THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1966 - 71

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THIRD SESSION OF 1966-71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 17th March, 1970.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 10.15 a.m. o'clock.

PRESENT

His Honour Sir J. L, T. BRANCKLR, Q.C., F.Z.S. (Speaker); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Mr. E. ST.A. HOLDER, J.P.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, (Minister of Health and Com-munity Development); Hon. J. C. TUDOR, C.M.G., M, A. (Leader of the House); Mr. J, W. CORBIN, J.P., Hon G. G. FERGUSSON, (Minister of Trade and Tourism); Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P.; Hon. N. W. BOXILL, (Minister of Communications and Works) Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD, J.P., (Chairman of Committees); Mr. W. C. B. HINDS, Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P. and Mr. H. B. St. JOHN, Q.C., LL.B,

PRAYERS

Mr. SPEAKER:
In the absence of the Chaplain, I will ask hon. members to join with me in saying the Lord's Prayer.

(Hon members joined with Mr. SPEAKER in saying the Lord's Prayer.)

Mr. SPEAKER:
I have received information that Order Papers have not in some cases been received by the persons who should receive them.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER:
The Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday, 20th January, 1970, have, I understand, been duly circulated. Unless there is any objection, I declare the Minutes of the Meeting of the 20th January, 1970, now duly confirmed.

LETTER FROM DEPUTY MARSHAL AND LIBRARY ATTENDANT

Mr. SPEAKER:
I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a letter from Mr. Orville Best, Deputy Marshal of this House, thanking the House for his appointment as deputy Marshal and Library Attendant.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Finance I am commanded to lay the Customs Duties (Barbados Development Bank) Order, 1970;

The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No.2) Order, 1970;

The Judges (Salaries) Order, 1970; and

The Judges (Conditions of service and Allowances) (Amendment) Regulations, 1970.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of , the Prime Minister, I beg to give notice of the following

A Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No.2) Order, 1970.

A Resolution to fix the rates of salary and travelling allowance payable to the Personal Assistant to the Prime Minister with effect from 1st April, 1969.

A Bill to repeal the Seawell Airport Act, 1950 and to make new provision for the management, control and supervision of airports in Barbados and for matters connected therewith,

A Bill to amend the Governor-General (Emoluments) Act, 1967,

A Bill to repeal the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (Remuneration) Act, 1967, and make provision for revised salaries and allowances of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries.

A Bill to amend the Chaplains and Printing Committee Act 1891.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

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

A Bill to repeal the Seawell Airport Act, 1950 and to make new provision for the management, control and supervision of airports in Barbados and for matters connected therewith;

A Bill to amend the Governor-General (Emoluments) Act, 1967;

A Bill to repeal the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries (Remuneration) Act, 1967, and make provision for revised salaries and allowances of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries;

A Bill to amend the Chaplains and Printing Committee Act, 1891.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution

"RESOLVED that with effect from 1st April, 1969, the salary scales applicable to the Officers of the House of Assembly and the point sin those scales at which the said Officers shall be paid shall be as set out in the Schedule to this Resolution".

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF

COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS

re ADDING MACHINE AT THE

POST OFFICE

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Speaker, I should like to make a Statement. On Tuesday last I promised the hon. junior member for St. Peter some information which he requested when we were dealing with a Resolution for the Post Office. He asked for information regarding an Adding Machine. Now, the Adding Machine is a Totalia. The suppliers are Office Equipment. The cost of the Adding Machine is $360 duty free. The features of the machine are 12 digits totalling 13 digits minus quantity. It can subtract a large number from a smaller number, and it can multiply. The machine which it is proposed to replace is 12 years old and was condemned by a Board of Survey.

ALLEGED INCIDENT AT PARCEL POST

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Speaker, I also promised the hon. senior member for St. James, who is not in his place at the moment, to investigate an incident which he reported to the effect that a man was struck in the Post Office by a gentleman called Mr. Henderson who lives at Marine Gardens. I have been told that it might be a storm in a teapot. I have investigated the matter and I am reporting to the House that the officer did not appear to take offence to what had happened.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER:

In respect of the Minutes which we have just confirmed, it has since been brought to my attention that there is an error on page 5. It is not of any great importance, but it merely has the surname of an hon. member twice. At line 10 the name "Mottley" appears twice. Do I have the permission of the House to have the second "Mottley" deleted? There is no objection, and I will so inform the Clerk.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Standing Orders 5, 14, 16, 18, 19, 40 and 45 be suspended for the remainder of the day's sitting.

There are some other matters we have to attend to before we come to the Appropriation Bill. When we come to that, I have a few things to say.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division. 10.25 a.m.

RESOLUTION re SALARIES OF OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, before we proceed with Government Business, I beg to move that the Resolution dealing with the salaries of the Officers of the House be proceeded with forthwith.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, this Re solution gives effect to the Report of the Select Committee set up by this Hon. House some weeks ago to make recommendations in respect of salary revision for the Officers of this House. Such Officers include the Chaplain, the Clerks-at-the-Table, Librarian and Secretary, Marshal, Deputy Marshal and Library Attendant, Secretary and Messenger-Cleaner. The Reporters, as hon. members know, are covered by a different arrangement. The Schedule sets out what the Committee has recommended, and the Resolution gives effect to that recommendation.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass. Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that.

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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

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

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE WATERWORKS (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS, 1970

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 3 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. 3 stands in the name of the hon. Minister of Communications and Works, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Waterworks (General) (Amendment) Regulations, 1970.

Hon. N. W. BOXIL:
Mr. Speaker, this is a small matter. The Waterworks (General) (Amendment) Regulations, 1970, were laid in the House of Assembly on 3rd February, 1970. These Regulations seek to amend the Waterworks (General) Regulations, 1953, to empower the Minister charged with the responsibility for Waterworks to grant approval for the extension of the special water rate payable by churches and schools to other institutions established exclusively or mainly for charitable, religious, educational or scientific purposes of a public nature.

The reason for this amendment is that we are all aware, from the letters of commendation which appear in the Press, of the workwhich the St. Joseph Hospital is doing. If we do not have this change now, it means that the St. Joseph Hospital will be paying for water on the commercial rate which would be a bit higher than we would like them to pay; since they do not get much of a subsidy from

Government, we are trying to do everything we can to help them.

I therefore beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

THE PARKS AND BEACHES COMMISSION ACT, 1970.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Item No. I be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

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

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

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

Clauses' 1 to 10 inclusive were called and passed.

10.35a.m.

Clauses 11 to 13 were called and passed.

Mr. HOLDER:
Mr. Chairman, speaking on Clause 13 which deals with this Committee, the Committee is a large one and three members form a quorum.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
To deal with Clause 13 now, the hon. member would have to ask that it be recommitted.

Clauses 14 to 15 were called and passed. The Schedule was called and passed.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER:
Will the hon. Leader of the House intimate what he seeks next to deal with? This may be an opportune moment to suspend until later in the day. (PAUSE) May I suggest that a suspension for some

while might be in order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
No. 4 should be the next Order of the Day.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Mr. Speaker, before we deal with that question, a number of related matters in respect of the Estimates which we usually have are not here. I do not see how we can proceed even with the Second Reading. I suggest that we suspend until later in the day when we can get those documents. I do not want to hold up anything, but we cannot proceed with this until we get the other related documents. I understood, when I came here this morning, that these documents would be ready for us. They have not come yet; so how can we fairly deal with it?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I wonder if we can do the Second Reading and leave off at that point; this is what I am suggesting to the House.

Mr. St. JOHN:
We agree that we can do the Second Reading today, but not now.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
The difficulty is that there will be nothing for us to do. 10.45 a.m.

Mr. St. JOHN:
We cannot do it without the document; that is not fair.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Surely we can do the Second Reading, and leave off at that point.

Mr. St. JOHN:

We have already said we cannot do it. What is wrong with suspending?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

If you do a Second Reading on the Appropriation Bill, everybody can have the document which he is expected to have at a time to be agreed. We can proceed to go into Committee; there is nothing wrong with that. The documents which hon. members are awaiting will be introduced in Committee.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Speaker, we on this side will do absolutely nothing to tolerate a situation like this. These things ought to be done before; and whoever is responsible, the House is not going to condone this act of irresponsibility. We are opposed to it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The point we are discussing is whether or not we should proceed with the Second Reading of the Appropriation Bill now, of which notice has been given. We can do this, move off and then resume.

Mr. St. JOHN:

May 1 say, Sir, that I have not got a copy of the Appropriation Bill. I do not have one.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR; The Bill was circulated. Mr. St. JOHN:

No member on this side has one.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

It was circulated last Tuesday. (Aside I got mine last Tuesday.)

Mr. SMITH:

If the Government is not ready, we have a lot of Private Members' Business on the Order Paper. I did not know you were ready; you are talking as if you were not ready.

Mr. St. JOHN:

No printed copies have been sent. I was not here last Tuesday; how could I get them? The Rules Say that all Bills should be printed and circulated; the Rules have not been complied with. I will not tolerate this today. Why are they not printed? Can't the Printery print them?

Mr. HINDS:
May In enquire from the hon. member whether they have been gazetted?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
You do not gazette the Appropriation Bill.

I beg to move that Item No. 4 be the next Order of the Pay.

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

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

AYES:
Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW, Hon. J. C. TUDOR, Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, Hon. C. E. TALMA, Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, Hon. N. W. BOXILL Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD, Mr. W. R. LOWE, Mr. J. W. CORBIN and Mr. L. E. SMITH - 12.

NOES:
Mr. HINDS, Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY, Mr. HOLDER and Mr. St. JOHN - 4.

Mr. St. JOHN:
As a member of the House, I would like to draw your attention to the fact that I have seen no printed copy of the Appropriation Bill. Will Your Honour investigate immediately why a member .of the House of Assembly at Estimates time cannot get a copy of the Appropriation Bill?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, hon. members cannot get a printed copy.

Mr. SPEAKER:
I understand that the Appropriation Bill has not been printed, but that among the Standing Orders suspended there has been suspension of the Standing Order which requires printing.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
From the time I was a member of the House I have never seen Appropriation Bills printed, because you will then have to do two printings. It has been cyclostyled and circulated.

Mr. St. JOHN:
On a point of correction, Mr. Speaker, it has not been cyclostyled and circulated to me. If I was not here, it is their duty to send it to my place. This place is loaded with inefficiency.

Mr. SPEAKER:
I have been informed by the Clerk that copies of the document were duly posted to the addresses given him.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Speaker, I am sure that, according to the Standing Orders, if we never sent Bills to the Government Printing Office, but had them done on a typewriter, that would be considered printing. I was not in the House either, but a copy of the Bill came to me by post; therefore, everything that ought to have been done must be deemed to have been done.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Because you got yours, does it mean that you are the only person in the House of Assembly?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
I would like to introduce, Mr. Speaker, in accordance with the provisions of the Financial

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
On a point of order, I would be grateful, even at this stage, to have a copy of the Appropriation Bill.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
You do not have to ask the Speaker for that; you have to ask the Clerk.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Are you running again? I rise on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER:
The point has been duly made, and I will see that the hon. member is supplied with a copy.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
On a point of order, Sir. I would be grateful, Sir, if you would give me some information as to how soon I will get them. I would like to know what is going on. In spite of the fact that the Prime Minister says he has got his, and that everybody got theirs, I did not get mine.

Mr. SPEAKER:
The hon. member has made the point so succinctly that he need not elaborate on it.

THE APPROPRIATION ACT, 1970

Mr. SPEAKER:
Order No. 4 stands in the name of the hon. and learned Prime Minister, and it is to move the Second Reading of a Bill to grant a sum of money out of the Consolidated Fund and to appropriate the same for the service of the Island for the year ending on 31st March, 1970.

10.55 a.m.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Speaker, the Draft Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Financial Year 1970-71 were laid in this House a week ago, and also circulated at the time was a Memorandum on the Estimates. There are certain persons in here who may not be acquainted with the procedures which we follow at a time like this, in view of the fact that, prior to my assuming the function of Minister of Finance, the Estimates, Budget, and everything were made into one, and it was very difficult to tell where policy began and Estimates ended. We have now divided this matter into three separate exercises according to the Financial Administration and Audit Act, 1964. Those amounts which have been fixed by Act of Parliament are not to be voted on in the passage of the Appropriation Bill because the House has already passed or will be passing the necessary measures for legal -lising withdrawals from the Treasury and so on.

