

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1966 - 71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 29th October, 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. C. E. TUDOR, M.A., (Leader of the House); Mr. J. B. CORBIN, J.P.; Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, (Minister of Trade, Tourism, Co-operatives and Fisheries); Mr. R. ST.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P.; Hon. N. W. BOXILL, (Minister of Communications and Works); Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD, J.P., (Chairman of Committees); Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P.; Mr. L. S. CRAIG and Mr. J. B. SPRINGER.

Prayers were read.

Mr. HINDS entered the Chamber and took his seat.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the meetings of Tuesday, 9th July, 1968, Tuesday, 16th July, 1968, Tuesday, 30th July, 1968, Tuesday, 6th August, 1968, Friday 9th August, 1968, Tuesday, 13th August, 1968, Tuesday, 27th August, 1968, Friday, 30th August, 1968 and Tuesday, 3rd September, 1968, have all been duly circulated. I do not know if hon. members have had ample opportunity of perusing the Minutes of those nine meetings, and if they have not, I will readily agree to postponing their confirmation that hon. members might have such opportunity, there being as many as nine of them; but if I receive no such intimation from hon. members, I will separately.....

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I am requesting that confirmation of the Minutes be deferred.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has requested that consideration of the Minutes of those nine meetings be postponed because, quite understandably, he has not had an opportunity of perusing them yet. I therefore deem it reasonable to postpone confirmation of these until the next meeting of this House when hon. members will have had an opportunity of perusing them.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS entered the Chamber and took his seat.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I am in receipt of the Accounts and Statements of July, 1967, as prepared by the Accountant General.

I also have the honour to inform the House that I have received a letter dated 17th September, 1968 from Government House, Barbados which reads as follows:-

"His Excellency the Governor-General presents his compliments to His Honour the Speaker of the House of Assembly and has the honour to forward, herewith, a copy of a letter dated the 11th September, 1968, received from the Assistant Private Secretary to The Queen acknowledging the receipt of the Message of loyalty from the House of Assembly of Barbados in which was conveyed their thanks and appreciation for the gift of books from the House of Commons to commemorate the attainment of Independence by Barbados."

Also another letter from Government House, Barbados which reads as follows:-

"His Excellency the Governor-General presents his compliments to His Honour the Speaker of the House of Assembly and has the honour to forward, herewith, a copy of a letter dated the 11th September, 1968, received from the Assistant Private Secretary of The Queen acknowledging the receipt of the Message of condolence from the House of Assembly of Barbados on the death of Her Royal Highness Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent, and requesting that an expression of The Queen's gratitude for their message of sympathy, which Her Majesty much appreciates, be conveyed to the Speaker."

I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a Statement of the Revenue and Expenditure of the Barbados Savings Bank for the half year ended 30th June, 1967.

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 five months ended 31st August, 1968.

Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for six months ended 30th September, 1968.

An Account of the Transactions in Rum in the several Districts of the Island for quarters ended 30th June, 1968, and 30th September, 1968.

The Customs Duties (The Environmental Science Services Administration (ESSA) of the United States Department of Commerce) Order, 1968.

An agreement between the Government of Barbados and the Commonwealth Development Corporation and the Barbados Mortgage Finance Company Limited for the making of loans for the construction and/or purchase of houses.

The Public Officers Loan and Travelling Allowances (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations, 1968.
12.25 p.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1968.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the Annual Report of the Public Assistance Board for the period April, 1967 to March, 1968.

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 Resolutions:-

A Resolution to approve the lease to Seawell Air Services Limited of a parcel of land situate at Seawell Airport, Christ Church.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$2,364 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69, in Part II. Capital as shown in the supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 32 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$2,000 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69, Part II- Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 33 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$33,618 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69, Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 34 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$29,130 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69, Part II - Capital as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1968-69 No. 35 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$73,501 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1968-69, Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1968-69 No. 36 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

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 Resolutions of which notice has just been given.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:- A Resolution to approve the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1968.

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 Bills:-

A Bill to amend the Savings Bank Act, 1914.

A Bill to amend the Currency (No.2) Act, 1965.

A Bill respecting Income Taxes.

REPLIES TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

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 that the Oral Replies to the following Parliamentary Questions are now ready:-

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 132, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James.

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 169 and 170, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 186 and 246, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James.

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 196 and 210, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 233 and 242, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 257, 265, 189, 208, 209, 255 and 261, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 172 and 241, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 230, asked by the hon. senior member for Bridgetown.

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

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 19 and 243, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James.

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 168 and 243, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 192, 218, 254, 260, 262 and 263, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 197, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph.

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 221, 222, 224 and 226, asked by the hon. senior member for Christ Church.

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

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 177, 213 and 217, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

The Oral Reply to Parliamentary Questions No. 244, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

The Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 249 and 267, asked by the hon. senior member for St. James.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 238, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas is now ready.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S NOTICE

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

WHEREAS this House notes with dismay and concern that the present procedure for introducing, debating and passing the annual Budgetary Proposals has prevented, and will, unless altered, continue to prevent full debate by the Opposition at the appropriate time of this most important measure;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call on the Government to revert to the old procedure whereby the Resolution on which debate is founded, is introduced by the Government, and takes place in Government, and not in Private Members' time.

Mr. ST. JOHN entered the House and took his seat.
12.35 p.m.

BILLS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Savings Bank Act, 1914, 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.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Currency (No. 2) Act, 1965, 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.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill respecting Income Taxes 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.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

THE WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1968

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, before we proceed, I would like to intimate to the House that the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works does not intend to proceed at this day's sitting with the Bill listed under Government Business. This means, of course, that there is no Government Business to be proceeded with today. We have, however, tabled, I believe, replies to nearly fifty questions - 41 questions - and I am thinking that it would be a good opportunity to do Question Time and to dispose of them. *(Interruption)*. My hon. colleague is suggesting that today could very well be called "Question Day", because I believe that hon. members opposite not always justifiably, are concerned about the delay in answering Questions. We have managed to break the back of the backlog of work during the recess, and we should like, I think, to get these done today.

I therefore propose to move - I hope the hon. member opposite would agree with this - the suspension of Standing Orders, start on Question Time

with a suspension for the luncheon period when this is convenient, probably at half past one or a quarter to two, and then proceed after the luncheon suspension to continue until we get these Questions finished. I would like to hear some reaction from the other side before I move a formal motion for the suspension of Standing Orders.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, this is another instance of not approaching the Opposition before coming into this House. Nobody would object to doing Questions now. Probably all of those Questions should have been answered before today. I do wish to protest against this habit of waiting until you come to the House to approach the Opposition when you should do it beforehand. The hon. member was not present for the last few days, but there are other members of the Government who were in this Island and could have done it. I did not quite catch what the hon. member said about Government Business.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member would look at the Order Paper, he would see that there is one item set down for Government Business today. The Minister does not propose to proceed with it today, and therefore, there is nothing under Government Business.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

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

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

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

QUESTION TIME

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

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Question Time.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I would just like to make a suggestion, if it is agreeable to Your Honour and to the House. I think the copy of the Notices, which Your Honour has, showed that the replies are tabled under individual Ministers. This, of course, makes for convenience from our point of view; but the Questions, of course, would not necessarily be in the numerical order. I do not know if Your Honour wishes to take them numerically from the lowest number right up to the highest, or whether you wish to do them as there are on your Paper. Whichever one it is, of course, is equally convenient, but I was thinking, perhaps that, as they are listed under individual Ministers, you might take them that way.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is that problem that copies of this document are not in general circulation. I had contemplated, so far as possible, dealing with the earliest first and starting with No. 19.
12.45 p.m.

QUESTION re REPAIR OF ROAD AT CARLTON, ST. JAMES

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 19 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

1. Is Government aware that because of the recent heavy rains, the road at Upper Carlton, St. James, is well-nigh impassable, and that residents of the area experience great difficulty in transporting their canes to the factory for grinding?

2. Will Government treat the repair of the said road as an urgent priority?

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

"1. Yes, Sir; but the road is a private road;

2. The road does not properly qualify for repair by Government, but had it so qualified, it would not be accorded high priority rating under the Government's Road Works Programme as there are not many individual land owners and only about five houses in the area."

QUESTION re CAR PARK FACILITIES

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 160 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Is the Minister aware that certain persons or firms (other than persons connected with diplomatic representatives of foreign countries) have been granted the facility of renting lots in public car parks in Bridgetown upon a monthly basis?

Does the Minister consider this practice to be in the interest of the travelling public?

Will the Minister see to it that an end is put to this iniquitous practice?

