

THE
House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1966 - 71

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THIRD SESSION OF 1966-71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 27th January, 1970.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12.15 p.m. o'clock.

PRESENT

His Honour Sir J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., F.Z.S., (Speaker); Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, J.P., (Minister of Agriculture, Science and Technology); Mr. E. ST.A. HOLDER, J.P.; Hon. J. C. TUDOR, M.A., C.M.G. (Leader of the House); Mr. J. W. CORBIN J.P.; Mr. R. ST.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P.; Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD, J.P.; (Chairman of Committees); Sir G. H. ADAMS, C.M.G., Q.C., B.A., D.C.L. (Hon) (Leader of the Opposition); Mr. J. B. SPRINGER; and Mr. ELLIOTT D. MOTTLEY.

Prayers were read.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL, Hon. C. E. TALMA and Mr. HINDS entered the Chamber and took their seats.
MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am afraid that there are no Minutes available for confirmation, for which I apologise to the House.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay a Message from His Excellency the Governor-General dated 23rd January, 1970 and signed by His Excellency's own hand. It reads as follows

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

TO THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

His Excellency the Governor-General has the honour to inform the Honourable House of Assembly that Her Excellency Miss Angle Brooks, President of the Twenty-fourth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations will be paying an official visit to Barbados from Saturday, 31st January, until Tuesday, 3rd February 1970.

A. WINSTON SCOTT GOVERNOR-GENERAL

I am also commanded to lay the following:

Statement of Rum Transactions in several districts of the Island for the quarter ended 30/12/69.

Quarterly Digest of Statistics: March, 1969.

Report and Accounts of the Barbados Development Board for 1967-68.

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Police for the year, 1968.

Report on Vital Statistics and Registrations for the year, 1968.

Report of the Ministry of Education for the period September 1967 to August 1968.

Mr. LOWE:

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works, I beg to lay the following

The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1969.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following

A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at the junction of Tweedside Road, and Halls Road, St. Michael, for Highway Improvement.

A Resolution to approve The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 1969.

Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolutions

A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Coverley, Christ Church, for extension and development of Seawell Airport.

A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Lammings, St. Joseph, for the construction of a School.

A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land in Fairchild Street, Bridgetown to provide a site for the construction of Government Offices.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$7, 229 at the disposal of Government to supplement the Estimates 1969 -70, Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1969 - 70, No. 59, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$4, 180 at the disposal of Government to supplement the Estimates 1969-70, Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1969-70, No. 60 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$1 at the disposal of Government to supplement the Estimates 1969-70, Part I - Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1969-70, No. 61 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to place the sum of \$597, 692 at the disposal of Government to supplement the Estimates 1969-70, Part II - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1969-70, No. 62 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

In respect of the Money Resolution for \$4, 180, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply today to deal with this Resolution in all its stages. I have already notified Your Honour and the Leader of the Opposition of the necessity for treating this Resolution as urgent. In respect of the others, I beg to give notice that it is my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next sitting to deal with those Money Resolutions.

ORAL REPLIES TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Trade and Tourism, I beg to give notice that the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 36 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter is ready; also, that the Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 72 asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas is ready.

12.25 p.m.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Mr. SPEAKER:

There are certain Questions in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James. I do not know whether any requests have been made. I do not know whether the Leader of the Opposition is aware of any.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

I do not know of any.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I have no other Questions by members.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Speaker, I must apologise to the House for being a bit late, and I would ask the leave of the House to give notice of a Question.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am disposed, if the House does not feel otherwise, to agree to this notice being given at this stage, but on the distinct understanding that no precedent is being made.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister

1. Is the Minister aware that the yard of Wesley Hall School, King Street is in a state of disrepair?

2. Will the Minister take immediate steps to have, the said yard repaired?

SELECT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I have the honour on behalf of the Chairman, to present the following Select Committee Report.

"The Select Committee appointed to consider, review and revise the salaries and emoluments of the Members and Officers of the House have the honour to make the following report:

1. The Committee met on 15th January, 1970;

2. The Committee are of the opinion, that in-as-much as there will be consultations with the Other Place as to the reorganisation of the Offices of Parliament, consideration of the revised salaries and emoluments of the Officers of the House should be postponed pending the outcome of such consultations, it being clearly understood that any such revision should be deemed to take effect as from 1st April, 1969;

3. With regard to the salaries and emoluments of Members (other than Ministers of the Crown) of the House, the Committee have the honour to make the following recommendations:-

Speaker

Salary: \$9,600 per annum.

Travelling Allowance \$1, 440.00 per annum.

Entertainment Allowance \$1,200.00 per annum,

(the entertainment allowance to be non-accountable and to be paid to His Honour on demand.)

Deputy Speaker

Salary \$5, 760.00 per annum.

Travelling allowance \$900.00 per annum.

Chairman of Committees

Salary \$6,000.00 per annum.

Travelling Allowance \$900.00 per annum.

Leader of the Opposition

Salary \$6,000.00 per annum.

Travelling Allowance \$900.00 per annum. Duty Allowance \$1,000.00 per annum.

(the duty allowance to be non-accountable and to be paid to the Leader of the Opposition on demand.)

Leader of the House

Duty Allowance \$1,800.00 per annum.

Members

Salary \$4,800.00 per annum.

Travelling Allowance \$900.00 per annum.

The above emoluments to be paid monthly, save the entertainment allowance payable to his Honour the Speaker and the Duty Allowance payable to the Leader of the Opposition, both of which should be paid on demand as above stipulated.

4. While the Committee recognise that it is not within their terms of reference to make recommendations as to the salaries or other emoluments to Ministers or Parliamentary Secretaries - whose emoluments are not payable under Head 3 - Parliament - the Committee are of the opinion that the value of the official residence of the Prime Minister should not be added to his income for the purpose of computation of his income tax and strongly recommend that legislative action be taken to bring this recommendation into effect as soon as possible.

5. As stated in paragraph 2, the Committee reserve the right to make recommendations as to the revisions of the salaries and emoluments of Officers of the House after the findings of the Joint Select Committee above referred to shall have been disclosed.

Theodore Brancker CHAIRMAN."

There is also a Minority Report signed also by the Chairman in his capacity:

MINORITY REPORT

"While I agree with the Committee's Report in all other aspects, I strongly dissent from their recommendations as to the differential in the salaries of the Deputy Speaker and the Chairman of Committees.

The office of Deputy Speaker carries greater prestige than that of Chairman of Committees, and in my view emoluments attached to former should continue to be higher than those of the latter.

(Sgd.) Theodore Brancker, Speaker."

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937, be now read the first time.

Mr. LOWE:

I beg to second that.

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

APPOINTMENT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, you will recall that we had sent a Message to the Other Place asking them to join in appointing a Joint Select Committee of both Houses to make recommendations for the re-organization of the Offices of Parliament. The Other Place has replied telling us that they have appointed their own members, and it is now left to us to do likewise. I now beg to propose a Committee of the following senior members of this House, including Your Honour, to be so appointed

The hon. senior member for St. John;

The hon. senior member for St. Peter;

The hon. senior member for St. George;

The hon. senior member for Bridgetown;

The hon. senior member for Christ Church;

The hon. senior member for St. Joseph, and

Your Honour.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I will ask those hon. members if they will be willing to serve.

Mr. HINDS:

The Leader of the Opposition should be on that Committee.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

If the hon. member feels that the Leader of the Opposition should be on the Committee, then I withdraw the nomination of the senior member for St. John and nominate him.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Mr. Speaker, this is a Committee to meet the Committee from the Other Place to look into the question of the re-organisation of Parliament. The Leader of the Opposition should be on this Committee.

Mr. SPEAKER:

It was originally to be comprised of senior members of the House, but the Leader of the House has amended that. 12.35 p.m.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

I was conferring with Your Honour on a matter of parliamentary business, and I did not hear the names read out.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The names are as follows the hon. senior member for St. John, the hon. senior member for St. Peter, the hon. senior member for Bridgetown, the hon. senior member for Christ Church, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, the hon. senior member for St. George. I understand that two names have been added, the hon. Leader of the House and the hon. Leader of the Opposition. I take it that those hon. members are willing to serve with me.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

I thank Your Honour.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I declare those hon. members to be members of the Committee.

RESOLUTION TO LEASE LAND IN ST. PETER TO DR. CHARLES D. RUSSELL

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 2 be the first Order of the Day.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SPEAKER:

Order No. 2 is the instant Order of the Day, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the lease to Dr. Charles D. Russell of a parcel of land in St. Peter, as described in the Schedule to the Resolution.

When this was last debated in this Chamber, on the motion of the hon. Leader of the House, seconded by the hon. senior member for St. Peter, further consideration was postponed. The hon. Leader of the House may now speak.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, in accordance with the undertaking given when we discussed this last time, I have referred this matter to the Cabinet, bearing in mind the nature of the criticism levelled against the proposal, and the Cabinet has agreed that the figure mentioned in paragraph 2 of the Schedule should be amended to \$240, so that the second paragraph of the Schedule will read "The land will be leased to Dr. Charles Russell for a period of ten years at a rental of two hundred and forty dollars per annum."

I beg to move that this Resolution, as amended, do now pass.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I beg to second that.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, hearing what the Leader of the House has just said, I feel that we owe a considerable debt to the hon. senior member for Bridgetown in this matter, because Government had set out to lease

an area of 3, 365 square feet of very valuable land for a mere \$66 peryear; but here we have a Government that does not have any shame, that dabbles in crime.....

Mr. SPEAKER:

I will ask the hon. member to withdraw that.

Mr. HINDS:

I said "Government", Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER:

There are several members of Government.

Mr. HINDS:

None of them has objected.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I have asked the hon. member to withdraw.

Mr. HINDS:

All right, Mr. Speaker, they do not dabble in it; they carry it in their bosoms. How does the Government feel agreeing to lease....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I take objection to the words used by the

hon. member that "they carry it in their bosoms".

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, how does the Government feel agreeing to lease a plot of land for \$66....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Speaker, I am on a . point of order.

Mr. HINDS:

If the hon. member is on a point of order, let him stand up.

Mr. SPEAKER:

On consideration of the matter, I also ask the hon. member to withdraw the words 'that crime was carried in the bosom', and proceed.

Mr. HINDS:

I withdraw.

Mr. SPEAKER:

Let the hon. member proceed on the subject matter.

Mr. HINDS:

One has got to look at this matter in this respect. The Government had agreed to lease this area of land to Dr. Russell for a mere \$66 per year, but consequent upon criticisms from this side of the House and the expert knowledge of land values by the hon. senior member for Bridgetown, the Government's conscience seems to have been smitten not for any particular crime, and we are hearing today that the land is now to be leased for \$240, almost four times what the Government had originally planned to lease it for. My view of this whole matter, Sir, is that there is something wrong, not merely with the price at which the land is being leased, but in the method of negotiation. The Leader of the House has every reason to know what I am talking about, because there is no denying the fact that in much of the negotiations with respect to these land deals, if we were really to institute an investigation, members of the Government certainly could not stand up before the public. They would find themselves before the Chief Justice. They know how corrupt some of these transactions are, but I do hope they will be exposed in time.

However, what we are saying is that we do not agree to leasing the land even for \$240 a year. If it were worth \$66 in the first Instance, and within a matter of seven days we find that it is worth \$240, we are suggesting that it is worth more than \$240 to the residents of St. Peter and elsewhere, and this is one matter which I feel the Government should have their land valuers go into once again. It is not merely a matter of trying to accommodate Dr. Russell or perhaps a friend of Dr. Russell, because what you will find is that Dr. Russell will now be paying \$240 a year for this land, but he will be paying into the funds of the Democratic Labour Party a sum of money with which to help them run their political campaign. This is the kind of thing we are up against. 12.45 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, we have seen the plan of Dr. Russell's land which adjoins this 3, 365 square feet and we are satisfied that since Dr. Russell has agreed to pay \$240 now as against the \$66 last week, this land must be worth something to Dr. Russell in truth and in fact. He knows what its value is to him, and nobody on this side of the House should be responsible for Dr. Russell's buying the land that does not permit of the type of development that he originally had in mind, then to come and use the taxpayers' land and the Government's machinery to enable him to carry out his intention. I would like to move that further consideration of this matter be postponed with a view to getting the Government to investigate the points which were raised, because I am not satisfied that everything which ought to have been done in this matter has been done.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the motion, but I would wish to speak again.

Mr. SPEAKER:

Is the hon. member seconding the motion and at the same time asking for permission to speak at another time?

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

Yes; but, as I have said, I am seconding the motion and giving the reasons for it.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The hon. member, if he begins to give a reason, would be making a speech.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

I put it to the Leader of the House that if this land is now worth \$240 a year, in 10 years' time it will

be worth more than this \$240. Could the Attorney General draft the contract to the lease in such a way that it could be revised from time to time? I warn Dr. Russell that after the next election this is going to be torn up; this lease is going to be rescinded.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Speaker, I would have thought that there was something very fundamental at stake because rather than the Government deciding last week to rent this land for \$66 and then come back here today and say \$240, I think that what is required is a clear statement from the Government on the policy of rental of land to people. It seems strange that in the space of one week land is going to jump from \$66 a year to \$240, and I would like to find out from the Minister responsible what is the Government's policy as regards to the lease of and to people in this country. Secondly, is there any clear-cut policy as regards the fixing of the

price to be paid, and if so, whether there is one overall price or whether the price is going to vary according to the type of land; whether it is industrial land, beach land, waste land, etc.

I do not think that the fact that the man may want to use the land for any particular reason should be the sole criterion by which the price at which the land should be rented should be judged; if the Government has an overall policy on the leasing of land in the country, no problem would exist. A few weeks ago there was the leasing of land to Mr. Bill Richardson at Graves End; this is the sort of thing that is going on all the time, and if you are going to lease beach land or industrial land, what is the fixed price per square foot? I believe that at a cursory glance at the Barbados Development Board's Report and Accounts, you will see that industrial land in this country is rented at 30 per square foot, and I believe that the Government should state what its policy is as regards fixing the price for the particular type of land so that you would get away from any sort of suspicion, as you obviously have here, that the price is being fixed because of the person involved.

Nobody can have any doubt whatsoever that the price arrived at here must have something to do with the particular man involved, and whom the particular man is friendly with; if not, how could you in the space of one week change this price and make it almost four times as much as what they fixed in the first place? I agree with my learned friend that this matter should be postponed for further consideration.

Mr. HOLDER:

Mr. Speaker, last week when this debate was started by the Opposition I spoke because I know the spot of land, and I knew it from the time I was a boy. They are renting out this land, but they say that no homes are to be constructed there; so what are they going to do with it? You do not build swimming

pools for birds; you build bird baths for them. That piece of land, if they develop it, can be an asset of great value to that Development. 12.55 p.m.

I am very glad to find that the Government, within 7 days, have actually called upon their surveyors to go into the matter again. It was certainly a very poor estimate. Whoever made that estimate to rent the land for \$66 a year, in 7 days, has now realised that he should have charged \$240 a year. I am saying that the estimate for that land, when it is developed, is still too low. When it is developed you do not know what will be done there. The only restriction is that you cannot build there. Tourists can drive there, sit in the cool atmosphere and so on. They can sell drinks there and make more than \$66 a day. I am glad that the Government have gone into this matter, after listening to the members of the Opposition. I hope that, if possible, this piece of land will be leased to this gentleman at a proper figure.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Mr. Speaker, I am very happy to find that the Government has reconsidered the amount at which they wanted to rent this piece of land. When we produce arguments, the consciences of people in the Government are bound to be pricked. As far as I am concerned, I differ somewhat from the junior member for the City and the junior member for St. James. As a matter of fact, the figure is a little under \$240 a year. I suppose the hon. Leader of the House can tell us more about that later. Once bitten, twice shy. I do not want to accuse anybody of dishonesty, but I know that some people make mistakes by design.

Mr. Speaker, there are people who are selected for valuing other persons' properties. I say this with a knowledge of what is happening in this country. When they go to value land and so on, instead of listening to the Crown Solicitor, who has some knowledge of the value of land - this applies to the compulsory acquisition of land or otherwise - they make their minds up as soon as people are not friendly with the Governing Party and arrive at a valuation which they know will squeeze them.

Mr. Speaker, I still have letters in my possession in respect of property which I own in Cheapside Road. I have a copy of a letter which was written to Mr. Dan Springer, and I know what I am talking about. I wonder whether the matter went before the Cabinet and what members thought. I was satisfied beyond all doubt that Mr. Carol Fields at the time was quite fair in his dealings. In this case I wonder whether Mr. Carol Fields agreed with the \$66, or whether he was out-voted by the others who knew nothing about the matter. Do you think the Director of Agriculture knows anything about the valuation of land? He knows nothing about it. Mr. Carol Fields knows something about the valuation of land. Quite frankly, I feel that \$240 a year is a reasonable price to ask for the land, and I will vote for it. If I did not think so, I would vote against it.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with what the Leader of the Opposition said. Do you think it is wise to give a lease for 10 years? If you had told anybody 10 years ago that that piece of land would have brought \$1 a square foot, he would have felt that you were a lunatic. I refer back as far as 1960. As present, I feel that the land is worth no more than \$240 a year but is it going to be worth that 10 years from now? Is it going to be worth the same price when it is developed? It must be remembered that the Government will not be selling the land. I would prefer to have a lease drawn up for 5 years with the option of negotiating for another 5 years. At the end of that period the land is going to be worth more. I am speaking ex cathedra on this matter. I am not supporting the idea of leasing the land for 10 years. Nobody in Bridgetown would lease a building to anybody in Barbados for 10 years, no matter what the rate is. On that point I agree with the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The question is that.....

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

No, no, Sir. I made a point, and it is the duty of the Leader of the House to say whether they will consider the idea of drawing up a lease for 5 years, with the option of further negotiations for another 5 years. You cannot put the question when I have raised a point like that and put a question to the Leader of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am sorry; I thought the hon. member has completed his speech.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

I will stand on my feet then. I am saying that the lease should be renewed by way of further negotiations after 5 years. You should ask the Minister of Community Development about this. I suppose I can ask him about the restrictive clause in the lease. Is there going to be a swimming pool?
1.05 p.m.

This says that one of the terms of the lease to the lessee will be that no construction takes place on the area. In the legal terminology of construction, does this mean a swimming pool?

Mr. SMITH:

On a point of order, the hon. member has made a very reasonable point, which I would have made myself, to the effect that the amount now being charged for the land sounds reasonable, but I certainly think that the lease should be for five years and not ten, so that the Government would have a chance after five years of reviewing it. I believe that Government was wrongly advised, and I am very suspicious that within one week they have raised the price from \$66 to \$240, and I believe that it should be postponed for another week in which time you may agree to raise it further, though I agree that \$240 a year is reasonable. I think the lease should be for five years.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The hon. senior member for St. Joseph said he had risen on a point of order.

Mr. SMITH:

I rose to speak.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

I sat when the hon. member rose on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I was only pointing out that it was not a point of order.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

That happens all the time on both sides of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I cannot differ from the hon. senior member for Bridgetown.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

I am sure that the Leader of the House in consultation with the Minister of Community Development...(A VOICE The hon. member is making another speech.)

Mr. SPEAKER:

The hon. senior member for Bridgetown is not making two speeches; he gave way when the hon. senior member for St. Joseph rose on a point of order.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Who said I am making two speeches?