What we pass in the Appropriation Bill is not the total amount of Capital Expenditure, but the amount left over after we deduct those items which have been fixed by law. According to the Constitution, certain tilings have to be fixed by law such as salaries of the Judiciary, Magistrates, public officers, etc. Certain other votes, from time to time, have been ordained by the Legislature, and although our total expenditure without Capital Expenditure this year is estimated to be of the order of some $74 million, the amount we are asking the House to pass in the Appropriation Bill is $53 million in round figures on the part of Current Expenditure, and approximately $24 million Capital. The Appropriation Bill is only for $53 million, whereas Current Expenditure is estimated at $88 million. (Asides) I was making a wrong subtraction when I said $74 million.

I think the main feature in our Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure - the total amount, leaving out Capital for this year, is due to the fact that we have had a substantial rise in Personal Emoluments as a result of the revision of salaries undertaken late last year. The increases in Personal Emoluments have been of the order of 15% all told. To give the figures more accurately, last year in the Approved Estimates the amount spent on Personal Emoluments was $24 3/4 million, and this year the estimate for Personal Emoluments is $37 1/4 million, which leaves us a difference of approximately $12 1/2 million. This is just about 50% or 50.5% increase in Personal Emoluments. The total actual expenditure when I assumed office just 10 years ago was only $26 million for all the services of the Government, and we have moved on from a position where we were estimating for an expenditure of $26 million to a position today where we are asking the House to vote $88 million on emoluments for the use of the Government and the people of this Island.

This, of course, reflects a substantial rise in the cost of living. It also reflects a substantial rise in the standard of living which is much more important, and it has been demonstrated from time to time that

the rise in the standard of living has been galloping along at twice the rate of the rise in the cost of living. (Mr. St. JOHN: What nonsense is that?) I would like the hon. member who says it is nonsense to compare his expenditure today - and his income - with what he was getting 10 years ago when he said that he could not afford to run for the House of Assembly. (Asides)

Mr. SPEAKER:

Let us avoid personalities and continue.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Speaker, the fact is that, whether they like it or not, the figures are there, and the Government and the Legislature have approved a substantial increase for members of the Public Service. For the first time in the history of Barbados we did not have a Salaries' Commission, but salary increases were negotiated after consultation with the bodies responsible for collective bargaining for the terms and conditions of service of members of the Public Service in this Island. As a result of this the rise in Personal Emoluments is of the order of 50% or 50.5%. Other Charges have risen by some 36% from $34 3/4 million to $47 1/4 million - an increase of $12 1/2 million or some 36%. On the Non-Recurrent Account it has risen from $2.6 million to $4.4 million, a net increase of approximately $1.9 million.

Now, the Approved Estimates for last year showed an estimated expenditure of $26 million, all in round figures. This year, as I said before, the total on Current Account, which includes Non-Recurrent Expenditure but not Capital Expenditure, is $88.95 million, or roughly $89 million. After we go into Committee of Supply, there are certain figures which we have requested should be moved in because these could not be done at the time of submission of the Estimates for various reasons, either because negotiations were not completed, or because the accurate estimating could not be done. Quite a few of these figures are in respect of emoluments of members of Statutory Boards, Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries and matters of that kind; so that I anticipate that the total estimated Approved Expenditure will be over $90 million. This, of course, will reflect an increase over last year's estimated Expenditure of some $28 million. Now, this is a very tall order.

11.05 a.m.

If we look as closely as we can at the Revised. Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, we find that the Revised Estimates show revenue at $70 million and expenditure at $73 million; but if we may now make an intelligent guess on the Revised Estimates, we anticipate that the revised revenue would be more to the order of $74 million, whilst expenditure will be kept down to the figure of $69 million. The outturn figure therefore instead of showing a deficit on Current Account of approximately $3 million, despite the fact that we have had a salary increase of the magnitude which I have already explained - and we have also revised pensions giving the pensioners the largest single increase in the history of Barbados of

$25 a month, costing the Government some $1 million a year - despite the fact that we have spent on account of salaries, emoluments and pensions alone, $10 million that we did not expect to have to spend at this time last year, we still anticipate that we will have a surplus of $5 million. This, of course, is an indication that the economy of Barbados is moving forward, because if the economy was not moving forward, we would not be able to collect the substantial amount of money which we are collecting -and which we have done, Mr. Speaker, without any additional rates on personal or companies tax, and without any increased import duties. As a matter of fact, far from increased import duties, I estimate that we have lost theoretically probably $1 3/4 million as a result of the CARIFTA agreement coming into operation, and various other concessions which we have made to pioneer industries, hotel aid and so on; we have given up import duties. We have not increased import duties; we have not increased personal tax; we have made allowances in my last Budget Speech which would relieve persons who are paying personal tax from the incidence of the tax, and we have not increased the amount of companies tax which still remains at 40 percent; so that, apart from under-expenditure, a substantial part of this $15 million difference - it is more like $18 million -because if you take the revised estimated deficit of $3 million and add $10 million for salary increases plus $15 million which we now anticipate we will have as a surplus, that is $18 million more available than we anticipated at this time last year. Part of this $18 million is due to a deliberate policy which I warned hon. members I would have to pursue by restricting expenditure, even although the Legislature had passed it, to 90% of what was approved, and only releasing the additional $10 million on special application to me in the Ministry of Finance. Part has been due to the fact of late orders and we have not got all the things we anticipated we would require for Capital Expenditure during 1969-70; but even taking all that into consideration, taking into consideration that the economy of Barbados has been over-heating a bit because people's incomes have been rising and the demands for consumer goods have been rising - if people were not better off, they could not be buying refrigerators or motor cars. There was not a single second-hand motor car available in Bridgetown on 23rd December, so much so that against my better judgment I had to go and commit myself for a new carwhich, of course, is not suitable either to my size or station in life. This shows that the economy of Barbados is over-heating; my car was over-heating and I had to go and get a suitable car. This shows there is money in circulation in Barbados and that people are consuming at a much higher level and a much more rapid rate than they were buying consumption goods before, and there is general upliftment in the standard of living of the people of Barbados which is reflected in turn in the receipts both on the part of direct and indirect taxation without any commensurate imposition on the part of Government to account for this rise in the receipts which we have been getting from those sources.

One can always say that the rise is due to the fact that you have doubled import duty, but we did not put on any additional duties, as I indicated before. We actually eased off on the collection of duty on certain items, and we have not for the past nine years increased the incidence of personal taxation at all. One remarkable feature, of course, is that there are a lot more people today paying tax, not be cause of any amendment in the law, but because they have now risen into those levels of personal income in which they now have to pay tax. A lot of people who come under the P.A.Y.E. scheme who before were only working for, let us say, $50 or $60 a month and who even without deductions would not have been liable to pay any direct taxes to the Commissioner of Inland Revenue are probably today working for $100 or $120 a month; and although they might only be paying at the 4% rate, the vast number of the lower income brackets who have been brought up to this standard-volume-wise-is such that it has reflected in a considerable increase in the amount of direct tax collected by the Commissioner of Inland

Revenue, and not in any way due to any alteration in the law or the incidence of taxation.

Mr. Speaker, the figures are there and speak for themselves, and I think it is remarkable that in a small country like this with 106,000 acres of land we can have an expenditure which is in excess of $1,000 per acre of land. In other words, if you add $90 million to $26 million, you get $116 million, and we have 106,000 acres of land. That gives you an expenditure - they say that the net income of an acre of sugar cane is only $100; so it must be the other sectors of the economy like tourism which must be bringing in considerable income and revenue to the people and Government of this Island. Each acre of land in Barbados therefore is theoretically yielding over $1,000 in Government revenue - not in per-capita income, because the Government revenue per acre has got to be substantially less than the per capita income. It stands to reason that if the Government revenue from taxation was more than the gross domestic product or national income of the country - whichever one is a gross concept and one is a net concept does not matter - people would not have any money to spend because they would be paying more than they earned collectively to the Government. 11.15. a.m.

Now I made a quick calculation, Mr. Speaker, and in countries like ours which do not have defence forces and navies and other accoutrements of military exhibitionism, a good ratio of national income to Government revenue - I prefer to use the gross domestic product - should not normally be in excess of 36% or 37%. If we do some quick calculations from that and we used the multiplier of three, you will see - and I am not quoting these figures from any statistics; I have done these in my own mind - the gross domestic product in Barbados is over $300 million. This means that for the first time in our history, if my calculations are correct, the per capita income in Barbados....again I apologise for using the terms "income" and "gross domestic product" per capita; but only for the sake of convenience I use the word "income"-this is in excess of $1,000, which is probably one of the highest in the Caribbean. I am satisfied on the income basis, when we take the royalties and exports of capital which take place, I am satisfied in my own mind on that basis that Barbados now has the highest per capita net income of any country in the Commonwealth Caribbean, and I do not understand how people on the other side would sneer at this. The total Government Revenue in 1961 -62 was $26 million, and the anticipated revenue which is to be raised this year will demonstrate a Government revenue of over $76 million for this year alone. We have effected an $18 million addition to our estimated revenue both by careful spending and the natural growth of the economy.

It is not my duty at this stage, Mr. Speaker, to go into details under the different departments of Agriculture, Communications and Works, Health and Community Development, Education, Home Affairs and so on, and then the Ministry for which I am responsible, because it is the duty of the House in Committee of Supply to scrutinise the expenditure under various Heads and to make all their comments not all of which will be either tangible or sincere. However, members have a duty to make their comments on the various Heads of Expenditure when we reach Committee stage. I should however like to just draw to the attention of members of the House that if we look at page 2 of the Memorandum of the Estimates, we will see that the Heads 41, 42, 43 and 44 are under the responsibility of the Minister

of Health and Community Development, and the total expenditure for these services under that Ministry is of the order of nearly $10 million, because it is now $9.5 million and we have certain items which will be moved in. I have already explained that the reason why we are moving in figures under various Heads is that the estimates are now available - they were not available before - and if we do not do it this way, it means coming back to the House when members should be relaxing from having stood on their feet for varying lengths of time in order to do things which should be properly done at this time.

If I may now turn to Capital Estimates, Current Expenditure will be of the order of $24 million, and there are some "once-for-all" Items, as I like to call them - which means that it is usually money spent on buildings and on infrastructures. It does not mean that, because we spend money on buildings and -so on once for all, the Treasury does not have to support the maintenance and upkeep of these structures. Every time we spend money on Capital Account, there is, built-in automatically in the future Estimates of Expenditure, Items on Current Account which have to be maintained and borne. Estimates for Capital Expenditure are in the vicinity of $24 milllion; we are still spending a considerable amount of money on Soil Conservation, and we are having a very close look at this Scheme. Of the work which is being done now under the Ministry of Agriculture, the Soil Conservation Programme is over 1/3 of the total expenditure of this Ministry, and the Ministry of Agriculture, of course, supplements the Scheme in the private sector in its re search programmes of the prevention of plant diseases, research into diversification, actual experiments into the diversification of the agriculture sector and so on; but what I am pointing out here is that the $1 million which we are spending on Soil Conservation, to be seen in its true perspective, is only on a maintenance basis of trying to prevent the situation from deteriorating to a condition worse than it is now. I am not satisfied that $1 million is enough to reclaim, reshape and remodel the Scotland District; it will take a substantial amount of money; but before we ask the Legislature to spend or to incur such expenditure, I will have to carry out a very careful cost analysis into the expenditure of money other than on a maintenance basis as it is at present. This is 1/7 of our total land area, and if we do not try to hold on to what we have, we will be in danger of losing within a very few years 1/7 of our total available land by slippage into the Atlantic Ocean.

This is 5% of our total Capital Expenditure; but think of the problems the people in Israel have in keeping the Arabs from descending like a wolf on the fold and carrying away all their land. We are fighting nature, and other countries have to spend enormous amounts on defence in order to keep their land; but our fight is really against nature and not against any of our neighbours, and it is a proportionately small amount of us to fight the degradation of nature.

Our expenditure on the part of Education is also considerable. We are going to spend about $1/2 million on Primary Schools, about $200,000 on Secondary Schools, just over a $1/4 million on the Community College Construction and Technology and Science laboratories, $356,000 on the School Meals Service, and there is a further $335,000 on land acquisition. 11.25 a.m.