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

Any member of the public may rent a lot in a public car park in Bridgetown where such facility exists and provided lots are available. Revised park-

ing systems and the provision of an increased number of parking lots are under active consideration. It is not proposed, at this stage, to change the existing system.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, I can appreciate what the Minister is saying; as far as I understand from the Minister, he does not think it is in the best interest to change the present system; but you would observe also that this Question which is to my mind an important one.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not quite follow the supplementary Question. The fault may be mine.

Mr. CRAIG: The supplementary question is this: My question says "other than persons connected with diplomatic representatives of foreign countries?" but there are other.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Are there other?

Mr. CRAIG: Are there other persons besides representatives of Life Insurance Companies and Banks using these lots which the actual travelling public do not find it convenient to use?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I thought I had made that clear to the hon. member. Anybody can rent these lots - Banks and Insurance Companies - and they also do, and that is why the car park at Hincks Street has been filled up; so I do not understand the Question the hon. member is asking. Anybody can rent the lots in the car park as long as space is available.

Mr. St. JOHN: Has the Minister considered whether it would not be more financially beneficial to the Government if these lots were only let on an hourly or daily basis so that you would get a greater turnover of the use of the space and at the same time facilitate a greater number of users of the space?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: That is a very good question, but the answer to that is "No, I do not think so." The simple reason is that we all are Barbadians. We are making ten dollars a month, and if we rented on an hourly basis I do not think we would make that. The point is that we are getting a guaranteed income when we do it like this, and the next thing is that I know - I am not saying that members on the opposite side or this side do it - people who go into the car park because they do not pay when they are going in. The car parks generally carry one attendant, and sometimes people slip back out, and the attendant does not even know they have gone without getting a ticket; so the Government loses money.

Mr. CRAIG: Would the Minister consider using more attendants so as to take care of that?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The car park is really to make money. We spent thousands of dollars to fill in the Careenage to facilitate people, and we intend to make money. People must pay for facilities, and getting more attendants does not necessarily mean we will get more money. You must remember that I

live here too like anybody else. You may get more attendants and get less money; but I will also say to the Chamber that it is my intention to introduce an innovation - I cannot tell you what it is yet - where everybody who want to park will have to pay to do so in the City, and I do not believe Government will be losing money then, and if they do lose, it would be a minimum amount of money, and not like what we are losing now in the car parks.

Mr. St. JOHN: Would the Minister consider allocating a small space in the car parks for the purpose of getting a comparative idea as to the amount of money you get in by allowing that to be used only on an hourly basis?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Yes, I have considered that, Mr. Speaker; but I must warn hon. members not to let us carry this past a joke, because this is no inquisition and I do not intend to be hopping up and down. If we take the car park in Independence Square as against the car park in Hincks Street, we are making quite a lot more money in Hincks Street, for the simple reason that some of the people rent the spaces and do not always occupy them, but we are being paid for them. Everybody knows the amount of money we have spent in Independence Square when it was rumoured that we were doing something for the Goddards and a lot of nonsense. The Goddards are not even in town, but that is by the way. If you look at that car park, you will never see it filled with cars other than on a political meeting night when nobody has to pay; but the moment you have to pay, people go all the way down by the Market to park and walk back up. We had a car park at the back of Barnes Building, and the complaint about this was that it was too far from the City, but I am sure that it is not further from Broad Street than the parking space at Princess Alice Road. That is why we had to turn the car park into a bus stand. People in Barbados have the tendency of wanting a lot of things for nothing, but they leave this country and go outside and pay for everything. The car park at Independence Square can hold quite a number of cars, but it is almost always empty. As I said, I intend to bring something new. (A VOICE: What about meters?) They are too expensive, and I know that meters can be picked. I thank the Opposition for their suggestions, but God was not so stupid as to give only the people in the Opposition sense; I have some too. I said I did not want meters and the Leader of the Opposition is getting into a rage. Meters take up too much time, and in the first place the sidewalks are too small; so when you put meters on the sidewalks, what is going to happen? It would mean that people would have to walk in the road which is dangerous to the public.
12.55 p.m.

A meter like this to hold money? This is a five-cent meter. (Asides). But not this size.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I assure the Hon. Minister that there is no supplementary question about meters yet?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The Hon. Leader of the Opposition raised some nonsense about meters. (*Asides*).

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Is the hon. member telling us that you cannot recover by the charge you make, the cost of any slot meter or anything else you put? Did the hon. member realise what he was saying when he said that they are too expensive? Can't you get back your expense by the charge you make?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, does the Minister not consider that the time has come when the Town and Country Planning Department is not giving permission for any commercial building to go up in Bridgetown, which does not provide its own parking lot?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, just like anybody else I can consider anything, but that question really should not be put to me at all. Yes, I feel so as a citizen of Barbados. We can all believe what we like. Once a sprat thought that it was a herring, but the fishermen knew differently.

WATER SERVICE FOR RESIDENTS AT MID-BENN HILL

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 192 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter. That is on page 11, left-hand column.

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

1. Is Government aware that residents at Mid-Benn Hill, in the parish of St. Peter, are denied the opportunity of having Government pipe-borne water service installed at their homes?

2. If the answer to the above is in the affirmative, will Government take the necessary steps to provide this much-needed service to those residents in this area who have for many years been signifying their intention of paying for such a service?

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

"The residents of Mid-Benn Hill along with householders in all parts of the Island will have the opportunity of having pipe-borne water service installed in their homes in accordance with the Government's declared policy.

2. Does not arise."

Mr. HINDS: Will the Minister tell us what is the Government's declared policy in this respect?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The Government's declared policy is that every available home, so long as it is in the proximity of the water main, should have water in it. Since this Government has been in power, we have been installing water in people's homes at the rate of over 200 services per month.

Mr. MOTTLEY entered the House and took his seat.

Mr. MOTTLEY: That was the declared policy of even my Government.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: What priority is given? Obviously, it should be the policy of every Government to put water in every home, but what is the order? By parishes, so many per parish? What is the order in which the services are installed?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: It was the duty of every Government which was in power to put water services for the public, but when the Barbados Labour Party was in power, you had to go and beg. I know that, for many days, people were down there begging to have these services installed although they had to pay for them. They were begging for months. Some people had their pipes laid down for years before they could get the water installed. In reply to the other Question, this has never happened with the Barbados Labour Party. When the Democratic Labour Party came into power, we made sure that every available person, who had paid his money, had water installed within a month's time. We do not take it by parish; we take it by the availability of mains. If there are mains in the area and the people apply for water, then they will get water; or we put down a main to suit the number of residents. Since this Party has been in power, 35,000 connections have been made. Do not tell me that water just came to Barbados since the Democratic Labour Party came into power! What happened when the Barbados Labour Party was in power for over seventeen years?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that the Hon. Minister may not ask Questions of the other side.

Mr. HINDS: Can the Minister tell us if there are water mains at Mid-Benn Hill?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I will read this for the benefit of the hon. member.

"Installation of a water Main is practicable and the water supply will be available" (*Asides*). The hon. member can hear, but he cannot understand.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that I cannot hear the Hon. Minister.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: It was not meant for Your Honour to hear, (*Laughter*). I was reading this for the benefit of the hon. member.

"Installation of a Water Main is practicable and a supply will be available. Pressures initially will be a bit low, but they will be improved when Alleyne-dale Pumping Station goes into operation. The length of four-inch main required is 700 feet."

Therefore, the distance is 700 feet away. As soon as we do this and we bring in Alleyne-dale, I suppose you will be going into mid-Benn Hill and telling people that you got water.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I beg the hon. member's pardon.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I heard the Hon. Minister say that since the Democratic Labour Party came into power, they have put in 35,000 water services. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister whether he has read the Economic Survey which has just been published, because he will find that there were 21,831 consumers in 1961-62 and, according to this Economic Survey, for 1967-68 there are 35,000; so he can look at page 54 of this Economic Survey and see.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I really do not want to keep back the House with this frivolity. If I did say that we installed 35,000 services, that would be erroneous. I know that I quoted the figures "35,000" but I do not remember if I said that we put them in. What I do know is that I said to the hon. junior member for St. Peter that since we came into power, we have put in an average of 200 services a month. (A MEMBER: You said 35,000 in seven years) Well, I can make a mistake just like anybody else. If I said 35,000 in seven years, I beg to withdraw that. We have put in over 10,000 services in seven years.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, did I understand the Minister to say that it is the Government's intention to install 700 feet of water main in the mid-Benn Hill area?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: No, I did not say so. (Asides).

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that the Minister cannot answer the Question which has been put in that way, "if the Hon. Minister understands." Perhaps, the hon. member should ask, "Did I correctly understand the Minister?"

