Minister in gaol for receiving a bunch of stolen bananas.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is no part of the Resolution under discussion.

Mr. HINDS: The Minister knows I am not lying. I know the Minister must become increasingly aroused, the more I talk on this matter. We are going to hear a lot of things before I am finished. The Minister can sit there and talk, but I dare him to get on his feet this evening and make a Statement about mini-buses. The Minister knows that if he makes a Statement, he and his Government will go. They cannot touch the mini-buses. All they can do is to tell the Police to report them. Mr. Hill, the Manager of the Transport Board, said that the attention of the Police has been drawn to it. The police know that some of the policemen cannot get on their jobs on time unless they get transport on these

mini-buses. The same mini-buses are loaded day after day carrying Police food as well as things for nurses. Are you going to tell the Police to do things that will prevent them from getting their breakfast? Are you making sport? When the Police go hounding these drivers, they are hurting their brothers who are rendering yeoman service to this community.

The Minister admitted here that the buses at the Transport Board are so bad - in other words, it is better to have a bad bus on the road than no bus at all. That is his admission here. In the face of that admission, I challenge the Minister to get on this now and say that they are going to touch these mini-buses that ply for hire on Routes 21, 24, or any other Route. They will not touch them at all.

The Minister admitted that when they took office they found some of these buses operating. Were they operating illegally? What has gone wrong since then? Mr. Chairman, it has just come to mind that you have a wealth of experience in this particular field, and were you not in the Chair, you could have brought that experience into our deliberations today and saved the Minister much embarrassment. (ASIDES.) The Minister, perhaps, like some people cannot get sense outside. He wants gaoling, and he will get sense in there. That is right. Mr. Chairman, you know as well as I do that no man is going to take up his few dollars, or go to a garage and credit a mini-bus and put it on a route unless he knows what he is doing.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. He would not even listen to me.

Mr. HINDS: What is the shorthand writer doing here? He is just a servant of the House; he has no right to beckon to the Chairman; he is not part and parcel of this. Mr. Chairman, what I was saying is...

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, I rose on a point of order. The hon. member said just now that I want gaoling. I take objection to that. As a Minister of the Government, I would not allow him to come in here and use offensive remarks to people in this House. I am asking that the hon. member be made to withdraw the remarks. I beg to move that the question be now put.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Would the hon. member for St. Thomas repeat specifically the words to which he has objected?
6.30 p.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: What I was saying, Mr. Chairman, was that in his harangue just now the hon. member said that the Minister, referring to me, wants gaoling. I take offence to that and I ask that he be made to withdraw the statement.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the Report of the Manager of the Transport Board is sufficiently enlightening. Why do I say so!

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. junior member for St. Thomas has objected to the words used by the hon.

junior member for St. Peter as being offensive and unparliamentary. I rule that they are, and I am asking the hon. member to withdraw them.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I must tell you that I did not use the words that the Hon. Minister complained of.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will get the Official Report from the Reporter.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, if you want me to withdraw the words he has complained of, whether I said them or not, I withdraw.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. junior member for St. Peter may continue.

Mr. HINDS: I will continue now by reading the full Report of the General Manager of the Transport Board, because it is pertinent to this Resolution; so gird your loins, stiffen your backs and sit down.

Mr. Chairman, the General Manager of the Transport Board in his Report to the Chairman and members of the Board had this to say: he said that his Report is based on his interpretation of the records and on his observations during the last five months of the year, he having assumed office on the 16th April, 1965. He went on. He too lamented that the Auditor's Report and Balance Sheet were not available. This is the General Manager of the Transport Board writing to the Chairman and members of the Board. However, he said that the following figures quoted have been taken from the operational accounts which have been audited. So throughout this Report the Manager is dealing not with the figures contained in this particular Balance Sheet; they bear no relation whatsoever, but he is basing his findings on the figures taken from the operational accounts of the Transport Board. Now he tells us that the year's working shows a direct operational surplus of \$179,112.51.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, as this matter has been fully debated before, I beg to move under Standing Order No. 32 that the Question be now put.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to second that.

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

The question that the Resolution for \$482,345 do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1968-69 No. 5

Head 22 - Ministry of External Affairs - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I think that hon. members will remember that before this country became independent, during the days of the Federation and subsequently, Barbados was represented in Associate Membership in UNESCO, the Federation itself acting on behalf of all the territories. Then we were only entitled to Observer status at the General Conference and could receive assistance, however, under certain programmes, Independent Nations

are no longer eligible for Associate Membership, but can assume full membership whenever they wish to, and consequently it is proposed that Barbados apply some time this year for a contribution of some \$7,224, U.S.

I beg to move that Head 22 - Ministry of External Affairs - stand part.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, if this is the Resolution for \$19,068, I was wondering how come we did not hear from the Minister of Communications and Works. I do not think anybody can quarrel as far as the first part is concerned, which I take more properly concerns the Hon. Leader of the House. I think we can take it that all members of the House will welcome the fact that Barbados is now to join UNESCO. It is a bit tardy indeed, Mr. Chairman. If the Government was really so determined at the beginning of 1966 that Barbados should be independent in 1966, one would have thought that instead of the sterile and time-wasting political debates in which they engaged for so long, they would have got down to the serious business of planning what Independence actually meant. After all, it was widely accepted in London that the only delegation which really had a serious and knowledgeable approach within its own ranks as to the future international liabilities, duties and privileges of Barbados, was the Barbados Labour Party delegation which included Mr. Henry Forde. It seemed that Mr. Henry Forde alone had considered these matters, and our delegation alone had considered such matters as joining UNESCO, because there are great benefits to be obtained from UNESCO, and it is only now after one and a half years of Independence that Barbados is finally joining, and we certainly welcome it. I very much hope at some stage in the future that the Leader of the House, if it comes within his part of the Foreign Affairs responsibilities, will be able perhaps to initiate a debate or intervene in a Foreign Affairs debate in which he can tell hon. members some of the benefits we can expect to get from UNESCO.

6.40 p.m.

I also congratulate my junior colleague, the Minister of Communications and Works, in respect of this item 41 - Furniture and Equipment - under the Head - Annexed Estimates, Post Office. It is very gratifying that there is going to be a Philatelic Bureau.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: We are now only dealing with Head 22 - Ministry of External Affairs.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I congratulate the Hon. Leader of the House.

The question that Head 22 stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

ANNEXED ESTIMATES - POST OFFICE

Annexed Estimates - Post Office - was called.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, in connection with this item 41 - Furniture and Equipment - as the hon. senior member for St. Thomas has said, I know that this is his pet subject, and he will be gratified to see that at long last we are setting up a Philatelic Bureau. We are hoping that we can get all the assistance in this matter because it is in its embryonic stage now. What has happened is that Mr. Bayley, the Philatelist, has agreed to show the people here how to put on stamps and so on, and I am hoping that this embryonic foetus will eventually grow into a giant. I beg to move that this Head stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, we are glad to see that a Philatelic Bureau is being established. When I was in London some time ago, in more than one circle I heard of a very successful visit paid there by the Minister of Communications and Works of Guyana, Mr. Correia, in which he indicated that the Government of Guyana was now benefiting to the tune of over £100,000 a year from the philatelic sales of stamps; and he held a Press Conference which was reported not only in the Philatelic Press of Britain, but even down here and also in the National Press. In fact, as I was sitting in the House this afternoon - I think I made a note of it - I read that Mr. Eugene Correia held a Press Conference on May 3 at the West Indies Club in London, and he is being congratulated very widely. There have been editorials commending Guyana for its stamp-issuing policy and the service which is offered to collectors. This has happened despite the fact that Guyana has recently been the subject of one or two irregularities - and when I say "irregularities" I do not mean anything involving dishonesty or anything like that - in stamps. For instance, they have had temporary surcharges, and a very large number of stamp dealers found themselves paying very large sums for individual stamps, and the Guyana Government then had them done all over again, making them available at a cheaper price and causing a lot of stamp dealers to lose money. I think that it is as a result of the misfortunes involved in the Guyana overprints, perhaps, that Mr. Correia went to London to mend his Philatelic fences because a lot of stamp dealers in London had invested money in obtaining stamps from Guyana, because the services of a Philatelic Bureau was not then available, and a lot of stamp dealers found that they had been under-cut by the Government. I know people who did it. I know of one man who paid poor fellow, \$200 a piece for stamps which then became available at \$5 each, and so on. Naturally, the stamp dealers who find themselves in this position do not feel very happy about it. I take it that that is one of the things which a proper Philatelic Bureau will prevent. If there is the necessity for a temporary issue, a proper Philatelic Bureau will make sure that nobody is robbed out of it.

After all, these people are businessmen who are trying to make money for us as Barbadians. That is what stamp dealers are. They try to make money for Governments and, incidentally, at the time some of

the money will go into their own pockets. When they lose, they actually put off the Government concerned. I hope that this Bureau, when set up, will prevent things like this happening. Mr. Bayley's father is far and away the best known Barbadian stamp collector that there ever has been. For a great deal of money Mr. Herbert Bayley amassed the best collection of Barbados stamps which has ever been amassed in Barbados. It may not have been as good as King George V's collection or the more expensive collections in Britain, but nevertheless it was a first-class collection here, and he was also a leading authority on Barbados stamps. Some of his discoveries in the field of Barbados stamps are unique and his son, Mr. Edmund Bayley, has inherited his father's books and a great deal of his knowledge, I may say, has also been picked up by him. There is nobody who, I think, is more suited to advise the Post Office on that sort of work. Indeed Mr. Herbert Bayley carried on what was, in fact, a one-man Philatelic Bureau in Barbados for years, and his son is the leading man when it comes to wholesaling of Barbados stamps to this day, and I am glad to hear that he is going to be associated with it in this respect.

Mr. Chairman, all stamp collectors are interested, if they have favourite countries, in not seeing the countries go off the deep end where it comes to the number of stamps they issue. Taking myself as an example, I collect stamps of all West Indian territories, but I am now finding it impossible to collect the stamps of Grenada because in every month or so, Grenada issues six different stamps, that I doubt very many Grenadians see, of a high denomination in commemorating the paintings of Sir Winston Churchill and a Boy Scout Jamboree in Idaho, U.S.A., at which no Grenadian Boy Scouts were present, the 50th anniversary of the birth of President Kennedy - the only country so to do, as far as I know - and other such issues. Nobody has respect for that kind of stamp issuing policy and I myself intend this week to write off to my agents in London to tell them not to send me any more Grenada stamps. I am stopping with that. I am not going to have my pocket racketeered, and other people will, I am sure, also be doing that. I believe that the Hon. Minister is not going to be a party to spoiling the market for Barbados stamps in this way. I am not entirely happy with all the choices of subject which have come about, or with the publicity which has been given to some of the choices of subject. For example, I do not think that it really has been sufficiently explained in Britain what the current issue of stamps means. I do not think that it is really known what the HARP gun is. I think they believe that a harp is something on which you play and they cannot quite understand why there should be a HARP gun.

I hope that the Philatelic Bureau will improve the publicity. Mr. Mitchie Hewitt does his best. Hon. members may not be aware that Mr. Mitchie Hewitt is a correspondent for a stamp magazine in London. He does his best but sometimes... *(Asides)* the Minister says that the Bureau will do this now. Well,

Sir, it is to be hoped that it will improve that sort of thing.
6.50 p.m.

The last suggestion I will make is this. Mr. Chairman, the stamps in Barbados do not really include a large number of rarities. It should not be beyond the financial resources of the Government to complete the Museum's collection. I went to look at the Museum's collection not very long ago, and Mr. Connell and I had a look at them. There are, I suppose from the early days, one or two of the 30 of the Brittanias missing and I promised Mr. Connell that I would give him one or two which would fill the space. I have not yet got around to doing it.