Now when we come to the Airport, I have heard, during my absence from time to time, that members have got up and said that we are not doing any planning for the Airport Development and matters of that kind. Barbados is the only country that four years ago started planning its airport expansion, and we have never stopped expanding the Airport. In 1968, I had several conferences in Seattle, in Washington, in Montreal and in London. I went to the Boeing Aircraft Works myself before the first 747 had ever rolled out, and got all the requirements for the introduction of the age of the jumbo jet and came back andwe set up an Airport Planning Committee. We have a Resident Engineer; we have a Resident Architect, we have an Economist permanently stationed at the Airport - and they have been there for a long time -and we have never stopped extending the Airport. We had a Canadian team of airport building experts who came down to Barbados and did a survey and put an estimate of $20 million to be spent over the next thirty months in order to make it one of the most modern airports in the world. This week we started installing three new radar sets, and there is a sum in the Estimates for the training of radar experts. We are the only airport in the Caribbean outside of Puerto Rico to have three radar installations. We have our own Visual omni-driectional radio range or VOR - also called "Omni" by American pilots- without the distance - measuring equipment, which is unnecessary in Barbados, at Seawell Airport. We have the vertical air speed indicator which only three airports have. We have an efficient VHF system; we have automatic giant machines tape-recording every conversation that takes place between the ground and the air, and the only piece of equipment that we do not have in Barbados - which I consider too expensive and unnecessary - is a instrument - landing system which very few airlines are using and which in my opinion is unnecessary on any airport which does not suffer from fog conditions. Personally I would not like to be on any aircraft which was being landed without human agency. Very few people flying today have that kind of confidence in automatic devices, although it has been done with passengers aboard on about three occasions in the history of aviation. There is nothing, in other words, that other airports in any part of the world have, apart from ILS, that we do not have in Barbados, including an air/sea rescue service and everything else.

Now, the Government has already approached the Inter-American Development Bank for loans for expansion of the Airport. The revenue at the Airport must be running very close in this year now to $1.6 or $2 million, to my recollection, and I hope that I would be able to substantially increase the fees and charges whether the International Air Transport Association - that international conspiracy - like sit or not.

You will remember, Mr. Speaker, on the last occasion on which I increased landing charges, the IATA, which is a Trade Union cartel of private airlines, came down to Barbados and wanted to tell me that I must keep separate accounts for the Airport because I could not expect the airlines to pay for welfare services in Barbados; but none of them gave us any money to build that Airport. For the first time we are now approaching an international agency, which has nothing to do with IATA, to borrow money to carry out the extensions which the thirst of the airlines for sophisticated services made necessary for a lot of poor developing countries. We did not ask them to build aircraft to carry 500 passengers. As soon as they do that, it means we have to spend more of our money in order to provide facilities for them; and I think it is impertinence on their part or anybody else's part to come to this

Government and tell us now we should manage our accounts, that we should only Impose charges.....I intend to get every single penny that I can out of the Airport in Barbados, not only to pay for servicing the Capital Expenditure which would be incurred in the expansion which goes on from year to year, and will not finish with the expenditure of $20 million - because as soon as we finish spending that money they are going to come in with some other new - fangled idea which would make it necessary to spend more money. Airport expenditure is something which goes on all the time; but I will not have any private conspiracy in restraint of trade like IATA coming down, when I am ready to put on my new charges, and telling me how I should render the accounts. I will present my accounts to the Legislature, but not to IATA. I warn any airlines, who think that this Government is going to be subject to any dictates from IATA, that they have another thought coming.

Mr. Speaker, you may think that I have spent an inordinate length of time dealing with IATA, but I have to deal with them everyday, and too many Governments are looking upon IATA as some super-national organisation for which they must take dictates from time to time. As far as I am concerned, it is a conspiracy; it is a conspiracy in restraint of trade -which is illegal in common law - and it is a conspiracy against the travelling public. IATA has some sort of conception that only rich people should have vacations on their planes, and that is why they are pushing up the prices of airfares to and from the Caribbean all the time. They say that the people pay; and there is going to be a point of no return when not only are they now excluding our nationals from travelling because of the high fares, but even their nationals from the metropolitan countries will join in the growing alarm of resentful travellers who will refuse to pay these high fares. At the same time they have imposed these fares, they have also dropped the Trans-Atlantic fares by 25% so that the European and North American can travel more easily to each other's countries.

This is relevant because when I come to ask the Legislature for $20 million to expand the Airport, I expect to see an expansion in the number of air services to and from Barbados, and not a contraction, and I hope I get the support of this House when I have to launch my broadside against these international conspiracies. I do not want to say anything more about that at this stage. We have to spend a lot of money on the Airport and it will be money well spent, provided we do not have these international private conspiracies operating against the best interests of the travelling public.

For sometime, Mr. Speaker, Parliament has been somewhat concerned about the conditions of the Port. You will see under the Ministry of Finance -Capital Estimates - that a sum of $400,000 has been set aside for the construction of Customs Ware-houses, and I hope this will go a long way towards alleviating the conditions which existed there during the last Christmas season. I want to say something else on the Port. We have not given in the Development Plan any great priority for expansion of the Port. The Port was originally designed to handle 150,000 tons of cargo. I think the Port was completed sometime in 1961 when the first ship unloading sugar came into our new Bridgetown Harbour. 11.35 a.m.

The Port last year handled well over 300,000 tons of cargo. Now, the simple mathematicians will automatically say that you are not spending any money on the Pore, and you now should double the size of the Port because you are handling 300,000 tons of cargo. The problem at the Port is not a question of the size of the Port; it is the accommodation in the transit sheds and the accommodation in the Customs for clearing warrants and so on more expeditiously, and these are some of the things that we have to look at.

There is no point in spending money to expand the Port when no day you can go down there, including today, and see three or four ships tied up alongside when the Port is really designed to handle eight or nine ships at a time. There was a time in December last year when we had four or five ships lying outside in the Harbour, but at the time when we had those ships lying outside there was no congestion for berthing in the Harbour itself. The congestion was in the transit sheds and in the ware houses, and you could not even find large pieces of equipment. I think two parts of the computer were buried for about five weeks under a mass of sardine cartons, beer boxes and that kind of thing, and it was pure, unadulterated confusion down there.

Now, another thing that I think I can disclose to hon. members right now is that I have had a running battle with the Port Contractors for about twenty months because of the profits which they are making. I am satisfied that, even if the profits were passed on by a reduction in the handling charges, the consumer in Barbados would benefit by less than a l/4 a pound on the average commodity he buys for daily use. We know from our experience as citizens of this country that the Barbados Commission Merchants and Provision Merchants do not find themselves frequently in a position where they are anxious to pass on that kind of service to the consumer. When they can make a l/4 on anything, they do not tell you anything about that; so a reduction in the handling charges could not be the solution to the problem.

When the last Government was in office, instead of taking 100% or 98% or 90%, they took, I think, 25% of the shares. I am not satisfied that we need Port Contractors now, but I will say that I am not satisfied that the Civil Service could run it, either. 1 am not satisfied that it should be run by Port Contractors, who are the importers and everything; I have to be honest, and I do not think anyone of us around this Table is satisfied about that. The reason is endemic in Colonialism, and it is no reflection on the ability of the members of the Public Service. It is a question that they have been conditioned to this kind of activity in the Colonial era, which the other people would still like us to be in. I am not saying who are the other people.

The position is, Mr. Speaker, that they are making a considerable profit which reflects over 50% on capital invested. What they wanted to do is to split the shares 3tol, and I said"No." I said that 1 would

give them a 10% return on capital out of which they would have to pay 40% as companies tax; the Government would get 10% on which we do not pay tax, and then all the surplus profits should be put into a Harbour Improvement Fund. You cannot blame the Trade Union if the Trade Union, seeing the kind of profits the Port Contractors are making, comes now and asks for a 100% Increase inwages which the profits disclose that the Port Contractors can pay. The people working in the Port are already the highest paid unskilled workers in any sector of the economy of Barbados. Their average take-home pay now is over $90 a week for unskilled work; but there is worse to come.

Since the taking over of the Port-of-Spain-Har-bour by the Trinidad and Tobago Government and the running of it under their Port Department, I have been informed by the Chairman and Manager that we thought we were making money, but we are not. What we are making is chicken feed, because they have discovered that the Stevedoring firms, the people we have here as Port Contractors, charge the ships cost plus 85% on all cargo landed, which includes tally clerks and the manager's salaries, the board-on-ship labourers and everything for moving the cargo out of the hold, and putting it alongside the ship where our Port Contractors take it up.

I am serving notice now that what 1 intend to do is to nationalise stevedoring. This money is not shown in our National Accounts because the ships pay the money to the agents - cost plus 85% on our cargo landing. When anybody talks about expanding the Port - I will go so far as to say that I discussed this with the Prime Minister of Guyana the day after the Republic Celebrations and he said: "Well, I am glad to hear you say that, because the Government of Guyana made the decision last week to nationalise stevedor-ing." They have nowhere to go; they cannot tell me that they are going to leave the country, because what they are doing is exploiting human labour. I think it is a ridiculous thing in the West Indies where we are fulminating against the WITASS increase of 11% on freight rates - I am not satisfied that the Economic Commission for Latin America has produced any figures which can convince me that this is not an inordinate increase on freight rates, but that is another matter.

We should not be unconscious of the fact that these stevedoring firms are charging the ships cost plus 85%; so that the $200,000 or $300,000 which Port Contractors as a Company are making in Barbados is merely chicken feed. Any Port expansion will have to be financed out of that. We have spent $30 million on a Port, and I see no reason why we should have people exploiting the community in this way by charging cost plus 85% for lowering the cargo over the side of the ship and then the Port Contractors making 55% and 56% on their capital investment!

The amount of capital put up by the last Govern-meat and the Port Contractors who are the same shipping firms who do not give us a piece of what they get on board - they keep us off the ship and tell us to build the harbour and transit sheds; "you can have 25% of the profits when we take it from alongside"- I see no reason at all why they should have a com-plete monopoly on the handling of cargo,

both from alongside and on board the ship, and that where we have spent $30 million we should allow that situation to continue. I take the opportunity right now to serve notice, and I hope that when I come to the House with the legislation to nationalise all stevedoring I will get the support of hon. members on the other side.

The next thing we have to nationalise is the Commission business in Barbados. It is now merely a question of the machinery to nationalise the Commission business. Now, none of them supports this Party; so I can talk with impunity. (Asides) It is not a question of victimisation; but even if they did, I would find it my duty as a Barbadian to stop them from doing what they are doing now. I would like to make it plain, and I want hon. members to understand that I am not getting my own back from them for supporting anybody on the other side. I am doing my national duty, and I hope that I will get the support of hon. members on the other side. (Asides)

Mr. SPEAKER:

Hon. members not addressing the Chair, please obey the Standing Orders. Will the hon. member proceed.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Speaker, there is no better time than before the elections to serve notice on them that stevedoring will be nationalised. Everybody will know that my bona fides is in order. I understand that everybody on the other side agrees with me, and if any of them supports any politician, then he will do it because he does not expect to be represented in here. I am just clearing the deck for action.

11.45 a.m.

Mr. Speaker, I have dealt with the Airport and the Port of Bridgetown, and I thought, since I have, had discussions with the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago and the Prime Minister of Guyana on this same matter arising out of discussions on the increased wage rates - we discovered these things; and having discussed it with them, I would be failing in my duty not to tell hon. members of the House what was going on and give them the warning as to the way we were thinking.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that there are some people on the other side who, either due to the fact that they may have been carousing or otherwise un-gainfully occupied in the late hours of the morning, have not had an opportunity to study the moves-in and the detailed Estimates - and members are entitled to certain relaxation. I think at this stage I will move that the Appropriation Bill be now read a second time. I understand it is the wish of the House that after the Second Reading has been passed that we adjourn

for a short time in order to have available the documents which have been promised.

I beg to move that the Appripriation Bill, 1970. be now rend second time.Hon. C. E. TALMA: I big to second that.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that further consideration of this Bill be now post-poned.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, there are certain formal Bills like the Judges, the Chaplain, the Governor-General and what - not which have been circulated.