Mr. HINDS: Yes, Sir. Did I correctly understand the Minister to say that?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I must warn hon. members that there are over 47 questions which we have to answer, and therefore I cannot keep jumping up and down like a yo-yo. What I read out was that the length of four-inch main required was 700 feet, most of which will necessitate the re-instatement of the road.
1.05 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I am asking the Minister if this 700 feet concerns the installation at mid-Benn Hill. That is all.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the 700 feet does not concern the installation at mid-Benn Hill; it belongs to the Water Works. If he means that the 700 feet will help people to get more water, that will be correct. I made that quite clear. It is either that I do not speak English well enough, or somebody does not understand English.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister tell us when they intend to start installing this water main at Benn Hill?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: As soon as practicable.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 197 standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Joseph to be found on page 12, left hand column.

INADEQUATE WATER SUPPLY IN ST. JOSEPH

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

1. Is the Minister aware that the water supply in the parish of St. Joseph is inadequate?

2. Is the Minister also aware that the policemen at District "F" Police Station, are very hard pressed for water?

3. Can the Minister say what is being done to improve the water service in St. Joseph?

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

(1) Yes, Sir! It should however be pointed out that the water supply is inadequate mainly in the higher elevations of the parish of St. Joseph.

(2) Yes, Sir.

(3) Work is now in progress on the installation of a new 12" main from Golden Ridge to Castle Grant. This will enable more water to be brought into supply thereby substantially improving the water service to the higher elevations of St. Joseph.

Mr. SMITH: As a supplementary, can the Minister say whether the water supply will be restored to its previous pressure, after the 12" main has been installed?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: No, Mr. Speaker, I do not expect that, when this 12" main is installed, the water will be restored to its previous pressure. The reason for putting in the 12" main is to improve the water supply. We will be pumping more water into the reservoir at Castle Grant, and we will have a better supply of water coming out of Castle Grant. We will be keeping the water level at Castle Grant much higher.

Many nights I have been to St. Thomas in the Welchman Hall area, and I discovered that there was only about one foot of water in the reservoir at Castle Grant. Now that this 12" main has been installed we will be able to keep the water level at Castle Grant much higher. This would improve the water supply in St. Joseph, St. Thomas, and all of those areas that are serviced from the Castle Grant reservoir.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister remember saying on the floor of this House that Castle Grant reservoir had become inadequate to meet the demands that had been imposed upon it?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I have said so in this Chamber. What I am trying to explain to the hon. member is that when this was so, Castle Grant was being supplied by either 4" or 6" mains, but we are now using a 12" main and you can put more pressure on the main. Let us say that a 4" main would take 5,000 gallons of water, and a 12" main would take 50,000 gallons of water. This is only an average, but it means that the people would be using the same amount of water from the reservoir and the water level would remain higher. We found that this would be a lot more economical and it would serve a more useful and immediate purpose at the moment, because if we were going to put up another reservoir up there we would not have the necessary area.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I do not want to tie up the Minister, and I have to put it in the form of a question. If I did not have to do so, I would have said that when the Minister told this House that he wanted a reservoir, he did not want it. He wanted a bigger main, and he is looking after it now. That is what I wanted to find out, Sir, but I could not put it to him in that way.

Mr. SPEAKER: Well, the hon. member has not put it that way, but he has put it.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: If the hon. member would give way, I would like to say something. That is not a fair statement to make on the floor of this House. This has absolutely nothing to do with it. When the Castle Grant reservoir was first built, I think it was built to hold 250,000 gallons of water. It was built in the days when only a select few could afford to put water in their houses. At that time almost everybody had to use a bucket and the standpost. As a matter of fact, when the other people were in power the managers who used to be on the Vestry used to put the standposts where their mules and the people who worked with them in their fields could get water, and they did not care anything about the residents. You can pass through any area and you will see that standposts were put miles away from where the village was. When the reservoir at Castle Grant was built, it was built specifically - take, for instance, when the Electric Company was put down; when the Electric Company was first put down, it was not put down so that people like you and me could have electricity. When the reservoir at Castle Grant was first put down, that was not done so that everybody in St. Joseph should have water in his house. It was put down for a select few: the Coxes and maybe the Smiths and that type of people.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is not referring to a member of the House by name?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: No, Sir. I am referring to Dudley Smith. It has happened that the standard of living has gone up remarkably since the Democratic Labour Party came into power, and everybody is now putting in a pipe in his home, and he also uses a hose. That is where you get a problem at Castle Grant. I hope, Mr. Speaker, that I have made myself quite clear for the hon. member.

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 221 standing in the name of the hon. and learned member for Christ Church, page 16, right hand column.

EXPENDITURE ON STREET LIGHTING IN CHRIST CHURCH

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Minister of Communications & 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?

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

"1. It is not possible to state with any degree of accuracy what sums of money were expended on street lighting in the parish of Christ Church during the financial year 1967-68 since payments are based on the total number of lamps installed throughout the island and not on the number of lamps installed in each parish. No new lamps were installed in the parish of Christ Church during the financial year 1967-68.

2. The sum of \$7,000 has been provided in the 1968/69 estimates to light the Seawell to Oistins Highway and negotiations are in train with the Barbados Light and Power Company regarding the number and recurrent cost of lamps to be used on this highway. It has been selected because of its use by the heavy traffic generated by Seawell Airport." 1.15 p.m.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister aware that since the Barber greening of the road from Top Rock to Oistin, the difficulties with the absence of street lighting have been magnified tremendously and, particularly when the rain is falling, it is worse still? Would he consider spending some money there rather than putting street lights very close to each other between Oistin and Seawell?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am aware that all the Barber Green roads tend to be dark, not only the ones in the area referred to, but as I said on the floor of this House, street lighting for the Island is a "must". Although I have explained this on several occasions, hon. members on the opposite side who want to get in their punches seem to think that somebody is trying to be vicious or vindictive. It is nothing like that. The truth is that when we started to get a very good lamp like the one I spoke about in Hincks Street, down came the pound and everybody found himself in a quandary and we had to start re-vamping all our plans. These lights were coming

from Canada which is a hard currency area. We are now trying to get some lamps which we are going to assemble ourselves, and if I am not mistaken, I think it is in the city area that we have started to take out the incandescent lamps and put in some of these fluorescent lamps. I am speaking under correction. I have just been told that one is in Halls Road, not that this is the only one. We are really going ahead with this especially in places like Highway 1 and on the Road to Seawell. It is the duty of the Opposition to make the Government in power uncomfortable, but the duty of the Opposition is also to help the Government and not to expect us with mauby money to buy champagne. I will do my best, and when a man has done his best, angels cannot do better.

QUESTION re DISREPAIR OF CARTERS
ROAD AND RAWLINS ROAD

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 222 stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for Christ Church.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows:-

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 - Carters 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 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?

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

(i) and (ii) Yes, Sir. However, Carters Gap has already been surfaced. It is proposed to repair the other roads in the Silver Sands/Rawlins Road and the Gall Hill/Lodge Road areas when funds become available and in accordance with their priority rating.

(iii) Does not arise.

(iv) No Ministry has called on any tenantry owner to pave and properly drain any roads in the parish of Christ Church since the take over of Public Health and roads by Central Government.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Will the Minister consider a scheme whereby the Government could agree to contribute some and the owners of these tenantry roads contribute some so as to speed up the large number of roads?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Yes, Mr. Speaker, When Questions like these are asked, I get somewhat chary, because this is exactly what I have already proposed, and I am wondering if somebody is stealing my thunder or if news has been brought to other people. I always remember that the Leader of the Opposition said that there is no secret in our Cabinet, and that he knows all that goes on; so I am wondering if the hon. senior member for Christ Church also gets his information through some other source. Anyhow this has been considered and we are now trying to see if we can get it implemented.

QUESTION re REPAIR OF ROAD AT
RENDEZVOUS-FAIRWAY GARDENS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 224 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for Christ Church.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, the Question reads as follows:-

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?

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

"1. Yes, Sir!

2. No, Sir!

3. Work on the repair of the roads and the improvement of the drainage system in the Rendezvous Gardens area has been started."

QUESTION *re* CIVIL SERVANTS AT
BRIDGETOWN PORT

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 218 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

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

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 Department in the various sheds and elsewhere at the Port after customs officers take their exit?

5. Will Government take steps to ensure more humane conditions and better working conditions for Customs Officers working in the Bridgetown Port?

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

"1. The Government is not aware of any indignities being suffered by employees of the Customs Department in the Bridgetown Harbour. In accordance with the provisions of the Barbados Harbours Regulations, 1961, as amended, a member of the Police Force or an authorised employee of the Port Department may stop and search any person or vehicle found in or entering or leaving the Bridgetown Harbour.

2. Does not arise.

3. The keys to the sheds are held over-nightly by Port Contractors.

4. There is one Police Constable and one Customs Guard at the Main Gate at all times. There are also regular Police patrols within the Port area. Spot checks are also made by Senior Customs and Police Officials periodically.