He said that stamps at the Museum are not things that are easily displayed. I do not know if the Philatelic Bureau would be such as would permit for a better display of stamps, but I would suggest that certainly for the opening of that Bureau you might borrow the Museum's collection and give a little publicity, I do not know under what terms Government's money can be used for the Barbados Museum and Historical Society, but I would suggest that the Museum's collection should be completed.

There are a few gaps. The stamps can actually be bought. I am fairly well in touch with the market for Barbadian stamps and I can safely say, I am sure without peradventure, that there is nobody in Barbados who holds issues comparable to mine. At the moment my estimation is that the market for Barbadian stamps is a little depressed. If the Government thinks it desirable that they should get a proper collection of stamps here in Barbados, now is the time. Stamps are doubling in value for the classical issues. In ten years or perhaps less than ten years - however it will not be long before that happens to Brittanias in Barbados, Trinidad and Mauritius. Now is the time to buy them in conjunction with these. I would be glad to hear from the Minister if he can tell us when the Bureau will be actually opened.

Non. N. W. BOXILL: I would hope that the Bureau will be opening very shortly as soon as this Resolution gets through this Chamber and passes the Other Place. People have already signified their willingness to serve on this Philatelic Bureau. The next thing I would say is that there was a stamp which came out recently with the word Net Services which I think was very beautiful. To me it was very attractive. As you will readily know, in Barbados we do not have a lot of objects that we can really portray on stamps, unlike England. In Barbados when we want to portray the natural life of the country, it is very difficult. If you put on a dove on a stamp, who would want to see a dove? Sparrows and blackbirds are not so exciting.

We want philatelists themselves to make suggestions to the Bureau. I believe that the Bureau would be willing. They may not accept everything

you say, but it will gain some ideas. We intend to push this thing because I know that the Post Office can make a lot of money and everyone is going in for stamp collecting now. I hope, as I said in my opening address, that this embryonic baby will grow into a giant in time.

The question that Head Annexed Estimates, Post Office, Item 41 - Furniture and Equipment stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to move that this Resolution for the sum of \$19,068 do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - RESOLUTION FOR \$11,338

HEAD 5 - JUDICIARY

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in moving the passing of this Resolution, and dealing with Head 5 - there are certain comments which I make which will also be shared by the other Item, Incidentals, under Registration.

Mr. Chairman, provision is made under Head 5, Judiciary, Item 24, Incidentals, for \$5,877 and under Registration Item 19, Incidentals, for \$1,680. In respect of each of these amounts the sums of \$4,362 and \$436.00 were included to meet the commitment of wages to Cleaners. Unfortunately, the increased wages were omitted at the time of the salary revision with the result that it has been decided on the recommendation of the Registrar to pay these Cleaners at a higher rate and to give them a certain amount of back pay as from the 1st April, 1966.

The cost of the arrears of wages in respect of this period 1st April 1966 to 31st May, 1968 is estimated at \$1,768, while an additional amount of \$1,414 is required to meet the increase of 35% of the existing provision, making a total of \$3,280.

I beg to move that Head 5 - stand part.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to second that.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, dealing with Item 24, Head 5 Judiciary, I believe that it has been raised here on previous occasions, but I think that it is appropriate now that attention should be again drawn to the situation in the Supreme Court of Barbados, and the very uncomfortable physical conditions which now exist there.

It is not realised that with the rise in traffic outside the Law Courts, even though the Commissioner of Police puts up a "No entry" sign between the junction of the Waterworks and the Public Library so that traffic is diverted to the right on that junction and has to go around the square, it is still

not appreciated that when heavy vehicles pass it is almost impossible in Court No. 1 for people to hear properly.

The obvious thing is that the Government will have to air-condition that Court. Nowadays the Courtyard attracts a large number of cars for parking, so that even though the yard is restricted now to people whose business it is to go in there, when their cars move off and No. 1 Court is Sitting, you are still in trouble.

Now, with respect to Courts Nos. 2, 3 and 4, there is a tree at the back which prevents the sun at certain hours of the day from going into Nos. 3 and 4 Courts so that it cannot be said that one can trim that tree easily. What has happened is that when the Courts were built, the Library extension was not built: so you used to get the wind flowing in from North East with the effect that these Courts used to be reasonably cool.

7.00 p.m.

At this time of the year any person who goes in there - although they have installed heavy overhead fans, the vibration from them is so terrific that they shake at the top. It is a fact that the Library had to be extended and a big, tall building was erected there which blocks the wind. Courts 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be air-conditioned. It would not cost a fortune to air-condition those Courts. Individual units would be sufficient, and the cost of electricity would not be very high because the fans would not be on for very long periods. The normal Court-sitting hours are four hours: from nine until two. Some judges use those hours, where there is a 10-minute break. On the other hand, you can start to work at half past nine, stop at half past twelve, return at two, and work until three thirty or four; so it will be the same four hours. Roughly speaking, it will be from four to six hours a day if it is decided to air-condition the Courts. I hope that the Government would really do something in respect of these Courts.

I understand that the Public Library next door is air-conditioned. The Law Library is also air-conditioned, but that was necessary because of the fact that it has been proven that books stand up much better in air-conditioned rooms.

The question that Head 5 - Judiciary - stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head 7 - Registration - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, having given the reasons already, I beg to move that Head 7 - Registration - stand part.

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

Mr. ST. JOHN: Now this deals with Local Government, and we cannot allow it to pass so quickly today. This is Head 7.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: See note 1.

Mr. ST. JOHN: I am sorry.

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

Head 40 - Ministry of Health and Community Development was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in moving the passing of Head 40, I will deal with Item 92A (New) - Pension Contributions. Owing to the present arrangement, Sir, it has been found necessary to obtain urgently the services of officers, including 13 officers holding appointments in the Interim Commissioner's (Local Government) Service, in order that the needs of certain Central Government Departments may be satisfied. These appointments cannot be permanently made, either because the relevant Central Government posts have not yet been created, or because of the proposals for the re-organisation of the Local Government Services which militate against the outright transfer of officers.

At present there are two such officers on secondment to the Ministry of Health: one is with the Public Assistance Department, and the other is a Midwife who is in the District Hospital Service. It is also likely that two Staff Nurses and four Midwives will soon be seconded from the Infirmary in the North to work in temporary posts at the St. Andrew's District Hospital.

Under the provisions of Regulation 18 of the Local Government Pensions (Amendment) Regulations, 1964, the Government is liable to pay the Interim Commissioner a pension contribution at the rate of 25% of the substantive salaries of officers who have been seconded from the respective areas. At present there is no provision in the Current Estimates to meet this payment, and it is proposed to seek supplementary funds amounting to \$6,330 for this purpose. This amount includes a reserve to cover unforeseen cases of secondment that may arise late in the current financial year. That deals with the secondment of officers to the Central Government.

I would also like to give the assurance that, in compiling the estimates for the various Districts, provision has been made to pay the officers in the Southern and Northern areas as well as the claims, pensions and gratuities of the various casual workers who have proved redundant, or have reached the retiring age. Provision has been made in this year's Estimates and, as far as the South is concerned, provisional pension and gratuity amounting to \$62,200 is included in this year's Estimates which are being finalised now.

The delay has been caused, as has been explained here on several occasions, in computing figures and in finding out who was entitled and who were not entitled under the old Vestry system and the Local Government system, and in obtaining affidavits and checking and so on, but the money is here to pay them. That is as far as the South is concerned, which is really the main area which has been affected, because the areas in the North have been taken over ever since. The areas in the North were always under the control of the Central Government. Provision has

been made in the sum of \$62,200 to pay the casual workers, who have been waiting for this money, and we hope to pay them now that the various affidavits and the necessary evidence of their entitlement are more or less finished and at hand.

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

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, I will start with the point last dealt with by the Hon. Minister. It is true that of late there appears to be a more vigorous outlook being adopted by those responsible for the payment of pensions to employees in the Southern area, because people like Mr. Bovell and others - I know that affidavits have been filed, and they now have a much more sensible form of affidavit. It is a new form of affidavit.
7.10 p.m.

What people did not realise before was that under the Vestry system there were a lot of worthless, spiteful employees who always hated their fellow employees and were their Heads of Departments, and when it came to getting affidavits sworn, they refused to swear the affidavits for some of these people although they knew they were working in the service for a long period of time. I spoke to the Interim Commissioner, and I am pleased to say that when it was pointed out that there were former members of the Road Board and the Vestry who could swear and they were alive, it was realised that their affidavits would be as good as any. I only hope that now that the money is being passed - the Minister said that the money is there - that these people can get their pension. They have been waiting on it for a long time.

Mr. Chairman, if you talk about an organisation that the public has contempt for, cannot understand and is an impersonal thing responsible to no man, you are talking about the Interim Commissioner's Officer of Local Government, one man down in Bank Hall who is supposed to be looking after the affairs of the whole of Barbados in so far as they fall within the sphere of Local Government. No longer do people have any agency that they can identify as part and parcel of Government. All they are dealing with now is somebody on the telephone. They do not have anybody to go and talk to now, and if you go and try to get anything done, they turn you about saying: "It is not my Department; go to that one". When you get there, they say; "Oh, he must be wrong; it is that Department"; and you are running between and betwixt. The worst thing the Government has ever done is to abolish Local Government when they had no concrete plans in their mind to replace it with a proper system. If you look in the Southern Area, to this day there were plans made by the regimes of the Southern District Council of both this Government and that Government for the improvement of recreational facilities, and for improvement, in particular, of beach facilities. Who is responsible for that today? To whom do the people in the villages go when they want a standpipe, a street light, a road done or proper toilet facilities in the area? No one. They have to come and buckle down on their representatives, and in here we have to try to raise them,

by way of Parliamentary Questions. Well, the Government has exposed itself to this. This House will be plagued with Parliamentary Questions on a scale that is going to make the hair on the heads of the Government members go grey before they are finished. What has happened in the Oistin Area and around? They have amalgamated the infirmaries, but they brought the people from St. George over to Oistin before they had expanded the facilities at Oistin, and I challenge the Minister to deny that. Sometimes the facilities at their disposal are deplorable. I can carry them there tomorrow morning and show them. How many are in the infirmary now? How many was it built for? Of course, the Government may say that they are old and ought to be glad the Government has put some place for them; but it never used to operate like that.

Everybody knows, Mr. Chairman, that the old-time system had its faults, but it was infinitely better than this, and they have no plans to change it. Every year we hear this talk that Government's plans for the re-organisation of Local Government will soon be coming into vogue, but what is happening? The staff in the Local Government offices are frustrated and fed up now, and you can go into any of the Local Government offices and see what is happening. I have nothing against the employment of retired Government Servants or retired Local Government people in jobs who are going to fill temporary vacancies and help in extraordinary work, but to tell me that you are going to employ pensioners in jobs in the City Council as well as in the Southern District area and pay them more than you are paying your substantive staff for doing cock-and-bull work is, in my humble opinion, wrong, and nothing is calculated to breed more discontent and lack of co-operation between your staff than that system. I do not like to call names of people on the floor of this House, but go in the Southern District Council and in the taxation Department of the City Council and see if you do not find a lot of retired people working in the Treasurer's Office, drawing more money than the other people. The hon. member can turn to his left and ask the Minister who would have these things at his finger tips - and you have a Parliamentary Secretary over there, a Local Government king who was always in favour of Local Government, but he voted with the Government and encouraged the abolition of it, and now he is regretting it. When the Councillors were there, they used to put a little pressure to try to ease in a little relative in a job, but they had at least a conscience that they only used to take him on when they had to fill a place, and they would never have the temerity to suggest taking them on at more than the existing people. After all, that brings discontent.