Mr. SPEAKER:

It matters only what I say, Let the hon. member proceed.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Mr. Speaker, will you vacate the Chair and let the Minister of Communications and Works take the Chair? You will then get chairs from over here being thrown over there and vice versa.

Mr. SPEAKER:

That will not take place. Let the hon. senior member for Bridgetown continue.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

I am sure that the Ministers have seen my point, and I will only vote for this, provided the lease is for five years with an Agreement to negotiate further. You will agree that the only place you can lease land anywhere in ' Barbados today for ten years is at the Westbury Cemetery.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I accept the amendment to shorten the period of the lease to five years. Paragraph 2 of the Schedule will now read "The land will be leased to Dr. Charles Russell for a period of five years at a rental of two hundred and forty dollar per annum."

What I would recommend to the House is to add nothing to this. This leaves the initiative with him and or with Government to review it and to come back to the House whenever that period is finished. One of the terms of the lease to the lessee will be that no construction take place on the area. (A VOICE: What does that mean?) It means what it says. I cannot give a legal opinion, but I would think that this would preclude a swimming pool. I would think so.

Mr. Speaker, I must however/ not allow the Government's case to go by default. You know, it is amazing how in the debates in this House, if the Government proves obdurate and stubborn on any matter, the Opposition brings down all the excoriation on our heads for stubbornness and for refusing to see a reasonable point of view. On the other hand, if a reasonable and sensible suggestion is made by the other side and we accept it, and accept it promptly, we are then excoriated, quite illogically. for having done what the other side suggested should be done. The facts are as follows: in the course of a debate last week, it was the hon. senior member for Bridgetown who made a very valuable contribution, and I have no hesitation in saying that it was in the light of his contribution to the debate that the Cabinet was able to make its mind up and to review the price, because if you remember, the hon. member had said that on a rough calculation of 7%, if you had sold the land at what he thought should be the price for selling, that is, \$1.00 per square foot and had put the money in the bank and done nothing more with it, you would have got \$234.55 as interest. I put the hon. member's suggestion and point faithfully before my colleagues. They saw with it immediately and suggested to round it off at \$240 and this is the result. No question arises, therefore, of the Government having to -discover in an underhand manner within a week what it should have done. We accepted the suggestion, and we were very happy to do so.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, has Dr. Russell agreed to pay the \$240

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am afraid that is not a point of order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, we accept the suggestion from the other side, and I therefore now beg to move that the Resolution as further amended do now pass.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I beg to second that.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, in the light of what the Leader of the House has said, to the effect that the lease will be for five years, and that Government will be coming back to the House.....

Mr. SPEAKER:

Is the hon. member asking permission to do something? The hon. member has already spoken.

Mr. HINDS:

I am seeking permission in the light of what the hon. member said to withdraw my amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The hon. member is seeking leave to withdraw his amendment, and if there is no objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, I declare the amendment withdrawn.

The question that the Revolution as further amended do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

THE NATIONAL INSURANCE AND SOCIAL SECURITY (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1970

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to take Order No. 3 as the next Order of the Day.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The hon. Minister is asking leave to proceed with Item No. 3 as the next Order of the Day, and unless there is any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, Order No. 3 is the instant Order of the Day and it stands in the name of the Rt. Hon. and Learned Prime Minister: to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the National Insurance and Social Security Act, 1966. 1.15 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, this Bill stands in the name of the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister and I am asking leave to take charge of it.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The hon. senior member for St. Andrew is asking leave to take charge of this Bill which stands in the name of the Rt. Hon. and Learned Prime Minister, and unless there is any objection leave will be granted. There being no objection, leave is granted, and the hon. member may proceed to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the National Insurance and Social Security Act, 1966.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, after the inception of the National Insurance scheme, the conditions of service of public officers were reviewed in relation to National Insurance and it was discovered that if public officers, other than casual and temporary staff, were allowed to draw sickness benefits from the National Insurance scheme, they would be drawing, during the time that they were ill, a higher salary than they drew when they were well and out of work, because the conditions of service for public officers make provision for the continuation of payment of their salaries during the time that they were laid up, for a reasonable time, from the Treasury; so it means that a public officer who becomes ill would be drawing a salary plus sickness benefits from the National Insurance scheme. This was not considered expedient because you would soon find that you have nobody employed, because if a man can be ill and receive 160% of his normal salary, it makes no point in his going to work. The decision was therefore taken to amend the National Insurance Act to exempt some public officers, including the permanent staff and the Judges, the people who are on the permanent staff of certain Statutory Boards like the Housing Authority, the Agricultural Credit Bank, the office of the Interim Commissioner for Local Government and Secondary-Schools.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

That does not exist.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

It does not, but hon. members will note that this Bill dates back to the 5th of June, 1967 and that is why the Interim Commissioner's staff is included in this.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Bad drafting.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

It is not bad drafting; what has happened is that administratively it was arranged that the portion of the National Insurance contribution made by public officers was reduced by an amount which was part of the contribution paid towards sickness benefits. That portion is now reduced from the contribution made by public officers, so if a public officer under normal circumstances would make a contribution of \$1.50 a week, he makes a smaller contribution than \$1.50 because he is not now contributing towards sickness benefits.

This matter was discussed by the Board and by the Ministry, and it was decided to amend the Act to make provision for this so that public officers would be exempt from the section dealing with sickness benefit, and they will also be exempt from a funeral grant, because the funeral grant is a contingency of a sickness benefit. The Government therefore provides the amount which the National Insurance would pay towards their funeral expenses; that is, if it is \$100 for a public officer coming from the National Insurance Board to anyone who is insured under the scheme, that part of it is paid by the Government to the estate of the deceased public officer because he is not covered for sickness benefit or a funeral grant.

The opportunity has also been taken to make one or two other small amendments to the Act, and these are clearly set out in the Objects and Reasons of the Bill. There is a small amendment which I would like to make to the Draft Bill which hon. members have in their possession, and it is that in this Bill the Judges are not included; so in Clause (1b)(a) immediately before "the substantive holder of a public office" you insert the words "a Judge or" so that it will now read "a Judge or the substantive holder of a public office", because that was omitted in the drafting of the Bill. This change should also be made to the Objects and Reasons, and instead of 1969 as mentioned on the Bill it should now be 1970. I now beg to move that ' this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I beg to second that.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Speaker, you will remember that from the inception of this National Insurance Act I drew to the attention of the Minister certain qualifications which would prevent a lot of people, because of their age, benefitting under this scheme; for one thing they were not allowed to qualify for pensions. 1.25 p.m.

Secondly, you are forcing people to resign, and then they are not in a position to maintain their families. Several of those people are willing and able to work for a longer period.

I cannot understand how this Government works. As far as this amendment is concerned, they may have found out this for themselves, but I have already drawn this matter to their attention. A man called Sobers had one week to qualify and he was sent off the job. Up to now he is asking me to do what can be done about the matter. I drew that to the Minister's attention on the floor of this House, but nothing has been done for this man. There should be an amendment to help such people. They are amending things for the Judges, the Housing Authority and things are in their favour. Perhaps, if some people were allowed to qualify, it would not be in the Government's favour. An amendment should be introduced so that people who are not qualified would be able to pay a few extra dollars to qualify themselves rather than have them walking along the streets practically dying from starvation.

Mr. Speaker, I rang the Insurance Department and I would not mention the replies I have been getting all the time. I have been told that the Committee is working on the matter. A Bill is now before the House, but there is no amendment in it to assist the people to whom I have referred. You are calling on people to stop working; they do not get any pension and they are unable to support themselves and their families. This National Insurance will never be of any use to the old people unless an amendment is introduced in the light of what I have already mentioned. It will help the young people but it will not help the old ones. I think that the National Insurance was intended to assist the old people. You have a National Insurance Company that is full of money, and yet you are doing nothing to help these unfortunate people. I can give you a few names, but you should not rely on me to do that. I can only talk about the people in the parish of St. Joseph. I doubt whether these people go to the Minister or whether they know where the Minister lives; otherwise they would not be annoying me all the time. I repeat that Mr. Sobers wanted one week to qualify, and he was not given anything as a pension.

Mr. Speaker, I know that some people failed to pay for 20 weeks and they got nothing. They should be allowed to qualify. If it is \$2 a week and the people owed 8 weeks, then they should be allowed to pay \$16 and qualify for a pension. It would be the same thing as if they had worked until they had reached the appropriate age, because the Insurance Company would not be losing anything. Another amendment should have been introduced with this one in order to help the people to whom I have referred.

Sir, they prefer to give back the people the money they have paid in. The people do not want back the money; they want to pay money in order to qualify themselves for a pension. This National Insurance Scheme will assist certain people and kill others, if you do not fix-things-right. It is not working satisfactorily. If you cannot help certain people at the moment, then you must amend the Act in order to

allow them to qualify for a pension. How would any member of this House feel to know that one of his constituents is dying from starvation while money is in the National Insurance Department?

Mr. Speaker, I hope that some of these people will live to see the next election, so that when we go to them they can throw certain things back in our dish. They would then be told that if we got back they would get more money than they could spend and so on, but I would not have to say that. I am doing my bit and I cannot get any help. I know what the hon. Minister who is in charge of this Bill is going to say; but when I am going through St. Andrew preaching the gospel and putting things my way, the people will understand me. I am getting old now; so do not put me to the trouble to drive all over the country preaching the gospel. Amend the Bill at once and let people qualify themselves. Their families and relatives will help them to pay the money to qualify themselves as quickly as possible. I hope the Minister would endeavour to help those people as quickly as possible because they are dying slowly.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph is certainly aware of the fact that I am just as concerned about this problem as he is. The hon. member also knows that I have held several meetings with the Director and the Assistant Director of National Insurance in order to discuss this matter. He also knows that when the Director was out of the Island I asked the Acting Director to call the hon. senior member for St. Joseph to the National Insurance Office to discuss the problem in order to ascertain exactly what he wanted in this amendment. It is not fair for the hon. member to say that I am sitting back doing nothing about it.

Mr. Speaker, it is for the Minister to let Civil Servants know what is his policy. I have done that, and they are to advise me on the best method of implementing my policy. The directions have already been passed on to the National Insurance Board. I told them I wanted the age limit to be increased from 65 to 68. 1.35 p.m.

This is what the hon. member came here and asked for, and this is what the Chamber wanted, and I directed the National Insurance Board in this light. I have advised them that they can make 65 years the optional retiring age and 68 years compulsory, and this will cover all the problems which the hon. senior member for St. Joseph is now referring to. I do not do these things myself. I pass instructions and it is for the Civil Servants and the people who do the drafting to get together and devise means of having them implemented. Whilst the hon. member is concerned about this, he knows that I have taken action on it. He knows that three or four months ago the Acting Director was told to get in touch with him to see what he really wanted, and if he wants to be fair he can criticise us for not having done it earlier, but he can be fair enough to say that he was approached...

Mr. SMITH:

On a point of order, I want to be fair to the Minister. He should not accuse me of being unfair to him. A very long time ago I was told that they were going into the matter; but the same way Government can bring this amendment, all the other things could have been brought, and the Minister should not have brought this until all the others were ready. That is where it is unfair.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The hon. member has made his speech already, and he has made his point, which incidentally was not a point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, at the beginning of this debate when I was introducing the second reading of this Bill, the hon. member will remember that I asked leave of the House to deal with this matter in the absence of the Hon. Prime Minister, because it is an Establishment matter, for which the Prime Minister is responsible. The administration of National Insurance is my responsibility, but this is an Establishment amendment not prepared by my Ministry, but by the Ministry of Establishments. (Mr. SMITH Then you should not be dealing with it.)

Mr. SPEAKER:

Members not addressing the Chair should remember the Standing Orders.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, this amendment was being worked on from 30th September 1967, and it has just got here, and that is why it dates back to 5th June, 1967. I do not do the drafting. I promised the hon. member that I would try to get the amendment in here as soon as possible, but I am not a lawyer.

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

On motion of Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, seconded by Hon. N. W. BOXILL, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the

House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

Clause 1 was called and passed. Clause 2 was called.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman, there is a small amendment to Clause 2(1B) sub-clause (a). The Clause should read "a Judge or any person employed by or under the Crown being a person who is the substantive holder of a public office."

I beg to move that Clause 2 as amended stand part.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I beg to second that.

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

Clause 3 was called and passed. Clause i was called.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 4 stand part.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I beg to second that.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, since money is a costly commodity today, I am to wonder if, when these refunds are being made, they are made with interest.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

If people were not entitled to pay contributions or if the contributions could not be used to their advantage, the Board must pay interest on the monies refunded to people. In other words, if I made contributions to the National Insurance Board and in the end I received no benefits because I was not entitled, since they took my money and invested it at Barclays Bank or Nova Scotia, they would have to pay the interest on my money. They have to pay interest on the money because they had no right taking the money since the people did not qualify for benefits.

The question that Clause 1 stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 5 was called and passed.

1.45 p.m.

Clause 6 was called and passed.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report the passing of one Bill, as amended, in Committee.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a third time.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I beg to second that.

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill do now pass.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SPEAKER:

The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I think perhaps you might conveniently break here. I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until 2.30 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

On resumption:-

UESTION TIME

Mr. SPEAKER:

It is now Question Time. I am informed that the answer has been laid to Question Noo 36 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter, and that Question is to be found on page 5 right hand column.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister-

Is Government aware that Sweetened Condensed milk is a commodity very much in demand by consumers, particularly working-class mothers in the lowest income group?

2. Is Government aware that consumers have no choice but are totally dependent upon this commodity as manufactured by the Pine Hill Dairy of Barbados Dairy Industries Ltd.?

3. Will Government state whether the Net Weight, 14 ozs. sized, PINE TREE BRAND manufactured by the said Pine Hill Dairy is of the quality and standard demanded by the purchaser?

4. Is it a fact that consequent upon the numerous complaints made by consumers against this PINE TREE BRAND (Net weight 14 ozs.) (recommended for infants and invalids), Supermarkets and retail shops generally are refusing to market this commodity?

5. Will Government take all steps possible, under the circumstances, to ensure that the requirements of Full Cream Sweetened Condensed Milk of the working-class people and others in this Island are met from whatever sources are available, rather than permit the people of this Island generally to be at the mercies of Pine Hill Dairy perpetually?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Trade and Tourism, the Replies are as follows

(1) Yes, Sir.

(2) Yes, Sir.

(3) Condensed milk manufactured by the Pine Hill Dairy is made to internationally accepted standards.

(4) No, Sir.

(5) Adequate supplies of condensed milk are available at the Pine Hill Dairy.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, is the Minister suggesting that the Barbados consumer is complaining against the accepted international standards of condensed milk?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, this would probably clarify it a little further. The Managing Director of the Barbados Dairy Industries Limited has commented on these lines and has stated that sweetened condensed milk manufactured by the Pine Hill Dairy has in the past been sold under different brand names like Pine Tree, Sun Sweet, Green Pastures, Fern Leaf, and these constitute the full list of brand names used. Public preference for the Sun Sweet developed at an early stage after the production commenced in 1966 and this is the only brand currently sold by the Dairy in Barbados. The Pine Tree Brand is, however, preferred in some export markets in the CARIFTA area, and all brands of sweetened condensed milk

manufactured at the Pine Hill Dairy, whatever the brand label, are ordered and made to internationally accepted standards. 2.40 p.m. The specific answers to the questions raised are

1. Yes, Sir.

2. Yes, Sir.

3. Condensed Milk manufactured by the Pine Hill Dairy is made to internationally accepted standards.

4. No, Sir.

5. Adequate supplies of Condensed Milk are available at the Pine Hill Dairy.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, is the Minister saying that Condensed Milk manufactured by the Pine Hill Dairy to internationally accepted standards should be taken to mean and include milk manufactured and found to be unfit for human consumption?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, as far as I am aware, the Condensed Milk has been accepted on an Island-wide basis and has satisfied the demand of the public.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, is the Minister saying that Pine Tree Brand Condensed Milk has not had more than 36 per cent rejection by the public?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, I am trying to be co-operative. The hon. member's reference to the Pine Tree Brand

would indicate that he is referring to some very old stocks. The old stocks are no longer available.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, is the Minister aware that the reason the Pine Hill Dairy substituted different labels was consequent upon the first label being rejected, but the same quality milk was put into the same tins with a different label on it to fool the public all the time?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, deputising for the hon. Minister of Trade and Tourism, I am not aware of these points.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, the Minister told us about the consumer's preference. Has the Minister any information as to what particular brand showed the highest preference where consumers are concerned?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, the Pine Hill Dairy has been set up here with Government's participation in order to diversify, to some extent, our system of agriculture, and for that reason our Pine Hill Dairy should be granted some measure of protection. The Condensed Milk which is manufactured there, irrespective of the name or brand, has always given satisfaction to the public at large. The hon. member, who is querying the matter, probably has something more to say, but up to now he has not made a clarified point. It is known that the sweetened Condensed Milk manufactured by the Pine Hill Dairy is up to a very high standard and internationally accepted in CARIFTA, the West Indies and the entire Caribbean.

Mr. Speaker, I am advised that the Condensed Milk manufactured by the Pine Hill Dairy is made in accordance with internationally accepted standards. That is the advice I have been given, and I am only saying what information I have received from my advisers. I am not a doctor. This is in accordance with the advice given by the Chief Agricultural Officer and the people who know about the milk and dairy business. I am always willing to be advised and instructed by people who are knowledgeable.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Minister can tell us how long a tin of Condensed Milk will last after it has been manufactured? When people buy the milk from supermarkets, it is stink. You must protect the consumer.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, I want to draw to the hon. member's attention the fact that there have been no sustained complaints by the public at large to indicate that the Condensed Milk manufactured by the Barbados Pine Hill Dairy is unsuitable or unacceptable to the public.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, does the Minister mean by "no sustained complaints" that when complaints are made by supermarkets the Dairy does not accept the spoilt tins of milk that are left on their hands? Is that where the word "sustained" comes in? Is that what the Minister means?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, I merely stated by way of trying to satisfy the hon. member that there have been no sustained complaints by the public to indicate that the Condensed Milk manufactured by the Barbados Dairy Industries Limited is unsuitable or unacceptable to the public at large.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, this might be my last supplementary Question. Can the Minister tell us what method was adopted by the Pine Hill Dairy in carrying out this consumption preference amongst the consumers? In other words, did they have 6 brand names and did they put them all on the market at the same time? Did they put another one as soon as one was rejected?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, my advice is to this effect. The sweetened Condensed Milk manufactured by the Pine Hill Dairy had, in the past, been sold under several different brand names to test the consumer preference. I have already enumerated the brands that have been sold. In any undertaking of this nature you will necessarily find that the consumers' brand or taste would be provided for. 2.50 p.m.

The Pine Hill authorities have done that with the assistance of our experts in the Ministry of Agriculture, and I believe that the complaint which the hon. member is trying to make on the Government is not a very sustained one, but one which probably occurred in the past. It may well be that he can come with some other questions later on when they will be reviewed by the appropriate Minister.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, has the Pine Hill Dairy discovered as a result of these tests that the public has shown a preference for clean, whole some, sweetened Condensed Milk, and not the type that the Pine Hill Dairy has been manufacturing and putting on the market?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, as far as I am aware, in the Ministry of Health, the question of nutrition is one problem which we are examining with assistance from PAHO, World Health Organisation, etc., and there is a point which the hon. member could probably have made, in that as far as people who suffer from diabetes are concerned, those are not properly covered; but what he is dealing with here is properly covered. The diabetics are not properly taken care of, but we are examining that because we know that the Pine Hill Dairy is not granting the best accommodation for them, and people who suffer from sugar in the blood need some attention. The hon. member can come with questions like that which would be more pertinent.