5. Government is not aware that the conditions under which Customs Officers work in the Bridgetown Harbour are inhumane or unsatisfactory.

QUESTION *re* LODGE HILL RESERVOIR

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 254 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:

Has the new Lodge Hill Reservoir been completed?

2. If so, when?

3. If the answer to No. 1 is in the affirmative, when does Government intend honouring its promise stated in writing on 3rd February, 1966 — to give priority to the laying of a water main at Storey Gap, Codrington Hill on completion of the Reservoir?

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

1. Yes, Sir.

2. The reservoir was completed and put into supply on 27th July, 1967.

3. It is not now proposed to install a main at Storey's Gap, Codrington Hill, since this is a Zone 1 area; and Government's water resources protection policy provides that no new water connections shall be made in Zone 1 areas. A public standpipe has, however, been installed in Storey's Gap. 1.25 p.m.

PROVISION OF STAND-PIPE AT LONESOME
HILL ROAD

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member. Question No. 260 on page 24, left-hand column.

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

Is Government aware that residents of Lonesome Hill, St. Peter have to walk long distances to fetch a supply of water for their homes?

2. Will Government take steps to provide a standpipe at a Central point of the said Lonesome Hill Road so that residents may be better served?

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

"1. There is a standpipe at the western end of Lonesome Hill Road.

2. Consideration will be given to the installation of another standpipe in a more central point along the Lonesome Hill Road during the next financial year."

Mr. HINDS: I thank the hon. Minister.

EXTENSION OF WATER MAINS AT FOUR HILL —
LONESOME HILL JUNCTION

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 262, standing in the name of the same hon. member. That is to be found on page 24, right-hand column.

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

Would Government consider extending the water mains at the Four Hill — Lonesome Hill junction to accommodate those residents at Four Hill district who are willing to have water services installed at their homes?

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

"Consideration will be given to the extension of the existing water main during the next financial year."

UNSATISFACTORY WATER SUPPLY AT MOUNT, ST. PETER AND ST. ANDREW

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 263 also standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter. That is on page 24, right-hand column.

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

Is Government aware that the water supply at Mount, St. Peter and St. Andrew is intermittent and very unsatisfactory to meet the needs of the residents there?

Will Government take steps to improve the water supply there and also consider the laying of the necessary mains to enable house-holders to have opportunity of having water services installed at their homes?

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

1. Yes, Sir!

2. Government's water development for the period 1968/72 includes the erection of a reservoir at Rock Hall, St. Peter, to improve the water supply to higher elevations of St. Peter including Mt. Stepney.

FLOOD AREA BETWEEN OISTIN'S POST OFFICE AND TOP ROCK

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 226 standing in the name of the hon. and learned senior member for Christ Church. That is on page 18 top left-hand column. I must apologise to the hon. member. I did not notice that Question just now when I was calling the sequence of that hon. member's question.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister:

1. Is the Minister aware that during the rainy season the area between the Post Office in Oistins and Top Rock is very badly flooded?

2. Will the Minister state what are Governments's plan, if any, for creating a proper drainage system for this area.

3. Will the Minister state in which financial year Government proposes to implement the same?

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

1. Investigation disclose that certain areas between the Post Office at Oistin's and Top Rock experience drainage difficulties after heavy rainfall but in most cases the water which collects disappears quickly on cessation of the rain.

2. It is proposed to improve the drainage system in the area.

3. Work on the improvement to the drainage system will be started in the current financial year.

Mr. Speaker, before I sit down, I should also like to say, for the benefit of the hon. member, I think that he is aware of this, that we have started the drainage up by Oistins already.

QUESTIONS ALLOWED TO STAND OVER

Mr. SPEAKER: There are two other questions which have been put to the Hon. Minister who has just been replying. They are Questions Nos. 168 and 243, both of which are in the name of an hon. and learned member who does not appear to be in his place.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, there is also Question No. 197, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph. (ASIDES).

Mr. SPEAKER: That was answered already. Does the hon. member have a supplementary answer? There are only those two other Questions, and no hon. member has offered to put those questions.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has intimated, and I thought that the message might have got to Your Honour, that he is ill today and does not want his Questions put.

Mr. SPEAKER: I did not receive the message that the hon. and learned member is ill. In that event, I will allow these questions to be deferred.

With regard to the Hon. Minister of Health and Community Development, I propose to deal with those Questions to which answers have been laid by his Ministry today.

APPOINTMENT OF DIETITIAN ON QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL'S STAFF

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 177, standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter. That is to be found on page 9 right-hand column.

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 the 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?

1.35 p.m.

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

1 & 2. The Public Service Commission has secured the services of a suitably qualified person for appointment on contract, but the person, who is at present working abroad, is unable to assume duty before 1st January 1969.

3. The duties of dietitian are not at present being fully performed. Recourse has had to be taken to a departmental arrangement whereby the medical staff and the catering staff cooperate in the use of standard and special diet sheets.

4. In March, 1968, the minimum qualification stipulated was membership of the British Dietetic Association or its equivalent.

5. Only one application from a suitably qualified person was received.

6. Diploma in Dietetics of Leeds College of Technology.

7. Since November, 1964.

Does not arise, in view of the reply at paragraph 3.

9. \$3,672 per annum when first advertised and \$5,400 per annum following the 1966 salaries Revision.

10. Does not arise in view of the reply at paragraph 3.

11. Proposals for training abroad for the post have been included in the Ministry's Training Programme to be implemented next year. Selection of a suitable candidate has not yet been done.

12. Does not arise.

13. In some cases, yes, inasmuch as the study of nutrition is undertaken as postgraduate to dietetics or home economics.

14. The principles applied are those accepted by institutions which train nutritionists.

15. Since November 1964 as stated in reply to Question No. 7.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, do I understand the Minister to say, in reply to No. 3, that special and standard diet sheets are being used through the co-operation of the catering staff and the medical staff?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I will repeat it. "The duties of dietitian are not at present being fully performed. Recourse has had to be taken to a departmental arrangement whereby the medical staff and the catering staff cooperate in the use of standard and special diet sheets".

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell us who prepares the special diet sheets and from where did the Department get the standard diet sheets?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Does the hon. member want to know the name of the officer? Are you trying to find out which particular officer of the Medical Staff Committee sees after preparing the standard diet sheet?

Mr. HINDS: I know that already, but I am trying to find out what the Minister knows. I am asking the Minister who prepares the Special diet sheets, and

from where did the Department get the standard diet sheets?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I will have to get that information for the hon. member. The Medical Staff Committee co-operate with the Catering Officer, and I could not tell him the exact person who sees after it. They co-operate, and, as far as were the standard diet sheets come from, I will have to inquire about that. I do not have it in my file.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, does the Minister know that there is no such thing as a standard diet sheet at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I should like to draw to the hon. member's attention that the Ministry has been very uneasy about this question of having a proper dietitian appointed for some time. Since 1964 advertisements have been put out. The salary at that time was rather unattractive, and it has been increased recently.

With regard to the question of diet sheets and so on, I am not quite sure that the standard of diet at the Hospital is that low, although it is not in the best qualified hands. I will just explain the arrangements which have been entered into, and they have been performing fairly satisfactorily. To say, or suggest, that the standard of diet at the Hospital is bad is misstating the facts. The Ministry has been very uneasy for some time, and it has sought all assistance from overseas aid; advertisements have appeared elsewhere, and so on. Since 1964 we have been trying to secure the services of a dietitian, and we have done fairly well, considering that we have not yet the services of a dietitian.

We have advertised, but there is no locally qualified person and none has applied. The British Ministry of Overseas Development and the Canadian University Service Overseas were asked to assist us, and the Ministry advised the Commission that the post should be filled on contract and arrangements made for the selection and training of local personnel. We are proceeding with all of that.

The officer who is acting as Catering Officer holds a one-year certificate from the New York Institute of Dietetics — it is not that she is a complete stranger to what she is doing. I repeat that the officer who is acting as Catering Officer holds a one-year certificate from the New York Institute of Dietetics, but is not qualified for appointment as a dietitian, a post which normally demands a three or four-year-degree-level course.
1.45 p.m.

We have reached the point where we realise that the Hospital needs not one but two qualified dietitians, one in charge of the administrative part of the food services, and the other responsible for special diets. It is not, therefore, that we are sleeping on it. We advertised and could not get anybody, and we have plans for training someone. We have secured the services of a dietitian at long last, and the services

are being performed by one who has a diploma but who has not got a degree as a dietitian. With the co-operation of the Medical Staff Committee, we have been able to function in a fairly satisfactory manner and improvements are on the way.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell me in respect of this three or four years degree course how much of the degree training is at the academic level and how much at the practical level?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, with all due deference to the member who has asked the question, I do not claim to be an expert as a nutritionist or dietitian. The fact that I am Minister of Health does not make me an expert in medicine, nutrition or dietetics as some Ministers of the past may have felt or some future Minister may feel. I certainly do not feel that way; so I am not in a position to answer that Question. If he asks that Question again, I will get one of my experts to give the answer.