There is no leadership at all in the affairs in which formerly you used to get some leadership from the Councils. People used to look forward to seeing the debates and things of that kind. There is no Board to which anybody is responsible now. In Christ Church the constituency which the Minister was representing for all these years, up to now there is not a playing field either in Silver Sands,

in the Oistin Area or in the Gall Hill Housing area. Ever since they promised to bring a tractor to level some land belonging to the Housing Board. There is no longer any Welfare Committee to prompt and prod the Central Government. What has happened to the plans for erecting a pavilion at Dover? Do you think the Interim Commissioner is going to prod the Central Government for these things? What leadership can you get from a Civil Servant who is responsible to the Cabinet? Do you think the public can feel that they must go down to Bank Hall and lay their grievances before the door of the Interim Commissioner, a man who is holding an office and can tell you that he is going to get his pay at the end of the month whether or not he deals with their grievances, and that this is a little part-time job for him?

Along Oistin Road, in Welches, the Central Government has a piece of land which ought to have been made into one of the most beautiful facilities for Barbadians to go and bathe when the Sunday comes. You get one part of the Central Government called the Civic Circle, or the Ministry of Agriculture, or whatever it is, going up there and planting one oleander today and the other tomorrow, the next next year; the weeds growing up in between, and every now and then you get somebody coming up with a cutlass and cutlassing and going along. There is no plan. Local Government used to look after these things. The beaches are not cleaned now. They do not clean the beaches between Oistin and Maxwell now. The Ministry of Health is supposed to do that, but how can you do it when you are up to Six Cross Roads and looking after the Public Health aspect of it?

I must say, however, that I have established a line of contact with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Public Health Inspector in that area, and you get co-operation from those gentlemen. All you have to do is to put it in writing and they do it. If the Government had proper plans, they ought to have had a comparable office for the Ministry of Communications and Works. There ought to be a Divisional Engineer there with headquarters at a convenient place in the Southern Area where the people could go and make suggestions about roads and water. They ought to have a comparable office from the Community Development Office there. They ought to have these comparable offices of the Ministry of Health where you know you could go and lay your complaints, and where suggestions could be made, but you do not have any of these things. The Councils used to be a hub; we know that there used to be a certain amount of parish-pumping.

7.20 p.m.

There used to be a certain amount of padding in travelling and things like that, but you could have reduced the number of Councillors and you could have had a lot of these things done; but, mark my word, Mr. Chairman, this House is going to have thousands and thousands of questions put in here until a proper system is established, and there is this idea about the Clerk being responsible to the Interim Commissioner, and the Interim Commissioner is responsi-

ble to the Cabinet, and nobody is responsible to the people in the Southern area at all for their amenities. As far as the North is concerned, it is not generally known that the District Hospital in St. Andrew has now been unoccupied for fully eighteen months. The Public Works Department spent money on it, and it could not be opened because the roof was leaking. What they were supposed to have got for the money, they did not get: and the Government's money has been spent to create a Maternity Hospital in St. Andrew. I passed down there up to the other day and I asked around and what happened? It has not yet been opened, not up to now, and it was over eighteen months ago that it was supposed to be opened.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. Certain statements made by the hon. member may be true as to why the Hospital has not yet been opened; but to state that it should have been opened eighteen months ago is not correct, because provision was only made in this year's Estimates as far as paying the staff and employing people up there are concerned. You cannot open a District Hospital unless you have a Matron, Nurses and the various people employed. Provision has only been made in this year's estimates as regards this Hospital. Whereas some of what the hon. member has said may be correct, he made a big *faux pas* as far as time is concerned.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, I know that the Government would not have been so stupid as to come forward with money to open the Hospital at this stage because they know that the Public Works Department has not finished doing what it should have done ever since. The Public Works Department is not going to come forward and let the money lapse. It has enough lapsing all around; so in this year's Estimates, it was satisfied that it could not get the Hospital opened; but what the Minister has not denied, I note, is the fact that it has been ostensibly finished for some considerable period of time and it is still not opened. Anyway, we hope that the people in St. Andrew will get their District Hospital. The one in Christ Church which was opened by the then Minister of Social Services, Mr. Miller, is working very well. It is one of the most successful ones which they have, but I do hope that proper plans are made for that compound. The old Vestry room ought to have been used as some sort of Community Centre for Oistins and Silver Sands, not where politicians go and talk or anything like that, but where young people can go and have their clubs - I do not mean gambling clubs - I mean clubs like the A.Y.P.A.'s or whatever kind of social club they have. You cannot use the upstairs part of the Vestry room for that. I hear that they have taken the Matron and the Nurses, since they brought over the St. George's Infirmary, and they have not provided any proper accommodation for them. They had to use the old room which the Inspectors used to use. You can pass there in the day and at night and see the nurses undressing and if the poor nurses were to get a call of nature in the middle of the night, they have to walk across the road. Those are the conditions under which they transferred the infirmaries. Let them deny those

facts. There are no toilet facilities in that building at all.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, again on a point of order. For fear that the hon. member gets away with that, again he is partly correct in the sense that the old Vestry room upstairs is being converted into Nurses' quarters. As to the room which the hon. member is referring to, apparently some people are engaged in spying or peeping or what he has referred to. I do not know if he is involved in that too. *(Laughter)* The room in question is just there for changing. The Nurses do not sleep there. These Nurses are given travelling expenses to and from their homes. They come from their homes and when they are on duty, they have an hour or half hour or so in this room which the hon. member has referred to, but they do not live or sleep there. They live at their homes; but when they relax for an hour for lunch, for changing and so on, they use this room. And they have the toilet facilities as far as I know. (Mr. St. JOHN: Yes, across the road.) We have the record a little straighter now; the position is as I have stated.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, if you pass there, you can see the people changing. You do not have to be spying; you only have to have good eyes and you will see. This is a changing room, but the basic thing is regards the facilities in the area for the Infirmary for St. Andrew, because they have not indulged in a programme of providing proper facilities. That is so; the whole of that Oistins area wants re-planning and re-developing. What I urge on the Government is that it is time that they start thinking about what they are going to do about those affairs which were formerly administered by Local Government, and they have been left in the hands of this Organisation called an Interim Commissioner. It has been interim for too long and the people are suffering. There is nobody who is responsible to them that they can go to, and the time of this Parliament is going to be taken up with Local Government affairs on Tuesday after Tuesday.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question is.....

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, before you put the question, I am afraid that I did not elaborate on the second item which is item 174, a new item - Salvation Army - under this Head. I should just like to mention that, in so far as this Item is concerned, the amount required is \$1,800. The Salvation Army receives an annual grant to assist them in the operation of their Men's Hostel and Night Shelter. This grant is separate from the ecclesiastical grant-in-aid, and it has been fixed at \$1,000 for the last ten years. The Divisional Commander has reported to the Ministry that the floor boards, joists and main beams under one half of the building have been seriously damaged by termites and need replacements immediately. Extensive repairs, however, were carried out and effected in 1966, and in connection with that work, the Government gave grants amounting to \$8,000. The Divisional Commander at that time solicited and secured a good deal of assistance

in goods and services from private companies and individuals which all together approximate to one-third of the estimated cost of the work, so that they are now asking for further assistance. It is recommended that the sum of \$1,800 should be given towards the cost of repairs to the Salvation Army's Men's Hostel. They do very good work, and they assist the Government in many respects in providing shelter for the old and the unemployed. I beg to move that Head 14 stand part of the Schedule, which I have done already.

7.30 p.m.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, while we on this side have no objection - indeed we welcome the repairs being carried out to the Salvation Army's hostel by way of a Government grant - I think that the Government should be aware that practising lawyers become all too distressingly familiar with the unruly conditions that prevail at the Salvation Army's hostel.

There are a number of persons who are sheltered there who perhaps have become derelict by reason of defects of personality which have also led them into crime. I remember seeing Brigadier Gamblin appear not only as a plaintiff on behalf of the Salvation Army, but even in the dock as an aider and abettor when he himself was trying to stop the fights and disputes that take place at the Salvation Army. I have had the experience of appearing for a gentleman over 90 who was charged with assault and fighting the Salvation Army. I defended someone - I may say successfully - for breaking another's legs. The man with the broken legs came into Court, but it seemed as if he had started the fight.

Many people who are familiar with the Baxters Road area know that the inhabitants of the Salvation Army's hostel are second to none when it comes to creating disturbances and occupying the attention of the Police in these quarters.

Anything that can be done to make the Hostel itself a little more salubrious will be welcome because it definitely needs cleaning up, and it is hoped that when it is cleaned up physically, its improved appearance will result in the improved behaviour of the people who live there. That is something for the Government to bear in mind.

The question that Head 40 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that this Resolution for \$11,338 do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - CAPITAL - No.7

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, as the Addendum clearly sets out the object of this Resolution, I do not believe that members on the opposite

side will have any objection. I therefore beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of four Resolutions in Committee of Supply.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until 8.30 p.m.

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

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

7.40 p.m.

On resumption:

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to draw attention to the fact that a quorum is not present, and I ask that the bell be rung.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. member for drawing my attention to the fact that there is no quorum. Mr. Clerk, let the bell be rung.

The bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House.

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

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

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

LAND SURVEYORS ACT, 1968 - SECOND READING

Mr. SPEAKER: Item No. 5 is the instant Order of the Day, which stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House, and it is to move the second reading of a Bill relating to the appointment and control of land surveyors and to the survey of lands in Barbados.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this Bill tends to bring up to date the arrangements for the licensing and control of land surveyors and for certain incidental matters. For some time now Government has been engaged in this matter. Way back in 1964,

the Cabinet reached a decision that legislation to regulate the licensing and control of surveyors and for the survey of lands in Barbados on the lines of the recommendations of the now famous Baird Report should be brought forward, and that these recommendations should be accepted and enacted into law as soon as possible after the Chief Surveyor had either been appointed, or had had an opportunity to consider the proposals.

Mr. Baird was appointed Chief Surveyor in 1966, and he gave considerable assistance in the preparation of the Draft Bill which is now before us. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, this Bill seeks to regulate the affairs of a professional group of persons, and I take it that the provisions of this Bill would have been disclosed to the Surveyors' Association of Barbados, or, if that body is not functioning now, to the representatives of the practising surveyors in Barbados. We, on this side of the House, can see no objection, in principle, to the regulation of any professional body. As a matter of fact, I hope that we shall have the privilege of debating similar Bills dealing with all professions in Barbados, including the Legal Profession, in the near future.

It has been said by the Leader of the House, in introducing the Bill, that this legislation will bring things up-to-date and upgrade the professional standards of the surveying profession. Needless to say that, no doubt, will be done by Regulations which, under this Act, the Board, subject to the approval of the Minister, will make. Perhaps, at this stage, the Leader of the House, or some other appropriate Minister, would be able to inform us as to whether any progress has been made towards the establishment of land registration in Barbados.

I have been trying to check this matter, and I understand that it is the surveying work, the necessary base work or survey, which is causing some delay. Apparently some of the stations which were established in Barbados by the Overseas Survey Team have been either built over, or removed; so that once we are assured on this side that the relevant provisions of this Act have been approved by the Professional Association, or that the Regulations issued thereunder will be so approved, everything will be all right. As I see it, this is only the structure, and the teeth of the Bill will be found in the Regulations made by the Board.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there is no other member desirous to speak on this matter, the Hon. Leader of the House may exercise his right of final reply.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, just, perhaps, to give the hon. member the assurance that the professional surveyors have, in fact, been consulted.

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 10 inclusive were called and passed.

8.40 p.m.

Clause 11 was called. It reads as follows:

11. (1) The Board shall have power to enquire into and to hear all charges made against a licensed surveyor in respect of the commission of any offence against any provisions of any rules made under this Act and, after due enquiry, to make recommendations to the Minister for the suspension or cancellation of the licence issued to such surveyor.