THE CHAPLAINS AND PRINTING COMMITTEE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1970.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I think the House will remember that by an oversight the Select Committee appointed to review the salaries of Officers of the House did not include the Chaplain. However, we have taken the opportunity to do this and I hope the House will approve it. In order to save time, we have prepared and introduced this Bill which will amend the Chaplains and Printing Committee Act. Hon. members will see, in Section 2 of the Bill, the new salary provided for the Chaplain.

I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

On motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House ' went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 were called and passed. On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL (EMOLUMENTS) (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1970.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I believe that the Bill to amend the Governor-General (Emoluments) Act, 1967 has been circulated to hon. members. This is in four short sections, and the figures are in Section 3.

I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hem, C. E. TALMA. Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

11.55 a.m.

Clauses 3 and 4 were called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. Chairman reported the passing of one Bill in Committee:

and Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

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

THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) (No.2) ORDER, 1970

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

This Civil Establishment Order, Mr. Speaker, made under the Civil Es-tablisment Act, 1949 -5 is to be cited as Amendment No. 2 of 1970. I have today made an Order which regulates the salary of the Director of Public Prosecutions ; on the same date the Governor General has made an Order regulating the salary of the Chief Justice, the Puisne Judges and those members of the Judiciary. Traditionally, the salary of the Director of Public Prosecutions has always been related to the salary of the "Puisne Judges because the qualifications for the office of Director of Public Prosecutions are the same as those which

are required for the office of Puisne Judge, and for this reason the salaries have always been related. The purpose of this Resolution therefore is to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 2) Order, 1970 which will fix the new salary of the Director of Public Prosecutions at the same level as that which will be approved by the Governor. General today at $16,200 per annum which will be inserted in Schedule B in the second column appearing as the first Item of that Schedule. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
I want to make another observation, and that is that the amounts for the salaries of the Director of Public Prosecutions and of the Judges will be moved into the Estimates consequential upon the making of these Orders by the Governor-General and myself today.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until 3 o'clock.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that. The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

12.05 pan.

On re-assembling:-

Mr. SPEAKER; Will the hon. Leader of the House indicate that which he seeks to do?

Hon. J. C, TUDOR; Mr. Speaker, I will proceed with the Bill to deal with the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries Remuneration Act. Mr. Speaker, the figures in Section 2 of the Bill designate the salaries for the Prime Minister in 2 (a) and 2 (b). Section 3 deals with Parliamentary Secretaries and both sections deal with the salary, compounded with the allowance. Section 6 says that in calculating the amount of salary payable under this Act to any person in respect of the period between 1st April, 1969 and the publication of this Act in the Official Gazette, account shall be taken of any sum paid out of the Consolidated Fund as salary or allowance (however called) to that person during that period.

Section 4 embodies a recommendation from the Select Committee and says that "Notwithstanding the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1968 - (a) the duty allowance paid to any person under this Act; and (b) the taxable value of the official residence of the Prime Minister, shall not be included in calculating the assessable income of any such person for the purposes of that Act.

I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that. The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without- division.

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

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

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

Clauses 1 to 8 inclusive were called and passed.

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

On separate motions of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, second-ed by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

RESOLUTION re SALARY OF PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO PRIME MINISTER

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I believe we can now proceed with the Resolution fixing the salary and travelling allowance payable to the Personal Assis-tant to the Prime Minister. (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY We have not seen that one.)

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am awaiting advice from the Clerk whether it has been circulated.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

It was not circulated. (Aside; It has been circulated; everybody got one.) 3.10 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I am advised by Mr. Clerk that copies of this Resolution have been duly circulated, and I have to accept his word.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr Speaker, I understand that hon. members may not be ready to proceed with this. Well, there is nothing left for us, but the Committee on the Appropriation Bill.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Speaker, I want to make our position quite clear. We object to going into Committee today. A lot of things were circulated today to be dealt with today, and this is definitely wrong. We are not tolerating any Government in such gross inefficiency and disrespect to the House of Assembly. They know that they had the Estimates, and they had plenty of time to do things properly. There is provision in the Estimates for overtime work, and we do not intend to go into Committee today.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, surely, some of the amendments - not all of them - deal with Heads of the Estimates which were the subject of Parliamentary action earlier today. The hon. member could surely not be objecting to proceeding with those.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to separate anything. If I were in the House earlier today when that Bill was circulated, I would not have agreed to it. You cannot deal with these matters piecemeal; you have to look at them as a whole. We came here earlier today and we had an Order in relation to the Judiciary which was not the subject of debate in here; we could not debate it in here, because it was an Order made by the Governor-General, and then a Bill comes in. One has to look at everything as a whole in respect to relationship.

We feel on this side that it is most unfair to ask us to continue with these matters today. We are not in a position to deal with all of these matters today and, therefore, we are not dealing with one. If the Government want to use their numbers, they can do so with consequences to themselves. It was in their power to have seen fit that the parliamentary machinery should have circulated these matters before. What do we find? At the last moment we come in here and you want to deal with everything today. It is scandalous, and it is no wonder that the people carry away money in the Government Departments all along. They know that this Government is the type of Government that does not care anything about finances or the proper discussion of finances. We object, and we will break up the House if Your Honour rules against it.

Mr. CRAIG:

Mr. Speaker, I would like to support my colleague on this side. Only yesterday I myself received documents in relation to the Estimates, and I was the most amazed person to know how the Government could bring down something in this manner - something which is the most Important factor in the entire life of this community - the country's expenditure - and push it before us. That is not good enough.

Only five minutes ago, Sir, you yourself saw the Clerk of the House putting papers before hon. members. Let Government bend at some time. We are prepared to do what we can on this side to see the whole process of parliamentary democracy go through, One cannot just come here and, be cause you have the numbers, ram these things down our throats. You must remember that some day the shoe might be on the other foot, and you would not like it. I support my hon. colleague in not dealing with these matters today. I hope the hon. Leader of the House will not give a deaf ear to what we are saying.

Mr. St. JOHN:

I do not care if the hon. member gives a deaf ear or not. The basic position is that it seems to me that this was done in this manner in an attempt to prevent members on this side from looking at the matters as a whole. Nobody can tell me that these matters were not decided at least at the last Cabinet meeting last Thursday. How is that the big official Civil Service machinery could not get the documents cyclostyled in time to be circulated to hon. members over the weekend? The sitting was suspended today at twelve o'clock, and up to when I left here at half-past two and came back in here, not one document was circulated. A document was circulated about five minutes ago. You do not want discussion on these documents because you do not want us to go into their contents! This House cannot go into Com-mittee today. Do they think we are fools over here ? This House shall not go on today. There must be some morality somewhere in here. If they do not have any morality, then we will take such a stand today that we will get morality at least for today.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, really do not believe the hon. member can be as indignant as he seems. This is a simple issue. I admit that documents have just been circulated, and to that extent I think the hon. member and all hon. members are quite within their rights to protest about this. Having said that, a difference immediately emerges. Some of the things we are going to do in Committee of Supply bear relation to legislation which the House has already unanimously passed today. It is not as if we were quarrelling about something the contents of which hon. members had not sufficiently informed themselves. They were passed unamimously.

There is Head 1, Governor-General, and all that has to be done to that Head when we get into Committee of Supply is to insert the new figures which the House today, some two, three or four hours ago, have approved. When we come to do Parliament, admittedly, there are one or two new things, but some of the things are put in in consequence of what we have done today.

Now, I can imagine if the hon. member said that the Heads from certain big money-spending Depart-ments for which there axe numerous amendments should not be considered today; but the first three,

four or half a dozen Heads - I cannot remember them all - we formally pass whenever we go into Committee of Supply. Nobody quarrels about the Service Commissions, Customs, and so on. We have been doing this year after year. What I am telling the hon. member is this: Go into Committee of Supply; indicate to this side of the House which matters or which Heads would need additional study. If hon. members do not choose that alternative which I still think is the more reasonable alternative, then, perhaps, we can come out at nine o'clock tomorrow morning.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Mr. Speaker, let us come at ten o'clock tomorrow. (Asides)

Mr. SPEAKER:
Hon. members not addressing the Chair!

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has indicated quite loudly that the House is not to proceed. Well, it is not because of his indication that I am moving this motion. I am taking the reasonable part of what he said and justifying what I am now going to do.

I, therefore, beg to move that this sitting now stands suspended until nine o'clock tomorrow morning.

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

Mr. St. JOHN:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move an amendment to that motion. I beg to move that the House stands suspended until ten o'clock tomorrow morning.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I beg to second that. Mr. SPEAKER I will put the amendment first.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, we accept the amendment.

The question that the House be now suspended until Wednesday, 18th March, 1970, at 10 a.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

3.22 p.m.

On resumption:-

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

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

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

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

HEAD 1 - GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Head 1 - Governor-General - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, we have to change some figures under this Head. Next to Item 1 the figure must be changed from " $23,040" to "$26,400", and the figure under that is to be changed from "$9,600" to "$12,000". On the opposite page we have to change the figure "1967" to "1970" because we passed the Act yesterday; and then in note 5 we change the figure from "$1,500" to "$2,000" which is the contribution the Governor-General will now pay to the wages of the staff in respect of the increase in his emoluments. It does not affect the appropriation.

I beg to move that the sum of $54, 731 under Head 1 - Governor-General - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

HEAD 2 - SERVICE COMMISSIONS Head 2 - Service Commissions - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $636, 274 under Head 2 - Service Commissions - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, I want to hear the views of hon. members opposite on the very unsatisfactory state which exists with respect to the Public Service Commission and its functioning now. I know that

constitutionally this body is an independent body, but I still think it is the duty of Parliament to express its view sin relation to any matter of administration with which Parliament disagrees. I think it is shocking that three years after Independence, and after setting up the new Public Service Commission under the Constitution, absolutely no new regulations have been made. I see here in the notes that reference is still made to the Public Service Regulations, 1962. Surely it is not in the interest of good relations between the Public Service Commission and the Civil Service gene rally that people are operating in the Civil Service in this country with no Standing Orders and no proper Public Service Regulations in existence. I think it is our function by voicing this matter publicly to let the powers-that-be know quite clearly that we regard this as an unsatisfactory state of affairs, and in my opinion not in the interest of good employer/employee relations between the Government and its servants.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, that view is equally shared on this side. I think I may tell the hon. member, however that this new Commission is, I believe, only a few months old, and new Regulations which had been in the process of being prepared and, I think, are almost complete are going to be submitted to them shortly. They have themselves brought attention to this fact. This is of course something we are worried about; so I would like the hon. member to know that we are not taking this particular matter lightly, and it is hoped that the Public Service Commission will be able to promulgate the new Regulations shortly. The lack of these Regulations lead to a lot of uncertainty and confusion in the discipline of the Service, to the embarrassment of everybody concerned. The point is taken and we have to hurry up and get that done.

Mr. HINDS:

One point which I believe the Leader of the House should look at at this stage, Mr. Chairman, is the number of acting appointments in the Public Service and the length of time which officers are called upon to act. They cannot give of their best because there is no certainty as to whether or not they are.going to be appointed in the end, and that in itself is causing considerable dissatisfaction in a number of Departments. I am asking the Leader of the House to take note of these things and let us know what is the policy of Government as regards these acting appointments in the Civil Service, bearing in mind the number of people who are being turned out from our schools annually and are available for the Service.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This point also is well taken. The hon. members does not sit in Cabinet; if he did he would know how exercised Ministers are on this matter. There is hardly a week that passes that we are not drawing our own attention to the fact that Departments of Ministries are grossly understaffed, and certainly not working at their best be cause of the delay in processing appointments. The Ministry of Trade, I believe, is one Department which is suffering materially in this respect, and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and there must easily be half a dozen other Departments. We are continually drawing the attention of the Commission to this, and I believe the new Commission is sensitive to this point and is trying its best to clear up this long backlog that has accumulated.