Mr. HINDS: Is the Minister aware that the acting Chief Catering Officer at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital has a one-year diploma as the Minister has stated, but, in addition to that, has more than five years of practical experience?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, appointments are made by the Public Service Commission and not by me, and if the Public Service Commission has seen fit to secure the services of a fully qualified dietitian, I cannot suggest anything else, and neither can the Cabinet for that reason. A duly qualified and experienced dietitian has been appointed. I think we are lucky to secure the services of a fully trained person, and I thought we were anxious to get a fully qualified dietitian. I did not know it was just the reverse. I am "cuphuphled", if that is parliamentary.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, could the Minister tell us if the Public Service Commission is in a position to say whether the diet sheets presently in use at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital are standard as the Minister has suggested, or if they are not the personal property of the Acting Chief Catering Officer?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am not a member of the Public Service Commission, and I do not know what they know or what they do not know.

Mr. HINDS: Will the Minister agree that there is no such thing as a Medical Staff Committee co-operating with the catering staff at the Institution?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, when Questions are asked, they are referred to the appropriate technical people and the administrative people in question, and these went through the regular procedures and this is the reply. It was nothing framed by me. It is the information given by the Hospital Direction, the Medical Staff Committee, the Matron and everybody concerned, and on that we have framed our reply. It is nothing concocted by me, and I could not disagree with or deny anything they have said. What they said is standard is correct and can be checked.

Mr. HINDS: Does the Minister know that when the last Catering Officer retired from her post she carried away every scrap of paper, diet sheet and everything else from the Institution?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I have been round that long as Minister, and I am totally unaware of what the hon. member has said.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that does not arise supplementarily.

QUESTION *re* ORDERLIES AT THE QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 213 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

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

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 numerous patients seeking medical attention at the 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 at the Casualty without receiving medical attention?

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

1. No, Sir.

2. There is no evidence to support this allegation. The lighting was reduced during the temporary absence of the doctor from the Casualty.

3. It is impossible to relate the patients seen to any particular vehicle.

4. My enquiries have revealed no evidence which suggests the need for an investigation.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, what is the Minister's reply to question 4?

Mr. SPEAKER: Would the Minister be good enough as to repeat his reply to No. 4?
1.55 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, Question 4 was: "Was it the duty of this doctor to attend other patients waiting for more than five hours at the Casualty that night?"

The answers to Questions 4 and 5 are linked together. I am reading from the doctor's Report: "It was my duty to see other patients waiting for medical attention that night and I did so." The answer therefore is that the doctor did see other patients who were waiting at the Casualty that night. "The Casualty records show that a total of twenty-eight patients were attended by the doctor in question, that these patients came to the Casualty and were registered by the Casualty Nurse at varying times between 5.15 p.m. on June 3 and 6 a.m. on June 4. The answer is that the doctor did see other patients who were waiting.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, am I right in understanding the Minister to mean that one doctor is supposed to have been on duty between 5.15 p.m. on June 3 and 6 a.m. on June 4?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, does the hon. member care to put the Question again?

Mr. HINDS: Did the Minister say that a doctor was supposed to have been on duty, the same doctor, between 5.15 p.m. on June 3 and 6 a.m. on June 4?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Yes, that is the Report I have got. It is the Report from the doctor in question dealing with Questions 4 and 5 which are linked together.

Mr. HINDS: Did this doctor see 28 people during that whole night?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The Report of the doctor in question in part as to Questions 4 and 5 is this: "It was my duty to see other patients waiting for medical attention that night and I did so. The Casualty records show that a total of 28 patients were attended by me and that these patients came to the Casualty and were registered by the Casualty Nurse at varying times between 5.15 p.m. on June 3 and 6 a.m. on June 4". He is on for the night; is that unusual?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, am I right in taking it that the Minister said in reply to Question No. 3 that it was impossible to relate patient to vehicle, or words of that effect? But the Minister now goes on to say that the doctor in his Report states that it was his duty to see other patients. Can the Minister tell us what patients or which patient were or was not included in the other patients? The doctor in his Report refers to other patients; can the Minister tell us who were not among these other patients?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that I was not present and that the doctor in

question was the person who was being cross-examined, I am being cross-examined now for the doctor and I am in the doctor's shoes. The most logical thing which would appear to my mind would be to read the Report of the doctor in the hope that some more information will be given which will be considered as being relevant. As to Questions No. 1 and 2, the Report says: "I was the doctor in the Casualty on the night of June 3. I had already worked from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. that day in the Surgery and was scheduled to work in the Casualty from 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. on the next day before reporting back to my Surgical firm for another routine day, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 4. At about mid-night I was not only tired from working such long hours without adequate rest, but also extremely hungry and I decided to leave the Casualty in order to have a snack and then to return. The Casualty Nurse was given my phone number so that she could contact me in the event that I was urgently needed before I returned from my snack. Before leaving, I had requested the lights outside the Casualty Department be turned off during my absence.

I do not remember which orderly was asked to turn off the lights. No objection was raised by the Orderly to my request, at least not in my presence, and I did not threaten any Orderly with disciplinary action. In fact, that was not necessary. I did not know that it was in the Casualty doctor's power to threaten with disciplinary acting any Orderly who did not carry out the doctor's request in the Casualty. I attended to all the accident victims seen in the Casualty Department on the night of June 3. It has never been a practice of mine to correlate the names of accident victims and their motor car numbers and to record this information on the Casualty notes. Consequently, I do not know who was the accident victim of the motor car L-333.

I have read the main report to Question 4 and 5 already.

Mr. HINDS: Does the Minister consider it in the interest of the health of those persons who have to seek medical attention at the Hospital to have a doctor working from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Surgery, the same doctor going in the Casualty from 6 p.m. one day until 8 a.m. the next day, and the same doctor returning to his normal duties again on the third day from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.?
2.05 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: That has been a bad state of Affairs, but it has been looked into and corrected.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended for three-quarters of an hour.

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

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

On resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 217 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter to be found on Page 15, right hand column.

MINI-PARK AND RECREATIONAL CENTRE FOR SPEIGHTSTOWN

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, 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?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:-

The Government is examining the feasibility of acquiring suitable areas of land in the parish of St. Peter for recreational purposes.

Mr. HINDS: Does the Gill's Terrace at Speightstown fall within this feasibility area?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The area of the land involved is shown in the Physical Development Plan for recreational purposes, that is, public open space and playing field.

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 249 standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James, and that can be found on page 21, right hand column.

DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE AT CHRIST CHURCH HOUSING SCHEME

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

Is the Minister aware that the disposal of sewage at the Housing Scheme at St. Matthias Gap, Christ Church leaves much to be desired?

2. Will the Minister look into the matter with a view to correcting same as quickly as possible?

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

1. I am aware of the problem, which is due to the nature of the soil, making effluent percolation difficult.

2. The matter has been looked into and remedial action is being taken.

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 267 also standing in the name of the same hon. member at Page 26, left hand column.

REPAIRS AND EXTENSION OF THE NIGHTENGALE HOME

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

Will the Minister cause repairs to be effected to the Nightengale Home, Black Rock, St. Michael, paying special attention to the enclosing of the said Home?

2. Will the Minister also consider in view of the limited space now occupied by the said Home and the number of occupants therein, its extension?

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

1. It is proposed to effect extensive repairs and renovations at the Nightengale Home during the current financial year and the programme is already underway; the scheme includes enclosure of the grounds.

2. The desirability of the provision of increased accommodation has been examined and it is considered that the trend should rather be towards smaller units; it is proposed, therefore, to provide accommodation for some of the children in this Home at the new home now being planned for St. Michael.

Mr. HINDS: Would the Minister tell us when was the decision taken to enclose the Nightengale Home?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The decision was taken when the Estimates for this current year were prepared in order that the necessary provision may be made. 2.55 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Would that be prior to the sad incidence of rape that occurred at that institution?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: If the hon. member wants to bring that in, there are many other ways of doing it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not deem that to be a supplementary question. There appears to be no other Question according to this Ministry other than No. 244 which is in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. Thomas who, I have been informed, is unable to attend his parliamentary duties today because of illness, and I am allowing his Question to stand over until the next meeting or as soon as he is well enough again to attend Parliament.