(2) The Board may, subject to the approval of the Minister, make rules for all or any of the following purposes -

- (a) the studentship of student land surveyors, the duration of such studentship and the examination and licensing of persons desirous of acting as land surveyors;
- (b) the issue, suspension or cancellation of licences granted under this Act;
- (c) declaring what shall be offences by land surveyors and the penalties in respect thereof;
- (d) regulating the manner and system in accordance with which surveys are to be performed, the degree of accuracy necessary, the description of marks or beacons to be erected and the form in which plans or diagrams are to be constructed or drawn and records of survey kept;
- (e) the collection and recording of any information in respect of land;
- (f) the scale of fees payable for the survey of land and the preparation of plans or diagrams;
- (g) the steps to be taken by the Chief Surveyor, Lands and Surveys Department, to test the accuracy of surveys the results of which are recorded in plans or diagrams which have been or are intended to be registered;
- (h) the testing of surveying instruments and measuring tapes to be used in the survey of land;
- (i) fixing the unit of measure to be used on general plans and diagrams; and

(j) generally for the better carrying out of the objects and purposes of this Act.

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

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

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, Clause II appears to be the Clause empowering the Board to make regulations, and in Clause 11 (2) (b) it tells us that the Board shall have power, subject to the approval of the Minister to make regulations for all or any of the following purposes - the issue, suspension or cancellation of licences. If one looks at Clause 4, it says "prescribed by regulations made by the Minister, be entitled to receive a licence issued by the Minister." Now I do not see any Clause empowering the Minister to make regulations here. Clause 4 deals with the fees necessary for the granting of a licence. I do not see the power granted to the Minister here to make regulations in respect of that. In Clause 11 (2) it is the Board that makes with the approval of the Minister, and it seems to me that it would be under the regulations dealing with the issue, suspension and cancellation of licence granted that the fees will be fixed for the licences. Under Clause 3 (1) it is the Minister or any person authorised by him who may from time to time issue licences, but I do not see any section which empowers the Minister to make regulations for the fees. Perhaps your file may explain it over there, but I do not see it.

In Clause 4 (1) you have to pay fees subject to the provisions of subsection (2). I am dealing with this in relation to section 11, Mr. Chairman; so I have to quote it. It reads as follows:-

"Subject to the provisions of subsection (2) any person who satisfies the Board that he possesses the requisite qualifications or proficiency to practise as a land surveyor shall on payment to the Accountant General of the fee prescribed by regulations made by the Minister, be entitled to receive a licence issued by the Minister."

It does not say "on payment to the Accountant General the fee prescribed by regulations made under this Act;" it says specifically made by the Minister". I just draw it to the attention of the Hon. Minister. In my copy of the Bill I see reference to the Minister all the time, but I do not see any definition of which Minister. See if your copy does not have it. Usually in these Acts, when you say "Minister", you either say the Minister designated by the Governor-General or you say "Minister of Home Affairs" or "Minister for the time being charged with responsibility for this or that." In all these forms since you are independent, you usually define who is Minister and which Minister you mean. I do not want any difficulties when later some Court decides you cannot grant taxation powers by implication, and that if you intended to have the power to impose a charge, it should be clearly done and not done by implication. If you have a Board and they have power to make regulations subject to the ap-

proval of the Minister for the issue, cancellation and everything dealing with licences, it seems to me that that power includes the power to prescribe such fee as is necessary, but it seems that under this Act you have two different sets of people who can make regulations - the Minister and the other people.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: With respect to the second point raised by the hon. member on the absence of a definition of Minister in the Act, I am advised that this is not necessary in every Act.

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

8.50 p.m.

Clause 12 was called and passed.

Clause 13 was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 13 stand part of the Bill. Perhaps the hon. member would like me to remind him that, in respect of the question which he asked about the definition of "Minister" not being included in this Bill, the Interpretation Act covers it, it seems to me, with the definition that "Minister shall mean the Premier or other member of the Cabinet for the time being administering the subject-matter of the enactment in or in respect of which that expression is used." That is the Interpretation Act 1966-10.

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

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

Clause 14 was called and passed.

The Schedule was called.

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

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

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

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, 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.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORISE BORROWING OF MONEY BY THE ISSUE OF TREASURY BILLS

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

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The instant Order of the Day is Order No. 3 and it stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Minister of Finance. It is to move the passing of the following Resolution:-

A Resolution to authorise the Minister responsible for Finance to borrow by the issue in the Island of Treasury Bills sums of money not exceeding five million dollars and such sums as may be required to pay off at maturity Bills already lawfully issued and outstanding.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution is in consequence of Section 2 of the Treasury Bills (Local) Act of 1922 whereby it is provided that the Minister of Finance, whenever authorised by Resolution, may borrow by the issuing in this Island of Treasury Bills of sums not exceeding the amount specified in the Resolution. Way back in the early 1960's the issue of Treasury Bills in the Island was approximately \$1 million. It was not resorted to as a device for financing probably because we did not have a Minister of Finance or any kind of financial policy. Subsequently we had no financial policy, we had no Minister of Finance and the question of financing the Government expenditure did not exercise the minds of those who were sitting in the Executive Committee at that time. (ASIDES) I make a positive statement; I have all the documents before me. Shortly after I came into office, I decided to use a Measure which is probably used in the United Kingdom and in all Commonwealth countries, which makes finance available to the Government at rates of interest substantially below those which the Government would have to pay if and when the Government made issues of stock on a long-term basis.

The average interest yield of Treasury Bills is in the region of 5 3/4% or 5 5/6% whereas, today, it would be impossible to get any kind of long-term loan under, let us say, 7 7/8% or 8% if at all, with the way in which the World Market is today. In 1963, we increased the authorisation by \$1 million to bring it up to \$2 million, and then in 1964, we increased the authorisation by another \$1 million which brought it up to \$3 million and it has remained in the vicinity of \$3 million ever since 1964. By approving this Resolution, the Legislature is not approving a total issue of \$5 million but, according to the wording of the Act of 1922, it is authorising the issue of \$5 million more in Treasury Bills, therefore bringing the total amount of Treasury Bills which can be issued on the market up to \$8 million at any one time. All of this money is receivable in the Island, and the only method which is employed is for the Accountant General, under my authority, to advertise for tenders for Treasury Bills of ninety days duration and they are repaid within 90 days. The difference between a Treasury Bill and a Government Debenture is that a Government Debenture is only redeemable at the end of say, ten, fifteen or twenty years, whereas

a Treasury Bill is redeemable at par in 90 days.
9.00 p.m.

Now, what happens is that the person is interested in Treasury Bills - and the lowest amount which can be tendered for is \$1,000 and they come in denominations from \$1,000 to \$50,000 and according to the terms of the advertisement the bills are in denominations of \$100.00 - it means how much you will pay for \$100.00. For instance, the person putting in a tender says: "I will buy a \$100.00 Treasury Bill for \$98.71." What he is in truth and in fact saying is 'that in 90 days I expect a certain return on my investment of \$98.71 of 5 3/4%' - that is roughly speaking, it may be a few points out, but I am doing a quick calculation.

An investment of \$98.71 would yield in 90 days, approximately 5 3/4% because the Bill is redeemable at par at the end of 90 days so that you get \$100.00 at the end of 90 days. If you do a quick calculation you will see that 1.29 over 90 of 365, will bring something like 5.75%.

That is how it is done, and although the Bill is redeemable at the end of 90 days what usually happens is that before the 90 days are out a new issue has been authorised, and the people who have tendered keep on tendering so that they do not actually draw their money out of the new people coming in.

From our experience of the availability of short term money and the fact that the rate on Treasury Bills is slightly more attractive - as a matter of fact, they are more attractive than short term rates which the banks are willing to pay, and certainly substantially more than the Savings Bank is authorised to pay for a similar period - we are extending the issue of Treasury Bills from \$3 million to \$8 million and that is what the Bill is all about. As long as we can get people interested in tendering for Treasury Bills, we actually save a substantial amount of money in not floating long term loans on the market.

Exactly how long we can go on doing this is a matter of calculation. We have to have a device on which we draw - The Joint Consolidated Fund (J.C.F.) in London, but the interest is based on the London daily average which is itself based on day-to-day borrowing. That works out at substantially below the open market rate on long term loans; so in this way you are able to use a device of short term repetitive borrowing sometimes in the right cases for long term capital projects.

I think that I have given enough explanation to hon. members. One of the useful things about Treasury Bills is that you have a high degree of liquidity in that you never have to wait longer than 89 days after the first day on which you have made your successful bid, to redeem your bid. Therefore, it keeps money in the country which otherwise people might be tempted to put in Treasury Bills in Trinidad or the U.K. or in some other places - people who do not want to have their money tied up for a long time in debentures.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, apart from the elementary theory which the Prime Minister has been exercising us with, his speech is interesting because it reveals that for the first time in some months they have recognised that there is a lower rate of interest than the 8% or 10% that is now going to the banks.

The Prime Minister has said that the question of Government financing did not exercise the minds of those sitting in the Executive Committee at that time, referring to the early 1950's. If he can prove that, he can prove anything; but that is mere irrelevancy comparable with the way in which he opened.....

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order. The hon. member does not seem to understand what the argument is all about. I never said anything about not having exercised Government financing. I said that this is a method of Government financing which did not exercise the minds of the hon. members. Up to now it does not exercise the mind of the hon. member who has just sat down because he informed the Colonial Secretary that this body had no one capable of making simple arithmetical calculations. I have a copy of a telegram which was sent to me by the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that that is not a point of order.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: It is for him to say who sent the telegram to the Colonial Secretary a copy of which was sent to him because the Governor showed him a private letter which did not say what the Prime Minister has just said. If I am asked to choose whom to believe between the Prime Minister and Sir John Stow, it may be a choice of two extremes, but I would still believe Sir John Stow. It is irrelevant anyhow and not very important to this debate.

If Members of this House believe that we of the Barbados Labour Party had no one capable of understanding economic matters, hon. members will believe anything the Prime Minister says. I do not think the hon. members even on that side would accept that.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I wonder if the hon. member would promise me that he would undertake some sort of plastic surgery to acquire a more manly feature if I can produce the telegram here on the next occasion that the House sits.

Mr. SPEAKER: On what is the Hon. Prime Minister speaking?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Prime Minister seems to have a great knowledge of whether my features are manly or not. I really did not know that the Prime Minister worried about the manliness or otherwise of my features. I did not know that he looked at me that closely. I never looked at him that way.

We are really discussing a simple Bill about finance as a result of a decision arrived at that the time is now ripe to expand the Treasury Bill issue. Presumably there will be some pressure from the Banks. After all, there are now two new Banks and we can safely assume that the Banks have a Treasury Bill investments they may never take money out, but renew them for 90 day periods because there is a certain amount of liquidity in Treasury Bills in Barbados, and they are attracted by the terms of the rate of interest and investment and can at the same time satisfy the Inspectors that the Bank has observed the liquidity preference in right proportions.

The amount is to be increased from \$3 million to \$8 million. If the Government can raise it, we in the Opposition are not going to quarrel with it. If the Government has at long last seen the West Indies Stock Exchange, so called, revealed for what it is, we are only too glad.
9.10 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, this Resolution is very interesting from another point of view. The Prime Minister said that as soon as he can review the general rate of interest position in Barbados he would do so. There are signs that the tight rate of interest which prevails in Great Britain is beginning to come down. There is definitely a relaxation in the British market, not so much in the Canadian market, but in the American market as well. There is pressure, indeed, through holders of money to be allowed to lend it, Mr. Speaker, even at the present slightly reduced rate. It is considered in financial papers that the chief holding-back of credit in Great Britain are the restrictions imposed by the Banks - the restrictions contained in the Bank of England Circular which have still not been repealed or restricted to any large degree.