The question that the sum of $636, 274 under Head 2 - Service Commissions - stand part, of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 3 - PARLIAMENT Head 3 - Parliament - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 3 be postponed. We have some important things to look at which would take us some time, and after these matters have been considered we will come back to this.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

HEAD 4 - AUDITOR GENERAL Head 4 - Auditor General - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $8, 465 under Head 4- Auditor General - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, we are passing money for the Auditor General's Department. I am a member of the Public Accounts Committee of this House, and under the terms of the Instruments setting it up we can only report upon the Accounts a rising out of the Report of the Auditor General. We have checked

repeatedly in here, and I am going to check again with the Clerk to find out the late stone we have had, because I only became a member since the prorogation of this House. The last one we had was for 1966-67, a period of time relating to the last Parliament partially and not to this Parliament. 10.10 a.m.

We cannot regard this as satisfactory; in the United Kingdom and other parts of the Commonwealth where there is an Auditor General, within nine months of the Financial Year the report on the Accounts is out. This is a most unsatisfactory state of affairs that obtains here because it means that the main machinery that has been devised for checking upon extravagance or vote-switching is just not functioning. In my opinion, the Auditor General should report on such Accounts as has been submitted and say that the rest have not been submitted, and then we will be able to deal with it. We will then get the Financial Officers throughout the Ministries understanding the position that Parliament regards this in a very-serious light. I would resign from the Committee and make a public issue of it; you have to take extraordinary steps to get people to function. 1 have checked repeatedly with the documents before this House, and we cannot find it.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, under Item 14 -Visits to Overseas Missions, we see that there has been no provision for this year; in last year's Estimates there was an amount of $3, 671. One has got to bear in mind that the Ministry of External Affairs controls a very considerable size of the nation's expenditure, and what we have got to ask of the Leader of the House at this stage is whether or not Government's decision has been that there must be no auditing of the finances of the Ministry of External Affairs with respect to the Missions abroad, since it was found necessary not to include an amount for this year. Everything in these Estimates costs more, and we find that the auditing and the Visit to Overseas Missions is not now found to be necessary, and we must come to the conclusion that there will be no auditing of the accounts of these various Missions, Why is It? How is it? How is the money being accounted for? To whom are these Missions accounting for their expenditure? There is no number attached to this Item and it certainly looks funny. There is an amount of $650 for Furniture and Equipment, but there is no number attached to the 'Visits to Overseas Missions'. Are we to understand that the Auditor General or anybody from his Department will be visiting these Overseas Missions to see how the taxpayers' money will be spent, and can Government feel satisfied that the interest of the Barbadian taxpayer is best served when you can just vote money by Parliament and put it to these Missions and they spend it as they feel without having any proper accounting system? Why is it that the Auditor General is not, from what we can gather here, to carry out checks, as has been found necessary last year, for instance? What has gone wrong? Are we having a system set up where these accounts are being audited by the West Indies Stock Exchange? We have got to be very serious about this because the West Indies Stock Exchange is merely making inroads into the taxpayers' money of these countries. We have got to hear from the Leader of the House exactly what the position is with regard to the accounts of these Overseas Missions.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Before I reply, may I just ask members of the Committee to note a verbal correction on the opposite

page to the note to No. 14. The word should be "machine" and not "maching"; that is just a slight correction.

First of all, Mr. Chairman, 1 take the point made by the hon. senior member for Christ Church on the Public Accounts Committee, and I will certainly pass on his suggestion to the Ministry of Finance that there should be an Interim Report to Parliament. Frequently when we get a communication from the Auditor General, we hear that this has not been done because a Ministry has not submitted accounts; the better way would be to send in the report on what he has received and draw the attention of the House as sternly as he can to the dereliction of duty of some Accounting Officers. I will pass that on because we cannot do our work properly unless this is done.

With respect to the point raised by the hon. junior member for St. Peter, I speak under correction here, but I believe that when we decided last year to do this it was on the advice of the Auditor General himself that he should be allowed from time to time to make spot checks on the finances of the Overseas Missions. I do not think that he had recommended that this be done every year, and I would also point out that in each Embassy or High Commission there is always an officer there, whether of Permanent Secretary-rank or of the rank immediately below, who is the Accounting Officer for that Mission or Embassy or whatever it is, and that officer has to maintain close liaison with the Ministry of External Affairs, the Permanent Secretary and the Accounting Officer in the Ministry from month to month. I do not think, therefore, that if any mistake or anything like that occurs it would not be easily detected, nor do I think that the supervision which is kept on the overseas expenditure is lacking in any way; there is perfect accountability between the officers in the overseas departments and the appropriate officer in the Ministry of External Affairs, as well as there is always a permanent officer in each Mission who is the Accounting Officer on the spot, and as I have said before, the Auditor General did not recommend that it would be necessary for his Department to do this every year.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, it is too early in the passing of these Estimates for the Minister to set himself up trying to find excuses which cannot hold water. Right here in Barbados where Accounting Officers are set up in each Department, within an arm's length of the Auditor General himself, it is found necessary to vote under Item 13, $5,000 to carry out surprise checks in Barbados where the Auditor General could almost sit in his own office and spy into the books. of every Department here. 10.20 a.m.

Are we to understand now that because the Auditor General did not see it necessary to tell Cabinet that these checks should be carried out annually, the interest of the tax-payers can thus be best served? The Minister ought to know that in his New York Office, his New York Embassy, there are two officers, who, it is known in Barbados - widely known - have been in financial difficulties. They are having problems. They have been having problems in the New York Embassy. So what are we to understand,

that we just let the taxpayers' money go and there is nobody to carry out a check on them? Something is wrong, radically wrong, because if one were to look at the printed copy of the Estimates before us, they have down to Item 14; why no Item 15? But undoubtedly the printers were not instructed to remove from the 'galley' the Item 'Visit to Overseas Missions'. Why does that line appear in the Estimates with no provision if Government did not find it necessary, didn't have any intention whatsoever of making provision for it? Undoubtedly the mere presence of the line 'Visits to Overseas Missions' gives us the feeling that some discussion must have gone on at some point, but it might be a case where no final decision has been taken. Really and truly, the excuse that the Leader of the House decides to offer does not hold water and cannot be accepted.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I wonder if the hon. member understands this point. The Auditor General of this country is a person with statutory powers. He cannot be directed by us how to do his work. If, therefore, he feels that he does not need to do this every year, he will not ask for provision to be put in for it to be done and he cannot be directed to do it.

I take, however, the hon. member's point that the strictest scrutiny ought to be exercised between the Ministry of External Affairs and its overseas departments. I take that point; but that is a different point from saying that the Auditor General should be made to do a visit; you can't make him do it. He recommends what his duties are to be because he has statutory powers; he cannot be interfered with. If he doesn't recommend it, it just isn't done. But, obviously, reference has to be made here because an appropriation was made last year at his request.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I am somewhat weary of hearing the Leader of the House getting up and saying, whenever a point is made on behalf of the Opposition; 'I will see about it; I will pass it on and see what can be done'. Now, Sir, when the Leader of the House today tells us that he is going to pass on the comments made by the senior member for Christ Church, to the effect that there has been no report from the Auditor General since, I think, 1966/67, when he says he is going to pass on that, Sir, it is really an admission of saying 'Well, is that really so? The Government was not aware of it'. That is what it boils down to because if at this stage the Government has done nothing about it, the Government is taken (1) to have to condone the situation or (2) not to care whether the situation exists or not; either to condone it and do not care whether it exists, or, thirdly, is not aware of it at all,

Now, Sir, that doesn't speak very well for the Government. This is now 1970, Sir; we are going on to the Estimates for 1970/71, Sir, to find that the functions of one of the most important Committes of this House of Assembly are being held up because of the conduct of the Auditor General - conduct which the Leader of the House says that he would pass on. To whom is he going to pass it, Sir? To the Minister of

Finance? Is the Minister of Finance aware of it? Is the Cabinet aware of it? Or is the attitude of Government such today that they don't care about it? I am weary of the statement of the Leader of the House that he is going to pass it on!

If the Government is aware of it, there would be no need for the Minister to get up in here and say he is going to pass it on to somebody else, Sir; the Government would have done something about it. I am quite certain, if the Government were on their toes and were to insist on the publication of these reports - nobody perhaps in law could demand the Auditor General to publish it - but I think if the Government were to insist on it, instead of only the Opposition talking about the lack of these reports, then I have absolutely no doubt that these reports would have been published, and that one of the im-portant Committees of the House would be able to function properly.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Well, I am very glad the hon. member is willing to join his voice to mine to make it stronger. We have no quarrel on this point. I just want to add something to what I said. The overseas audit is designed to complement the basic checking which is done here in Barbados, and it is not proposed - so I understand - to carry out that special visiting audit every year; it will be done every other year.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

It was decided to carry out the audit-or was something suspected to be wrong, that they carried out the audit last year?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

No, No. It is just as I said.....

Mr. HINDS:

Or is it that you don't know?

Hon. J.C.TUDOR:

It is that the hon. junior member for St. Peter knows and would not tell me. i(Mr. HINDS We will tell you in St. Peter).

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Just to answer the hon Junior member for the City, the Auditor General has an initiative in these matters which he exercised it last year; he does not propose to exercise it this year and he will do it again next year.

The question that the sum of $8, 465 under Head 4 - Auditor General - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 5 - JUDICIARY

Head 5 - Judiciary - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Now, under Judiciary, Mr. Chairman, we have to change some figures arising out of legislation we passed yesterday.

Mr. St. JOHN:
We did not pass any legislation yesterday.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Let me see, legislation laid or Orders laid, I believe - Orders laid yesterday. On page 8, the first figure, $15,600 should be changed to $21,600. Next the Puisne Judges, we change $36,000 tO $48,600. Then we go down in the column next to that, almost to the end of that column; you change $3, 580 to $6, 220. Under that; you change $3, 320 to $5, 240 and you put in 12B, Housing Allowance, $8, 640. The sub-total under that is changed to $21,060. 10.30 a.m.

When you go over to the opposite page you strike out the words "Resolution No. 95/1966" and put in "The Judges' Remuneration and Pension Act 1969-39". Then lower down opposite the new Item 12 B there is a note "The Judges (Conditions of Service and Allowances) Regulations, 1969." You go to the next page and the sub-total becomes $21,060. This is at the top of page 9. The next sub-total against the total Recurrent is changed from $79, 363 to $92, 563, and then at the bottom the grand total changes

from $88, 773 to $101, 973.

I beg to move, therefore, that the sum of $101, 973 under Head 5 Judiciary - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. St. JOHN:
Mr. Chairman, yesterday certain documents were circulated, and I should like to make a few observations on the new position, because the new position is a very important one. I have just had the privilege of attending a Conference which consisted of representatives of the Barand the Solicitors' profession from every Caribbean territory including the Bahamas, British Honduras and Bermuda; and if there was one thing that disturbed everyone assembled there, it was the fact that there was dissatisfaction right through the area among the Judiciary on the question of payments.

For Barbados this is very important, and it is now more so than ever before. I can anticipate a raid on the Judiciary manpower that is available here. The Rt. Hon. Prime Minister knows very well that, with the policies now pursued in countries like the Bahamas and Bermuda where they are desisting from recruiting people from the United Kingdom and are recruiting them from within the area, their salaries are so much more attractive than ours that we will have to do our utmost to attract the best of our Bench. I do not begrudge anyone anything at all. I have absolutely nothing against the proposals that were made here yesterday for the Ministers and the Prime Minister, but it does appear to me that, in relation to the proposals for the Judiciary, the Judiciary have been underpaid. That is my opinion, and I believe it will be the general opinion of other people, when other comparisons are being made, that some adjustments will have to be made.

Now, the position of a Judge in these territories is a completely different thing from a Judge in the larger territories. Nobody lives more isolated in these countries than a Judge. He has to live in isolation because he is working in a small community. The second point in Barbados is that we have what I call a bastard arrangement for a Court pf Appeal. When we tried to explain it to people in other parts of the Caribbean, they were amazed that such a system could operate satisfactorily. Of course, it does not operate satisfactorily. One only has to look at the judicial farce that took place in the unfortunate case of murder at Hothersal Turning. Therefore, it seems to me that the time has come when the Government must make up its mind and start initiating discussions in the usual manner about the Court of Appeal. I do not want to say anything mo re with respect to the Supreme Court at the moment.Now, when we

come to the Magistrates, there is more dissatisfaction among the Magistrates than ever before because there is a complement of 8 Magistrates, according to the Establishment, but at no time do you have more than 6 Magistrates. As a result of that, some Magistrates have to do two jurisdictions, and others have to split jurisdictions. There was a system at the Hospital that, when the Establishment called for a certain number of Doctors and fewer Doctors did the work, some arrangement would be made whereby the totality of the pay would be divided amongst the Doctors doing the work. Why cannot the same system operate in respect of the Magis-trates? We have to bear in mind that the shift of the population that has taken place in Barbados in the Metropolitan area, the parish of Christ Church and in St. James has increased the judicial work of the Magistracy. The Magistracy has increased from Speights-town to Christ Church.