The Question which now falls under the portfolio of the Ministry of Trade, Tourism, Co-operatives and Fisheries is No. 238 which is also in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. Thomas.

There is a series of Questions addressed to the Hon. Leader of the House.

Question No. 172 stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. Thomas.

QUESTION re RAISING OF SCHOOL-LEAVING AGE

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 189 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

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

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 of such schools with a view to having the children benefit from instructions given according to their aptitudes, interest and abilities?

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the replies are as follows:-

1. The Government at present cannot entertain the proposal that the school-leaving age for children attending the all-age primary schools should be raised to 18 years since the Government is already committed to the policy of greatly expanding the places and facilities at the secondary school level.

2. The Government is continuously seeking to increase staff and facilities in all schools within the limit of the financial resources of the country.

3. Does not arise.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, has the Minister got figures showing the school population that would be affected if he raised the school leaving age to 18?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes, Mr. Speaker. At the end of December, 1967, there were 5,817 pupils in the 60 Secondary Departments of the all-age Primary Schools.

Mr. HUSBANDS: Since the Minister in answering this Question has in some way related the education of the 18 year olds as being linked up with that of the age normally found in Secondary Schools, does the Minister not think that the number of Modern Secondary and Comprehensive Schools in the Island at present are placed in a manner that does not give benefit to the majority of children living out of and around the metropolitan area?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I would answer that by saying this: those that already exist are well enough placed for the catchment areas around them. What of course

we need is more of them, and a greater dispersal of them in the more heavily populated areas of the metropolitan parish, and, of course, in some other areas of the Island. I understand it is the Ministry's proposal to build more Comprehensive Schools. Indeed, I think two of them are set down in the Estimates in this financial year.

Mr. HUSBANDS: It is proposed to build a Comprehensive School to serve the interest of the pupils in the northern half of the Island?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: That is one of the proposals. That is certainly so.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, does the Minister not think that Government's programme with regard to expanding the school buildings and the like would be of greater advantage if provision was made for these 5,817 to remain in school for a few years more than has been done in respect of the Community College to cater for 300 pupils.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The hon. member's Question is rather double-edged, and I will answer that portion of it which is relevant to what we are discussing. I do not think that it would be in the best interest to retain the children in school until they are 18. After all, beyond a certain point Primary Education must cease; so that even if you did retain them in School beyond a certain point, they would be there for the purpose of receiving post-primary or Secondary training. I think the problem would best be solved by the construction and creation of more Secondary Schools of the Comprehensive type and some Grammar Schools from time to time to take care of the 11+ to give them further instruction at the post-Primary stage. I think the solution would have to be in that direction and not in retaining pupils in Elementary schools until the age of eighteen.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, could we have a definite statement from the Hon. Minister, he incidentally having been a former Minister of Education? Can he tell us what age Primary education ends in Barbados? 3.05 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Primary education, according to the experts, is deemed to end at 11 and all instruction after that is post-Primary or Secondary. I do not know if that satisfies the hon. member, but that is how it is.

Mr. HINDS: Arising out of the last answer which the Minister gave, how does he relate these 5,817 children receiving Primary education up to the age of 18?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: It is not said that they receive that education up to the age of 18. What was said was that in the 60 Secondary Departments of Primary Schools, there are 5,817 children and these would be children, say, between the ages of 11 and 14 obviously.

WORK PERMITS FOR PERSONS SERVING AT SANDY LANE HOTEL

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 208, standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter. That is on page 13 left-hand column.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, 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, 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 Permits 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?

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

1. 26, Sir.

2. 23 were granted, one was refused, and two withdrawn.

3. Approval of all applications is granted by the Minister of Home Affairs.

4. 1965 — Receptionist, Restaurant Manager, Chefs, Concierge, Receptionist and Assistant Bar Manager.

1966 — Assistant General Manager, House-keeper, General Manager, Secretary and Restaurant Manager.

1967 — Assistant Manager, General Manager, Food Consultant, Assistant Chef, Restaurant Manager and Sous Chef.

1968 — Acting Assistant General Manager.

5. and 6. Each Application for a work permit is considered on its merit, and the approval or refusal is determined by the availability of skilled, or trained local persons.

Mr. HINDS: Can the Minister tell us if these various posts referred to in the Reply to No. 4 were adver-

tised before work permits were issued for these particular people?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: This I do not know, but I would imagine that whatever is customarily done by these employment agencies would have been done; but I want to re-emphasize the last part of my answer which was that applications for work permits are considered on their merits and the approval or refusal is, in individual cases, determined by the availability of skilled or trained persons who are nationals. If obviously skilled or trained local persons are available, then of course, a work permit is not granted.

Mr. HINDS: In the Ministers' Reply to No. 3, did he say that the approval was granted by the Minister of Home Affairs or by the Ministry of Home Affairs?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The Minister.

Mr. HINDS: Will the Minister tell us who advised the Minister in each case?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The Minister has certain authority under Statute and under the Constitution for these and other matters, and if he needs advice, I daresay he knows where to seek it. *(Laughter)*.

Mr. HINDS: Was it customary for the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs to advise the Minister on matters of this sort?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I would not know this, but I remember that Mr. McMillan, the former Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, used to speak of the customary processes of consultation. It could be that in this case, if the Minister requires advice, he would consult any of his officers who, in his view, could give him the appropriate advice. However, the decision must always be his own.

Mr. HINDS: Does the Minister take it to mean that the Permanent Secretary is one of the Minister's officers whom he might consult?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I trust that the hon. member is not putting me in the position of having to tell him how the Ministry of Home Affairs is organised. He knows that as well as I do. Each Minister has a Permanent Secretary.

Mr. CRAIG: Would the Minister be able to say if the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs is a Director of Sandy Lane?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that that does not arise supplementarily.

Mr. CRAIG: I wonder if the Minister is about to answer it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am saying that that does not arise supplementarily. Hon. members may recall a question which was put and answered some time ago

in this session, which would give certain information. It was put by the hon. and learned senior member for Christ Church.

Mr. HINDS: I think the Minister gave one reply in answer to Questions 5 and 6. Would the Minister favour me by repeating that Reply.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Each application for a work permit is considered on its merits and the approval or refusal is determined by the availability of skilled or trained local persons.

Mr. HINDS: Can the Minister tell us how would he determine the availability of skilled or other persons?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I would not think that this would be very difficult. It would be by ascertaining whether or not they are.

Mr. HINDS: Could it be by advertising that you find out?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Precisely.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, what I will like to ask the Minister is this. Has the Government got any policy which requires these hotels to train Barbadians specifically for these jobs as a condition of granting work permits?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I will not put it in that way. I would certainly say that whenever they apply for work permits to bring in people, they must satisfy the Government that they cannot find appropriate locally-trained people with the appropriate and required skills. If we are satisfied that they are not, then, of course, the permission is granted; but if we have a doubt, it is not.

Mr. St. JOHN: Will the Government consider as a matter of policy that they should require these hotels, in view of the incentives and tax-free things that they get, to apprentice a number of people in these relevant skills?
3.15 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I think we can do better than this. As has been announced, we propose to offer a higher level of training in the Hotel School when it is shortly extended, so that the question then of there not being Barbadians suitably qualified would not in that case arise.

Mr. St. JOHN: Surely the hon. Minister is aware that the Hotel School at the present moment has decided that there is no demand for cooks in Barbados until 1969, and therefore it has discontinued that course.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The Hotel School is not yet the Government of the country.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, in the Minister's reply to Question No. 3, he stated that these work permits were approved by the Minister of Home Affairs.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Not that these work permits were approved, but the approval of all applications is granted by the Minister of Home Affairs.

Mr. HINDS: Does approval by the Minister of Home Affairs mean that the Minister's signature was appended to these work permits?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The Minister must obviously be allowed to devise a method by which his approval will be signified.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: I would like to ask the hon. Minister, more especially in view of his last answer; is the hon. Minister aware that one of the conditions which, apparently, the Minister of Affairs has laid down, is the necessity to allow your fingerprints to be taken before you can get a work permit or a certificate to work? Fingerprinting and compelling a would-be applicant to have his fingerprints taken!

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Is the hon. member saying that this is now the case?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Yes.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am not in a position to deny this; I do not know.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Maybe the hon. Minister will tell me that this is a hypothetical question. If it comes officially to the notice of the Government, will the hon. Minister give an undertaking that the Government will not allow this absolutely illegal, unlawful, and Police-state procedure to continue?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I would prefer to give the hon. member the assurance that when a concrete case, showing these features, comes before us, we will examine it on its merits. I cannot say what the Government will or will not do, as the hon. member suggested, in a hypothetical case.

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 209 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter on page 13, right hand column.