QUESTION re INCLUSION OF JAPAN IN FIRST SCHEDULE TO EXPORTS AND IMPORTS (OPEN IMPORT LICENCE) ORDER, 1962

Mr. SPEAKER:

Question No. 72 stands in the name of the Hon. and Learned senior member for St. Thomas.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Mr. Speaker, the Question reads as follows

To enquire of the Minister of Trade:-

In view of the statement made in this hon. House on the 30th April, 1968, by the Minister to the effect that Japan was included in error in the list of countries set out in the First Schedule to the Exports and Imports (Open Import Licence) Order, 1962, will the Minister state why he has repeated this error by once again including Japan on this stop list of Communist countries in the new Exports and Imports (General Open Import Licence) Order, signed by him on the 4th December, 1968?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the hon. Minister of Trade and Tourism, the Reply is as follows-

"The countries set out in the First Schedule to the Exports and Imports (General Open Import Licence) Order, 1968, are countries against whose exports the Government considers it desirable for economic or other reasons to maintain an import licensing system. The list is not intended to reflect a group of countries with similar ideological concepts."

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Mr. Speaker, would the Minister agree that every Communist country in the world except Cuba, North Vietnam, and North Korea are included in the list, and that Japan is the only non-Communist country in the world included in it?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, as far as I am aware, there is no direct design or intention to exclude Japan, because from time immemorial we have benefitted as a result of cheap Japanese goods coming down here where labour is probably cheaper than in Hong Kong or places like that; so any omission made in so far as Japan is concerned was not intentional because we would be glad to welcome Japanese goods, and for that reason we enjoy many of the facilities which Japan offers.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

How can the Minister square what he has just said about welcoming Japanese goods with the written answer saying that Japan is included in the particular list because the economic policies of this country are such that it thinks imports should be controlled? Which is correct, the old answer he has read or the answer he has just given? (Hon. C. E. TALMA I have answered that already.)

The Minister says he has answered that already. Will the Minister bring his attention to the Question which said that the Minister of Trade said that Japan was included in error on the 30th April, 1968, and on 4th December, 1968 again repeated the error? How could it be an error in April and not be an error in December? Perhaps it is a little unfair. Obviously the Minister of Health cannot answer for the words of the Minister of Trade, but would he answer this: does he really think, considering that Japan is now the world's third industrial power - a much greater industrial power than Britain or Germany - that Barbados is justified in saying that we cannot openly trade with two out of the world's three largest powers, Japan and Russia?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

The hon. member may have had long years in England as a Barbados Scholar, lawyer etc. and will probably know these things, but the question of reciprocity does not arise; and if reciprocity comes into play, it will be that the Government of the country must necessarily adopt certain measures in order to advance. Japan buys nothing from us. There must be a two-way balance of trade. You cannot have money going abroad and nothing coming back.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Mr. Speaker, there are two principles to be balanced. The first is that almost everything that is made in Japan can be sold in Barbados, quality for quality, at a cheaper price. They make better cameras, better electronic equipment and motor cars, all at cheaper prices. Would the Minister agree that the principle of making available to Barbadian consumers the cheapest possible goods is one to be balanced against the principle which he has just outlined? And would he also suggest to this Honourable House what there is that Barbados can sell to Japan? Has Japan ever refused to buy anything from Barbados?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, on the question of importation of goods from Japan, Government exercises a reasonable discretion, and import licences are always available in the interest of the public whenever it is to our benefit, whether it is for radios, T.V. sets and scooters. We have a lot of them here; so whenever it is in the interest of the tourist trade or development of the country, the Government grants the necessary licence in order to see that our economy derives some benefit and advantage. The hon. member is aware of these things, and his supplementaries seem to be falling apart. 3.00 p.m.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Mr. Speaker, will the Minister consider advising his colleagues to place the United States on the same importation list, because the United States buys very little more from Barbados than Japan does?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

In so far as the United States and Canada are concerned, we derive so many fringe benefits from those two countries, and our invisible income from imports to keep us alive, that we should always try to get anything from the United States, Canada and the United Kingdom.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Mr. Speaker, since he has mentioned the United Kingdom, and Japan is a much greater industrial power than either the United Kingdom or Canada, why does not the Government in that case invite the

Japanese to set up factories here or indulge in some sort of enterprise here?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Whenever people like the Japanese come around here, they come mainly to take money out of our country. In other words, they came here to set up some sort of fishery research - I happened to be Minister of Agriculture at the time - they did not make capital; they came on a big scale and went away empty-handed.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Mr. Speaker, the Question was, will the Minister advise the Cabinet to seek investment opportunities from Japan on the same terms as they invite the United States and Canada?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

If I happened to be Minister of Trade and Tourism, I would suggest Hong Kong and not Japan.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Is the Minister going to ask the people in Hong Kong, the poor starving people in Hong Kong, whose economy is supported by Japanese capital, to bring Japanese capital from Hong Kong to Barbados? Whom do you know in Hong Kong who has money to invest in Barbados?

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am afraid that I do not deem that question to be a proper supplementary.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, I speak with the intimate knowledge of Hong Kong, because I lived there for six to seven days and I happen to know something about Hong Kong. It is a place which manufactures the best goods at very cheap prices. I happened to have met Mr. Courtenay Reece and Mr. Clarke, a Barbados Scholar like our friend who is asking these questions. I happen to know Hong Kong and am fully aware of its economy and the various opportunities which Hong Kong can produce for us. We all know that Hong Kong has been used in the past by the British Government in order to produce goods for their benefit; so if we adopt the old British tradition, I think we are moving in the right atmosphere.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Mr. Speaker, if the Minister knows Hong Kong so well, surely he knows that Hong Kong's export market is principally supported by Japanese industry which has invested in Hong Kong in order to gain the advantage of the Commonwealth preference for its products.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I again do not deem this to be a proper supplementary, but, of course, if the Minister wishes to answer I will not stand in his way.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

The hon. member probably knows that Kowloon is a small island, and he probably happens to know that Kowloon has been leased for many years to the British Government. Kowloon is a part of Communist China leased to the British Government, and he knows that the British Government does a lot of trade with China, and he knows that the British manufacture and trader, as a balance of trade, tries to move in his direction anything beneficial to the people of the United Kingdom. I am aware of all these things myself; so I am suggesting that if we adopt the pattern set by the United Kingdom - we are young and we happen not to know much about commerce, trade or banking - but if we can send more of our scholars to learn these things, they will probably know that trade, commerce and banking should be done in places where it can derive some sort of mutual benefit. Japan and West Germany and places like that are rich; they won the war, not us.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Since he is talking about Hong Kong, would the Minister agree that imports from Hong Kong are widely used as a means of evading this self-same Order? That the chief relationship of Hong Kong to trade in Barbados is in order to allow the merchants in Bridgetown to import Chinese goods without getting a license under this self-same Order?

Mr. SPEAKER:

Similarly I do not deem this to be a proper supplementary. This Question Time has now developed into question and answer between members of profound academic knowledge of the area.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, I would be grateful if you would let me get in the last word. I happen to be aware of the fact that Hong Kong has been utilised by the British Government from time immemorial - their cheap labour - and they change the labels on British goods; so the money is made by virtue of that interchange, based on cheap Chinese labour who live on boats and live sub-humanly, and they then put on a stamp of

British goods and have sold us and fooled us all the years.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS Mr. SPEAKER:

There are no more answers which, according to my information, have been laid; so we now revert to Private Members' Business. The hon. senior member for St. Joseph, I observe, is not in his place, but the hon. junior member for St. Peter who was speaking on a motion is in his place. Does he desire to continue now?

Mr. HINDS:

No, Sir.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that further consideration of this matter be postponed by virtue of the fact that the whole matter is being investigated at present.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg to second that. The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. SPEAKER:

No. 2, standing in the name of the hon. senior member for Bridgetown, whom I do not observe to be in his place. No. 3 is also in the name of that hon. member; No. 4 in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Joseph whom I do not observe to be in his place; No. 5, in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter. Does that member wish to proceed, now?

Mr. HINDS:

No, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER:

No. 6, standing in the name of the hon. and learned member for St. Thomas whom I do not observe to be in his place. No. 7 in the name of the hon. senior member for St. James.

Mr. CRAIG:

Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Leader of the House had moved that this Resolution be postponed and the vote was taken on it.

3.10 p.m.

I would like to know from the hon. member if he is prepared to do it this afternoon. I should like to see this matter dealt with and to hear what is Government's policy on it. I am only asking for an additional \$5 a week for agricultural workers.

Mr. SPEAKER:

Let us deal with the matter as it stands on the floor of this House. Is the hon senior member for St. James asking that it be proceeded with now?

Mr. CRAIG:

Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Leader of the House moved a motion that it be postponed for further consideration. What I am seeking to find out is if he is ready to deal with it now.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Yes.

Mr. CRAIG:

He says "yes", Mr. Speaker, and I will take my seat.

Mr. SPEAKER:

When debate on this motion was adjourned, it was on the motion of the Hon. Leader of the House, seconded by the hon. junior member for St. Michael, that further consideration be postponed. Does the Hon. Leader of the House propose to continue with his address? Let the Hon. Leader of the House so proceed.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, the hon. senior member for St. Andrew will speak for this side of the House.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me begin by saying that this side is in favour of seeing working-class people work for more money. We are interested in seeing people in the lower-income bracket work for increased wages. We had demonstrated this in respect of sugar workers only two years ago when there was a deadlock in the negotiations between the Sugar Producers Association and the Barbados Workers Union on out-of-crop wages. There are certain recognised organisations and certain accepted ways of procedure in respect of negotiations for wages for workers in the sugar industry.

We on this side of the House believe in collective bargaining, and it is only when an agreement cannot be reached by collective bargaining that we feel the Government should step in and try to find a solution to the problem. Two years ago this procedure was upheld; two years ago the Barbados Workers Union found it impossible to come to a settlement with the Sugar Producers Association on out-of-crop wages for the sugar workers. The matter was referred to the Ministry of Labour, and at that level an agreement could not be reached because neither side was willing to compromise. The economy of this country was threatened, and the Government, at that stage, decided to step in. It was there and then that they set a minimum wage for agricultural workers in the out-of-crop season by way of legislation. This Bill, which was introduced two years ago, does not stand in the way of collective bargaining between the sugar workers, or the Union and the Sugar Producers Federation.

Mr. Speaker, we are aware that the Civil Servants in the Public Service have just received an increase in wages and salaries quite justifiably. Casual workers have received their increase. (INTERRUPTION)

Mr. SPEAKER:

I must apologise to the hon. member for the disturbance outside.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, we did not bring in a Bill before the negotiations started to determine what were the wages that casual workers should receive. Even in the Government Service the decision on what should be paid to the workers in the lower-income bracket was subject to negotiations between the recognised Trade Union in this country - I refer to the Barbados Workers Union - and the Government. Even with Government servants, the Establishments Division of the Government was able to come to a decision and to agree that casual workers should receive so much per hour, so much per day, or so much per week, as the case may be. The Civil Service Association was able to establish a case for increasing the salaries of monthly-paid people in the Government Service.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that the Union which represents the workers in the sugar industry will soon be negotiating for increased wages for the workers, because if it is accepted by all and sundry that there is a rise in the cost of living, then I do not think the sugar workers would remain dumb and would not call on their Union to negotiate on their behalf. It is true that there may be a three year Agreement between them and the Sugar Producers Federation; but if the workers in the sugar industry do not take care of the land, pull the grass, pull the weeds, and transplant the cane, etc., nothing can be done.

We have not reached the stage where there is complete mechanisation in this country as yet, and I hope never to see complete mechanisation. I believe that manual labour is necessary for the people we have in this country, except they themselves are skilled in operating the machines. 3.20 p.m.

We feel that this is necessary if the people are to be kept in employment and be fed. I have no doubt that in the near future the sugar workers will be calling on their representatives to negotiate on their behalf in respect of out-of-crop wages. It is difficult to come here and decide on a minimum wage for people who are already organised. This is cutting off the arm of collective bargaining, and should only be a last resort, as it was two years ago when we were forced to do it since both sides were adamant in their views, and there was no hope of a compromise. We sat down day after day begging each side to compromise, and nothing was done. Somebody suggested a Commission of Enquiry, and other suggestions were made, and we thought that the best thing to do if the people were to get their wages, and if the economy of the country was not to be ruined by people not reaping the crop at that stage, was to introduce a Minimum Wage Bill for this category of worker.

Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member who brought this Resolution had consulted the Leader of his Party, a man who was one of the early founders of trade unionism in this country, he would have advised him to let collective bargaining play its role. We know that sugar workers need more money. We know it is not fair to ask any employer to pay a casual worker \$6.40 a day and ask a sugar worker to work for \$4.80 a day; but the casual workers did not get \$6.40 a day through Government coming here with legislation initially. It was by collective bargaining. If there is one good thing that can be said about the Leader of the Opposition, it is that he believes in trade unionism. How can he now allow one of the members of his Party to pull down the very thing he has established - the principle of collective bargaining? We are in favour of people getting more money, but there are certain procedures which must be upheld; and we cannot because somebody gets a dream and decides that he wants cheap popularity by introducing a Resolution requesting a minimum wage, come in here and pass legislation. I do not think that the Leader of the hon. member's Party upholds the bringing of this Resolution. I do not think the members on the other side agree with a Resolution like this when they know that workers in the sugar industry are represented, whether by the Barbados Workers' Union or by the Union which was established by the other side. How in the name of all that is good can they encourage the hon. member - with limited

experience - to bring a Resolution like this in this Chamber asking members to vote for it when they believe in trade unionism? When collective bargaining fails, then we will act. We did not come here and say we are going to give the servants of Government \$6.40 a day.

One of the first things we did, when we assumed the Government of this country in 1961, was to give Civil Servants the right to form their own Trade Union. We gave them the right to be represented either by the Civil Service Association as a full-fledged Trade Union, by the Barbados Workers' Union, or by the Sugar and Transport Workers Trade Union which was formed by the other side. Whichever Union can command a majority of support in any industry is recognised, and we give that recognition to the Union. It is only when that Union fails to reach an agreement that we come here. Two years ago the hon. Leader of the Opposition saw that there was a deadlock in the sugar industry. We all knew that the workers wanted more money, but he only came in here with a Resolution to debate the matter after he saw that there was a deadlock in the industry. Many of the workers may have gone to him asking about more money, but he did not come in here with a Resolution asking us to call on the Sugar Producers to pay the sugar workers more money, because he believes in collective bargaining. He is an executive of I.L.O.; we are a member of I.L.O, and their conventions uphold collective bargaining. When we attend I.L.O. conferences, we have to carry employers and the Union as the workers' representative. It is a sort of tripartite conference.

Mr. Speaker, we might be in here talking about an increase of \$5.00 a week on sugar workers' wages, but through collective bargaining they may get \$10 a week or \$20 a week. Are we to come here and dictate what should be the increase for sugar workers without giving them an opportunity to fight by way of negotiations for what is the best they can get? If the hon. member had come in here with a Bill to establish a minimum wage for all categories of workers, I would be the first to get up and support it, because there are thousands of workers in this country who are not organised in a Union or have a Union to speak for them. Let us take the building industry. There is a drive now to get the building industry organised. Clarke & Tucker pays one rate. It may be surprising to hon. members to know that even today you have craftsmen working for fifty cents an hour. 3.30 p.m.

These craftsmen have seen the need to come together and to have strong representation, while some of the building contractors are not in favour of recognising a Trade Union as representative of the workers. They will either have to a ree or close up shop because this is what we believe in, and we have just agreed that Government masons and carpenters will get something like \$1.25 an hour; but you still have contractors in this country who are paying people 50 and 60 cents an hour - people who are experienced craftsmen.

If the hon. member had come in here with a Resolution calling on the Government to see to it that these people are organised, I would support it. If a Trade Union was established by the other side and it

had the, majority of workers in a particular category, it would be recognised by me as Minister of Labour. If there is one starting tomorrow and it can demand control over a particular industry, it can be recognised; but let collective bargaining play its role. Let us not be hot-headed; let us not go to bed and wake up with a dream and come in here with a Resolution without even discussing it with the Party to which we belong. What sort of Party system is this? The hon. members on the other side are not even in agreement with what he has done; where is the Party discipline? If he had asked advice from the other side he would have been told to frame the Resolution even differently because we are concerned about the workers and we want to see them get more money, but there is a certain procedure which we must go through. You could come in here and ask what the Trade Union is doing for the sugar workers in the out-of-crop season; but do not let us come " and say that workers should be getting an additional \$5 a week, because we might be stopping them from getting another \$20 a week when we come in here with this type of Resolution.

If the hon. member had brought in a sort of general Resolution; if he was thinking of the poor domestic servants, some of whom are paid \$8 and \$10 a week; if he had brought in a Resolution saying that he would call on Government to establish legislation asking for a minimum wage for domestic servants, not one of us could object to that Resolution and I think that he would have gained the support of all in here. Domestic servants are not organised and we would like to see them organised; but perhaps it is difficult to get this done. If he had come with a Resolution calling on the Government to do something about the workers in the garment industry who are not organised, I would say yes; but he has come asking Government to fix a minimum wage for agricultural workers in the out-of-crop season before - how do we know if the Union is currently negotiating for an increase of this minimum wage for agricultural workers? How do we know that even his own Union is not trying to organise a minimum wage of \$25 or \$30 a week for agricultural workers? He has not even put himself to the trouble to find out. When the hon. member gets a little more experience in the business of politics he will understand; he is yet young; so he will learn. The hon. member must also learn to consult with those who know better, and he has the Father of trade unionism in this country as his Leader and he can follow his advice sometimes. Sometimes the Leader of the Opposition and I have high words, but I respect his knowledge of certain things; I respect his knowledge of trade unionism, and I respect his knowledge of industrial relations. 3.40 p.m.