If you feel that you want to reduce the Establishment of the Magistrates, then the position is that you have to decide in your mind how you are going to do it. If you do that, it means that the Magistrates have to do more work and, therefore, a substantial regrading has to take place. The Prime Minister said yesterday that we have the highest per capita. income in the whole Caribbean. Now this is not something the significance of which the Prime Minister alone will appreciate. Other people will appreciate this fact, and they feel that they should participate, too, in this increase in the per capita. income. They feel that their position is an unsatisfactory one. The Magistrates feel that their position is unsatisfactory in that they are now called upon to do double the work for the same pay. Some of them are doing two Districts. The mentality is over when anybody regards a Magistracy with so high an esteem that he cannot ask for more money. Those days- are gone. The status symbol does not mean anything now. Dollars and cents are the biggest motivating factors today.

Of coarse, you are already losing people from the Crown Law Office, and you are going to lose more because the Bahamas, Bermuda and other territories are going to pay Magistrates more than Barbados. Even in the Windward Islands and the Leward Islands, when you take the perquisites that they offer for housing, travelling, etc., into consideration, you are better off than a Magistrate in Barbados. You are having difficulty in recruiting Magistrates in Barbados now, and you will have greater difficulty in the future.

I do not specialise in Magistrates' Courts any longer, but my hon. colleague on my left and, I have no doubt, Mr. Speaker will be able to tell the Government privately about the frustrations which the Magis-trates feel about this matter. As far as the Magistrate in the Civil Court is concerned, he feels more frustrated than the others be cause of the fact that the Civil Jurisdiction has recently been raised to $1,000 and the cases that used to go to the Supreme Court are now going before the Magistrate of District "A". He does not even mind about his own position, but the Establishment is the same as in 1958; it does not even have its own Chief Clerk; it is still under the Criminal Jurisdiction.

It seems to me that in relation to other proposals that have been brought down here, sooner or later the Government will be forced to revise the proposals in relation to the Judges and the Magistrates. The proposals for Magistrates especially will have to be revised because of the fact that they are now called upon to do additional work. 10, 40 a.m.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I believe I am right in saying that of the number of people who come into contact with the law in Barbados each year, roughly 80% come into contact with law as dispensed in the Magistrates' Courts in this Island. However important the Supreme Court of Judicature may be - I am not saying it is not important because it has an important role to perform - the idea of justice and law and order by 80% of the people is that as dispensed in the Magistrates' Courts. If at any time these people become frustrated because of the type of justice that is being administered, then it stands to reason that they will become dissatisfied also with the entire administration of justice in this country; and taking it to its logical conclusion, when people become dissatisfied with the administration of justice in any country, then they have absolutely no respect for law and order in the society; and if we deteriorate to this stage, then we are removing one of the very foundations of society. To some it may seem that everything is well with the administration of justice, but for those of us who practise daily in the Courts, we know that all is not well.

As the hon. senior member for Christ Church has pointed out, the Magistrates are dissatisfied for one reason or another. I do not blame them because the conditions under which they have to work are unsatisfactory. There are some people who believe that you need less Magistrates in Barbados. That may be true, but under the present system where the Island is divided into certain magisterial Districts and each District is supposed to have its own Magistrate, if the feeling is that you need less magisterial Districts and Magistrates, then you must have the districts re-organised, and the answer is not, as you have at present, by not appointing Magistrates, because this is what is happening in Barbados today. I believe we have two vacancies, one of which has existed for over two years.

I know that it is the policy of the Government in the Judical and Legal Service to keep people acting for a long time before they are appointed. If a Magistrate is not satisfied with the conditions under which he works, this dissatisfaction is going to be shown in Court to the litigants, and they are going to suffer because of the dissatisfaction. If you want to reduce the number of Magistrates on the Establishment, by all means do so; but you cannot reduce it without reorganising the magisterial Districts and have one Magistrate doing two Courts at the same time. The Magistrates' Jurisdiction and Procedure Act was passed in 1956, and it is now fourteen years that this system has been in operation. As the hon. senior member for Christ Church has pointed out, with the number of people moving away from certain areas and certain other areas becoming densely populated, there is, of necessity, need to re-organise the magisterial Districts, and if the Government is going to do this, they should do it now. You cannot recognise that there is need for a full-time Magistrate sitting at District "B" at Boarded Hall and District "C" in St. John, and then expect that one man can operate two Courts efficiently. It is unfair and

unreasonable to expect this of him, and I would say that you do not give him any more money for operating these Courts under the present set-up. It is no joke to find that a case is set for 9 o'clock, and when you go to the Court you are told that the Magistrate has gone to another District after which he will come to that Court. It creates a hardship on the lawyers involved and works extreme hardship on the litigants. What sort of idea would this person have of the administration of justice in this country?

We are told from time to time that the Registrar . of the Supreme Court is responsible for the Magistrates, but this seems to create a difficulty because as I understand it, in the distribution of portfolios within the Cabinet, the Judiciary-which includes the Magistrates' Courts and the Supreme Court - falls under the Prime Minister, and the Registrar of the

Supreme Court comes under the Registration Department which falls under the Ministry of Home Affairs; so it is difficult to see how you are going to have the Registrar of the Supreme Court responsible for the administration of justice in the Magistrates' Courts when the Registrar himself comes under the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Courts come under the Prime Minister. I am not at this stage criticising the administration of justice as dispensed by the Magistrates. They have their own faults and I will comment on them, if necessary, in other places; but I am concerned now with the administration of justice as regards the Magistrates themselves and the attitude of the Government and those in power to the Magistrates. It is well known that a Magistrate may operate with a particular person as his Court Clerk, and as soon as that Clerk is well trained, the Magistrate goes to the Court and finds one morning that the Clerk has left, without the Magistrate being informed beforehand that the Clerk is being taken away. 10.50 a.m.

Some mornings it has been known that a Magistrate could go to the Court and find no Clerks at all; and when you ask the Magistrate about this, he tells you he can do nothing at all about it because he has no responsibility for the officers that work in the Courts. This is most frustrating to a Magistrate because the staff in the Magistrates' Courts are removed, the Magistrate is not told anything about it, and he has been told that he has no concern with the administration of the office of the Magistrates' Court. This again has caused dissatisfation among the Magistrates, it has caused dissatisfaction among the lawyers, and it has even affected the litigants. This is the view of justice of the ordinary man who goes to the Magistrates' Courts; this is his view of the administration of justice - delays over and over again because inefficiency exists among those responsible for the administration of the Magistrates' Courts,

The Registrar of the Supreme Court from time to time is supposed to be responsible for the Magistrates, but it is time that the Government recognise that what is needed in Barbados is a Civil Servant with the full responsibility of the administration of the Magistrates' Courts - not th3 Registrar of the Supreme Court. This is what the Magistrates of this country has been asking for for a long time - a Chief Magistrate who would be responsible for the complete administration of the Magistrates' Courts in

this country. And this is not too much to ask. I am quite certain that the Prime Minister, if he were still at the Bar, would have kept a lot more noise about this situation. What we would like to see established is a Chief Magistrate who has responsibility for administering the Magistrates' Courts, with a Chief Clerk on the criminal side and a Chief Clerk on the civil side directly responsible to the Chief Magistrate; that is the only way in which you are going to get an efficient system running in the Magistrates' Courts of this country.

While I am on this, I will go a step further to say that it is time that those responsible for the administration of the Magistrates' Courts realise that you can no longer have Writ Servers who are not responsible to Magistrates serving process in a Magistrate's Court. One finds very often that a case is not summoned; for one reason or another no return is made to the Court. In the Supreme Court, the Marshal responsible comes under the Registrar and the Registrar is directly responsible to the Chief Justice; but in the Magistrates' Courts the bailiffs will tell you that they are not responsible to the Magistrates and that they are only answerable to the Commissioner of Police. If you want to do anything at all about it, even the Magistrates themselves tell you they have no control over the bailiffs. In some cases it is known that a Magistrate will send for a bailiff to make certain investigations and the bailiff will send back and tell the Magistrate: "My duty is not to you; it is to the Commissioner of Police". When that attitude is adopted, again the litigants suffer because they may have to go to the Court and find that a case has not been summoned, and nobody is answerable for it. Nobody does anything and the poor litigants has to go away frustrated; therefore it would be reasonable if the Government would consider when they establish - and I say "when" because we must recognise the need for a Chief Magistrate - when they establish the office of Chief Magistrate, then the bailiffs and the process servers should be removed from the Police and placed directly under the Chief Magistrate, because nobody can serve process in any Court and not be responsible to the officer of that Court; it is a mockery of justice. 1 know the excuse will be that it has been like this for so many years. But that is not satisfactory; we are asking for a change. We would like to see a change brought about.

I could talk for almost the balance of the day and tell you what is wrong with the Magistrates' Courts and the Supreme Courts of this country. I was hearkened to hear the senior member for Christ Church suggest that there is need for rethinking as regards the Court of Appeal in Barbados; this is why I felt that the Bar Association and those of us who practise before the Courts would know that the present arrangement is entirely unsatisfactory that where a person is tried more than once and he appeals and goes before the other three Judges and the appeal is allowed, he is then sent back to be re-tried and he must of necessity go before one of the Judges who sat on the Court of Appeal. If he appeals again, he must go before two Judges who have heard the appeal before, and one who has heard the case twice. This is unsatisfactory, not to the lawyers, but to the litigants. I think the public appreciates that justice must be seen to be done, and nobody feels happy to have been tried by one Judge and then to go before three other Judges, after which he has to go back and be tried by one of the Judges who has formerly sat on the appeal. I would exhort the Prime Minister, firstly as Leader of the Government of this country, and secondly as a Barrister in the Courts of this Island for many years, and one who would appreciate the necessity for having justice done to his clients.

There are one or two other points I would like to .mention; but before I pass on, let me say this. The conditons under which the Magistrates have to work are more than unsatisfactory; if anybody were to visit the St. Peter's Magistrate's Court -which is a Court with a lot of work - and see the conditions under which the Magistrate has to work, or the Holetown Magistrate's Court which is even worse -these two are the worst in the Island because it is impossible for the Clerk of the Court at Holetown or at Speightstown to perform any sort of duties while the Court is in session, be cause if a person goes behind the back of the Speightstown Court and speaks to the Clerk, he is of necessity interrupting the Magistrate. If he goes to the Holetown Court where there is not even a partition between them, again he is interrupting the Court, so that it is impossible for the Clerks to do any work at the same time the Court is sitting. 11.00 a.m.

Again, Sir, the Magistrates do not have proper facilities inthe Courts; some of them are like cow sheds. This is no joke; it is unfair to ask people to go into them and dispense justice in those circumstances. As I said earlier, if the Magistrates are not satisfied with the conditions under which they have to work, they are going to become irritable; they are going to show their dissatisfaction to lawyers. We don't mind that; but what we object to is when the dissatisfaction is being shown to the clients, and the litigants. To some people it may seem unimportant as to the sort of Courts the Magistrates sit in, and the conditions they work under; but it is patent that people cannot work under bad conditions and dispense good justice. At District"E" Magistrate's Court, Sir, if there are three or four lawyers attending the Court, at least two of them have to stand in the yard or go into the Police Station and beg for a chair; this is not right. There are no facilities in the Courts for barristers, Sir. There is not a proper table for Counsel; there are no proper chairs. This is so, Sir, at Holetown, Speightstown, St. Thomas, Boarded Hall and District "C". Not only do the Magistrates have bad conditions, but the lawyers too; you do not provide proper facilities for them. Even in a Court like District "A" Criminal Court, if you have more than three barristers, you see some of them standing up at the Bar table; there are no chairs for them to sit in.