It is now emerging that the pressure from the Commonwealth Development Corporation was what largely lay behind the rise in the rate of interest last Christmas. This is widely said by persons even close to the Commonwealth Development Corporation. We regarded it, Mr. Speaker, at the time as a panic measure, and what we have seen has convinced us that it was not a panic measure.

There has been for years in Barbados - if you want to take the risk inherent in hire-purchase transactions - a chance of getting a return of 10% or 11% on your money anyhow. The only difference now is that Banks are also trying to get into the higher scales. I still do not know anywhere else in the world where you have to pay 8% as an effective minimum on small mortgage loans. The Prime Minister has not given the slightest indication, as Minister of Finance, that the problem of reducing the rate of interest, or even bringing in legislation which will allow the Minister of Finance to fix the rate of interest exactly as he has means of fixing it in Britain or the President or Secretary of the Treasury has means of fixing it in the United States, will be dealt with. He has not shown any sign that this is going to be done, and he has not taken this opportunity of telling us about it. All he is in effect telling us is that

the Government now has confidence that instead of having to pay these very large amounts of interest on long-term loans, it can raise as much as \$8 million at short-term interest prices - nearly three times as much as the Government could raise before; from \$3 million to \$8 million. If this entire amount is taken up, it does not mean that it will be issued in Barbados and held in Barbados. It is an increase in the public debt all the same, and it is a short term increase that can be on us before we know where we are if, in fact, this \$5 million is to be taken up and expanded to the maximum in the same way as we are now operating at the maximum of \$3 million.

Sir, these are matters which the Prime Minister could deal with. Instead of telling us about what short term loans are - those of us on this side who are going to speak, I believe, are already familiar with such things. He will only be trying to explain economics to the hon. member for St. Andrew, or perhaps the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, but they are showing what they think of the nature of the debate that is going on. He can save his energies as far as they are concerned. As far as we are concerned, Mr. Speaker, we would no more take the economic theory from the Prime Minister as we would take facts, unless he was so compelled to do so by the Rules of this Honourable House.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, it is fashionable nowadays that, whenever the Minister of Finance is called upon to introduce any financial measure in this House, he prefaces his remarks by saying that we have only just had a Minister of Finance. Those of us who have lived here and studied the operations of this so-called Minister of Finance will realise that he has an amazing capacity for bringing measures before this House which have harmful effects upon the economy of the country.

Sir, let the Minister of Finance deny the fact that he now sees it possible, because of the operation of the National Insurance Fund, to have more money available for investment in Treasury Bills. He wants to tap the National Insurance Fund. The National Insurance Fund now has at its disposal a fair amount of money, and it is going to be increased. It must be invested in some manner. The Cabinet has to approve the Regulations of investment. The Cabinet has direct and indirect means of putting pressure - of course, it is not necessary to put pressure - or suggesting to the body that is going to be in charge of the investment of National Insurance Funds that some of it should go into Treasury Bills. Just as they used the Port Funds, the Development Funds and the Savings Bank, through the Directorate, they can use other Funds.

Therefore, I agree with the Prime Minister that if you can get money at 6% or 5 1/4%, as he says, it is better to get it on short term where 80% of the people who invest in Treasury Bills do not call back for their money after 90 days and leave it there. The Government can get its money that way. One thing we are sure of is that the Government of Bar-

bados needs money. The squandermania that it has indulged in by foolish expenditure; the \$2 million it wasted on the Hilton Hotel; the extra sums of money the Financial Building cost the Government - we are now beginning to feel the effects of those things. The Minister of Finance now has to succumb to the demands of the Banks and other financial institutions to raise the rate of interest.

Now let him deny this fact. The Banks are now charging the people in Barbados 9 1/4%. Let him deny also that in this country today the Insurance Companies, who formerly lent money for house building, are not now lending the same amount of money. They are thinking, as we predicted from this side of the House. It is human nature. Here are Banks and Insurance Companies operating to a certain extent, not in finances of inventory or things of that kind, in the same market; lending money for building houses. You now allow the banks to charge any rate of interest they like, and then you go on to say "such other financial institutions as may be designated."

9.20 p.m.

I ask the Minister of Finance tonight, what other institution has he designated under the Rate of Interest Act? Not one! Go around to any solicitor's office or any of the other agencies that used to invest money in Housing loans and see what is the position. Money is harder to raise for house-building in Barbados now than at any other time in the last ten years. Let the Minister check and find that it is a fact. You cannot get money to build houses now as easily as you used to be able to get it before. He is going to come up and say that C.D.C. has got \$2 million or \$3 million committed to it, but let him deny that the Cave Hill scheme is about eighteen months away from starting, because although they may be willing to lend for house-building at 8 per cent, they want a few other side things to tack on to it which would amount to more than 8 per cent; so that we find ourselves in a position where not only the Government is in straitened circumstances.

As the hon. senior member for St. Thomas said, the Prime Minister let off the bogus financial institution called the West Indies Stock Exchange. I remember when he said in here that when they agreed to underwrite, part of the reason why they were getting these high charges was because they were going to underwrite it. They raised about a quarter of what they wanted to raise, and then the Prime Minister let them off the hook instead of making them raise the money or reduce their charges. If they had raised it, then it would not be necessary for him to have this, but I agree with it. I feel that Insurance Companies, Savings Banks, Banks, any other Trusts, unit or otherwise, and other capital intermediaries should be made to channel the finances towards the development of Barbados. The Prime Minister only preaches this, though; he would not bring down any insurance legislation, and he is allowing the Banks to continue to get away with murder in this country. Why must they charge 9 1/4 per cent today when the Bank Rate has gone down? Look at the profits they are making! No wonder hundreds

of Banks are coming here. Look at the palatial and ornamental buildings they can put up in this country - all standards of luxury because of the fact that they are borrowing money at 5 per cent, the maximum they are going to pay, and lending at 9 per cent, a mark-up in the vicinity of 80 per cent, nearly 100 per cent. If the merchants in Bridgetown were to get that kind of percentage mark-up on their goods, the Prime Minister would be keeping a lot of noise, but the Banks are his friends. As Minister of Finance, it is your duty to see that exorbitant mark-ups are not allowed; as Minister of Finance it is your duty to see that you pass a Bill in here with power to fix rates of interest comparable to the mark-up that the Banks get and not be afraid of Banks. Why should the Banks be charging 9 1/4 per cent interest in Barbados now?

There is this idea about the Banks bringing in money from abroad, but I made a statement on more than one occasion, and the fiscal and financial survey which the Prime Minister will lay on the Table of this House will bear me out, that the Banks do not lend out more money in Barbados than what they collect from their depositors in Barbados. I do not care whether they have an arrangement of temporarily stopping shortages that they get from their Head Offices in London; between Branches they do not charge the same rate of interest. With respect to indigenous institutions, a Unit Trust law was passed the other day and I had the shock of my life. It was a law designed to prevent money, as I understood it, from going abroad following these advertisements that you see, like the Lombard Banking Company telling you that you can invest at 8 per cent and so on. The little non-profit making scheme that was being administered by a firm of solicitors here where if you had \$1,000, \$2,000 or \$3,000 you could go ahead and pool, and if a man came in to have \$8,000 on loan, instead of having four mortgages of \$2,000 each where you had to complicate the conveyance and have four different people having a mortgage unit trust, you have clapped 40 per cent on that, although the Minister had power to exempt it. Here was a scheme which was trying to facilitate savings. The difference between the 8 per cent that the borrowers were paying and what was returned to the depositors was a mere one-quarter per cent, the administrative charges of keeping it alive; but they put 40 per cent on that and killed the scheme.

If you talk about encouraging indigenous institutions and want to prevent profiteering, it seems to me that that scheme was an infinitely better scheme than anything that the Banks are going to put up around here and tell me they are going to pay depositors in Barbados 5 per cent and charge 9 1/4 per cent. If you feel that you want the Banks to indulge in financing of conspicuous personal consumption, to use the Minister's terminology, you will say that on loans up to \$6,000 or \$8,000 they are allowed to charge that, but for loans above that they must keep to the old rate of 8 per cent; but you have given the Banks complete liberty to charge what they like.

The most part of the savings in Barbados is by way of insurance. Let the Minister of Finance deny whether the application for Treasury Bills by Insurance Companies is as great as previously. Let him deny the fact that he is not expecting National Insurance money in this scheme. I do not quarrel with that, but it gives us the opportunity to lay bare. I do not care whether or not you have a Ministry of Finance now; it does not make any difference. I know the Planning Unit you have you did not set up. I know that the previous Government had the wisdom, the good sense, Minister of Finance or not, to indulge in a scheme the magnitude of which Your Government has never indulged, namely, to build the Deep Water Harbour. I know that its conception, execution and its subsequent administration are such that the Prime Minister can feel proud of it as a Barbadian, and that the Hilton Hotel bears absolutely no comparison with it in conception, execution or administration now.

As the Prime Minister said in his Article in the "New Commonwealth - No. 12, 1966", "The Island has a long history of stable Government and has an efficient and honest administration." That was before the D.L.P. came into power. "It also has infrastructural requirements of economic growth, a modern efficient Deep Water Harbour," - the only thing wrong with the Harbour is the Minister who is administering it right now - "and an International Airport." Do not come in here with this idea that we never had a Minister of Finance before, because nobody takes you seriously with that. We had a person who used to debate and introduce taxation measures, and we had an Economic Planning Unit which was set up. You know that Dudley Seers came down here from the United Nations; we had Cadbury who prepared a Development Plan. We had the same Savings Bank; we had proper rates of interest and not the 9 1/4 per cent rate of interest that you have now, and such Government money as was spent was spent on schemes which would at least pay the finance charges. You cannot deny the fact that your Hilton Hotel scheme does not pay one finance charge; so let us forget this thing about superiority, Minister of Finance and all that junk. Let us deal with the basic facts.

9.30 p.m.

The Prime Minister is in charge, as Minister of Finance, of the economy of this country. We, on this side, feel that there is something basically wrong with the monetary policy of a country which permits a small group to monopolise credit in this country to the disadvantage of the public. That is what we feel. We feel that the time is ripe for a Commission of Enquiry into the monetary policy of this country and the policy pursued by the Banks and the Insurance Companies. In your D.L.P. manifesto in 1961, you talked about passing insurance legislation. Up to the other day, we had the Viking Insurance Company which came in here and collected money, sold the policies in America to the British American Life and they did not even pay their Agents here their money. That is what has happened in this country. Today we allow that. You have Guyana National com-

ing in here and collecting premiums and did not pay the people under the Third Party Insurance Act. That is what has happened in this country. Fly-by-night Insurance companies can still come in here and nothing comes from the other side in relation to that. Let him not deny the fact that, as Minister of Finance, he knows the responsibility and the importance as a capital intermediary of any type of insurance institution. Do not let us talk about the lack of any financial policy at all. Let us deal with the fact that you find that today it is better because of your influence and of the powers that you have and the other institutions - semi-Government institutions, that you can exercise influence on like, your Savings Bank, your National Insurance Board or the Harbours Betterment Fund, as well as the fact that after crop season you know that, for a first period of time, there is a lot of loose money around, and people put the money which they would normally put on deposit account at the Banks at 3%, into Treasury Bills because they make a differential of five. You will find that you have not yet cracked the amount of money which is deposited in firms in Barbados. You have not yet cracked the money which is deposited at Wilkinson and Challenor, Plantations Limited - none of those firms. What has happened is that a lot of money which should go into long-term house-building investment and things like that, is going into these firms. These firms are operating loans from the Banks and the Banks are murdering the poor people of Barbados by charging them nine per cent interest. Deny the fact in here now, that the Banks do not charge 9 1/4% interest! Deny that!