Sometimes he antagonises me, but I respect the contribution which he has made to this country not only in this Chamber, but in the field of industrial relations at I.L.O. and otherwise. Therefore, when the hon. member wants to deal with something which is too high for him, he should seek - just as I respect the views of the Leader of his Party, he himself should respect the views of his Leader. He should discuss a matter like this that is highly explosive with the Leader of his Party. He is going to come here like some Kiaki King without even discussing the matter with his colleague in St. James, who is the senior representative of the people to him. Instead of doing that, he runs here with a Resolution as if to put something over the boys; he feels that he is thinking of something that they are not thinking of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a Party and I would like to appeal to the Leader of the Party to use his experience in controlling young people like myself. My friend, the hon. senior member for St. James, will make a good politician, but he needs direction. I would like to appeal to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph, Leader of the Opposition, to give him a hand and he would be proud of him in years to

corfte. This is certainly a matter in which he needs direction. He has the zeal, the enthusiasm, but in some cases his approach is wrong. I would like to ask the hon. Leader of the Opposition if the hon.

member had discussed this matter with him.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

On a point of order. The hon. Leader of the Opposition advises; he does not dictate; he cannot tell his colleagues that they cannot eat lunch, as the Prime Minister told the whole world the other day that he can dictate to his Ministers not to eat lunch.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am afraid, no point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, the point about it is that the Ministers did eat lunch. I am trying to be serious, Sir. The point I am making is that the hon. senior member for St. James may have a problem in his constituency and he will discuss it with me, whether or not it concerns my Ministry. This is a question dealing with the Ministry of Labour. If he did not want to discuss it with his colleagues, he could have discussed it otherwise, and he would have been advised the correct way in which it could have been brought. It is a good Resolution, but it has not been brought at the right time. He should have waited until negotiations had started, and, if they did not reach an agreement satisfactory to him, then he should bring a Resolution. He should let collective bargaining play its part. There are other people who are not organised; there are people who are being walked on who are not organised, and we could do a lot to help them in this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I may state here that I am concerned about the plight of many of our workers who are not organised. As a result of this, even today in the Ministry of Labour work is being done on the best means of approach. It calls for a lot of consideration and planning, and everything is being done to establish, on an Island-wide basis, a National Minimum Wage Bill. That does not mean that you are picking out a

particular type of worker and taking away the right of collective bargaining from that worker. Let us take the complaints brought in here by the hon. junior member for St. Peter in respect of wages paid in the garment industry. When we were debating an amendment to the Wages Council Act, the hon. member mentioned some things in here which were true and which caused some concern about the plight of the people who were working in the garment industry for \$5 or \$6 per week.

Now, Sir, a person may be doing piece work; he does not have the aptitude for doing piece work; his fingers cannot move as swiftly as another worker's fingers, but he is employed in the job. The type of Resolution I would have liked to see from the hon. member was one calling on the Government - not to add \$5 a week to the present wage paid to agricultural workers, but a Resolution calling on the Government to bring to this House an Act establishing a National Minimum Wage for all categories of workers. That would include the people the hon. junior member for St. Peter complained about - domestic servants who were working for \$8 or \$10 and they had five or six little children to support. There would be a National Minimum Wage Bill, and nobody could pay less for work in this country. I would have supported such a Resolution coming from the hon. member. Such a Resolution would embody those who are organised and those who are not organised. There are more disorganised than organised workers in this country, but in order to protect those who are not organised you would be blanketing everything. Mr. Speaker, it is not often that I have to disagree with the views of the hon. member. 3.50 p.m.

Many a time we sat together and discussed certain problems, because we have something in common, being around the same age range; but if I have to take a firm stand on a matter like this, it is because I am dealing mainly with the principle, and I take this stand to let the hon. member know that there is more than one way to hang a dog. The hon. member talks about an increase of \$5. I want to explain what is the position.

Mr. CRAIG:

On a point of order, I really do not want to interrupt my hon. colleague, but I would like to draw to his attention, since I am well aware of the fact that he does not know what is happening, that this Resolution does not call for an increase of \$5.00. It calls for a minimum of \$5.00. The Government can make it \$50 if they care.

Mr. SPEAKER:

Point made.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

There is a Minimum Wage Act in respect of agricultural workers for out-of-crop wages. This Act states that the worker should not get less than three days' work per week, and opportunity was taken at the time to determine what the pay of an "A" class or "B" class worker was to be, and it was calculated in accordance with the wages paid to Key Scale workers in the Government Departments. Government has seen the wisdom in increasing the pay to Key Scale workers, and it was made crystal clear that this wage for agricultural workers was based on what was paid to Key Scale workers at the time. Since the Government has increased the pay to Key Scale workers to something, like \$6.40 per day, it is for the Union to go to the Sugar Producers Association and say that they want to talk increased wages for sugar workers in the out-of-crop season. The hon. member may not know this, but even now negotiations are being conducted between the Sugar Producers and the representatives of the sugar workers on the question of increasing the rate of pay for them; but they are not discussing a weekly rate of \$5.00 a week as an increase. We have to give the Union and the Sugar Producers an opportunity to bargain, and perhaps the Union may be able to get \$7.00 a day for them, which would be certainly more than an increase of \$5.00 a week.

Mr. CRAIG:

May I again, on a point of order, bring to the attention of the House that this Resolution does not ask for \$5.00 per week as the Minister is trying to make out. It asks for not less than \$5.00. If the Government gives \$50, I would be happy.

Mr. SPEAKER:

Point made.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member said not so long ago that I was 'not with it. I have been able to ascertain that he is 'not with it', because he is saying that if the Government chooses to give so much per week, he would be happy. Do we believe in collective bargaining or not? The hon. member cannot appreciate a good point. Collective bargaining is being conducted now between the Sugar Producers and the Union with respect to increased pay for workers in the out-of-crop season. It was the Union who negotiated for an increase in pay for Key Scale workers, casual workers and temporary workers in the Government service and got \$6.40 a day for them. It was the Union who negotiated for an increase in pay for sugar workers two years ago and the Sugar Producers did not want to pay it. It was the Union who made representation to the Government, and it was the Union who collaborated with the Government in January, and it was the Union who accepted the proposal of Government to pay the workers \$4.80 a day. The same Union is today negotiating with the Sugar Producers in respect of out-of-crop wages for sugar workers. (Mr. HINDS Has the Union started?)

Mr. SPEAKER:

Standing Order No. 29. Members not speaking.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, I wonder if the Minister is in a position to tell us whether or not negotiations are really proceeding between the Union and the Sugar Producers Association, as he has stated.

Mr. SPEAKER:

No point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, if we accept the principle of collective bargaining, the fact that we now know that discussions are now taking place between the Sugar Producers and the workers in respect of increased pay for out-of-crop wages, is enough to persuade the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the Party to which the hon. member belongs, a man well versed in this type of business, not to shirk his responsibility, but to show the hon. member that a mockery cannot be made of certain things, to show the hon. member that there are certain disciplines to which he must adhere. He should advise him that if he has any self-respect or any respect for the Workers' Organisation and for the Leader of his own Party who is the Father of trade unionism in Barbados, he should withdraw a Resolution like this and put it on the shelf, and wait to see what the outcome of these negotiations would be before he brings such a Resolution. Mr. Speaker, we cannot support it.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

Mr. Speaker, I hope that Your Honour accepted what I said earlier as only a point of order - in short, that I have not made a speech.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am sorry. The Hon. and Learned Leader of the Opposition who seconded the m Resolution, according to my recollection, did not reserve the right to speak. However, it has been intimated to me, and I have heard it across the Table from the other side, that leave would be given to the hon. member to speak.

If there is no objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to speak. 4.00 p.m.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

I am going to be very short; whatever else the hon. member who has just sat down may be famous for, he is certainly not famous for logic. How, in the name of common sense and trade unionism, can the right of a Government to bring in minimum wages be mutually exclusive? If it follows that because a Board could fix a minimum wage and an appeal is made to them, how in the name of Heaven could....less than two years ago this Cabinet came down here with a Minimum Wage Act, in March 1968 - I have the Act in front of me. Minimum wage started in this Island in 1938; this same Minister was among those who brought down the Minimum Wage Bill in 1968 and then he gets up here and says the fact that you are asking for for a minimum wage shows that you are wiping out trade unionism. "Beware of the Greeks especially when they are bringing gifts! " I have never been praised in all my life - not even by a fond godmother nor a fond grandmother - as I have been by the grandmother over yonder this afternoon; I must have done something extraordinarily wrong to gain the praise that he has given me.

I repeat that the Government at any earthly time can say 'better wages in the domestic sector', as the hon. member mentioned that some of them are getting \$8.00 and \$10 per week, knowing that he can get the legal draftsmen to draft a Bill fixing the wages and appointing an Advisory Board the same way it was appointed in 1938. In 1938 when the Minimum Wage Act was first made, the words Leader is a Socialist, and I thought that he, like members of the Government, would have got up and asked that this be sent to a Select Committee and he sent back to the House. The Minister of Labour put up a stubborn defence and followed the advice of the Minister of Agriculture, but all I am asking the Government this evening is to increase the wage for agricultural workers by at least \$5 a week. The Government reigns supreme; it can close down all the sectors of the community, and therefore the hon. member cannot tell me that Government cannot support a Resolution of this nature because there is collective bargaining.

I wonder if the hon. member remembers that in 1967 when there was an industrial dispute and the sugar workers refused to cut the canes, the Trade Union and the Sugar Producers' Association came to a deadlock. The Government proved that they were supreme by bringing in a Minimum Wage Bill. I am asking Government to increase the wage by not less than \$5.00 a week, but I would be happy if they increase it by \$15, \$20, \$25 or \$30. I ask for this because it is the view of many members on that side that as long as you are an agricultural worker you have no purpose in the society. Is it that salt meat, tomatoes, rice and pork have two separate prices, one for Civil Servants who have just got an increase of \$200 and \$300 a month, and the other for sugar workers who have to wait three, four or five years for the Trade Union boss to fight with Mr. Erskine Ward to determine how much they should have? You came in here on the last occasion with a hot and sweaty Bill to give them \$13.44 a week, but not a single word was mentioned in the hon. member's speech to the effect that he did a survey to determine that \$13.44 was an adequate wage. Let him answer that. That is too hot to handle. They knew it was not adequate, but they came with this hot and sweaty thing to support the Union.

Let me warn hon. members that this is the beginning of things to come from me. I study the agricultural workers because it is on their backs that the burden of the economy is carried. They are not cutting canes and struggling so as to provide money for the same Civil Servants and members of this House to get a bigger salary. I have asked for \$5.00 in this Resolution, and a Socialist Government should be ashamed to get up here and decide to shelve it. I thought they would have used their better senses and decide to send it to a Select Committee and hold it back if they wanted to stop me. The hon. member talked about the constituency of St. James, but do not let him worry about that. I leave these things to God. There are certain members in here who have their names written in chairs, but not me; mine is written in the hearts of the people of St. James, because I set out to see about them first, and my country after. There is all this talk about political trickery that I am trying to work out. In Orange Hill right now, Mr. Speaker, you are going to get a playing field and roads, but the hon. senior member for St. Andrew is killing two cows and four pigs, and had the audacity to say in Orange Hill that he is the only person to represent them. The reason for that is because Orange Hill now adjoins St. Andrew. But do not let the hon. member run too fast. When a horse is running alone he looks as if he is running fast; but when you put another horse beside him, you will see how slow he is running. Let the hon. member take his time and do not kill too many cows yet, because he will get into trouble.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, ...

Mr. SPEAKER:

On what has the hon. member risen?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

On a point of order. The hon. member talked about a horse running alone, but there is a big difference between a horse and a donkey.

Mr. SPEAKER:

No point of order. 4.30 p.m.

Mr. CRAIG:

That is a point of ignorance. Mr. Speaker, there is no donkey running.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member could give the House the assurance that he will complete the debate....

Mr. CRAIG:

I cannot finish today; let us come back next Tuesday on it. (ASIDKS) Mr. Speaker, I do not pay much attention to Asides, but there are some times when you have to let them understand that you are still with it. The hon. member got up here this afternoon, and as Minister of Labour opened his remarks by saying that his Government is here to see after the workers of the country and is prepared to see that they get a proper Wage Bill. In the same breath he says that he cannot support this Resolution, and all this Resolution is saying that a worker should get not less than \$5.00 per week.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I much regret that the time for Private Members' Business, according to my information, has expired.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, , perhaps it might be convenient at this stage to have a break, and I therefore beg to move that this sitting be now suspended for fifteen minutes.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

On Resumption:-

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER:

The next item of Government Business that remains is No. 1 which stands in the name of the hon. Leader of the House, and it is to move the House into Committee of Supply to consider various Resolutions.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply and that there be an instruction to the House while in Committee of Supply to deal with the Money Resolution, copies of which were circulated earlier today.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1969-70 No. 56

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, the request for this \$12,000 is as a result of the Government's programme for the repair of tenantry roads. This is to complete capital works in Drax Hall Woods. The matter for consideration is a request to supplement Head 102 - Ministry of Communications and Works, Item 19 - Additional Mains and Standposts - under Part II - Capital, by the sum of \$12, 375 so that mains, fire hydrants and valves may be installed in the Drax Hall, Drax Hall Woods and Drax Hall Jump area in St. George.

During November, 1965 the residents of Drax Hall Woods petitioned the Chief Engineer of the Water

Works Department for the installation of a water main in order that connections may be made in private residences in the district. Also, the owners of the land offered the area to the Government - because apparently buses go through there - and Government has seriously considered taking over this road and fixing it properly; but before we go in to fix the road as we should, we have decided to extend the water main down to where the houses are. We are all Barbadians and we know how our people live, but this is the only country in the world that I have ever seen where people live in the back and canes are to the front of the road. This is some sort of relic that has been handed down to us from the days of slavery when people wanted to live in close proximity to where they were working, and as a result they cannot get the idea that the houses should be moved forward and the canes moved backward. That is why, when you have cane fires, so many houses are in jeopardy, because there are people who raised great-grandchildren in these places and they never saw fit to come out. As everybody knows, the Government's programme is to do as much as possible in these tenantry roads in order to facilitate these people, and my view is that it would have been cheaper to the Government if we were to move some of these houses to the front so as to bring the people in close proximity to all the facilities rather than to move all the facilities into these places. I myself had appealed to some of the people living in these places to move forward, and they told me that they were born there and did not want to move. 5.00 p.m.

Hon. members may have heard of Pitcairn Island. It is the Island connected with Captain Bligh and the mutiny on the Good Ship 'Bounty'. There are 135 people living there including men, women and children. I spoke to a chap there who told me that he was in the New Zealand Navy. I asked him why he had returned there. He looked at me as though I had said the most incredible thing and said: "This is my home." That is the same attitude of the people in the estate areas. What we have to do is to carry these facilities to the people whenever it is possible to do so, because we just cannot get the people to come to the facilities. I do not know if there are any questions hon. members would like to ask.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass. Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I beg to second that.

Mr. ST. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, I am always grateful for the opportunity to speak on any Resolution dealing with additional mains and stand posts and to hear the Minister mention anything about tenantry roads, because I have been consistently campaigning for a speed-up in Government's action in relation to the extending of these services. The Minister himself in his speech gave the House striking evidence as to the slow manner in which this programme is being implemented, because he says that, in these days of jet propulsion, in these days of man reaching the moon, these residents in Drax Hall petitioned in 1960 and this is now 1970. I have always said that there is no hope at all of any material improvement in the backlog of the tenantry roads and additional mains in this country so long as what exists in the Ministry of Communications and Works continues to exist.

In my constituency, Sir, I have been begging to have things done and I cannot see any drastic change. Very soon I will have to give a public explanation, and I always give a public explanation. The trouble is that we are not getting a day's work, and it is the duty of the Minister to look and see what is happening. There is sufficient backlog that has built up now that can guarantee work for the number of people employed in this programme for at least 10 years before the work can be finished. It seems to me that it takes 7 months to repair a tenantry road, and a longer period of time to lay a water main.

Sir, in my constituency, along Maxwell Road, they have been laying a water main and it is causing a great amount of inconvenience. I would have thought that as you proceed and put in the pipes, you would have been backed up with a gang to resurface the road. You are going to wait until you have covered about three miles, and then start to resurface the road. That does not make sense to me at all, because at the present moment you have converted a road that could carry three cars into a bundle of traffic problems. They started at Top Rock Corner; they are near to Deal Corner now, and they have not started to resurface Top Rock Corner as yet! What can we do about this matter? Drax Hall will take 5 years; Boarded Hall has none; Rendezvous Gardens - Sir, they promised to resurface the road at Rendezvous Gardens; they are doing a road up near my home now, and it looks as if it will take them three years to do it. I am sure they have been working on it for 7 months. (ASIDES.)

Mr. Chairman, I am not afraid to talk about these things because I have investigated the matter. There is sufficient work in Barbados that nobody should have any fear that if he worked fast he would lose his job. That psychology does not work now. In the old-time days people used to sit down on the job. This is an era in which people are pushing you down in order to get something to do. There is something wrong, and I hope that something drastic takes place. There is a large backlog in my constituency, too. In the Silver Sands area we want water. I hope we do not have to wait 5 or 7 years in relation to that. The Vestry went there and the land is given over now at the back of Boarded Hall, St. Lawrence Gap, Rendezvous, and those areas will have to be dealt with. These are people on the front roads and they "are crying out.

Mr. Chairman, we have backlog in street lighting, backlog in tenantry roads, backlog in additional mains and stand posts, and it takes 5 years to get these things. No wonder the people are getting frustrated with the democratic process.

Mr. HOPPIN:

Mr. Chairman, it is very heartening to hear the Minister speak about the land at Drax Hall. As one of the representatives for St. George this has been a burning question, and these people have been attacking me daily about having water at Drax Hall. Those of you who know the country well will realise that Drax Hall used to be one of the largest, if not the largest, estates in this Island. In the Drax Hall area

there is a pipe, but the reports are that the flow of water at certain times of the day is very slow, and this additional main would be an improvement in that area.

Besides the Drax Hall area, there is also another district in St. George known as Wood Alley. Some of those people are unable to have water installed in their homes - some of them are pensioners in that area. I should be very glad if the Ministry would see it fit to put water in Wood Alley. We have appreciated some of the improvements that the Ministry has made in St. George by the Pumping Station at Sweet Vale. Those people have benefitted. I hope that with this money the people at Drax Hall and Wood Alley will also benefit from the extension of the water main.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, while I appreciate many of the points made by the hon. senior member for Christ Church, I believe that a few omissions have been made in that during the term of office of the Democratic Labour Party it can point to at least a few big achievements. In the first place, we have put down a reservoir at Lodge Hill; there are two in Christ Church, and water mains are now being constructed. To make those grave omissions and to suggest that the water service has not been improved on is, to some extent, misleading.

In so far as the tenantry roads are concerned, we have to recall that tenantry roads were under the jurisdiction of the Local Government. I have served for many long years, Sir; I have had the privilege of serving as Minister of Communications and Works, and I have tried to assist in that direction. The hon. member spoke about tenantry roads. We know that there are many to be done. The policy of the Government has just been revised in order to assist private tenancies. As Minister of Communications and Works in 1965 when the present Minister was my Parliamentary Secretary, Capt. Fergusson, the hon. Minister of Trade and Tourism, and many of us went through the various tenancies not only in Christ Church, but in many parts of St. Michael - Holders Land, Water Hall, etc. 5.10 p.m.

These are the things he is trying to do now; but what I want to bring forcibly before this Committee is that at one time we had no jurisdiction as such to repair these tenantry roads. They were under the jurisdiction and control of the Local Government; so if there is one benefit to be derived by virtue of centralisation, it is that for the first time the Minister of Communications is in a position to deal with these problems. I remember very well that we would vote, say, \$100,000 for tenantry roads, and a lot of wastage took place. As far as Rendezvous is concerned, I want to remind the hon. member that some of these roads were done by contract. The Local Government authorities were granted the full facilities of the Barber-Green to do the roads and see that the taxpayers' money was spent to the benefit and advantage of the people in the area. The policy now is to see that the roads are done properly by utilising the Barber-Green machine so that money is not frittered away. If, therefore, the Minister comes here and asks for co-operation so that for the first time private tenancies will be seen after on a certain basis

which he will probably explain, I do not think members should criticise him at this stage. At least they should give him a chance to try and get the private tenancies done, because it is the first time under centralisation that the Government will see that private tenancies are done. When the hon. member talked about Parish Land or Silver Sands, or wherever it may be, I would say that Maxwell Hill Road needs attention, and I know that a tourist area like St. Lawrence Gap should be broadened and given the best attention, because this is one of the areas in Barbados that most people who come here seem to love. There is a lot of room for improvement, and the Minister should be given a chance to get ahead with the job.