This is not right, Sir; this is all part and parcel of the attitude of those responsible for the administration of justice of this country. If this continues, there is going to be a breakdown in the Magistrates' Courts, and that would lead to a breakdown of law and order in this country. People are not going to be satisfied with these present conditions. Sir, I have no doubt that the Prime Minister is aware of the points I have made because one thing is quite clear; these conditions have been existing for a very long time; perhaps even when the Prime Minister was a member of the Bar these conditions were existing, because the Courts have not changed. One would have expected in the circumstances that the Prime Minister, now that he is responsible for the Government, would have done something about it because the Judiciary and the Magistrates' Courts come directly under his Ministry, and it is not asking him too much to do something with the present administration of the Magistrates' Courts.

I see here, Sir, that there is a vote for books in the Magistrates' Courts. Well, Sir, I can safely say this;

the condition of the books in the Magistrates' Courts or the books that are required in the Magistrates' Courts of this country could never be purchased for $450, because some of the Magistrates' Courts in this country do not even have Magistrate' Courts Rules. Those are the conditions under which Magistrates are expected to dispense justice, Sir.

Sir, those are the points which I desire to make, and I conclude my address at this stage on those points.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, there are just one or two points I would like to deal with seriatim. The time of the Estimates is an opportunity for members to show off their expertise - or lack of expertise - when it comes to matters which are not related to their constituents. We have had a display of both in this debate, not being restricted to any particular speaker - a mixture of both.

First, I would like to deal with salaries because I think it is our duty to explain to hon. members what the position is. Now, all of us will concede that there is a general brain-drain from lesser developed countries to more developed countries, and this does not necessarily mean from Colonial countries to metro-politan countries because, as the senior member for Christ Church has elaborated, there is even a brain-drain across the Caribbean and up North to places like Bermuda and the Bahamas. There is nothing much one can do about that kind of thing because every time an officer leaves a senior post in the Barbados Public Service or the Judiciary, we cannot im-mediately escalate the salaries to prevent the others from leaving. As far as the salary increases to the members of the Judiciary are concerned, the increase which was granted to the Puisne Judges was of the order of 35% on their prior existing salaries, and this relates very favourably to increases which were granted to members of the Public Service. You will notice that I said deliberately 'members of the Public Service' and not 'other members of the Public Service' because, according to the Constitution, members of the Judiciary are not members of the Public Service.

Now, I should also like to point out that other fringe benefits and inducements have been brought about since I have been in office in relation to the conditions of service of the members of the Judiciary. They now have a separate Act which governs their terms and conditions of service. This they never had before. They now get a travelling allowance which they never got before; they now get a house allowance which is tax free and pensionable, which they never got before, and it is tantamount to being double the house allowance given to senior members of the Public Service. They also will get an entertainment allowance.

Now there is a limit beyond which a country, even the richest country, cannot go. You cannot get a rush of blood to the head and say that whatever you think you ought to get we are going to pay; there is still a certain amount of relativity in salaries throughout the Public Service and other people drawing money from the Treasury in Barbados, and there is also some relativity between what happens in Barbados and what happens in the Windward and Leeward Islands and the other Commonwealth Caribbean countries.

Now, it is true that in some respects the members of the Judiciary in the Windward and Leeward Islands are better off than the members of the Judiciary here. The Chief Justice of the Leeward and Windward Islands gets a larger salary than the Chief Justice of Barbados. But there is a certain dislocation factor, apart from the other considerations which should be obvious to all, as against a Judge having to move around between eight territories and not having any stable home life - probably having to do some mild form of entertainment to senior officials and Government people when he moves around and all the other inconveniences which you suffer - and a Judge living in Barbados with the kind of social and economic climate, educational system and matters of that kind which we enjoy here which are not vouchsafed to some of the Lesser Antilles. 11.10 a.m.

There is a large amount of compensation. The quality of life in Barbados is a higher quality of life than they enjoy in Carriacou, Aruba, or some of the other parts of the Caribbean. I do not want to bring it any closer home. I think that is the reason why most of us are here, because most of the professional people, even in this House, may have been tempted from time to time, looking purely at salaries and fringe benefits which they can get in other territories, to make application for jobs in other places; but when you look at the overall picture, you will find that there are other intangibles which will have to be taken into consideration with regard to assessing the relativity of the salaries which are paid overseas. There are certain discomfort allowances and discomfort fact-tors built into the salaries of people who work in other parts of the world.

It happens in Africa where you get leave every 18 months, in Singapore and Hong Kong where elaborate allowances are paid for the education of children. Up to the time when I first entered this House, no public officer in Barbados got any overseas leave to go to England. This is something that was introduced around 1953 at the urging of some expatriate officers when the Colonial Empire in India and Africa happened to be dwindling at that time and, therefore, they wanted to transport to the economies of the Caribbean countries conditions of service which they had enjoyed in other benighted parts of the Empire, I say benighted as their subsequent development or lack of development clearly displayed. People who had to face Dengue fever, the tse-tse fly, and malaria would not expect to get the same kind of salary as a man living in Barbados in a salubrious climate and the other concomitants to the quality of life in this country. We are aware that people pay higher salaries abroad to members of the Judiciary, but the Judiciary in Bridgetown are certainly no worse off than they were eight or nine years ago or in all of those years collectively.

With regard to the question of the Court of Appeal, perhaps a better solution for the Caribbean countries is something that is being canvassed now. It is that there should be a Court of Appeal system, and not only a West Indian Court of Appeal, to supplant, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. The question of whether you have a separate Court of Appeal for Barbados, or whether you have the existing system, is a question not so much of principle, but a question of the volume of work. To suggest that a Judge, who is a member of the Supreme Court, is rendered incompetent because he has brother Judges in there sitting on an appeal from a brother Judge is certainly not a very flattering suggestion to make, and I will never subscribe to that.

I, personally, feel that if you elect the right calibre of people to the Bench, they should not be afraid to pass judgment or make a decision which may be unfavourable to a previous decision made by a fellow Judge. We have an illustration of this on the Queen's Bench Division in the United Kingdom. There are Courts in the United Kingdom which sit as Courts of first instance and Appeal Courts as well. Although they may not necessarily be appealing from one of their member Judges, they do have an Appellate Division and an Original Jurisdiction. A Judge is a Judge, as far as I am concerned. You do not have to be in the same room; if you are accused of back-scratching and you have a long hand, then you can back-scratch a man in Manchester just as you can back-scratch a man in Fleet Street. This is a debatable question.

If the volume of work justifies a separate and distinct Court of Appeal in Barbados, and it was clearly demonstrated that the administration of justice was imperilled because it would be incompetent and improper for two Judges to sit on an Appeal from a third Judge, then something would have to be done in the matter. We only vote the money and make a reccommendation to the Legislature, and the matter would be given due consideration. What I think should be more thoroughly investigated is the question of having on Appeal system for the Commonwealth Caribbean countries who enjoy a common system of jurisprudence and live under the rule of law.

When we come to the Magistrates, inadvertently the junior member for the City, on at least two or three occasions, although he was not aware of what he was doing-or if he did know what he was doing, he was not aware it was right - hit the nail on the head. He said, "It is time that the Judicial and Legal Service Commission" - he made that remark about three times and then he used the expression interchangeably with the term "Government". Now, this House will pass the Estimates and say: "Here is money for eight Magistrates'. If for any reason best known to itself the Judicial and Legal Service Commission has a policy not to recruit the full complement of Magistrates, it has been on no Ministerial directive. If the Commission finds itself in a position to recruit six Magistrates instead of eight, that is a matter for the Commission. I would say that at no stage has the Judicial and Legal Service Commission represented to the Government that its inability to recruit Magistrates is exclusively based on the inadequacy of the salaries which the Magistrates get.

I know that there are several cases of persons who have applied for jobs with the Judicial and Legal Service Commission, and they have not yet been called up. There is 'a saying that many are called and few are chosen, but in this case nonewas called. You have to call before you can choose. I think that some body like the Bar Association - you do not want to get the Magistrates directly involved in this - should make representations to the Commission saying that the work of the Courts is suffering as a result of the Commission's failure to recruit Magistrates.

Let me now give you my own experience. If I had to make a decision on this matter, I would say that I am not satisfied that all the District Courts "A", "B", "C", "D", "E"and"F" need separate Magistrates, and this is reflected in the fact that we have four or five in Bridgetown, that is in District "A". Then there are Districts "B", "C", "D", "E", "F" and Holetown, which is a part of District "E". You have all of these Courts and you only have an Establishment for eight Magistrates. Now, in the horse-and-buggy days there may have been some justification for having Courts spread all over the country; but in these days, even for people who have to travel by bus - I am expressing my personal opinion and this is no reflection on any recommendations which have been made, because none have been made. 11.20 a.m.

My personal point of view is that there is only one Supreme Court in Barbados and only one Registrar. We do not hold Grand Sessions in Belleplaine, in St. Philip or at Boarded Hall, and no great harm has fallen upon the State or upon litigants as a result of a failure to have Supreme Courts in every parish. My personal experience is that it is easier for a person to get from Oistins to Bridgetown than from Oistins to District "B" if he does not have a bicycle or a motor car. There certainly is no bus service going across from one part of the parish to the other, and I think what the Bar Association and the Judicial and Legal Service Commission should investigate is having one central Magistrate's Court with the eight Magistrates all sitting in Bridge town, and if there were any hardship, then we would be able to see who are the workers and who are the drones; but when you have to travel from District "C" to District "F" and then across the country to District "E" - and you are breaking the speed limit all the way - and by 11o'clock when you get to the Court you find that the Magistrate has gone somewhere else, and by 11.30 a.m. with nine cases on the list you find that all the Magistrates have gone home, you have not got any work done. One of the ways by which this difficulty can be solved is by centralising all the. Courts in Bridgetown, and I am sure the litigants would not complain, because you can imagine a man living, say, in Date Tree Hill in St. Peter and not having his own means of transportation trying to get up to Station Hill in Speightstown for a case, or a man living down in Bathsheba getting up to Horse Hill. It used to be worse because at one time there was no Court in St. Andrew at all; so if you live in Benn Hill in St. Peter you have to travel five miles without any bus service to District "F " in St. Joseph, and if you lived in Marley Vale in St. Philip you had to go all the way up to District "C" overlooking Vineyard and Summervale and close to Moncrieffe and Mount Pleasant, and anybody living in the uttermost part of St. Philip, the Crane, Kirtons or close to Seawell Airport had to backtrack, without any bus service to District "C",

Mr. Chairman, let me explain my position very carefully because we have a lot of expenditure this year. I am not going around looking for ways to spend Government money, but if representations are made to the Government that the whole system of the Court's physical facilities and what not should be centralised and rationalised, then I will bring the proposals to the House. I was so appalled by the conditions of the Courts that I got Mr. Carrington, the then Permanent Secretary, and invited the Chief Justice, Sir Kenneth Stoby, when I first came into office, to go around with me, and I showed them what the conditions were like, and as a result of that tour we made certain improvements. That was seven years ago, and since then no representations have been made to me, and therefore I would be entitled to feel that every thing is in order.

Let us take the business of the air-conditioning in the Law Library. That air-conditioning was put in as a result of my making that tour, and the acquisition of certain volumes from the Federal Government and the Reece collection. That air-conditioning not only is not working now, but has not been working for some considerable time. One would exp3ct that the Government should hear of that from some official source and not in the form of a Question in the House of Assembly, because we do not 'play detective', looking for ways and means to spend money. We are trying to curb unnecessary expenditure; so you would not expect us in the Ministry of Finance to go around saying that we had better make changes because no Board of Survey has been held. Nobody has even reported that the air-conditioning was out of order.

As far as the physical arrangements in the Courts are concerned, my personal opinion is that they are unsatisfactory; but I am Minister of Finance, and I am not going to say that something should be done for the members of the profession to which I belong, because it would look as if I am running the Government out of my personal experience, and we could not do it that way. When people ask me what is the interpretation of so-and-so, I say I am not practising law, and that that is for the Judges. Even when Ministers ask me my opinion, I say that is what we axe paying the Attorney General for. I am being paid to see that the money is not spent unnecessarily. The question of legal interpretation of what is happening is for the appropriate authorities. I have dealt with the question of Magisterial districts and I am personally inclined to agree.