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

EXCHANGE CONTROL (AMENDMENT) BILL

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day also stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister: To move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Exchange Control Act, 1967.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, late last year we consolidated the Defence of the Realm (Exchange Control) Regulations in the context of being an independent country and embodied this in the Exchange Control Act which was passed in December last year. This Bill corrects certain printing and typographical errors which appeared in that Act of 1967-53, and it further goes on to vest in the Exchange Control Authority power to make Orders of limited duration for regulating the opening and closing of banks, amending the Act, suspending its operation and for applying it with or without modification in the interest of the economy of Barbados. The Schedule to the Bill contains the amendments which are largely, as I said before, typographical errors, and the other Sections of the Bill give the Authority under the Exchange Control Act the power to make the necessary Orders for regulating the opening and closing of Banks and for the amendment of the Act other than this section, and for suspending the operation and any kind of the Act. These provisions are all in keeping with the spirit of the Act itself, when I

intimated to the House that we would be bringing in some measure which would vest in the Exchange Control Authority, which is the Minister himself, the power to carry out certain functions such as those which are now envisaged by this amendment. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to second that.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I think it is fair to say that when the Bill was introduced, all those who were interested in it on both sides of the House, including the Minister of Finance himself, and certainly including speakers on this side, recognised that there was a number of sections in the Bill which were not only inapplicable to Barbados, but indeed, in some cases positively harmful, and the very strong recommendations which were made by the Law Society, I think, in respect of the sale of land to foreign investors or to people domiciled in North America, especially outside the sterling area were, of course, accepted by the Minister of Finance. Unless I am mistaken, an Order has already been made under this Act, and I would be very glad if the Minister of Finance can confirm this because, in the very short time available to me - I only saw the Order Paper at midday today - I really was unable to get hold of my copy of this year's subsidiary legislation; but I think an Order has already been made suspending those parts of the Exchange Control Act which relate to the sale of land to persons domiciled in hard currency areas, exempting certain sales. At the time I wondered whether there was power in the Act so to do, but I regret that laziness prevented me from checking the Act carefully at the time, and, in fact, I was unable even to do it today.
9.40 p.m.

I can say, Mr. Speaker, that we on this side welcome the possibility that the Authority in this case, the Minister of Finance, without having to come to the House, will be able to correct what little anomalies are to be found in the Act itself in relating to Postal Orders, the taking of currency out of the island etc. We are only too glad that the Authority will be able to do these things without any particular formality.

The only regret is that the Control Act was drafted so thoughtlessly because in the first place a draftsman without the necessary expertise being applied to the subject under consideration may fall down. You may have the best draftsman in the world, but unless he gets a clear direction on the subject - and in this case it would be from the Minister of Finance - he may take the best legislation and copy it regardless of whether or not it is applicable to Barbados.

We welcome this Bill, and we assure the Minister of Finance that we wish him well in having these powers to exercise under Section 35 or Section 41 of the new Act. We are only glad for him to be able to create an economic climate in which Barbados can prosper.

After all, if he makes any mistakes, we will be able to place them precisely at his door.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: 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.

Clauses 1 to 3 inclusive were called and passed.

On motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Schedule was 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. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

BILL TO PROVIDE FOR LEGAL AID TO POOR PRISONERS IN CERTAIN CRIMINAL CASES

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House. That is, Order No. 6, and it is a Bill to make provision for the grant to poor prisoners of legal aid in certain criminal cases.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, at the recently concluded International Conference on Human Rights in Teheran, it was recommended that Governments, at least those who are members of the United Nations Organisation, should encourage the development of legal aid systems to protect human rights and indeed to expand such protection as may from time to time exist in various countries.

I think the hon. member, and certainly the learned hon. members on the opposite side, are well aware that a very wide system of legal aid has already for some time existed in this island. The idea of the U.N. is to widen it so that legal aid is granted both in civil and criminal cases.

In the Commonwealth Caribbean, Jamaica alone has a legal aid scheme in operation and this is contained in their Poor Prisoners Defence Law of 1961.

The Bill now before the House, I think, sets out clearly the offences in which legal aid will be granted

as well as the scale of fees payable to Counsel in respect of cases for which a Legal Aid Certificate has been granted.

Hon. members might wish, I dare say, to ask questions arising out of their understanding of the provisions of the Bill. I will try to answer them, if I can, and assist with any points that arise.

I beg to move, Sir, that the Bill be read a second time.

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

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe I am right in saying that at a meeting of the Barbados Bar Association some time ago a specific recommendation was made that the Government be requested to pass legislation dealing with legal aid.
9.50 p.m.

We then felt, and this included the well-known supporters of the Government on the other side, that legal aid should be expanded and put on a more recognisable and equitable system from the present haphazard system which existed whereby the Chief Justice, out of a vote under the Head of Judiciary, would grant people charged with capital offences the privilege of having a barrister at the Supreme Court level.

It was then the conception of the Bar Association that the matter should not be limited to criminal offences alone, but that it should be restricted in the nature of the criminal offence. We felt that capital offences such as manslaughter and the allied or akin offences of infanticide, concealment of birth and so on should be included. We also felt that constitutional cases involving points of law of exceptional difficulty and at which the liberty of the subject was at stake should be included. We felt that there should be some provision for divorce cases caused by desertion, because of the fact that in this society where there is a high proportion of people who have to emigrate, there is quite a lot of hardship and a tremendous amount of expense in finding the other side to the divorce suit in some far-flung part of the world. We felt that these should be included.

Sir, the profession felt then that the amount paid for capital offences was low. I remember the last time I had an assignment, and I used to be the public professional defender for a number of years in Barbados. I have done more assignments in Barbados than any other barrister. I have done at least 8 assignments. I do not believe in the theory that one should run away from these assignments. I doubt whether the Prime Minister can claim to have done two. (Hon. E. W. BARROW: I have never done one.) You have never done one because you do not like murder cases.

Mr. SPEAKER: What is going on between two hon. members?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order. I was merely pointing out that such cases are reserved for the more indigent members of the profession.

Mr. SPEAKER: Did the hon. member say "indigent" or "indolent"?

Mr. St. JOHN: I do not even mind if he says "ignorant", Sir. The only person who believes that I am an ignorant lawyer is the Prime Minister. He knows that the last occasion we clashed it cost his client a lot of money.

Mr. SPEAKER: Lawyers must be careful not to advertise.

Mr. St. JOHN: We can afford to do this now, Sir, because we are not being reported any longer.

Mr. SPEAKER: What about the Hansard?

Mr. ST. JOHN: The Bar Association, as you yourself, Mr. Speaker, will remember, felt that a fee of fifty guineas, while it was sufficient for the average run-of-the-mill murder case, was not sufficient for a heavy murder case. Indeed the Chief Justice, with the Council of the Bar Association, had decided that the minimum fee would be fifty guineas, but that the Chief Justice would have a discretion to award a larger fee if he felt that the case was one of exceptional difficulty.

Not so long ago - I am not commenting on the merits of the case - I was assigned at the Court of Appeal level by the Chief Justice to do an appeal. Another barrister was assigned at the lower Court level. The question arose of taking the case higher. I can say that the provision for legal aid under this Bill is certainly inadequate. It is no use paying a barrister, say \$100 and when he has to advise his client he has to incur expenditure which may result in more than \$100. If you have to advise a client about an appeal, it is necessary to draw the documents of the appeal; you have to prepare a record, and there is nothing in this Bill to provide for legitimate disbursements. That has happened to me. I was assigned here, but to take the case somewhere else it is necessary to retain people from abroad. It is necessary to send up the record. Who had to pay for the cost of the record? Do not mind how indigent I was; I had to foot the bill.

Sir, under this Bill there is a definite defect in relation to disbursements. Now let us look at the scale of fees in the Schedule. "A fee of seventy-five dollars for a trial. If the trial lasts longer than one day, an additional fee of forty dollars for each day after the first. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1 and 2 the total fee in respect of any preliminary enquiry shall not exceed one hundred and ten dollars." Of course, this refers to a plea of guilty. Now, who is going into the Supreme Court and plead guilty for anybody for \$40? I am sure that in the Chambers in James Street that the Prime Minister still rents, you will not find one barrister in there who would go in the Supreme Court for forty dollars.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I am accustomed to the vulgarity of the hon. member.

Mr. SPEAKER: On what is the hon. member speaking?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order, Sir. I do not rent any Chambers in James Street, or any other part of the world. The hon. member is making a very silly and certainly offensive aspersion that I, as Minister of Finance, rent Law Chambers. I do not rent any Law Chambers.

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

Hon. E. W. BARROW: He is only a dirty, little plantation guttersnipe..... (ASIDES)

Mr. SPEAKER: This sitting now stands suspended for fifteen minutes.
10.00 p.m.

On Resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER: When the Sitting was suspended for grave disorder, that was so done because of what I regarded as the unseemly, regrettable conduct by hon. members, one on each side of this House. I do not propose to hear either of those or in fact any hon. member in respect of that incident. By suspending the Sitting of the House, I gave what I intended to be a clear indication of my aversion to and disgust at the conduct; but I realise, as I have sat previously around the Table, that there are times when tempers are frayed. I realise that this Sitting started at 12 o'clock noon and we are now approaching midnight. I make allowances for a long and trying Sitting.

Before this matter is resumed - and if it is resumed, it must be resumed as if the unseemly, and I say quite advisedly, deplorable conduct had never occurred, and we recommence de novo. I am not entertaining any discussion or points in respect of anything which has transpired some time ago. So far as I am concerned, the suspension for grave disorder has indicated the Chair's extreme disapproval of the conduct. I hope and believe there will not be a recurrence. There has been ample time for hon. members to cool. There was a severe give-and-take; the honours as a whole, I would think, were even; but I am not concerned with that anymore. The Sitting was suspended because of grave disorder, and we shall resume in, as I hope, perfect order and continue in order until the end of the evening so that we may conclude a long, arduous but very good day's work.

I trust there will be no recriminations by either side and no attempt by either side to revert to that which unfortunately did take place. I apologise to hon. members for speaking at such length, but I am sure that a word to the wise or words to the wise will suffice, and we will continue this evening's Sitting without any further incident, and complete the people's work for the day. Hon. members, I am looking for co-operation from both sides and on both

sides, and in anticipation I thank hon. members on both sides.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, as I was saying, there can be no objections to the principle of the granting of legal aid. The area of contention can be in respect of the scope of the legal aid and the nature of the offences, the criminal offences which are included in the Bill and the absence of provision for legal aid in cases which one may classify as constitutional cases of exceptional difficulty.

I would like to know, Sir, from the Hon. Minister who introduced the Bill whether the Council of the Barbados Bar Association has agreed to the fees which are set out in the Second Schedule to this Bill. It seems to me that they are substantially less, certainly in capital offences, than those which are allowed now by the Chief Justice under the Head of the Estimates "Judiciary". I do not believe that the Draft Bill, if it was sent to the Bar Association, contained the Schedules when it was so sent, and I think this is an important matter. One does not want to have a wrangle between members of the legal profession and the Judicial Advisory Council in respect of these matters. I would have thought that overtures would have been made by the relevant Ministry to the Bar Association in respect of the fees in the Schedule, and I would like to know whether there is any reason for reducing the fees in respect of capital offences to the fee they now have.