Mr. ST. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, on the question of St. Lawrence, I brought in a Question early in the session specifically asking about tenantry roads in the St. Lawrence area- and I remember the Minister himself getting up and saying that the Government was not going to do them. Then he changed and said that the Government would do them, but of course they have not been done yet. However I was not criticising the Minister about tenantry roads. What I was saying was that from the evidence we have available to us showing that it took five years to get water in Drax Hall, in these days the psychology of the people is that they are not going to wait five years. Their fathers or grandfathers would have waited five years, but today the world moves on at a different pace.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

If the hon. member would give way, on the question of Drax Hall, it is not fair to talk about five years, because I remember that at one stage we could not even trespass on the land to put in water. The manager did not want the Waterworks Department to come and put in water; so you do not want me to go and put in water for them. It was the people who were in charge of the land who had it held up. It was not the Ministry. Another thing is that Barbados has a very small economy; so do not expect that we can spend all the money on roads; we have to spend some on education also. The hon. member should be the last person to talk because he is getting more of the plums than anybody else. He has the prettiest street lighting now in the Island from Seawell coming down.

Mr. ST. JOHN:

I knew the hon. Minister was going to try that, and I have the answer in relation to that already. Street lighting between Seawell and Bridgetown is a matter for Barbados as a whole. That has nothing to do with parochial interest. It is only coincidental that the Airport happens to be in Christ Church. Let the hon. member tell me about street lighting between Graeme Hall and Vauxhall around where the Government estate is, and where people are being raped nearly every night. The young girls who have to work on the last shift at the hotels in St. Lawrence have to go through there, and there have been three or four Police reports of this crime. Why don't you put street lights there? That is a genuine Christ Church road.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

If the hon. member would give way, I will tell him about that. The way he is talking one would think that electricity came into Barbados yesterday. Electricity has been in Barbados from somewhere in 1919. Do you mean it is only since I became a Minister that people know they want street lights? What happened when your Party was in power for 17 years? Why didn't you put in street lights then? Didn't you know that they wanted street lights then? We are doing what we can now, but at the time when you could have done it, you had more money than we do now, because the charges were lots less. We will put in street lights. I know that people are being molested, and I am one of the persons who are concerned about it; but when the hon. member tries to make out that the electricity is an innovation, I cannot let him get away with that.

Mr. ST. JOHN:

I will not bother with the hon. member because he knows he has confessed in here repeatedly that he has put in less street lights in any parish than the Local Government has done, and if the hon. member can contradict me on that, he should give me the figures because I have been trying to find out how many street lights by area the Government has put in in each parish since they took over, and they would not give me the answer to the question at all. I would like the hon. member to give me the answer to that, because the last time we raised the question of street lighting in here, the hon. member said that devaluation had affected them and they had to change the source from which they were getting the lights; so he knows he has a backlog.

Mr. CRAIG:

Mr. Chairman, I am sorry for my colleague that they are going to put water in Drax Hall, because without water in that area I went there one evening and missed and asked why the roads were not fixed and water put in, and someone shouted "Craig, what are you doing down in here?" I said I was only looking at something on behalf of Senator Barrow. Then he said "We don't want you down in here; down here is all right, we belong to the Dems." I would advise the Hon. Minister not to give them water in order to ensure that my colleague gets his support in Drax Hall because if he gives them water, the hon. member may lose.

What I want to say is that every minute I can hear talk about street lights in Porey Spring and in Welchman Hall, but if you go through the Ivy where the hon. senior member for St. Michael operates, you will see that the roads are in an appalling condition. Mr. Chairman, I am not dealing with the playing field which you have in your constituency and which is a gem; I refer only to the Ivy where the hon. senior member for St. Andrew has some people with pencil brushes putting Snowcem on houses to make sure that the people 'do their thing. Let us examine the whole area of St. James. In St. Thomas there is a Minister and a member of the Barbados Labour Party; in St. Joseph there is the Leader of the Opposition and a Pope; in Christ Church there is a Minister and a member of the Barbados Labour Party; in St. Peter there is a Minister and a member of the Opposition; in St. James there is nothing.

There is no play down there; so when I get up and talk about St. James, don't talk about parochial politics. My constituents come first, as far as I am concerned and my job after; so imagine how important they are to me.

There is a place like Well Hill in St. James where there is no water. 5.20 p.m.

I came in here three years ago and the first question I asked was about water and roads for the people of Spring Head. The Minister just admitted here that the people like living behind canes, but you have not even got a sign post to show anybody how to get into Spring Head; so the people must stay behind there.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

On a point of order, I am sorry but I have to stop the hon. member because he knows what he is saying is not true. There are three standposts in Spring Head and furthermore a six-inch main goes right through Spring Head; maybe the hon. member does not know this because he has not been into Spring Head for a long time. There are more standposts in Spring Head' than they are in my area; so I do not know what else he wants me to do.

Mr. CRAIG:

I said that it took me three years to get an additional standpost in Spring Head and they put it just as how a construction firm puts in water for the purpose of mixing mortar - just a piece of pipe running through the ground and then stuck on a big rock where frogs are always gathered. As far as the roads are concerned, to get into Spring Head I am confident that you would have to take a helicopter and take an aerial picture of St. James to determine where Spring .Head is and how to get in there. I should not be arguing about Spring Head since the Hon. Minister of Housing is representing St. James over night and knows that he is going to get 240 votes down there, but I would put my head to the block that he cannot get three votes in Spring Head. To try to get four, let him encourage the Minister of Communications and Works to give them roads because, if they are sick, doctors cannot get in there.

The Minister once told me that the people in Spring Head are satisfied and that he had carried out a survey, not with the member who asked the questions but with the junior member for St. James and they looked at it and there were two pipes down there i so he thought that they were adequate. I got up in here and nearly cuffed the Minister in his face and asked him if he thought that two pipes were enough to satisfy 200 people. There is no road at all up there, and I know a young lady who is a Nurse at the Hospital and who told me that since the bus fares have gone up it costs her 70 cents a day to go home, and if she decides to go home she cannot even pick the road through. (ASIDES) Mr. Chairman, may I

draw to your attention Rule 29 (6)1 I am constantly being interrupted by hon. members who are not speaking.

The Minister mentioned Seawell Airport, but that is Highway No. 7 and there is a lot of traffic passing there; but what about Highway No. 1? I checked the number of street lights between Black Rock and Benjamin's house - I am referring to Benjamin, the Postmaster whom you caused to get transferred - from Black Rock to his house there are only 13 street lights, and the distance is five miles. You have some lights near Cove Spring, in Paynes Bay, one in Holetown; but when you get between Porters and Weston there is not one light and the road is a Barber-Green road. I do not want lights for the tourists; I am thinking about the natives who come first, as far as I am concerned. I know you will put one now in front of Senator Sandiford's house for him to see how to get in because he is another Pope, but from 1966 I have been repeatedly asking the Government to put some street lights there where the road is rather dark and there are trees on both sides. Together with that there are no proper side walks, no proper markings in the road, and at 1 o'clock in the morning coming from St. James the hotel workers are outside flagging you down trying to get a lift, and you could hardly see them because the road is so dark.

Every time you ask the Hon. Minister about the roads for St. James, I could hear about Porey Spring, Lammings, Welchman Hall, and now I am hearing talk about Drax Hall, and still the Government would not set out to do anything about St. James. I hope the Minister would set out to implement the programme in relation to the questions which I asked about street lighting for Highway 1; I have to thank him for putting some in Holders Green; he has really treated me right up there. I give credit where credit is due, but why do you want to give Welchman Hall every thing? Do you believe you could beat Adams up there? Tom? With what, a bull-pistle?

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I would ask the hon. senior member not to refer to me on the floor of the House by name.

Mr. CRAIG:

Mr. Chairman, you know that I would not refer to the senior member for St. Thomas as Adams or Tom, because I do not know anybody here called Tom Adams, 5.30 p.m.

I am appealing to you; so please assist me. There is a place called Well Hill in St. James. There is a road when you go through Carlton No. 2 leading you on to St. Albans Senior School - it is something like a cart road, and I have asked the Minister to go and see it. The people who live there have asked me repeatedly to beg the Minister to come and look at it. I told them that the Minister was fairly sharp and

he had to be handled with kid gloves. I am tired cuffing him with iron gloves, Sir. He always argues that he has a skin like an elephant; so do not have brains like an elephant, please. Do something down there and I will be happy.

Mr. HOLDER:

Mr. Chairman, I have heard a big history this afternoon and it has brought me to my feet. There are certain things I have heard for which, in my opinion, I cannot find a nice word to use in Parliament. With regard to Spring Head district, my father was the first schoolmaster up there, and I know that area backwards. I worked on the water in Spring Head from the time I went into the Vestry in St. James. All hon. members sitting around the Table will know what the situation was in those days. I was able to get water from the nearest pipe in St. James. As things rolled on and it became a Local Government and things changed, the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works, his Parliamentary Secretary, his Permanent Secretary and two Engineers were taken by me to Spring Head.

Sir, you have heard a lot about the Spring Head Road. There is a water main there that runs through that area. The Island is divided as No. 1, No. 2, and that road was the old third-stage road in Barbados, but it has gone out of use. When I became a Vestryman I was surprised to find that they did not have water there. Anyway, I was lucky to get it in the first pipe. I remember the words the hon. Minister of Communications and Works told me when we were down in the bottom of that gully. The Engineer told me that there was a pipe there when he looked at the plan. I knew all about it, Sir. I do not repeat myself; I do not shout aloud and so on; therefore, when I showed them that the main was there, they promised me that they would extend the service. I took them and showed them what I wanted, and I can say thanks. Some of the poor people in that area installed water through that.

You have also heard a lot about Well Hill and Dean Town. These were places worse than Horse Hill. I tried to get water for that area. If you know the road going through Baywoods on to Buccaneer, then you would have to lead the water main from there, through Water Hall Yard and on to Well Hill and then Dean Town. When I took Mr. Garrod there, we walked that distance and came back via Lancaster. When you pass by Lancaster and go to a place in Westmoreland Corner before you reach the Gasolene Station, you will see a pipe. When I was a boy my father told me that those pipes were called wayside pipes for travellers. Mr. Garrod said that it was easier to send the water from there up to Dean Town, and that is why I did not get it at Well Hill.

Sir, from the time I was a child I was told that the people who lived at Well Hill got their water from Water Hall Land. They do not have to climb a hill to get water. They walk along a level road as you would walk along Broad Street and go into Water Hall Yard in order to get water. Mr. Garrod said that he would put the main on the Lancaster Road and send the water to Dean Town. Well Hill was left out because the people merely had to walk to Water Hall to get water. For all these years the people were

allowed to get water there.

As you know, Sir, there is always a change. I placed a Question in this House just last week asking for a main to be placed at Well Hill. It is not necessary to have a big main because it is not a large district. I am asking the Minister to see what he can do. Just around Buccaneer Lodge there is a main; so he can put down a 3/4 inch main over the hill so that the people can get water. Changes are going on at Water Hall and one can never tell what will happen. Anybody can own it. We have heard that we may wake up one morning and find that Barbados is sold out. If people come into the Island and that place is sold, and if the people are forbidden from entering Water Hall Yard to get water, they will experience a great deal of difficulty. That is why I asked that Question a few weeks ago. When I was a child going to school that was a short cut for us. Sir, there is no neglect. I know that the Government sometimes says this and that, but it takes time to do things.

With regard to the lighting situation, if you were to go into the archives and look into the Vestry Act, you will find that the very first motion that I made as a Vestryman was in relation to light for St. James. In those days there was no light at all, but I cleverly tried to put the thin edge of the wedge in. In those days I knew that they were not going to give me any light in St. James. I asked them to put a light at Paynes Bay Corner; to put a light at Sandy Lane Woods; to put one at Trents Corner and one at Reid's Bay Corner near the Boys School. I wanted to get light in the areas where it was needed. You are hearing a lot now, but all of those things have been already done.

So far as Spring Head is concerned, I will confirm or support the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works.

5.40 p.m.

There is a lady living in Spring Head that I have done my best to get to come out, but there are some people whom you cannot get to leave their district. She raised her children in Spring Head, and they have got vexed with her because she has land in Westmoreland next to the road, but she just does not want to leave Spring Head. The road in Spring Head is very laborious, especially if you go up by the yard side and go down the Board Tree Road. That road was named from a tree that grows on that road, a tree that my father told me produces board. I have seen it many a time and have picked ferns off it. The road has been forgotten and it is really impassable. There is no sign up showing you how to get to Spring Head, but that is not the only place in the country that has not got a sign. If you know Rock Hall plantation, when you pass through the yard you take the first road on the right, and you will drive right into Spring Head. It is a forlorn district, it is true, but it is one of those peasant tenantries where land is rented out.

Talking about Spring Head, Mr. Chairman, you will forgive me, but one of the first coloured girls that went to Queen's College in Barbados came out of Spring Head. It was an Exhibition to a secondary school, and owing to where she came from, the authorities got up against her and she had to leave Queen's College. Mr. Carrington, who was an Inspector of Schools, then sent her to Bishop's High School in Antigua and she came back here and became a Headmistress. So do not think that Spring Head is forgotten. Everybody is still looking at it. That road begins behind Farmers. When you go up through Porey Spring and come down by Dunscombe, you go down that hill and get to Farmers and swing left. This is a little history. You go up below Farmers and go down this big gully when you pass the cassava factory, and that road leads right across. You go down below Apes Hill and cross and go below the spring, and you cross again and come to Spring Head, and then you cross again and go down, meet the pipe I just talked about that the Minister saw with me, climb that hill and swing left and go straight out to St. Peter.

Mr. Chairman, when you hear all this talk about this for St. James and that for St. James, St. James was always protected and always thought of. With regard to playing fields, one of the best playing fields in the islands is at St. James. When that playing field was given by a philanthropist and the Vestry started to play around and was looking all about for land, I suggested to the hon. junior member for St. Joseph to bring down the Land Acquisition Act and get that piece of land, because the school was there. It had a common hall in it, and if you were playing cricket and had a nice gallery there, people could still go there knowing that they would soon get a community hall. When they got to that, Dr. Cummins was Premier. St. James has always been thought of, and there are many things in it that one can see that someone had been taking some interest in the parish.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, when this debate started I had little intention of taking part in it, but since it has developed into a debate where hon. members are seeking to have the interest of their various constituencies put forward, I think that I will add my quota. I may begin by saying that for many years now whenever it comes to development of the City, that small portion of Bridgetown that returns two members to the House of Assembly, whenever it comes to street lighting or the development of tenantry roads in that area, the Government will always say that the Bridgetown City Council had the responsibility for it. Sir, it is now three years since the Bridgetown City Council has been abolished, and I think I am right in saying that very little has been done as regards development in the City since the abolition of the City Council. Very few new street lights have been put in, though they might have put in a few new bulbs. Government will accuse and say that this person was responsible for street lighting for all these years and did nothing, but I am not concerned about that. What I am concerned about is that three years since the abolition of the Bridgetown City Council there are still areas where the people have not yet received street lights. I will deal with water differently.

I did not on this occasion intend even to talk about Chapman Lane, because I think the Government's policy as regards Chapman Lane is clear-cut. So long as Chapman Lane continues to vote for certain people, they are not getting any sort of development whatsoever under the Democratic Labour Party. This sort of attitude will lead this Government into a lot of trouble, because it is not in a rural district that you are attempting to treat people like this; it is in your City; and if the Government continues to ignore these people, then they will resort to their methods of achieving their ends. (A VOICE: Are you advocating violence?) I am not advocating any violence, but if you have people like the Hon. Minister who is in charge of Communications and Works who refuse to put proper roads in Chapman Lane for the people to come out, then he will see one of these days what they will do with him. They will continue to suffer for so long and take so much and no more, and then they will resort to other means. People cannot suffer for ever and ever; they are not prepared to turn their eyes to Heaven and pray, and at the same time suffer under the yoke of the Democratic Labour Party. People have feelings, and the people in Chapman Lane have their feelings too.

Mr. Chairman, if it is the intention of the Government to move the people from Chapman Lane, this was their intention since 1965 as stated in the Development Plan. They came back in the 1968 Development Plan with the same intention. Perhaps it is one of the few areas in the whole of Barbados that has a complete paragraph on it in the Development Plan. They have virtually word for word in 1968 what they had in the 1965 Plan. Even if they intend to use the area for some other purpose, they must recognise the fact that people are living there; they are human beings and should have some sort of proper amenities. If you intend to move the people eventually - and if you do not move them by 1971, you are not going to get them to move at all - they are still entitled to have some street lights. 5.50 p.m.

The same complaint that the senior member for Christ Church has made, has been made to me. Behind Rayside Works on Murphy's Pasture, people are saying that young women are being molested, and even if Government intends to move the people from there they should put some sort of lighting there for their benefit. They are human beings and they are taxpayers, and should enjoy the benefits of the country as a whole. On the question of tenantry roads, I want to deal with Dunlow Lane and the Woodside Tenantry. That name has certain connotations which you and I, and, I believe, everybody else knows; but it is disgraceful that off the main highway of Bay Street there can be a tenantry where there are absolutely no water mains, and I wonder if the Government ever stopped to consider what would happen if a fire takes place in Dunlow Lane because there are no water hydrants and no water mains at all. That in itself should give you some idea of the extent of damage that would occur if a fire takes place in that area.

I have no doubt that the Government would not call upon the owner of Woodside Tenantry because it might prove embarrassing to them to call upon the owner of Woodside Tenantry to put proper roads in that tenantry. Everybody should know who is the owner of Woodside Tenantry; it is the Governor-General, and it is disgraceful for him to have a tenantry in this country and to have it in such a condition, and then all you can hear from the Government is that they have sent out letters to tenantry owners. It

really hurts me to hear the Minister of Communications and Works get up and ask if we think that they have nothing else to do with money, or words to that effect. You have a country where people are unemployed; so you do not lack the labour to carry out the repairs to tenantry roads; and if you talk about lacking money it means that the Minister is saying that he could belong to a Government that sees it more necessary, or that it is right, to spend 11/2 million dollars to buy houses overseas for about five High Commissioners and Ambassadors and then you can hear the Minister saying that they have no endless supply of money! Do you mean that it is more important to own a house for the Ambassador to live in Washington than to have proper roads for the people living in these tenancies? You bought a house in London for \$185,000 and cannot even find anybody to appoint as High Commissioner. Is that more important than fixing the tenantry roads in Phillips Land? I do not mind the Minister saying so, but it is when some of the back benchers, some of the people who represent the poor constituencies in this country, the people from St. Andrew, St. Peter, St. Thomas - and I would like the Minister to go and tell the people in St. Thomas that it is more important to buy a house in London than to give them proper roads and proper lighting. They would not do that, but they come in here with a lot of fancy highfalutin talk. It was stated in the Democratic Labour Party's Manifesto in 1966: "The age of the standpost is over; the dignity and self respect of people demand the installation of water services in every home. The Party will therefore accelerate its present programme by providing not less than 2,000 domestic services every year until there is water in every home that requires it." This is four years now, and I would like the Minister to tell me any year since 1966 that 2,000 domestic services were installed in houses in this country. The trouble with the Minister of Communications and Works is that when he cannot answer a question he resorts to personal abuse, but I shall ask him a simple question.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I do not know of any time that you sat down there and allowed me to abuse anybody personally or otherwise, and I think it is erroneous for him to say this.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Sir, it is simple; I am saying that in order to catch votes they put their hands in the air and pulled down the figure of 2,000 and talked about the age of the standpost being over. Of course, we believe in dignity and self respect, but the planning of the Government is such that nobody can say that the age of the standpost is over because of the inadequate planning of the Democratic Labour Party. I would like the Minister to show me the figures that since 1966 over 6,000 people received water services in this country. I have no doubt that he will perhaps get up and say that this is so; but it is not that I would not accept what the Minister says generally, but at certain times you cannot accept what he says. It is really hurtful when the Minister can talk about there being no endless supply of money, then to have backbenchers who represent the poor constituencies - I represent one of the poorest constituencies - Bridgetown, not St. Michael. If the City of Bridgetown is going to be developed, I think the Government should be big enough to realise that you cannot continue to spite the people in the City because they do not support their Party. This is what it is boiling down to when the Minister can get up and talk about putting lights in Christ Church for the tourists, and it is time that this Island think in terms.....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I never said that; do not mention that at all.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Not you; but you are not the only Minister. Do you mean that this Government is putting into effect the words of the Prime Minister that one morning you will get up and find that the country is no longer there? 6.00 p.m.