CURTAILMENT OF POLICE LEAVE

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, 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?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the replies are as follows:-

In view of the increasing incidence of cane fires during this year's harvesting season, and in order to provide a concentration of Police effort on the problem, there was at first cancellation, and later curtailment, of the day off duty leave granted to members of the Royal Barbados Police Force. An average of 11 days off duty leave was affected.

2. All personnel whose leave was curtailed have been advised that they will be granted three days leave for the loss of days off duty leave, sustained during the curtailment.

3. Three day's leave has been average compensation in relation to similar curtailment on previous occasions, and in fact the exigencies of the Service cannot at the moment afford more.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the exigencies of the Service do not permit those members affected to get the days leave due to them and they can only get three days, will the Minister tell us something about compensation by way of cash?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If the hon. member wishes this to be drawn to the attention of the appropriate authorities it will be; but, in my information, that point does not seem to have been taken into account and therefore, I have no advice on the matter. I would, if the hon. member wishes, have that drawn to the attention of the appropriate Ministry and Department.

Mr. HINDS: In view of what the Minister has said, am I to take it that the Minister is not replying to the Questions in full and only to a part thereof, and we should defer further consideration of these replies until the Minister is in a position to reply in full? The Minister has just admitted that his replies are to part of the Questions.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I have not admitted this. I said that one aspect of the supplementary dealt with a matter not covered in the information I have here, but certainly referred to in the third part of the answer in respect of compensation. Three days' leave have been always compensation in relation to similar curtailment on previous occasions, and in fact the exigencies of the Service cannot at the moment afford more. You are now saying that if they cannot get more time, can they get more money. In respect of that, I am saying that there is no information.

Mr. HINDS: The Minister at No. 4 is replying in respect of compensation. My question is compensation therefor by way of cash. I am asking the Minister if he is in a position to reply to that part of the question.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I said no; I am not.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, it must be taken that the Minister is not in a position to reply to the Question *in toto*. In the circumstances, I am to ask Your Honour to allow the questions to remain on the Order Paper and give the Minister time to reply to the Questions asked.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Surely, Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member thinks, as I believe he does, that this is an important aspect of the matter here not fully covered, then he can put down a substantive Question on it, but he cannot get a definitive answer out of this within the scope of this reply. The hon. member, in my view, Sir, is raising an entirely new point, which ought to have, perhaps, fuller and more deliberate treatment.

Mr. HINDS: Is this a former Minister of Education, Sir?

Mr. SPEAKER: That does not arise supplementarily.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, compensation therefore by way of cash is part of a substantive Question. Do you mean to say that I have to ask a substantive Question repeatedly, Sir? This is a case where the Minister is treating a substantive Question as a Supplementary. That is not the case. Look at the last two lines of No. 3, Sir. Should we ask that these Questions remain on the Order Paper to give the Minister time to consider them?

Mr. SPEAKER: In view of the answer of the hon. Minister, I would not allow it to remain on the Order Paper, but there is no reason at all why, at the next meeting of the House, another Question may not be put along the same lines. I am quite satisfied, so far as this Question is concerned, he is not in a position to give any different answer from that which he has given.
3.25 p.m.

SIR GRANTLEY ADAMS: If I am in order, I am putting this through you. Two alternatives are here; one is answered, the other is not answered. Is it unreasonable, Mr. Speaker, for the hon. member to ask for the answering of the Question to be deferred until the hon. member replies to the second alternative: restore full leave or if you cannot do that, pay full compensation?

Mr. SPEAKER: As I understand from the Hon. Minister, he is not in a position to give any other or different or fuller answer than that which he has given.

QUESTION *re* PRIVATE BATHING BEACHES

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 225 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

What hotels in this Island, if any, have private bathing beaches?

2. Does Sandy Lane Hotel at St. James have a private beach?

3. Will Government take note of the fact that the said Sandy Lane Hotel is advertising swimming on a private beach to tourists?

4. What steps Government consider taking with a view to correcting the impression which has gone abroad as a result of the actions of this Hotel as at No. 3 above?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the replies are as follows:-

1. No hotels in the island have private bathing beaches.

2. No Sir.

3. Yes Sir.

4. All hotels have already been requested not to publish advertisements claiming ownership of private beaches. Immediate instructions have been given by the Hotel to withdraw the rate sheets, which have the words "Swimming on a private beach" printed on them.

QUESTION *re* FARLEY HILL

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 261 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

What are Government's plans for developing grounds and buildings at Farley Hill?

2. If there are plans, when does Government intend putting same into effect?

3. Will Government consider establishing a lottery, exclusively for this development, and to be known as the Farley Hill Lottery Development Scheme or to be known by any other name acceptable to Government?

4. Does Government have plans for acquiring additional lands adjoining Farley Hill?

5. Is it a fact that the future entrance to Farley Hill may be by way of lands now forming part of Welchtown Plantation?

6. Would Government take immediate steps to provide temporary seating accommodation at the Band-stand at Farley Hill for the benefit of visitors and others who go there?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the replies are as follows:-

1. & 2. Plans for the development of the buildings and grounds at Farley Hill are still under consideration.

3. There are no plans for establishing a Lottery.

4. & 5. Negotiations are taking place for the acquisition of additional lands adjoining Farley Hill. No plans have been made for a change of access.

6. The question of providing temporary seating accommodation at the Band Stand at Farley Hill will be given consideration.

Mr. HINDS: Will the additional lands that are now being negotiated for be lands that now form part of Welchtown Plantation?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I think I can answer the hon. member since I was responsible for this at the time when the negotiations were going on. The Government is negotiating for a part of a field to the West of Farley Hill Plantation in order to construct a playing field for the parish of St. Peter and provide additional parking space, and those lands are shown on the survey plan as being lands of Welchtown Plantation.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 241 stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for St. Thomas who is ill today and has asked to be excused from his parliamentary duties. That leaves Question No. 230 in the name of the hon. senior member for Bridgetown whom I observe not to be in his place instantly.

These are Questions now which are for answer by the Hon. and Learned Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

QUESTION re COST OF HILTON HOTEL

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 132 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Will the Minister state the final cost of the construction of the Hilton Hotel?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:-

The expenditure incurred in the construction of the Barbados Hilton Hotel and ancillary facilities was \$8,750,383.15 and an amount of \$1,595,730.11 was spent in furnishing and equipment making a grand total of \$10,346,113.26.

Mr. ST. JOHN: Will the Hon. Prime Minister state whether there has been a claim for additional money for construction by the builders Token Construction Company?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Token Construction Company can claim, but the Question which I was asked was what was the total expenditure on the hotel. Now

there is a procedure under the agreement with the contractors that any disputed claims would be sent to arbitration. There is a certain amount of dispute over certain items which our architects and consultants have advised the Development Board not to pay because these are not legitimate claims. I do not want to say too much about them, but the disputed claims which we have denied amount to less than \$400 to my recollection.

Mr. CRAIG: Am I to take it, Mr. Speaker, that this is not the final cost and it is likely to cost a bit more?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I do not agree with that at all, because if the contractors claim amounts which our consultants and architects tell us they are not entitled to, as far as we are concerned, that is the final cost. If the arbitrator awards them any part of that, then the Government would be liable under the terms of the contract to pay, but I am not accepting that they are entitled to any part of the claim which they have submitted.
3.35 p.m.

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, will the Prime Minister state the number of persons employed during construction and whether the hotel is a paying concern? *(Laughter)*.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not deem that to be a proper supplementary.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: There are two Questions, and if the hon. member could allow us to separate them, there was a Question about the construction, and the hon. member asked how many persons were employed during the construction.

Mr. SPEAKER: As to the latter, I do not deem that to be a proper supplementary.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: In any case, I cannot answer it as to the amount, but I know that we are making money. I would not answer that Question. The Hilton makes one-third of what we get out of the total amount.

Mr. SPEAKER: Supplementaries may not be put nor may they be replied to.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: If the hon. member would like to discuss this with me, I will give him some very revealing estimates of what the profitability is like this year, which is over \$600,000. The average number of workers employed in the construction of the Barbados Hilton Hotel was 250 persons and I do not think that the hon. member asked about the permanent employees there, which are 360 at the moment.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have pointed out that that is not a valid supplementary.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I accept your Ruling, Sir.

RENTAL OF PIER ATTACHED TO THE HILTON HOTEL

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 186, standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James. That is to be found on page 10, bottom right-hand corner.

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?

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

"1. The Barbados Hilton has granted a licence to a concessionaire to use the pavilion at the sea-ward end of the pier adjacent to the hotel as a Water Sports and Sea Cruise Shop and facility.

2. The name of the concessionaire is Mr. Carlo Mandoj.

The licence granted to Mr. Carlo Mandoj expires in 1970.