I again draw to the Hon. Minister's attention that in the Schedule it says "a fee not exceeding \$25 for advice to the convicted person as to whether he has any ground for appeal or for any application for leave to appeal and for the drafting of all necessary documents where the convicted person appeals or applies for leave to appeal." If you have to draft documents and prepare a record, in my submission the fee of \$25 is an unreasonably low fee. If one has to pay secretarial services or have it done in one's office, it is unreasonably low. There should definitely be an additional fee on to all of these to cover disbursements by barristers. In the criminal cases in this country, one does not have the intervention of a solicitor. I also see an important gap of principle in part III on page 11 where it says "in relation to an appeal to Her Majesty in Council an additional fee of \$25.00 for advice to the convicted person as to whether he has any ground for appeal or for an application for leave to appeal and for the drafting of all necessary documents where the convicted person appeals or applies for leave to appeal."

Sir, under the regulations made by the Governor-General pursuant to the Adaptation Orders made under the Independence Order of Barbados, the Minister of Home Affairs has made certain regulations in relation to appeals by persons under sentence of death to the Privy Council. One of these regulations states that where a person appeals and the appeal is not *in forma pauperis* that within the date fixed by the Minister of Home Affairs which shall not be less than three weeks after notification, the appellant must satisfy the Ministry of Home Affairs that the applica-

tion for leave to appeal and the record have been transmitted to Solicitors in England or Privy Council Agents. It also says that the applicant for leave must satisfy the Minister that fees to the extent of 65 guineas have been sent on to the Solicitors in England.

10.25 p.m.

A person's position can be hopelessly compromised if he has a Legal Aid certificate, and there is no provision in this Legal Aid Bill for the recoupment of barristers for having the fees to send on to England. If it is an *in forma pauperis* application, the rules do not make provision for any fees to be sent on, but I can assure this House that I have had experience in this matter, and the minimum fees demanded by solicitors in England, those who will take *in forma pauperis* work, is £25. You must send on all of that together with a copy of the Court of Appeal's judgment, a copy of the record certified by the Registrar, and you must have an affidavit by the appellant that he is not worth in the world, excluding wearing apparel, £100 and a certificate by Counsel that there is a reasonable ground of appeal in his opinion. The concept of providing legal aid is something on which the profession has taken a decision. This Bill extends the existing system, but it does not appear to me that it will be workable in practice satisfactorily unless the fees are increased to the scale which is presently permitted, and unless disbursements are catered for.

I also want to draw to the attention of the House - and this is the actual experience which barristers have - that if you are assigned to do a murder case here, and a question of insanity arises and you wish to have an opinion from a psychiatrist other than those who are practising at the Mental Hospital - I am not casting any reflection on them, but it is known that, for a long period of time, the psychiatrists who are attached to the Government do not like to come forward and give evidence which is likely to result in a prisoner being found by a jury to be guilty, but at the particular period of time, labouring from such a defect of reason as not to be responsible. They all tell you, quite frankly, that they have no facilities for the treatment of criminal lunatics at the existing Institution in Barbados. Therefore, one does get some difficulty in getting psychiatrists' advice. There are, of course, psychiatrists in general practice - there is now a retired psychiatrist for the Mental Hospital, but there is no provision in this Bill in addition to the fee to cover the disbursement, to get reasonable advice from expert witnesses. That is another defect in this Bill. Those are two practical defects which we can point out straight away. If you have to summon other expert witnesses - let us take it that you have a question of rape. It may be that you may want an opinion from a laboratory, and the Pathologist here may want to get an opinion from another laboratory. Again, there is nothing to cover expenses reasonably incurred, and I do not think that it should be left to the whim and fancy of the person who has been assigned a Certificate to incur all kinds of expenses. I see that there will be a provision for reasonable disbursements which, on a certificate of

the judge, were necessary; otherwise you are placing an accused person at a disadvantage *vis-a-vis* another person who has the resources necessary to fight charges of the nature as specified in the First Schedule to the Bill. The whole aim and objective of the Bill is that these are serious charges, and you do not want any person, because of poverty, to be placed in a disadvantageous position.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, nearly all the ground which could reasonably be covered in this Bill, has already been covered by my friend, the hon. and learned senior member for Christ Church, but I would like to add, particularly in one or two respects, my comments in support of the remarks which the hon. member has made. First of all, Mr. Speaker, at the risk of seeming to be avaricious, which is not a real risk, in fact, because I do not extensively deal in assignments. I have indeed done assignments both in murder and on appeal to the former British Caribbean Court of Appeal; but, in fact, my practice is not as extensive in that direction as that of the hon. member. Nothing in the scale of fees that I see here would make me feel anxious to extend my experience. It is not that I think any Counsel should refuse his expertise such as he possesses if called upon; but barristers with expertise generally have a large number of clients, and it is invariably the case even in the middle-of-the-year Assizes when things in the Supreme Court are slack - it is invariably the case that Assize work so interferes with the normal daily run of a barrister's practice that to do Assize work at all, for barristers who practise in the Civil Courts and who practise generally, it means that a number of other cases have to be re-arranged.

Mr. Speaker, how can a barrister with a duty to his already existing clients, be prepared to re-arrange a case for which he might have been paid more than \$75.00 to appear in a Magistrate's Court, to go and do a murder case in the High Court? Mr. Speaker, it simply cannot be done in the Chambers of the barristers who might be in a position to give the greatest assistance in these difficult cases to which this Act refers. It simply cannot be done, in my respectful - I was going to say in my respectful opinion, but in this Chamber at least I can say, in my opinion. We see here that no fees shall be allowed or paid for any day on which the hearing of a case consists of the consideration of the penalty, if any, to be imposed on conviction for an offence and the imposition or non-imposition of a penalty. How meaningful is that? In many cases, the significance of the matter at a certain stage is the penalty, but it is suggested that a barrister cannot receive any hearing fee for the day on which the penalty is considered. Suppose a barrister attends the preliminary inquiry! He gets paid for the preliminary inquiry and as a result of what he hears and what he is told, he advises his client to plead guilty and rely on certain aspects of the case to mitigate. The case is then sent to the Assizes for this guilty plea in these circumstances, and you cannot draw apparently a day's pay for arguments about penalty. Those are only points to be considered when you really look at the size of the

fee. It may be that those who are responsible for fixing them are somewhat remote from their practising days, or if not remote from their practising days, they are drawing on their experience in respect of fees which they used to enjoy during their period, such as it was, in active practice.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think that this is a point of order, but I should state that there is a cockroach under the Opposition benches and it has caused; I think, some slight inconvenience. It may be said that it came from the direction of the Government benches during the period of the suspension of the sitting. I do not know what significance that is, but perhaps if the Marshal would be kind enough to come and prevent it from once again running up my trousers legs, I shall be very happy to think that it has been executed. 10.35 p.m.

I ask the indulgence of hon. members if they see me jumping. It is this particular insect that is causing one or two worries from time to time. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to support the Bill, but there should be a revision of the fees.

It is useless to ask any Counsel to take \$25.00 for the drafting of the necessary documents. Unless I am mistaken, you have to send something like 40 copies. The ultimate number of documents required by the Privy Council is 40. I have seen numerous appeals during the period when I was in Sir Dingle Foot's chambers in London.

In appeals monies have to be paid, not perhaps in the three thousand guineas scale that Mr. Foot would have required, but substantial monies had to pass through solicitors' hands, and the least you have to start off with is £25.

This Act has a provision to give Counsel a fee of \$25.00. I do not know any Counsel, even those who would not get a brief from weeks beginning on week's end and for months beginning on month's end who would for \$25.00 undertake a Privy Council appeal which may take you every afternoon for a week.

It is not a cheap job, as you will well know, Sir. I dare say that Your Honour's fees would be so exorbitant - you have so lost touch with the market of preparing Privy Council appeals that the pauper appellant would quite be unable even to shake Your Honour's hand in respect of a matter such as this.

To receive a fee of \$25.00 to prepare an appeal to Her Majesty-in-Council is merely to say that prisoners will have to find their own money if they want to go to the Privy Council. It should be at least doubled or trebled, and a further amount of \$120 provided for disbursement to the London solicitors. In other words, to that extent, legal aid should cover outside and local practitioners.

Mr. Speaker, a former speaker did not perhaps indicate what fees used to be payable in the British Caribbean Court of Appeal, but I can say that they far exceeded the fees which are set out in Part 3 of

the Schedule to the Act. I do not know of any case where the British Caribbean Court of Appeal assigned Counsel and less than £25 was paid to Counsel, and that would be after the record had been prepared by the Registrar of the Caribbean Court of Appeal, and Counsel would go to the case with documents ready made. He would be told what to do, and after that the £25 is paid.

To reduce these fees today with rising costs is not very realistic. The Hon. Leader of the House, in introducing this Bill said that it was based on Jamaican legislation and he referred to legal aid in Britain. In Britain it is supposed to be a contributory scheme because the object is not to get a barrister who cannot practise, but legal aid was established in Britain to help poor people who needed it, and a very important part of legal aid is in respect of illegal cases on the hire-purchase basis, so much so that analysis revealed that in legal aid in divorce, in many cases obtained through cut-price solicitors, by the time you paid instalments every week, you could have paid a good lawyer to whom you could not offer instalments.

You might take five years to pay back the cost of the legal aid, but at least you will get the very best that was available to you. In these days of National Insurance, it should not be beyond the wit of the draftsman to find some provision which could reflect this advance in the legal aid system.

Clause 4 says that "where it appears to the appropriate authority that the means of a person charged with or, as the case may be, convicted for a scheduled offence are insufficient to enable that person..."

How can you convince a magistrate that you do not have enough means? I have a feeling that if the appropriate authority says that you are not going to get a Certificate, that is the end of the matter.

You, Sir, I have no doubt, have some knowledge and, experience of what happens in those jurisdictions where Magistrates' decisions are final. Unless I am mistaken, you have had a recent experience of what happens when a Magistrate is given power from which an appeal is difficult. What is more important to him is to know that his decision is final.

What happens when you go before a Magistrate and he says that you do not deserve legal aid? These things can happen. I think it would be much better if there was an independent body making some examination of the means of an accused person. After all, an accused person may want to take a particular Counsel in a murder case, and if he knows that it will cost \$1,500 and that he can raise half he would be glad to pay half and pay the rest; but under this scheme he might be debarred from getting that Counsel at all. He may have to get cheaper Counsel and not the Counsel of his choice because he does not have the \$1,500.

Those are considerations which, I think, should be given greater weight than they appear to be given

in the Bill now before us judging from the speech of the Leader of the House, and the deliberations which led up to its drafting.

10.45 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to support the hon. senior member for Christ Church in one particular respect. It is not only criminal cases where legal aid is required. It is the policy of the Barbados Labour Party that if returned to power we will make legal aid available in High Court matrimonial matters to persons who wish to have divorces, or for various reasons which will regularise their family position in the very awkward situation in which many people find themselves. There are 65,000 Barbadians living outside the Island. These were the statistics given to me in London, and it is the policy of the Barbados Labour Party that legal aid would be made available in such matters. I regret that it could not have been made available under this Act.

The manifestoes of 1961 and in the 1966 General Elections of the Barbados Labour Party, unlike those of other Parties, have contained provisions offering legal aid as one of the platforms of our policy, and it continues to be such a platform. For one thing, Mr. Speaker, it is a question of expense. I do not know what statistics the Minister has in front of him. He may have statistics for indictable offences in a year. It may seem that we are part of the great Trade Union of lawyers talking on this side and calling for more money. It may seem that we are not practising the principles of economy which we so often preach from these benches to the Minister.

Mr. Speaker, with approximately 100 indictable cases in a year, if so many, what will the fees cost? How many murder cases do we have in a year in Barbados? About five or six cases. (An hon. Member: Do you want us to have more?) I do not think hon. members wish to punish the Prime Minister to that extent tonight, Mr. Speaker. He has been naughty, but we will not do that to him. Suppose there are 100 indictable cases a year, leaving out those capably monopolised by Counsel outside this House. I have not seen Your Honour in a larceny case for a long time, but I dare say Your Honour will perform as creditably as anyone else. Perhaps Your Honour's practice does not lie in that direction.