Do you mean that this Government is catering purely for the tourist market, and the people in the City will continue to suffer because of the shortsighted policy and the sloppy planning of the Democratic Labour Party? I would like, seriously, to say that I think it is time that the Government, if they say that they are undertaking a plan for developing tenantry roads, treat it as an urgent matter and more emphasis should be placed on it.

Sir, I asked a question about Bedford Lnae, and it was said that they had written a letter to the people. There are a number of people who like work. If the Government have a sense of priority, instead of squandering money on Ministers going on overseas gaunts; instead of spending money giving Permanent Secretaries housing allowances; instead of buying houses overseas - this is money that could be channelled into providing jobs for the people who would develop and build tenantry roads. I, seriously, call upon the Government to think properly and plan properly so that the people will benefit.

This idea of doing something in St. Thomas because somebody is likely to lose a seat, or of doing something in another district because you want to get rid of the senior member or the junior member as in St. Peter should stop. It is time that the Government start planning for Barbados as a unit, and any integral development must include your metropolis, Sir. It is no sense developing certain parts of Barbados for tourists and at the same time leaving the City bereft of any development. Let me issue a warning to the Government. If you continue to widen this gap by your stupidity and your stupid development; if you continue to develop Christ Church, St. James and certain parts of St. Michael and leave out the City of Bridgetown - if you continue to widen the gap between the rich and the poor in this country, then you are asking for a lot of trouble, and you are thereby sowing the seeds of revolution in this country.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Mr. Chairman, we know that water mains are being laid - especially those of us who have to travel on the Maxwell Road to go to Christ Church. We know that the Government's policy, which follows the

policy laid down by the Barbados Labour Party, is to make piped water available to every householder in Barbados. I do not think that hon. members, after hearing the speeches made from this side this afternoon, could be in any doubt that the Government wasted a great deal of money that could have been spent on providing the basic necessities of living roads, water and light for poor people in many parts of Barbados. But what we cannot understand, Sir, is this this is not the first time we have had to make these speeches. Why is it that the Government permits the Opposition or puts us in a position where we have to come into the House every three or four months and ventilate these grievances that are not only constituency grievances, but are grievances really relating to the conditions of the people of Barbados as a whole?

Now, Sir, I only have to look at the Minister of Communications and Works and say "Porey Spring", and he will know what I mean. That is something that has been going on in this House for several years. It is, I suppose, in the Minister's mind both a joke and a challenge. He is going to see how long he can fight off not only the inhabitants of Porey Spring, but also the senior member for St. Thomas and his colleagues in the Cabinet - fight us all off in not letting the people of Porey Spring have some light.

I repeat it not merely to play a familiar tune, but I repeat it because it means something; it means that, no matter how we try to talk to the Minister of Communications and Works, a certain invincible ignorance, an invincible lack of understanding of what is really required of his office surrounds him and makes it impossible for him to be amenable to reason, logic, commonsense, or to the ordinary requirements of the discharge of a public office. It is impossible for anybody with sense in his head, Sir, to hear the pleas of the hon. senior member for St. James for a proper lighting system for Highway 1, and not to make a better effort to provide lights along that Highway.

Sir, I do not think we are as badly placed for water as we are for lights on roads. That is my opinion. I could draw examples in our constituency to the Minister. For example, in Dukes Tenantry you have the finest hot water system in Barbados. The pipe is placed above ground and, as the Minister will find out if he ever went into Dukes Tenantry in St. Thomas, it is impossible to get the water to run cold from about midday until the sun has gone down. I am sure this must be the only place in Barbados where everybody washes his clothes in hot water, unless the rain happens to be falling. The pipe is above ground and the water runs hot all the time.

Sir, there are other places where, for one reason or another, the water mains do not permit a proper and even distribution of water in St. Thomas. That is only a part of his Ministry, and I do not regard those as his biggest problems. I would be happier with the Minister's conduct in his Ministry if I was not forced to believe that at every single turn where he is called upon to make a decision, political considerations, over and above the considerations of the convenience, health or the welfare of the people with whom he is dealing, are what have primacy in his mind. There cannot be any doubt in anybody's mind on that side

that the reason why there is no street lamp on Highway 2A between Shop Hill and Hillaby is that, generally speaking, along that road the Minister feels the people did not vote for him.

6.10 p.m.

I challenge any member on that side other than the Minister to get up and give an economic reason why there should be no street lamps on that main highway. Hillaby is full of lights. All the back roads of Hillaby are well lit, and I am glad for the people. If ever I go into the end of Church Gap at Hillaby, I can turn off my car lights - there is such good lighting at the turn around where there is one church and one shop and two or three houses just beyond; but on the whole of the highway there is no lighting. Sir, political consideration should play no part in the administration of the Ministry of Communications and Works.

I am going to take the hon. senior member for St. George to task too. He is not a person whom we often have to pour buckets of coal on in here, but he will have to bear some fire on his head on this occasion. On some earlier occasion in this House when he was the acting Minister and was setting out the policy for the repair of tenantry roads, he was asked by me to give an assurance that the political complexion of the tenantry would play no part in the decision whether or not to make up the roads. He dismissed that as a joke. Can he, sitting down next to the Minister of Communications, believe that the political complexion of districts plays no part in the decisions taken in that Ministry? I will give you an example, Sir, since private tenancies are to be repaired. I have repeated this before now. I believe that this is one of the more substantial districts -certainly in St. Thomas it is the most substantial with bad roads, but it is one of the more substantial districts left in the country in Barbados with unmade roads: Shop Hill, Vaocluse tenantry. There is a road which the owners of Vaocluse plantation have for six years described as a public road. It runs from Shop Hill it is 1.2 miles long and runs through to Cane Garden. It appears in the 1964 list of Vestry roads handed over to Government. The impression in the Ministry is that only a part of it is public road, only the part from Ham Pond Bottom to Cane Garden. They only have to go and measure it and they will see that the 1.2 miles cannot be made up of that part. The reason why they thought that that part is the only part that is public road is that that is the only part properly made up by the Vestry. The money ran out before they went right up the hill.

Mr. Chairman, I put it to the Minister that the reason why nothing has been done to that road, despite questions and petitions, is the fact that he does not have any political confidence in the people who live along the road, and that is totally and entirely wrong. The owners of the road say it is public, and that is all that is needed. You only have to read the Highways Act. If the owners of a road dedicate it to the public, and the old Vestry in the old days did not within three months refuse the dedication, the road became a public road. So, no matter what is thought in the Ministry, that is a fact. Sir, that road and its surrounding roads, in a quite heavily populated district such as Shop Hill, we cannot have repaired! Parliament is politics.

The Minister - talking about St. Thomas again - has a fancy for Welchman Hall. One day I told the Minister - I think it was here in the House but it may have been somewhere else - that a particular street lamp in Welchman Hall by the Bright Star Lodge was not burning. He promised to do something about it. What he did about it to the exclusion of street lights on Highway 1, to the exclusion on street lights on Highway 2B was not just to replace the bulb; he put in new street lights in Welchman Hall which already had them; but this is a district which the Minister believes he has to seek political favour in. All other hon. members who sit for country districts should bear that in mind when they look and see the shortages of street lights and other developments that should take place in their constituencies. I do not believe that a Barbados Labour Party Government would allow any Minister to get away with the development of his own constituency at the expense of others. The Minister has departed a long way from the noble words he uttered in here on an earlier occasion when he talked about Porey Spring - that he is not a Minister for St. Thomas, he is a Minister for the whole Island. They were decent words if he had lived up to them; but what I am going to accuse him of is not being a Minister for St. Thomas; I have to accuse him apparently of being a Minister for Welchman Hall. These things should be looked at.

I am going to say something else. I have a Question down about it, and perhaps the answer to the Question will clear up some of the little items which I have in my mind. There is a road at Porey Spring, St. Thomas which divides the lands of Dunscombe Plantation from a substantial acreage of woods known as Dr. Moore's Woods. It is a very bumpy, hilly little road, perhaps stretching as far as from where you sit to the dining room. Living at the corner of this road is a lady without whom the inhabitants of Porey Spring would indeed be sadly placed for light. The lady keeps a shop and has a light burning that illuminates the bus stop. Private enterprise has to illuminate the bus stop in Porey Spring. The next house is owned by an elderly couple, and the next house is lived in by a lady called Trotman against whom I once appeared in Court. She has never forgiven me for it, and she gives very whole-hearted support to the Minister of Communications. She is a bit of social pariah in Porey Spring, but that is the fate of all minorities. I admire her courage. At the top of the road there is another household of persons on the other side; so we have a road with four house son it - one that faces the main road, but three houses in this road. Can it be believed that of all the roads in St. Thomas chosen to be repaired by the Minister is this road that has his one supporter? I have taken the opinions of the other two households that reside in the road, and they said that the road does not need repairing as far as they are concerned. They would prefer a light. The first words of the person who showed the Minister of Communications around were: "Can you tell me where Doriel Trotman lives up here? The Minister says that she is to have her road fixed". This is not the owners of the road, Dunscombe Plantation, and Mr. Ben Moore; it is somebody who rents in the road. I dare suppose the Minister will get up and deny this, but the lady is reported to me as having said that the Minister backed a note for her at the bank to buy a van to put her produce in, and she cannot have the van licked up to prevent her from being able to pay for it. If it is untrue, I am sure the Minister will get up and deny it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

That has absolutely nothing to do with the Resolution under discussion.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I will, get up and deny it if he denies that he has stopped beating his wife.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Can't the Minister see that if he backs a note for a woman to buy a van and the woman then complains that the road in which she has to keep the van is bumpy, then he is abusing his official position to have the road repaired because he has a financial interest in what he is doing? Can't he see that? Does he know what corruption means? Now, Sir, he has given his answer. We do not have to pursue that. That is what I mean by not having any faith in the administration of the Ministry. You may say that I am the Minister's opponent politically and at constituency level, but the Minister has also achieved the distinction that from his Permanent Secretary back down to his Technical Officers have agitated for his removal with the Prime Minister. Let him get up and deny that. 6.20 p.m.

If there was ever a politically subservient Permanent Secretary, it is Mr. Thompson.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would like the hon. member to get on with the Resolution.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

Sir, I am attacking the conduct of the Ministry which presents this supplementary, and I am saying that the House has to view any supplementary presented by the Minister of Communications with distrust because we cannot trust him, and the reason why we cannot trust him is that his own officials cannot trust him; if they have no confidence in him, why should we have it? If they have no confidence in the administrations of the Ministry of Communications and Works by the junior member for St. Thomas, why should we have it? If the Permanent Secretary had any guts, he would say "Well, make it him or me, and make the Government decide", and I believe that the Government in those circumstances would be right to decide to keep the Minister. Let me just go on record as saying that if the Permanent Secretary is man enough, he and the Technical Officers, if they feel themselves important enough to be putting their names to documents and making representations about the ill manner in which the Minister of Communications conducts himself - if they are prepared to do that, they should also be prepared to stand by the consequences, and Government should not be papering over the cracks which exist in the administration of this Ministry. If the Prime Minister makes up his mind to do something, he should not be put off by the revelations which from time to time have fallen from the lips, not of persons from this side, but of persons of that side because the Permanent Secretary is not going to tell us his complaints and his grumbles; he has no confidence in us. The Chief Technical Director, after the handling that the

hon. junior member for St. Peter gave him, is going to invite 'Minding my Business' to turn its guns on the Minister; but if he cannot stand the strain these things should not be pasted over.

If a Ministry is in such a foul condition that the Civil Servants cannot work happily or properly in it, these are matters which the House should know. If the Minister is thought to have the ability to carry on another Ministry, give him the Ministry of Trade; he would not have anything to do there. I heard an Aside to the effect that you should give him the Ministry of Education, but I do not think we can do that; that would be too wicked; I do not think he would learn anything; he has passed the age. On the question of water mains, and just to come down to what I am sure will make you very happy - the four corners of the Resolution itself - I will be happy to think that something which last year in this House we had to canvas - namely that the water supplies were being laid on to facilitate Southern and West Coast developments, and to do things for the developers which allowed them to increase the value of their property, and to increase the potential of their developments - is not pursued in such a way as to exclude water main developments for the poor people of Barbados. Those developers are very well able to pay for all the new water supplies, all the piping and everything else that is needed for the new water supplies where they are carrying on their business - and I think that water supplies is in fact one of the revenue-earning branches of this particular Ministry, and that hotel developers have to pay as anybody else on the main developments, and big water mains in Christ Church are being laid down, not for the house sin the estates where Barbadians live; they are being laid down to make it possible to build more hotels.

There is nothing for suggesting that Development Duty is charged on the increased value of land that is served by a bigger water main; Development Duty is charged as a matter of course where the Government built the East Coast Road, but I never heard of its being charged where the Government is providing something just as important - the commercial development of an area, namely a bigger water supply. I have never heard of its being charged when these spots of land are bought in Christ Church, and Town Planning permission is sought, by fair means or foul, to cut them into these lots and build hotels and so on, and the Government is then requested, because the planning permission has been given and it cannot go ahead until the water main is laid down. A piece of the increased value of the sales and this cutting up of a development should accrue to the Government by reason of its having laid down the infrastructural developments to make it possible. Private developers have to put in their own roads, but they do not actually put in their own water mains. That is the service provided by Government, and Government is in a position by reason of the Land Development Duty Act to gain a part of the increased value of the land, made more valuable by reason of water main connections. These are matters which have been canvassed and outlined in this Honourable House before, and I hope that greater attention will be given to them at this stage.

The Ministry of Communications and Works, Head 102, Part 11 - Capital, is in a mess, but we must not allow the mess that the Ministry is in to prevent us from allowing poor people to get their water mains, even if not their standposts. I only hope that attention will be paid to the general dissatisfaction of

the public, his colleagues and his subordinates in the Civil Service with the present Minister of Communications and Works, but in the meantime I for one will be supporting this Resolution.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, anyone sitting in the Gallery of the House who is a Parliamentarian or Statesman would certainly come to the conclusion that this was a Congress of Ambassadors each representing his own section, or as in the early days when I came in here they used to refer to me as a parish pump politician because at the time you only represented your parish and spoke about it; but I think all of us will support this Resolution.

For the years I have been here - and I believe the Leader of the Opposition and other Ministers were here long enough to know - whenever the Government came for money for the extension of water supplies or doing anything with water, they brought in a plan drawn by the Water Works Department to show the Assembly, this Hon. Chamber, exactly where they were running, extending or doing anything with water, and they always pinpointed the spot where they intended putting the water. This in itself would avoid anyone saying things just to suit their friends or their constituents or whatever the case may be. I wonder if the Minister can tell me, if it is verified by the Leader of the House that what I am saying is correct, if he can pass that plan for us to see, because then we will know what is going to be done. All the Addendum says is:

Supplementary provision in the sum of \$12,400 is required to continue this Ministry's programme for the laying of water mains during this financial year.

I am sure we are as much entitled today as we were 10, 20 or 30 years ago, and I hope the leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition will agree with me that this is absolutely necessary. I do not want to talk anything about street lights, because despite the vilification thrown around me, I do not think they can remove my image so easily from people in this municipal area, because I remember well when I took up active politics in this parish there were only 200 street lights. I just want to say that this is not a thing that can be done by Civil Servants; you must have some sort of civic pride in doing this business, and people must do as I have done with the Lighting Committees - walk around night after night to select places for lights with the Electric Company marking the poles where we intended to put the lights. 6.30 p.m.

I agree with the Government in carrying on a programme of lighting from Seawell to Speights-town. I have always advocated that, and it seems necessary to me. To tell me that any Minister of Communications and Works or any Permanent Secretary can just sit down and tell the Electric Company

to go and put down lights is a joke. In Carrington Village they have replaced the lights by fluorescent bulbs; in Chapmans Lane and New Orleans they have done the same thing. Wherever I had an opportunity, during my term of office to put street lights they have just installed fluorescent bulbs. I have no doubt within my mind that they would like to carry out this programme down there. I am worried about some of these sites for lights.

Sir, I hope the Hon. Minister will give me the actual plan. It is the duty of the Water Works Surveyor to provide the House of Assembly with a plan, and it has been so from the time it was a House of Assembly.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

Sir, I support the hon. member in what he has said. I can remember no occasion for the years that I have been in here when this sort of thing came before us without a proper plan. I am not talking about a small plan; in some cases we had a plan as wide as this Table. Whether the Government consciously anticipated such criticism as "You have to put in water mains near your friend's house, " when we were in the Government we did it, and when we are in the Opposition we look out for it. This sort of thing is automatic; all of these years it became the normal practice to provide a plan that could be passed around from member to member to see exactly where the main was going. I strongly support what the hon. member has said,

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I believe enough has been said on this Resolution by various members, but it is for each member to bring to the fore conditions in his own constituency. I am sure that the Minister knows quite readily that I would like to know what is the situation with the water mains at the middle of Benn Hill, St. Peter. I have asked that question time and time again; the Minister has promised that something will be done, and I think this is a good opportunity for the Minister to tell us what is the latest development there.

In addition to this, I think I can say that along the Prospect and Fitts Village area there are some houses, and I am sure that complaints have been made to the Water Works Department about discoloration of the water supply in their homes. I believe some sort of test has been carried out, and I feel that the Minister would be in a position to tell us what is the cause of this, as far as the Department can ascertain. I can say that whatever it is in the water is staining basins and so on in the house. I draw it to the Minister's attention so that he can carry out a survey or do whatever is necessary to determine what is really wrong.

Mr. Chairman, the Addendum to this Resolution, surprisingly enough, tells us absolutely nothing about this money being wanted for Government's programme with reference to tenantry roads. We only learnt that from the Minister's mouth. Since we find that Government has started on its programme for repairing these tenantry roads, laying water mains and so on, we take it for granted that the circulars sent out by Government recently when the hon. senior member for St. George was the acting Minister - he told us that circulars had been sent out to owners of tenancies. Hearing the reference to Drax Hall, we must now come to the conclusion that Government has received replies so that it can determine what tenancies should receive prior attention over the others.