The agreement provides that the licence fee paid to Barbados Hilton shall be as follows:-

During 1968, \$150 or 20% of gross sales per month, whichever is greater;

during 1969, \$200 or 20% of gross sale per month, whichever is greater;

during 1970, \$250 or 20% of gross sale per month, whichever is greater."

Mr. CRAIG: I wonder if the Hon. Prime Minister would be able to say whether the terms of this rental are exclusive possession of the Pier. We know that they are chasing boys off the Pier.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: If the hon. member wants to ask a question about whether people have been evicted off the Pier or something like that, I wish that he would give me notice of this Question so that I can check up on this statement. If you are asking about the rental of a concession, I do not think it is fair to the officers who have to investigate this matter, because the Ministers do not spend their time chasing around on this to ask whether it is an exclusive thing. I have given an off-the-bat reply to this, that is, as far as I am concerned, the concession at the end of the jetty is under the control of the Hilton Hotel, but the jetty itself has never been leased to the Hilton Hotel; it is only the facility at the end which was put up by them. The lease to the Hilton Hotel goes up to high water mark where the jetty begins.

We give them a right of way to that jetty as far as I am concerned, provided that you can get to the jetty without trespassing on the Hotel's lands. I do not see why any Barbadian should trespass, that is, he can go as long as he behaves himself. You can climb up on the jetty provided that you do not interfere with the end of that facility, but what is rented to the concessionaire and he has no greater right than any member of the general public to the use of the jetty — I am not talking about the approaches to the jetty; I am talking about the jetty itself. That is my personal view, subject to any Ruling that the Law Officers might want to give. As the Minister in charge, I have looked very carefully at the least to the Hilton Hotel and it does not include the jetty, but only the right of way to the facility at the end. Does that satisfy the hon. member?

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the Hon. Minister for his Reply and, in the meantime, I did not ask how many people were employed at the Hilton Hotel. *(Laughter)*.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: 360.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is not a proper supplementary. It is invalid whether it comes from the right or from the left. *(ASIDES)*. I will excuse any hon. member who is talking from his seat without addressing the Chair. *(Laughter)*.

QUESTION DEFERRED

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 246.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is not in his place. I should like to make a statement here at this stage. Questions are of two kinds; Questions demanding Oral Replies and Questions which demand written Replies. The practice here has grown up to ask for Oral Replies to most Questions. As far as I am concerned, since the Government is being criticised for not answering Questions and invariably hon. members are not in their places, a Question is asked when it appears on the Order Paper. When the Minister indicates that the Reply is ready, if the hon. member is not in his place, we will be following the practice and procedure of the House of Commons, and tabling answers so that the hon. member — whoever runs may read — can read it whenever he comes to this Hon. House. He will not be holding up Replies to Questions, so that a member can keep Questions on the Order Paper indefinitely and then accuse the Government of not answering Questions.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 246.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I am tabling the answer to that, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: As I understands it, that stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: I thought it was Question No. 196, Sir. What I have said is as regards Questions No. 233 and 242. I will be tabling these Replies, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I cannot prevent that from being done, but as regards Question No. 246, the hon. senior member for St. James is in his place.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, with the exception of the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, I have been in this House longer than anybody else and I have never heard an Oral Reply in the House of Commons' manner. You give an Oral Reply in the sense that you read out the Reply; you do not table it and leave it and it is never debated or never heard by other members of the House. This is a point of Order on which I have risen. For all of the years that I have been in here — from 1937 or 1938 whenever it was — I have never heard of that yet. 3.45 p.m.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, Sir. I remember that earlier in the day the Ministers who were giving these replies said "Oral Replies". That is what the Ministers said today.

Mr. SPEAKER: Standing Order 14(4):

"Manner of asking and answering questions

If a Member is not present to ask his question when his name is called, or if the question is not reached, the Minister to whom it is addressed shall cause an answer to be laid upon the Table of the House, unless the Member asking the question has signified his desire to postpone the question before the end of Question Time."

In this instance, I have mentioned to the House earlier today that I had received a request from the hon. member that in view of his illness, I defer, or postpone, certain Questions that were standing in his name. I accepted the information that he was ill and, not having any reason to disbelieve any hon. member, I have decided in respect of his Questions that they may be postponed until the next meeting of this House.

No. 246 standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS *re* DEVALUATION OF STERLING

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

Will the Minister state whether he authorised a recently reported statement by the Minister of Communications and Works to the effect that another devaluation of Sterling is likely to occur in the near future?

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, Ministers need no authorisation for reporting what they have heard outside of Cabinet, or outside the line of Government business.

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 265 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, that reply will be tabled at the end of Question Time, if the hon. member is not in his place, in accordance with the practice and procedure of the House of Commons and our own Standing Orders.

Mr. SPEAKER: No request having been made to me. No. 257 standing in the name of the same hon. member.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: *Mutatis mutandis*.

Mr. SPEAKER: Of course, all the answers must be given in the English language. No. 210. The hon. member is not present.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The answer will be tabled.

Mr. SPEAKER: It would appear that all Questions to which answers have been laid have been answered, and those in respect of which answers have not been given have been tabled.

TABLING OF QUESTIONS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am also tabling the reply to Question No. 194 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

1. Yes, Sir.

2. In the financial year 1960/70.

3. There have been no such complaints made to Government.

The Reply to Question No. 230 asked by the hon. senior member for Bridgetown. (Mr. SPEAKER: Neither one of whom has made any request to me.)

1. The Minister responsible for Ecclesiastical Affairs is aware of only one instance in which members of the Anglican Clergy experienced some embarrassment as a result of the fact that finality has not yet been reached in the negotiations between the Anglican Church and the State.

2. In order to have this matter finalised, the Government in March 1968 requested the Anglican Church to make available its documents of title to all Church Property. This request was complied with on 28th June, 1968. Every effort has been made to have the matter finalised.

Mr. SPEAKER: That concludes, unless I am mistaken, the Answers to all Questions which have been laid.

BILL RESPECTING INCOME TAXES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, before we move the adjournment, I think the hon. and learned Minis-

ter of Finance wishes to intimate something to the House in connection with one of the Bills which had its first reading today.

Hon. E. W. BARROW: Today, Mr. Speaker, a Bill to repeal the Income Tax Act, 1921, (No. 6) and to provide for a new system of Income tax in this country was given its first reading. It is a fairly lengthy Bill, Sir, and it is long overdue, and because of the nature of the provisions which are being made in the new Income Tax Act, it would not have been politic to have circulated this Bill very long before actually bringing it to the House.

What I intend to do, Mr. Speaker, is to move the second reading of this Bill after an interval of two weeks has elapsed from today's date. I should mention that the professional bodies, the accountants and the legal professions, have had copies circulated to them before today's sitting, not of the printed Bill as it stands, but cyclo-styled copies of the original intention. They may now have copies of the printed Bill in their possession; therefore, the time which we normally allow for submission to be made to the Ministry will now be four weeks. I can assure you that overall there will now be a period of four weeks and this is because they would have had the Bill before today. Any recommendations which are made which my Ministry, that is, I as Minister of Finance, consider are reasonable amendments will then be brought to the House and inserted.

I hope that hon. members will give this Bill the close attention which it deserves. During the course of its preparation the Canadian Commission on Income Tax which, of course, is about two boxes of books known as the Carter Report has been published. I would not like to say that I have read the Carter Report, Sir, because it would take me about two years to read it, but certainly the volumes summarising the conclusions have been carefully studied by me and by the Ministry, and such provisions as we consider reasonable for Barbados have been included in this Bill. We have also studied, of course, the proposals made by the Special Committee from the Canadian firm, Touche, Ross, Bailey and Smart

which made recommendations to the Government last year on the revision of income tax.
3.55 p.m.

The reason why I am saying all this is because I do not wish two weeks from today to hear hon. members come into the House and say they have not had time to study the Bill. There are quite a few professional persons on the other side of the House who may have seen the Bill before today, but it is vital if we are to collect the amount of tax which I projected in my Financial Proposals and Budgetary Statement that we should have this Bill implemented not later than December, in other words, by the end of November, so that we can start with a clean slate at the beginning of the calendar year in contra-distinction to the financial year which ends on 31st March. The second reading I propose to move two weeks from today's date. It does not mean that we will necessarily conclude it in one day, because the Committee stage on a Bill like this would necessarily take a long time, but again I am enjoining hon. members to give this a very high priority because it does affect the fiscal position of the Island.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, arising out of what the hon. member has just said, I am throwing this out to hon. members. It would be very convenient if we could so finish what we have to do next week so that there is very little left over for the following Tuesday; we could then give almost undivided attention to the second reading of this Bill and so expedite its passage.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 5th November, 1968, at 12 noon.

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.

3.58 p.m.