So far as infanticide and concealment of birth are concerned, in my practice, limited though it is, I have not seen a charge of concealment of birth brought. I think I can recall a charge of infanticide brought in Barbados, but I cannot recall a charge of concealment of birth. In fact, Mr. Speaker, I did not know that it existed in Barbados. I did not know that we had an Infanticide Act, Mr. Speaker, until quite recently. Leaving those aside, how many cases will qualify for legal aid? If the Judges are generous, perhaps, 20 (10 cases which are liable to a maximum fee of \$100, and 10 cases which would be liable to a higher maximum fee than that.) Suppose every murder case went on for four days, the fees would not amount to \$1,000. Suppose there were 20 more cases and they attracted a fee of \$150, then this entire scheme should be administrable on less than \$10,000 a year.

Mr. Speaker, I do not know what financial calculations the Minister has. (*Asides*) I, perhaps, have left out the Civil Service staff. Suppose we spend \$11,000 a year, what is \$11,000 a year for defending poor people who may genuinely be innocent and who may genuinely require defence? These fees are such that only Counsel that do not work could afford to accept. It is not a question of being too great to accept the money. It is a question of having people's work to deal with, and you cannot set aside the work of the people casually like that. You cannot just put down people's work six or eight times to go to the High Court to deal with assignments. Let us think of those things.

Mr. Speaker, I appeal to the Prime Minister to reconsider the size of the fees, especially in the light of the fact that the entire fees will cost the Government little money. What is \$20,000 compared to what was spent on the C.B.C.? One defalcation at the Barbados Marketing Corporation will pay for a whole year's legal aid, notwithstanding the amount of money that it loses every year. We are pinching at the pennies where twenty or thirty persons are facing Glendairy Prison or hanging. We still have capital punishment, and this Government seems to be bringing it back with more force than ever. We cannot afford this amount for legal aid, but \$2 1/2 million is what is asked for at the C.B.C.!

One last thing, Mr. Speaker. Section 11 (2) states that a prisoner who gets legal aid and is convicted can be made to pay back the legal aid. What is the point of that? If he has no means to get Counsel in the first instance, what is the point of saying he should be ordered to pay back what Counsel had to be paid if he is convicted? Suppose he applies for a Legal Aid Certificate, the cheap lawyer lets him down and he gets convicted, then the period of his imprisonment will be extended because he will be unable to pay back what had been expended. It has never been suggested that a murderer should have to pay back the fees for his defence if he is convicted. Perhaps the man cannot afford to pay the fees in the first place, but if he is convicted he will have to pay them back! Let the Minister bear that in mind.

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.

10.55 p.m.

Clauses 1 to 8 inclusive were called and passed.

Clause 9 was called. It reads as follows:-

9. The Judicial Advisory Council may make rules prescribing the manner in which counsel shall be assigned under a legal aid certificate and generally for carrying this Act into effect.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 9 stand part.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to second that.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, on this question of the Judicial Advisory Council, I see that that body continues to be referred to in respect of statutes, and indeed we occasionally hear around the Courts again in respectful tones that the Judicial Council will provide; but the Judicial Advisory Council, Mr. Chairman, as far as I can see, has provided nothing since, so to speak, Manna was provided for the Israelites. I certainly can recall nothing that the Judicial Advisory Council has actually done for a number of years, and I wonder how far they are functioning as a Law Reform body, and how far they are really functioning as a body which is going to make rules respecting a matter of this sort. I do not even know who the Judicial Advisory Council now are. I seem to remember that Mr. Speaker was once a member in another guise. I do not know if there are any practising members of the Bar; I do not know if there is any provision for the President of the Bar Association to be there. I really have no idea. I do not know if the expression "Judicial Advisory Council" means a Council of Judges to advise somebody, or it means an Advisory Council to advise the Judges. I would be glad to hear from the Minister who they are, what function they are now undertaking, and what guarantee we have that these rules will be made by the Council.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am afraid the hon. member has me at a disadvantage. I am sure there is such a body, and it does appear to me to have some powers conferred on it by Section 9 or will have some powers conferred on it under this Act. I am to assume that it will have to meet pretty soon in the light of this legislation.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, the Judicial Advisory Council is constituted under the Supreme Court of Judicature Act as amended, but the problem is that you must have, I think, either ten out of eleven or nine out of ten members present so as to constitute a quorum. The difficulty is that with its composition, it is not always easy to get a quorum and it meets very infrequently. It is the Authority that makes the rules under the Supreme Court of Judicature Act and under the Magistrates' Courts Act and a number of other Acts, but it has not been meeting regularly because of this difficulty with a quorum. The proposals are to amend that to have the usual one-third or half or whatever it is as a quorum.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am grateful to the hon. member. I do recall of course the existence of the Body, but quite frankly I have not heard of it for quite some time. I expect my colleague, the Attorney General, is well aware of this and has devised some

means of making the body meet whether with a quorum or not.

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

Clauses 10 to 12 inclusive were called and passed.

The First Schedule was called. It reads as follows:-

FIRST SCHEDULE

Section 2

OFFENCES IN RELATION TO WHICH A LEGAL AID CERTIFICATE MAY BE GIVEN

1. Any capital offence.
2. Manslaughter.
3. Infanticide.
4. Concealment of birth.
5. Rape.
6. Any indictable offence the trial of which is certified by the trial Judge to be, or as likely to be, of exceptional difficulty and to require the assistance of counsel on behalf of the person charged therewith for its proper determination.
7. Any indictable offence the trial of which or an appeal from the conviction of which is certified by the trial Judge or the Court of Appeal, as the case may be, to involve or as likely to involve, a point of law of public importance and to require the assistance of counsel on behalf of the person charged or convicted, as the case may be, for its proper determination.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that this be the First Schedule.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to second that

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, I enquired of the Hon. Minister who introduced this Bill whether the Schedule had been sent to the Bar Association or whether this Draft Bill with the Schedule in it had been sent to the Council of the Barbados Bar Association for their comments.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am not in a position to give the hon. member that assurance, although I do see that there has been considerable consultation between the Solicitor General, the Registrar and other similarly placed officials in the Judicial and Legal Services. Whether more extensive consultation has taken place informally - I expect it has - or not, I do not know, but I certainly know that between the Solicitor General and the Registrar there has been pretty extensive and thorough consultation.

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

The Second Schedule was called and passed.

On motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. J. C. TUDOR, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in

Committee, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

11.05 p.m.

BARBADOS HARBOURS (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) BILL

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 8 be taken as the next Order of the Day.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works:- To move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, this is a very small amendment. As the "Objects and Reasons" set out, "This Bill seeks to amend the Barbados Harbours Act 1960-29 in order to limit the liability of berthing masters employed in the Port Department for negligent navigation in the course of their duties under the Act to the sum of five hundred dollars. Provision for regulations to be made for this purpose appears in Section 53(1)(a) (vi) of the Act but since further provisions are required relating to the powers of the Court in which proceedings are brought against a berthing master for such negligence it is thought desirable to achieve the objects by amendment to the Act rather than by regulations."

This arises out of the fact that the berthing masters seem to be finding some difficulty in getting Insurance Companies to take out full insurance in case of these things happening, and it is quite likely that a berthing master in bringing in one of these ships, can give the right call on the telegraph, but it might be answered wrongly on the tell-tale down below, and the Captain who must always be on the bridge when a ship is coming in, might say that it was not really the fault of the engine room. I remember some years ago that we had an accident with a ship coming into port, and the engineer or watch was honest enough to admit that he gave the wrong signal. He had the signal to go astern, but something went wrong. He gave the wrong signal and the ship went ahead and hit the sugar terminal but fortunately, for us, it was the third one, and brought down one of the loading towers. In order to indemnify the pilots from any excessive amount of litigation, the Government thinks that this is the best thing to do. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I can understand and appreciate the difficulty which the berthing masters have in getting insurance, but I wonder if, in the Minister's file, consideration was taken into account that one of the people who would be likely to be involved in this, as the last case, is the Government itself. I was involved in the matter which the Minister talked about, and although the piece of equipment was vested in the Sugar Terminals, the Government had a great interest in it. Suppose these ships, as a result of the negligence of the berthing master himself, hit a part of the pier! My memory of the regulations is that the berthing master is the agent of the ship and not of the Government. Perhaps they have taken all of these matters into consideration, because it may be that the Government themselves might find that they are the people who suffer the damage and that in future, as to their insurance of the Harbour as such, they may have difficulty in getting people to re-insure the quays and other parts of the Harbour on which they carry the insurance.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, the Minister can deal with both things. As far as I am concerned, this question is a simple one. Is the liability being limited to \$500.00 or is the individual's liability being limited to that? I think it would be monstrous if you said, for instance, that some berthing master - I am not, for one minute, suggesting that any of the berthing masters at present employed by the Port is in this position - but suppose some berthing master gets drunk and brings in a ship just in front of the Customs Shed and it goes through that piece of the Harbour and kills two or three people! Do you mean to say that their dependants can get nothing! I would like to be assured that the matter has been considered in that light by the Government. Apart from the possibility of damage - to Government property such as the crane, the quays, the side of the Harbour and so on, the trouble which the Government would have to salvage a ship which sank in the Harbour as the result of negligence in pilotage - apart from that entirely I very much hope that the Minister can tell us definitely and decisively that the persons who are harmed through the negligent management of the ships in the Bridgetown Harbour, are going to be able to recover their money from somebody. I have every sympathy for the berthing masters, but you cannot just let ships come in there and say that \$500.00 will be the maximum amount of damages paid for any damages that negligent pilotage of a ship might cause.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, one of the things that is very pertinent about ships is that despite the fact that a pilot is bringing in a ship, the Captain never ceases to be the captain. If a pilot is bringing in a ship and the Captain himself has any doubt about the pilot bringing in the ship, he takes the ship out of his hands. The captain is still responsible for the ship, no matter what happens. Even if the captain is sleeping and the ship gets into an accident, he is still responsible for the ship. It means that a captain is not supposed to sleep, according to the maritime laws.
11.15 p.m.

I see here that the Attorney General stated that there seemed to be no need for the limitation, and that the Bill was based on provisions of the Trinidad and Tobago legislation where pilots are not employed by the company.

To be truthful, the hon. senior member for St. Thomas has just raised a very pertinent point because I am still at a loss myself to know what will be the position if a ship comes in and someone is drunk and hits something. What would be the position with a person who gets hurt? I think that the ship's owners would be liable for damages and the agents

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

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on the Bill.

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

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

On motion of Hon. H. W. BOXILL, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the passing of the Bill in Committee was reported, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Hon. N. W. BOXILL, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

BILL TO AMEND TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House and it is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Town and Country Planning Act, 1965.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before we deal with this Bill, I do not know if it is known generally on the other side that this Bill only reached me yesterday. There were two additional Bills which were sent to my Chamber in addition to the rest which came at the normal time. My friend has just agreed with me, and he says that he only got his yesterday.

I do not think it is fair to us to deal with it today.

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Clerk has informed me that it is a fact that this and another Bill went out for the first time yesterday.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is quite right, as I myself understood earlier this evening. In view of that, I will not proceed with it now. So this concludes Government Business and I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday 2nd July at 2.30 p.m.

At the end of Private Members' Business, which is at 4.30 p.m., and Government Business is resumed, the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister and Minister of Finance proposes to make his Budgetary Statement and Fiscal Proposals for the year 1968-69.

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

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

11.25 p.m.