Mr. Chairman, we have heard that the politics of a particular area must be associated with playing some part in influencing Government's action in a particular area. That in itself would be bad, but in my constituency, St. Peter, I have complained in this Honourable House that we have pipes at Boscobelle where people are still getting an intermittent supply of water - at the Mount, St. Peter, and at the Mount, St. Andrew. There are pipes where people get water less than 3 hours out of 24 hours. At the corner of Welch Town and Prospect Road and Benny Hall, a similar condition obtains there. What can the Minister say about these things?

Mr. Chairman, they are going out to Drax Hall to lay water mains, but nobody has any complaints about that. We are glad to see these services carried to the people. If the Government were to decide that this particular area supports the Government at election time and it should give the area water mains, some day it must come to the end in supplying its own people. I feel much happier canvasing the support of a satisfied people who have water and electricity than bloodthirsty people - people who feel that they have been neglected. Whatever is being done by the Government today, we are satisfied that wherever you go in this Island people are satisfied that the members of the Opposition had to goad the Government into action.

Mr. Chairman, we want them to carry on their programme as fast as they can. Let everybody get something; but we would really like to know what is the position with regard to the intermittent supply of water in the areas I have mentioned. 6.40 p.m.

As for lighting, Mr. Chairman, everyone knows that in the parish of St. Peter as in most country districts, you will find, may be, a half of a mile of roadway where nobody lives on the side of the road, but then you have these side avenues. We want Government to look into all these cases. We are satisfied, as I said, that all roads cannot be served at the same time; but there is one thing that gets me real sick, and it is to hear a Minister say that we are doing this and that for the tourist area. We are calling on the Minister, if he has a plan for this extended programme, to let us see what it looks like, because I am sure that every hon. member on this side would like to know that the Minister is not taking the opportunity to place water services only at friends of the Democratic Labour Party. We realise from

the mouth of the Minister that it took something like five years for Government to meet the requests of the Drax Hall people. I am hoping that we will not find that in other areas, and, particularly in the parish of St. Peter, that the people will not have to wait for five years from the time I made the first complaint on their behalf to have it answered. I well remember the Minister telling us that when the Alleynedale Well was completed what an improvement would be had in the water services in the area. Surely the Minister ought to be in a position now to tell us what development has taken place in this respect.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, the truth is that I did not feel to answer, but I am going to reply to the hon. senior member for St. Thomas first and deal with him. We heard a lot of vituperations and vilifications and talk about incompetence. Let me say this here and now. If as he says somebody cannot work with me, I want him to understand that I am a Barbadian and I have nowhere to go, and those who cannot work with me, that is their business. But that is also news to me.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, I think I can help the Minister an this point.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I am not giving way.

Mr. HINDS:

I am on a point of order. That is the reason why nobody can work with him. The unfortunate position in which he finds himself with this person and the other person saying that they do not want to work with him.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I am afraid that is not a point of order.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, you have not given me an opportunity to develop my point of order. Be fair to an hon. member.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I am fair to every hon. member, but I am afraid that is not a point of order. There are now two hon. members on their feet and I would prefer to have both sit. I will now hear the hon. Junior member for St. Thomas.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

The hon. junior member for St. Peter who just got up is saying that somebody cannot work with me. He had to work with whom he had to work with at Station Hill, because there was no alternative.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

That is not a part of this debate.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, when I saw him receiving a bunch of stolen green bananas, he should be at Station Hill. Let him deny it. He knows it is true.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

The hon. member for St. Peter said he saw me with a bunch of stolen green bananas. Maybe it was in Norwood canes, but I never went to prison for them; but he cannot deny that he went to prison on more than one occasion.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would certainly like the Hon. Minister to get on with the Resolution.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I am getting on with it, but I had to reply as Minister. Now the hon. senior member for St. Thomas vituperated and almost became abusive. He knows so much.....

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

On a point of order, would the Minister like to tell me what is the difference between vituperating and becoming abusive?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

No point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

This is the problem, Mr. Chairman. I allowed him to talk, rant and rave and say everything possible that was disrespectful about me. That did not worry me because when he asked me to deny some statement, I asked him to get up and deny that he had stopped beating his wife.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

That again is not part of this Resolution.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

No, it is not, but it is part of the speech. The hon. senior member for St. Thomas said that he told me something about a street light in Welchman Hall and I went and changed all the lights in Welchman Hall. Even if that were so, I am the Minister. (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY You don't deny it!) I have nothing to admit or deny. (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY What about the green bananas?)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Conduct of hon. members not speaking. Let the hon. member proceed.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I received green bananas, just as some people's father received a lot of underhand goods.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

Mr. Chairman, how long is this going on? I suggest that you adjourn the House if this is going on. It is utterly disgraceful.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Why didn't you want it adjourned when your son was talking? I am going to deal with all of you now because I am able. I am different from you; I am not senile yet. The hon. member said that I changed the

lights in St. Thomas. Now that I have changed the lights in Welchman Hall, he wants lights put in Porey Spring, but they already have lights in Welchman Hall. He complained about a bulb and the bulb was changed, and he is annoyed about that.

Mr. J. M G. M. ADAMS:

On a point of order, what I said was not that I asked for the lights to be changed. I asked for a bulb to be changed, and the whole lighting system was changed after I had asked for one bulb outside the Bright Star.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Point made.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

The hon. member was talking about sense. He has all the sense in the world, but I want him to understand that I did not get my education out of the sweat and toil of the masses of Barbados, nor did my father steal anything for me as some people's father did for them. All I got I worked assiduously and hard for.

Mr. J. M G. M, ADAMS:

On a point of order, let me make this point. It was known that my father was a member of this House. Can it possibly be in order, when the hon. member is referring to my education, for him to say anything about a father stealing for somebody to get an education? Whom could he possibly be referring to but a member of this House. That is a distinct accusation. I cannot help it if I was well educated.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, are you going to let the hon. member make a second speech? I said that my father did not steal. Does the hon. member mean that his father stole? That would be his father's business. I know about my father, I do not know about his.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, an hon. member has objected to something as a breach of the rules. Will you rule on it? That is a valid point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I could not believe that the Minister was referring to any hon. member of this Chamber.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

But you should rule on it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I said I could not believe that, and that is my ruling.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

But you did not say so. 6.50 p.m.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I could not believe that the Hon. Minister was referring to any hon. member of this Chamber, and that is my ruling.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

As I was saying, Mr. Chairman, I want the hon. member to understand, if I can really say "honourable", because when I use the word "honourable" to address some members of the opposite side, my jaw seems to dislocate.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

For the hon. member's information, every member of this Chamber is an honourable member and must be referred to as such. Let the hon. member proceed.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

What I have said is when I use the word "honourable" in addressing some members, my jaw tends to dislocate.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, is it in order for any hon. member . to reflect on the rules of this House by saying that when he has to obey the rules in his manner of speaking, his jaw tends to dislocate? I submit to you that that is a reflection upon the rules of this House and on you, Sir.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I do not know that I cannot have a dislocated jaw; when I heard the bad behaviour from the junior member for St. Joseph only last week when he challenged the Chair and said that you do not know English and that sort of thing, where was he then? He was looking to come in here to eat, but I warned them before they started that there would be no dinner tonight; so there is no need to prolong this debate. (ASIDES.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would remind hon. members that this sitting has not yet been suspended.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

The senior member for St. Thomas said that no doctor has told him to change his cook, but he might have told him to embrace a different woman.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Could I really get the hon. member to proceed with the Resolution under discussion?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I do not intend to let them get away with anything in here, Mr. Chairman; the senior member for St. Thomas said that I was doing some road for somebody because they borrowed money from me. If the person borrowed money from me, it is my money, not his; but the point is that he is representing people, and for Christmas, somebody asked him for \$5.00 and he nearly chucked the person out of his office, which shows the lowness and depravity of some people that, we have in our community.

Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS:

On a point of order, Sir, I take objection under the rule that says that one member should not impute improper motives to another. The hon. member says that I refused to give \$5.00 to somebody who asked me for money as Christmas, but that is no more than obeying the conditions of the Corrupt and Malicious Practices Act, even if it were true. It is not in order to bribe people. But then he went on to say

that that shows the lowness and depravity; no matter what follows that, I would respectfully submit to you that he is saying that an act of an hon. member was an act of lowness and depravity. I submit that he is saying that an act of mine was an act of lowness and depravity.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would have to ask the Reporter to have the words taken down because I am not in a position to rule now, and I would not be able to allow any debate during this time. (A PAUSE). I see here "Somebody asked him for \$5.00 and he nearly chucked the person out of his office, which shows the lowness and depravity of some people that we have in our community." I do not deem these words to be out of order. (ASIDES.), I have ruled and that stays; let the hon. member proceed.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. The senior member for Christ Church made one or two good points, but he did not go far enough; as a matter of fact, he made it quite clear that he was not accusing me of any misdemeanour or any malpractice, but what he was saying was that the work in certain programmes takes too long, which I agree with; but when the junior member for the City is going to start talking about somebody not doing a road because somebody voted for him, , I warned him already about this nonsense which he perpetrates, because it is not true, and he knows it is not true; but some people just cannot help making statements that they like to believe. I told him some time in this same Chamber that I was going to ask his father to get a bigger pair of shoes for his feet so that when he gets them in his mouth he would not be able to say anything at all. 7.00 PAH.

When he speaks he does not say anything constructive.

Now, the hon. senior member for the City asked about plans for the thing.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. Not a bit of that. You will either say what I ask for or do not say it at all. I did not ask for the plans for the thing.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

There are two hon. members on their feet.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I rose on a point of order. Did you hear me ask for any plans for the thing?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, he asked for the plans of the area, but I have not seen the plans. If he wants me to describe the area I can do so.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The work is not properly done. The Permanent Secretary must get the plan.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I am not saying that there should not be a plan. I said that I do not have a plan. Do you think I have it at home?

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. A plan should have been produced in here. You can ask the Leader of the House whether that is so.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, he gets up on a point of order and then goes on to debate the matter. He is making a speech.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

I am taking a leaf out of your book.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

You are not taking a leaf out of my book; otherwise you would learn something. You are taking a leaf out of Grantley's book, because you are only jumping up at the wrong time.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

It is now seven o'clock.

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER:

It now being seven o'clock this sitting is automatically suspended until 7.45 p.m.

On Resumption:-

Mr. SPEAKER:

When this sitting was suspended the House was in Committee of Supply, and to that it automatically now reverts.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

When the sitting was suspended the hon. senior member for the City was speaking on a point of order.

The question is.....

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

No, Sir. As I said earlier, I made certain remarks in here about the tenantry in Dunlow Lane. One would have expected the Minister to have the decency to get up and say something about Dunlow Lane.

I do not expect him to fix Chapman Lane, Sir, for the reasons I have stated before. This is the sort of policy that certain African leaders used to indulge in. Any part of the country that does not support you, you must not give them any sort of social amenities at all. That is the reason why the people in Chapman Lane are suffering.

Mr. Chairman, instead of the Minister getting up and telling the House something about Dunlow Lane, he talks about somebody putting his foot in his mouth. I may put my foot in my mouth, but nobody has ever yet signed any petition and sent it to anybody asking to remove me in the interest of efficiency in connection with any work. It is a well-known fact that the Technical Director, the Permanent Secretary and others signed a petition asking the Prime Minister or stating that in the interest of efficiency the Minister of Communications and Works should be removed from that Ministry. I am not surprised that they signed the petition, Sir, when you hear the nonsense the Minister talked today. Sir, the Minister believes that if somebody attacks him on principle, he must get up and abuse him personally. That is his only means of answering people, but it shows the mentality of the Minister. It is disgraceful, when you come here to debate something and you talk about policy, for the Minister to get up and lower himself to the depth of attacking somebody personally.

Mr. Chairman, I do not mind the reference to my father. I am proud of my father and I am not ashamed of him. That is more than a lot of members on the Government Benches can say about their fathers - and, indeed, the Minister for that matter. Let the Minister know that all of these dirty, nasty.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would certainly like the hon. member to confine his remarks to the matter under discussion.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, certain remarks were made in here about people's fathers stealing this and doing that.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I have already ruled that that has absolutely nothing to do with the debate. 7.50 p.m.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

You have ruled, Mr. Chairman, that it has nothing to do with the debate and I accept it. But let me say this let the Minister realise in future that when he comes in here he must debate policy and principles, and let him forget this idea of abusing somebody personally, because any time the Minister attempts to

abuse me personally, I will get up and answer him back. I am not afraid of the Minister. He said things about me that did not make any difference to the people who sent me here. I do not care about the nonsense he talked about some people's fathers, but I issue the warning to Government to fix the tenantry in Dunlow Lane. You are fixing those in the rural areas because you have certain representatives there. The Minister can talk about fixing Welchman Hall, but let him go into Dun-low Lane which is less than five minutes' walk outside the City and see the state of the roads there. They are appalling. Let him go in Chapman Lane where people live, and if they do not intend to develop the place for the people, the least they can do is to put in lights for them. The Minister must remember that but for the grace of God he could be living in that area; but for the grace of God, anyone of us could be living there; and how would we feel? People working up to 10 o'clock and 11 o'clock at night in the fish market have to walk across Chapman Lane. The roads are in bad condition and the tenantry is owned by the Government. Do you mean you cannot put some street lights in it? Can't you put some water so that they can bathe when they go home at night? This idea of getting up and playing you are powerful and not afraid of anyone does not work. The Minister cannot look at me and tell me I am old, because I am younger than he is. He would not tell me that I am foolish, because I think that an insult from a fool is a compliment, and I do not think he would attempt to compliment me that way. I should just like the Minister to get up and tell me whether he will put some lights in Chapman Lane until he moves the people. Let him talk about the roads in Dunlow Lane and the absence of a water main. Everybody knows what happened with the fires in Bridgetown where you had water mains. Imagine what would happen in a place like Dunlow Lane if there is a fire tonight. Where are you going to bring the water from? Are you going to ask the owner to attach a hose to 'the big house up there? It is disgraceful when you take into consideration the person who owns the tenantry, the position he holds in this country and the fact that he has been appointed, by the Government, for Government to tolerate the sort of conditions that exist in Dunlow Lane, Phillips Land, in Bedford Lane - all City areas; and all we hear is that the Government has written the owners of the tenancies and that they are going to put in water mains.

Mr. Chairman, the people in this country are unemployed and are looking for work. I grant you that you do not have much money, but that is all the more reason why you must spend your limited resources for the benefit of the people of this country. To buy houses overseas may benefit the Ministers.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would like to warn the hon. member about Standing Order No. 36(1).

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

What does that say? I do not have my Rules before me and I would be grateful if you would read it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

That Rule speaks about irrelevance or tedious repetition, and that is what I would at this time like to

warn the hon. member about.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Sir, all I am saying is that this is a Resolution dealing with extension of water mains, etc. Members got up and talked about private tenancies - both the hon. senior, and junior members for Christ Church - and you did not tell them anything about irrelevance.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I gave every hon. member quite a lot of latitude on this, but what I am saying now is that I should like hon. members to observe Standing Order No. 36(1).

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I am very sorry if hon. members did not have dinner. It is not my fault that dinner was not ordered. If they come here to do the business of the House....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

That has absolutely nothing to do with the Resolution, and I do not understand any hon. member shouting like this.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Sir, let me get something straight. I do not shout if you do not shout. If you shout, I will shout.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I said that dinner or anything has nothing to do with the Resolution. We are now dealing with water mains.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

All I am asking the Government to do is to have some pity in the poor people in Bridgetown. If you say you have a limited supply of money, all we ask Government to do is to use the money properly so that people can have proper amenities, better lighting and water mains. You should use it so that the people of this country can benefit, and part of those people who must benefit are the ones who live in the City, not only the people in Christ Church, St. James, or Drax Hall in St. George. As I said earlier, if you

develop the country and leave the City of Bridgetown, you are creating a sore in this country that will one day explode, and if the City explodes, the rest of the country will explode eventually.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I made certain points to which I do not know if the Minister replied. Is the Minister in a position to reply to the points made about discoloration of the water supply to some houses in St. James and what is the position with regard to the mains at mid Benn Hill and the pipes at Welch Town, Prospect and Benny Hall Corner? The Minister said that there was an engineering problem at the top and bottom of Ben Hill, but the houses in the middle.....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

If the hon. member would give way, with regard to the Benn Hill area, this is very unusual. It is unusual to get water at the top and at the bottom and not in the middle. I do not know about this. 8.00 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I think something has gone amiss somewhere; I do not think the Minister is on the ball at this time because this question of mid Benn Hill - I remember the Minister last time saying that this was an engineering problem and he had hoped to overcome the difficulty after the Alleyndale well had been sunk.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

All I can promise the hon. member is that I will look into the whole matter; my colleague has told me that he has just seen some mains being laid along the road; so most likely they will be bringing new mains in from the Alleyndale well to help the Benn Hill area so that they will then get a full and adequate supply in the area. As to the discoloration of the water, has this been going on constantly or spasmodically?

Mr. HINDS:

Constantly.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

This Is very unusual, and if this la so it means that rust is in the water.

Mr. HINDS:

What I am saying is that reports were made to the Water Works Department, and I know that they sent out a man who took samples of the water from some of the houses; but I want to know what were the results of his tests.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

All I can tell the hon. member is that I will find out, but I cannot tell him offhand. I am very glad to hear that nobody has suffered as a result of contamination or anything like this.

Mr. CORBIN:

Mr. Chairman, the real explanation is that the pipe at the top of the hill has not been connected to the one at the bottom, so that there is a gap which would take only a few lengths of pipe to connect them and that would solve the problem.

Mr. HINDS:

I think that is the true assessment of the situation and I think the Minister told us that that was the case some time ago, but undoubtedly, the Minister is getting so much confusion in his own Ministry that it has thrown him off.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

No, Mr. Chairman, I object to that. Does he expect me to remember everything? He frequents the area more than I do so he would know more about the problem; but surely he does not expect me to know about every problem, , Bring it to my attention and I will Investigate it.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, as regards this sum of money that we are asked to vote here, this \$12,400, is all of the money to be spent in the Drax Hall area?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Yes.

Mr. HINDS:

It is only fair and reasonable for us to ask the Minister what has happened that he has not found it possible to come with a Resolution for more money to cover wider areas; why could not Drax Hall wait until the end of the financial year? What are we hearing now about waiting until the end of the financial year? As I intimated earlier, the senior member for St. George told this House about two weeks ago that Government would have been attending to these tenantry roads, granting priority status to some roads as against others; is it now that the people in the Drax Hall area have been found to be suffering worse than the people at Benn Hill or Lonesome Hill for that matter, or in other areas? There are people in the same Benn Hill area who have been suffering for 30, 40 or more years; the people at Drax Hall have complained five years ago; that is what the Minister has said; so why have we not got a comprehensive Resolution to cover some of the areas that need attention in St. Peter, in St. George, in Christ Church, In the City of Bridgetown, in St. James and other areas? What has gone wrong? On what basis has the Minister decided to single out Drax Hall for special attention at this time? Why could not Drax Hall wait until the end of the financial year, as I am hearing in an aside from the senior member for St. George? What is in Drax Hall that you are trying to catch up with?

Mr. Chairman, this is a case where the Government has listened to the cries of the poor people at Drax Hall for five years; I am advancing the cries and the claims of the people of mid Benn Hill for ten times five years. They have been waiting longer than the people at Drax Hall, and the situation is this; it is much easier to serve a greater number of people at Benn Hill, and I am sure that it could not cost - I am not an engineer to go into details in matters of this sort - but looking at it as a layman and the length of pipe that would be necessary in the circumstances, I do not see that it could cost one-third of what is going to be spent here on Drax Hall.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, if the hon. member would give way, he is just misleading the House. There is no point in going and putting in a main if you do not have water to put into the main; that would be just wasting time. As I have pointed out to the hon. member before, we have just sunk a well at Alleynedale, we intend to run from Alleynedale to various parts of the place to a reservoir; so what would be the point in putting a main in Benn Hill if there would be no water to go through it? You have to wait until the main from the Alleynedale well is producing the water to do this; but in the Drax Hall area it is a different thing altogether, because this is only an extension that we are doing; a main is already there. They are two completely different things.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Chairman, it is not a question of not being able to get water; it is that certain people who would apply for domestic services find themselves in some sort of difficulty, and hence there is the need for a separate main. It is not that the people of Benn Hill, St. Peter can get no water; that is not the situation.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, there is no point in Barbados that we can say that people cannot get water; you can get water if you walk five miles for it.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

That is not a point of order, Mr. Chairman; I continue. I am telling the Committee that it is not a situation in which there is no water in Benn Hill or that residents therein find themselves unable to get water; but when certain people living along the Benn Hill area apply for a domestic service, there is some difficulty encountered. 8.10 p.m.

I know enough about this without ranting or shouting, tearing or screaming, which is not my usual habit. I am perfectly sure that this is not the first occasion when Government has been apprised of this, but, now that the Minister is fully apprised of what is actually wanted, I am sure that mains can be laid down to correct the difficulty. It is as simple as that.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I am glad to hear that it is as simple as that. What seems not to be so simple is that the Minister of Agriculture seems not to have thought of the difficulty of these people, and that is why it is simple to him. It is now simple because he accuses somebody of shouting and so on. As soon as somebody shouts, he says that it is as simple as that. We want the mains laid. From the time the Alleyndale well was sunken, it is high time, from the time the Minister promised to look after the matter, that something more should have been done. I feel that the matter is entitled to prior consideration when compared with Drax Hall. I cannot see why the people who live in mid-Benn Hill, who have made applications time and again to the Water Works Department, cannot be served in the same way as householders in other areas like Drax Hall will be served. It is not fair to those people.

Mr. Chairman, we must appreciate the fact that the idea or the decision of the Government to attend to tenantry roads is a good one. Nobody wants to deny that; but the way in which the Government seems to be dealing with the matter is one which cannot find favour on this side of the House, if it is to continue as it is going on at the moment. We will have at every stage and on every occasion to resist any attempt by the Government to take the taxpayers' money and merely dish it out amongst its friends. That is what it amounts to.

I understand that the district known as Drax Hall has been somewhat impressed, at least up to the

elections of 1966, by the Democratic Labour Party. We appreciate the fact that any Government in office will try, when the opportunity presents itself, to show favour in a particular quarter; but what we are saying is that it must not be done to the total exclusion of others. Here is a case where we are now going to look after the people at Drax Hall. I am happy to see them being looked after; but I have already drawn the attention of this Hon. House and the hon. Minister in particular to the fact that the stand pipes at the Mount, St. Peter, give people less than three hours' water supply in 24 hours. I have repeated this time and time again. We appreciate that the Minister cannot carry everything in his head, but what we are saying is that we have to do much more now than merely stand on the floor of this House and draw certain things to the attention of Ministers.

Mr. Chairman, I do not for a single moment think that spending all of this money at Drax Hall can satisfy anybody except the few people who live there. It tends to create more envy in others. Who knows what will happen; (ASIDES.) If the hon. member wants to talk, he can get up and do so. The senior member for the City mentioned that the custom was to produce plans which could be shown to members of this House. What we now observe is that apparently, the Minister has never seen one. This in our view, is a striking example of the bad personal relationships between the Minister and some people who should have been in possession of this particular plan. If it is found that the Minister has a team of advisers, technical officers, experts, or whatever you might call them, working under him but at no point at his direction, then we are not to be blamed for the situation.

You will also see, Mr. Chairman, that this sum of \$12,400 is going to prove in the long run to be a mere drop in the bucket in relation to what this Drax Hall project is going to cost. It is a mere drop in the bucket, because if one looks at the Addendum it tells us that it is only to the end of the Financial Year. Now, the Water Works Department employed about five hundred casual workers last month in the laying of mains in various districts. We are now at the end of January, and we have two months more to go to reach the end of the financial year. 8.20 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, we are now at the end of January and we have two months more to go. Is Government going to spend \$6,200 or thereabouts for the next two months in this Drax Hall project and the laying of water mains? Or are they going to spend more on the project? It has been said by the Minister, though not stated in the Addendum, that this is for the Drax Hall project.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Chairman, with regard to the water situation in the Lower Mount in St. Peter, I can say that I have had conversations with the Ministry of Works on this matter, and I know the situation very well. What is happening in that area is that the pressure is low. I remember being personally instrumental in having a standpipe moved from one spot to another, and at that time it was regarded that that change did improve the water pressure. Now for some reason or another the pressure has gone very low. This has been

forcibly brought to the attention of the appropriate Ministry, and I want the Committee to know that the Ministry has already given me the assurance that this matter will be very urgently attended to. I just rise to make that clarification as I am interested in the water situation in this Island in a very global manner, and more particularly in the parish of Saint Peter as it affects the water consumers.

We know that especially in the crop season, and more especially in these days when the building trade consumes as much water, that in the eastern part of the parish - Boscobelle, Mount, Gays and in the contiguous area of the parish of St. Lucy known as Grave Yard district - this difficulty is annually encountered. I remember many an incident in my early campaign years of more than 15 years ago with the water situation in the Boscobelle Area Including the Upper and Lower Mount, Gays, Date Tree Hill, Grave Yard District, and the Indian Ground and Four Hills area, and I know that the Ministry of Works is being contacted on this situation affecting the residents in the parish of St. Peter, and I am sure that it is a matter of priority.

Again let me say that like any other hon. member I view globally, as the Minister must of necessity do, the water situation in Barbados as a whole, especially at this time of the year when the crop is soon to start, and the water is becoming more and more of a problem as the building trade continues. In certain areas like the high lands of St. Peter, it is a question of pressure, and the appropriate Minister has to use all the possible means at his disposal in getting behind his technical people, because many of these problems are indeed technical, and we can only hope that in the very near future we will be able to boost these pressures that tend to decline at certain times of the year, especially during the harvesting season.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, when one looks at the situation broadly, one is faced with a number of standpipes with no water flowing through them. You are not going to use the \$12,400 to see if you can correct the situation with these pipes, but you are leaving these pipes for consumers in the districts to go and draw a bucket of air. I heard the hon. senior member for St. Peter, while addressing the House, make reference to an incident, and I really thought he was going to bring to life the case of a murder that was committed some years ago in Boscobelle when the Waterworks Department's motor lorry went down there giving people a pail full of water. Out of that very system a murder evolved. These are things we regret; but what we are asking now is that since you have a number of standpipes scattered throughout St. Peter and in other parishes that can only supply people with water for three hours out of twenty-four, Government's first duty is to see that the standpipes already erected are of fullest service to the people. There is no point having them there and going somewhere else and erecting other pipes, laying other mains and what not. What we are saying is that these dry standposts in St. Peter deserve first consideration in any programme of water development in this Island. We have been told about wells being sunk, and we have heard from the Minister of Agriculture how one stand-post had been moved from one place to another in the hope that it would relieve the situation. He went on to tell us that having removed it in truth and in fact does not serve the purpose. This is where the Minister needs technical advice. We want to be told what is wrong.

MOMENT OF INTERRUPTION Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The moment of interruption having arrived; as from now only non-controversial business may be proceeded with. If there is any non-controversial matter, I can leave the Chair and such business may be proceeded with.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, the Resolution for \$4, 180.

8.30 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, this is going to be equally as controversial, or more so, than any other.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, the point is this. If he is saying that this is controversial, he will be forcing us to incur expenditure without the approval of the House, and the hon. member knows exactly what this is all about.

Mr. HINDS:

Other members say they will do it. Mr. Speaker left the Chair and Mr. CHAIRMAN resumed the Chair.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1969-70, No.60

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass. If hon. members want to ask any

questions I will answer them.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. HINDS:

I want to know what the programme is.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This involves, Mr. Chairman, an official dinner and reception at Government House on Saturday evening, a tour around the country on Sunday, visits to schools and the University on Monday and other places of interest, a visit to Parliament and visits to schools.

Mr. HINDS:

What schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

To Queen's College, and I believe the Deacons Primary as well as the College of Arts.

Mr. HINDS:

Will you take her down to Boscobelle in St. Peter and show her the flooring down there where school children are breaking up their shoe soles, and the yard at the school which needs paving? Will you go down to Black Bess and show her the cramped conditions under which the children live? Are you going to show her these things?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I will be dishonest if I were to say "yes", because that kind of visit is not planned. The hon. member has some idea of what sort of programme is made up for an official visit, and this is no more nor no less.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I would like to know if this money that is being voted is to meet the cost of the State Reception alone or whether it is to meet the cost of other things, such as lunches which ought to be at the expense of the Ministers out of the allowances they draw every month.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, the breakdown is as follows Return passages between New York and Barbados - \$640.

Mr. HINDS:

Are we paying her passage? Hon. J. C. TUDOR Yes.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Are we paying the passage at prices before the devaluation or after? Are we paying the passages that the Prime Minister said the airlines should be prosecuted for?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I have to assume that hon. members opposite are as much in favour of welcoming this lady as members on this side are, and I really cannot see the point of all this. The hon. members have asked for a breakdown, and I am giving it,

Mr. HINDS:

Which airline is she travelling by? B.W.I.A.? That is why the hon. junior member for the City is asking if we are paying pre-devaluation fares or post-devaluation fares; we are serious about this matter.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, they could not be serious on a matter like this. Hon. members know that we have invited an African woman, the President of the 24th Session of the General Assembly, the second of two.....

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I think the Minister is losing sight of the question; what we are trying to find out is if the Government is paying pre-devaluation fares or post-devaluation fares, because

I do not think it is fair for the Prime Minister to have carried on on television.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

That is no point of order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I do not know what flight she is travelling by; I know the time of day. Mr. Chairman, in all seriousness, here we have an opportunity of entertaining in this Island a woman from an African country, the second of two women to have held this distinctive position; what is all the fuss? I will continue to give the breakdown.

Return Passages between New York and Barbados - \$640.

Reception and official dinner at Government House - \$2,000.

Lunch at Sam Lords Castle after the tour on Sunday - \$400.

Mr. HINDS:

How many people will be in the party for the lunch?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I would think about 25 or 30. The reception at Culloden Farm - \$440.

Mr. HINDS:

We are not paying that at all. If we are going to have a State dinner for this lady, what is the point of carrying her to Culloden Farm? For what? We are going to take her on a tour around the Island, we are going to take her to Sam Lords, to schools and other places; I tell you this, Mr. Chairman; I am sure the Leader of the House would suggest that we have a picnic at Farley Hill and let all the people from St. Peter, St. Andrew and the adjoining parishes meet her there; let them rejoice and see what position a black woman could rise to; but take her to Culloden Farm and do what with her inside there? Seeing

people look through the keyhole?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

How many people are being invited to this Reception at Culloden Farm, and what sort of Reception is this?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This is a Reception which Mrs. Barrow is giving for the Heads of all the Women's Organisations to enable them to meet her. 8.40 p.m.

Other entertainment - \$200. For instance, Mr. Chairman, we speak of the Farley Hill area or wherever it is-to have drinks on Sunday.

Mr. HINDS:

What time are you going to arrive at Farley Hill? What time is she going to leave?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

This behaviour must stop. Two hon. members are on their feet.

Mr. HINDS:

I would invite all the children from Farley Hill to come and meet the lady. What time is this lady going to arrive? How long is she going to remain at Farley Hill? I would invite the children from the adjoining parishes to come to Farley Hill to meet this lady.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Any time between 10.30 and 11 a.m. on Sunday. A gift for \$120, making a total of \$3,800, and \$380 is put in for contingencies. This will take the form of a painting, or water colours, or something describing the art of the country. This will make a total of \$4, 180. (ASIDES.) Mr. Chairman, I hear the hon. member say in an aside that the figures are not right. He should have \$640, \$2,000, \$200, \$120 and \$380.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Sir, I am glad, and I think that this country should be proud to be honoured by the visit by this lady. Indeed, as black people of the Third World, as we are known, we should be especially proud of it. I am all in favour of the Government having Receptions for this lady, but I sincerely hope that when the Government has a Reception at Government House for \$2,000 , you will not find the same people invited to Government House having dinner or lunch with her the next day, or to find the same people at "Culloden Farm" at the get-together. I do not think that is right, and this often happens at the Receptions.

Mr. Chairman, one only has to cast one's mind back to the Independence Celebrations where it was a question of deciding who got the most invitations to what. This is a country with 250,000, and I hope that at all of these Receptions you will endeavour to invite as wide a cross-section of the community as possible. I hope I will not see that because you are a Minister you can go to the State Reception, and then go to lunch with the lady. I do not think this is right. Let her meet other people in Barbados; let her talk to other people and get a true picture of Barbados. I do not expect that he should invite members of the Opposition, but I am talking about people in Barbados in general. Do not invite people to the State Reception, and then take the same people to Sam Lord's Castle. I do not think this is the way in which you should spend the taxpayers' money. If you want to have proper Receptions, then let them reflect as far as possible a wide cross-section of the community. Even the Leader of the House will agree with me.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I am sure the Minister of Health and Community Development will have a list of all the Women's Organisations in this Island. (ASIDES.) I am saying that it would not be difficult for the Leader of the House to give us an idea of what Organisations will be invited. After all, we were told in the Addendum that a Programme has been prepared. Are you going to prepare a Programme and hide it from the Leader of the Opposition or the Minister of Social Services? Can you possibly do that? Are you making fun? We would like to hear from the Minister the type of Woman's Organisations that will be Invited to meet this lady.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I suppose I have to try to treat this matter with a certain amount of dispassion, because I would not believe that the questions asked by the hon. member would be motivated by anything other than his desire to see the distinguished visitor properly accommodated and properly entertained. The hon. member must believe me when I say that I cannot now give him a list of the Women's Organisations. This list, as the hon. member says, is known to the Minister of Health and Community Development. Of course, the Child Care Board, the Day Nurseries, the Guide Commissioner and whoever they are and their Committees will be invited. This has been done before; this is nothing new. The same sort of people who have met Mrs. Mitchlner and the Queen and so on - the Y.W.C.A. and all of them without exception - will be invited.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, can we hear from the Minister if this lady will be met by the Guide Commissioner and not by the Guides? You are preparing for the Guide Commissioner to meet her. Are you preparing for the Child Care Board to meet her? You have not said for one moment that she is going to pay a visit to one of the Day Nurseries. There is no information here that she is going to pay a visit to one of the Day Nurseries to see the condition of our poor children. There is nothing like that in the Programme. The Child Care Board will be represented, but the children and the conditions under which they live will not be shown to this lady. That is not what we want. 8.50 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The hon. member may not be aware of this, but when you are arranging a visit for this kind of personality, it is customary to let the proposed visitor know what institutions you have and ask them what they express an Interest in. She has said that she would be happy to see a cross-section of our education with the other various types - the Primary school, the Secondary school and the University and we have arranged this. She has also said that she would like to meet heads of Committees of Woman's Organisations; this we have arranged. This is nothing that anybody is foisting on her. We are responding to her requests.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I am glad to hear that she has asked to meet representatives of Women's Organisations in this country, and therefore somebody in the Government must know by now what Women's Organisations are going to be invited, and this is what we are asking. Is the Leader of the House responsible for arranging the affairs of the visit? If so, he must at this stage know what female Organisations are being invited, and we want a list of them. It is only right that we should have it.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I have not actually drawn up the programme as such, but I will make it my duty to see that she visits the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and pays a visit to one or two of our Day Nurseries, and the St. Michael's District Hospital. I think she should at least get an idea of our educational system and some of the things we are trying to do to assist in Day Nurseries, etc. and meet people who are deeply involved in these matters.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Sir, I want to be blunt with "the Minister because he does not seem to want to answer the question. Is a representative being invited from the Democratic League of Women?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

That is what you want to know? The answer is "no".

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Are you certain? I will wait and see, because if this happens, then you are going to have one hell of a row in here any time anybody else is visiting, because I do not feel it is right for this House to vote money and representatives are invited from the Democratic League of Women, and not from the Barbados Labour Party's Women's League.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, we have heard the Leader of the House and we have heard the Minister of Health and Community Development. I am now to ask whom must we believe. The Leader of the House says that everything has been put before this lady and she has expressed an interest in this, that, and not that. How is the Minister of Health, since I got up and made mention of it, going to get her to go to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital or some of our Day Nurseries? She has not expressed any interest in these.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I appreciate the fact that hon. members must attack the Government, and they must use every opportunity, no matter how vexatious and frivolous. You cannot make more out of this than there is to it. This follows common form. It so happens that I cannot say the number of Women's Organisations because I do not have them in my head.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, the Minister of Health has just said that he has not yet been brought into the Programme, but the Addendum tells us that a Programme has been arranged.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

On a point of order, I think it my duty to see that she visits the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and at least one of the Day Nurseries, and one of the Housing Areas, and I believe she will have enough time; so from my end I will see that she meets members of the Child Care Board and people who are involved in Day Nurseries etc. In my opinion she should meet members of Parliament and their wives, and I think there should be a reception here to entertain her, because, after all, she is President of the United Nations Assembly, and Parliamentarians should be granted the fullest priority and be given their rightful place. That is how I feel about it. It is not now a question of the Cabinet; it is a question for us to decide what

can be done to improve on the arrangements, and we can do it here now.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

The Leader of the House can say that this is a frivolous and vexatious attack on the Government, but it is not so frivolous and vexatious, because the Opposition voted money for the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Conference, and the Government never had the decency to invite any member of the Opposition to the opening of that Conference. I do not accept any invitations to go anywhere because I do not want anybody's rum or whiskey; but I think it is only decent that when we sit here and vote money for these Conferences, the Leader of the Opposition and certain members of the Opposition should be invited to the opening, and not for you to pick out certain members of the Opposition that you favour more than others and send them invitations. That is not your function over there, and we will not sit down and allow you to do it. When you spend money at Culloden Farm and invite all your friends, that is not right. You just do not pick out your friends and invite them to Culloden Farm because they happen to be Democratic Labour Party yard fowls. (ASIDES-) I do not want to go to Culloden Farm with the present occupant. If somebody else goes there, perhaps I would go. If you change your policy and invite a cross-section of people, we will accept that as right, but I am certain that you have -invited the same people to State Receptions for the last three years. There are a lot of people in Barbados. Let them feel that they are enjoying the benefit of the taxpayers' money that you are spending.

Mr. HINDS:

Now I have learnt something new from this debate, and it is that the wives of members of the House will be invited to meet this lady. When will they be meeting this lady? When are you going to send out these invitations?

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

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Resolution in Committee of Supply, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, the Resolution was read a first time and second time and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SPEAKER:

It is now 9 o'clock p.m., and this House is adjourned without question being put. 9.00 p.m.