Now the hon. junior member for Bridgetown said that the Judiciary falls under the Prime Minister. That is a very loose expression. They certainly rise under the Prime Minister as far as salaries are concerned, but in anything else they do not fall under me at all. They are tantamount to being an independent Republic. There is a certain dichotomy in so far as the administration of justice is concerned because we do have the difficulty that the keeping of public records comas under the Registrar - he is Recorder General - and this is a matter for Home Affairs. The question of photo-copying and the efficiency of keeping the records is for the Minister of Home Affairs, through the Permanent Secretary, through the Registrar. They do not consult the Chief Justice on that aspect of the

work. The filing of documents with the Supreme Court is a judicial process, and that also comes under the Registrar. One way in which you can cure that anomaly is to have a Registrar of the Supreme Court who is really Registrar of the Supreme Court and nothing else, and then you have a Registrar who is responsible for the Public Records Office; in other words, a Public Records Office separate and distinct from the Registry of the Supreme Court.

Now I think some attempt was made to effect this by appointing Deputy Registrars. I am not certain how the system is working because I have not discussed it with the Minister of Home Affairs for a long time, but I do know that we have now provided some copying equipment, and people are getting birth certificates and matters of that kind a lot more quickly than before. Again this is something which a professional body is in a peculiarly advantageous position to make recommendations on to the appropriate authorities so that the matter can be investigated.

Now there was a complaint also that Magistrates' Clerks are shifting from one Court to the other. There are two kinds of transfers which can take place in so far as Magisterial Clerks are concerned. The first one is that where the situation has arisen that somebody is either absent on leave or otherwise unable to perform his duty, the Registrar himself would ask a Clerk from District "A" to go and handle the work at District "B" or "C", as the case may be, or any of the other Magistrates' Courts. I think this is the kind of emergency which would arise from day to day; so a magistrate in Bridgetown cannot really complain if one of-this Clerks has to go and take the Court somewhere else. But there is another kind of transfer for which the Registrar is not responsible at all, and we all suffer from this. Many mornings I have walked into my office and seen a new face, and I think that the person is only there for a short time because somebody has gone out and he in only 'stop-gapping' for another Government officer, but at the end of the month, when I notice the same face there, I have to go and introduce myself and ask what is his name. After a month I begin to get suspicious, and I would ask whether he was working with us permanently and the officerwould say "yes". The other Ministers complain to me all the time that they lose members of their staff without so much as a 'by-your-leave' and new people are brought in, and sometimes nobody is brought in at all. This happens in Ministerial off ices f and the only people they cannot do this with are the Permanent Secretaries. They have to ask my permission to move a Permanent Secretary; but they can move the Accountant out of our office. You just walk in one morning and find you have a new person sitting at the desk. 11.30 o.m.

This is something that goss on all the time in the Government Service; and you will find a person who is highly trained to do a job like an Inspector of Taxes, and they will take him and put him in charge of the School Meals Programme. This happens all the time. They take people from the Inland Revenue Department and put them in charge of Hospital Records, and people from the Ministry who are highly trained in certain aspects of Government work and send them up to Glendairy Prison not to serve time? but on transfer, and that kind of thing; so 1 do not really know what to do about that. When a suggestion was made that the question of transfers should be under Establishments, as the Establishments Section was in a position to know from day to day what the requirements of Government officers were, the

Public Service Commission made a big lot of fuss and said that that would be making daily transfers subject to political control because the Chief Establishments Officer was one of my Permanent Secretaries; but they themselves have not read the Constitution be cause the person that they have always regarded as their personal secretary -the Chief Personnel Officer - is also a Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's office. It is only that I have given them a separate building, but they feel that it is nothing to do with the Government. The Government is run by politicians, and somebody sitting down in a store in Bridgetown can move somebody out of my office and send him to the Law Courts where he has never worked in his life, and bring somebody from the Law Courts into my office and acquaint him with the duties of Ministerial offices. I just thought I would mention this; these are some of the problems we have in running in a Government when people do not understand the Constitution of Barbados.

The hon. junior member for the City mentioned Writ Servers and Bailiffs becoming interchangeable. These are two different races and two different groups of people; the Writ Servers come under the Police Sergeants and the Commissioner of Police. We have three lots of people who are involved in process serving: (1) the Chief Marshal, the Marshal and the Deputy Marshals who also exercise some of the functions of Bailiffs insofar as the Supreme Court work is concerned, because they do have the right to carry out executions and so on; (2) the Writ Servers who are people who normally serve summonses; and (3) the Bailiffs who are people appointed under some peculiar Act, who are private individuals, who act as Auctioneers and levy on people's property for non-payment of rent after a Court Order -I think they even have a function that they can levy on property without going to the Court at all; they can do what the people of Coleridge Street call 'level on your goods. Again now I must express my personal view. No representation is made on the Government, but I do not see why Writ Servers have necessarily got to be under the Commissioner of Police or anybody else; 1 think we should have a new race of people in our process servers, and that they should be under some permanent administration divorced from the Police Force, and I think that the Bailiffs should be amalgamated with them, and there should be licensed Bailiffs under the authority of some central administration. That is what I want to say on that subject.

I am not quarelling with anything that has been said on that, but this is the time of the year when we will review the whole structure of Government, and members are entitled to raise these matters.

Mr. E LLIOTT MOTTLEY:

There is just one other point which I would like to make. Under Item 16-Judiciary, the amount there includes provision for the ; transport, board and lodging for members of the jury. I believe that the new Jury Bill will shortly be introduced before Parliament which will provide for females to sit on the jury, and I just want to make a query about the present provision of board and lodging. From time to time there have been complaints by members of the jury about the facilities provided for them at the Y.M.C.A, and it is accepted that the jurymen have said from time to time that the facilities are unsatisfactory. I would like to know from the Government whether they would consider providing better facilities for the jurymen, and also in a short while when they have females that they would provide the

appropriate facilities. It is quite clear that no female can serve on a murder case and go and sleep at the Y.M.C.A.; that would not be good enough, and I would like to find out whether the Government would consider - I do not expect them to send them to the Hilton, but at least they are being asked to perform a service for their country and it is only right that they should have some better accommodation.

I sincerely hope that the whole course of the debate of these Estimates will be sustained at the level which has been set by the other side this morning.

There is the other matter of Legal Aid in Criminal Cases, and I sincerely hope that those of us who do Legal Aid cases would in future be paid promptly. I have had a number of complaints as Secretary of the Bar Association, and a number of barristers complained to me late last year that they were not being paid promptly after their cases. I would just like an assurance from the Government that the money will be there to pay the Barristers for the work they do in the Courts.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

The question of jury' accommodation is a very tricky one. Last week when I was in Montreal the jury in the Sir George Williams case refused even to deliberate until they were sent to the Hotel, and it is only then that they were able to give a decision - fortunately a favourable one; but I have no doubt that in different surroundings they would have given a different decision. It is very difficult to take a jury and put them up at an ordinary commercial hotel or a tourist hotel; there was a time when they used to be accommodated at the Victoria Hotel, and then the Ice House was also a place where special juries were allowed to relax. But it is a question of convenience, and the number of cases in which juries are empanelled overnight are fortunately few and far between.

This is a matter which can be investigated, and if there are any suggestions coming from the Bar Association we will look into them. All I can say is that what Government can guarantee is separate and equal accommodation, only, of course, when they are deliberating on a matter. 11.40 a.m.

It is a very difficult problem .because we cannot put up a hotel just to accommodate jurors for five nights a year. May be, we could invite the Y.M.C.A. to improve their accommodation and assist them in some way; we have assisted them with loans before and one of the reasons why jurors are accommodated at the Y.M.C.A. now is because of the recognition that Government assisted them in moving from the now City Garage site over to the present more commodious premises. I really do not know what the answer to this one will be. I think that they are entitled to better conditions than they get now, but it is something that will have to be looked into very carefully.

The question that the sum of $101, 973 under Head 5 - Judiciary - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 6 - LEGAL

Head 6 - Legal - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

No changes in this Head, Mr. Chairman. I beg to move that the sum of $126, 160 under Head 6 - Legal stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Sir, there is only one comment that we have to make on this. I do hope that in future when people are sent abroad to be trained as specialists in legal affairs, when they return to Barbados their jobs are given to them. I do not propose to call any name sat this stage, Sir; I believe that the Prime Minister is probably aware of the particular case I am referring to. You cannot afford to take the taxpayers' money and train people abroad, and when they come back here you do not provide adequate jobs for them, and it is not a case where there were no vacancies. The case to which I refel is a case where there were vacancies and one person who was sent out subsequent to the officer that was trained was appointed to the post before him, and another officer was appointed to the post who had absolutely no training for the post.

This led, of necessity, to frustration on the port of the officer who was trained, and he did the only wise thing. He resigned from the Government and has gone abroad. I would like some sort of assurance from the Government that they are not going to train people and then just have them go abroad. When they train them, they must provide jobs for them. One other point which may not be directly relevant - it really should have come under Judiciary -but since the Prime Minister was in the mood for giving us his personal feelings, rather than those of the Government, can he express a view on the question of

abolition of wigs and bands by barristers in these Courts? What is the Government's feeling on that, or your personal feelings?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

The Government does not regulate the practice of wearing wigs and gowns in the Law Courts; this is something that the Trade Union in the U.K. has ordained and which the Courts imitate out here. If you go into Court without a wig and gown, the Judge will tell you that you are improperly dressed. As far as I am concerned, they should have been abandoned a long time ago. They have nothing to do with the West Indies and the conditions under which we work. The Hall in which I sat my examination was built in 1157, and there was no kind of heating inside that Hall in winter when you had to do examinations; so any extra layer of clothing or anything on top your head would keep you warm. But that has nothing to do with the conditions in Coleridge Street at all. So, if you want my personal view, you have my personal view, and I wouldn't even charge for it,

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I believe that under Items 20 and 21 the Leader of the House would have some explanation to give as to when are we going to get these Volumes that have been promised for some years now. Surely, some statement ought to be forthcoming as to when we can expect them. Money has been voted quite a long time ago.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, the Attorney General made a statement on this some time ago. 1 cannot really remember the occasion, but I think it was in the Senate. My belief is that two or three Volumes are going to be available this year in the form which the House prescribed - in a loose-leaf form. The firm of Eyre and Spottiswoode are the printers, and, as the hon. member should know, we are frequently at the mercy of printers. All I hope is that they have not escalated the contract price since we agreed to have the Volumes printed on some basis of cost having risen because as long as we provided the material I think they should have presented us with the Volumes. As far as I can remember, the Attorney General who is looking after the matter said that there are two or three which should be available - I think, the first one by June, and the other two by the end of the year, if not all five.

The question that the sum of $126, 160 under Head 6 - Legal - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 7 - REGISTRATION OFFICE Head 7 Registration Office - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

No amendments to this, Mr. Chairman. I beg to move that the sum of $60, 369 under Head 7 - Registration Office stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Much of what we were going to speak on in relation to this the Prime Minister has anticipated, so to speak. I want to add one further point, that it seems to me that this re-organisation, which he envisages may be necessary, is going to be proven to be very necessary very soon because as soon the private practitioners start to get to work on the Land Transfer Tax, I am sure that the Registrar's time as adjudicator under that tax will be taken up much more. I cannot see how you can have the Stamp Duty and Land Transfer Tax being done by him, and having him to do the taxation of costs in the Supreme Court and the other Supreme Court work. Something definitely in this financial year will have to be done about this. I do not feel it would be possible to pay the attention to the administration of a complex Tax Act and do the other work too. I really do not think that would be possible because taxation of costs hitherto used to be agreed to very readily among legal practitioners, but they are now becoming more' and more contentious.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, there is one point I would like to make and it is on Item 17. There is a difficulty experienced by people seeking Birch and Baptismal Certificates from the Registration Office. As it stands at present, I can say that, perhaps with the exception of a few cases, a person coining from the farthest point North of this Island has got to make two visits to the Registration Office to receive a Birth or Baptismal Certificate. 11.50 a.m.

Now, what has happened quite regularly during the past few months is that it would appear as if this particular section of the Registry is not now staffed with people who can decipher hieroglyphics, and persons seeking copies of Baptismal Certificates find some difficulty in getting them. This is a matter of far-reaching consequences, and it may have sprung from the Minister of Religion who recorded the birth in the first instance. A person may have gone to school and got a School Certificate in one name, and when he goes to get a passport he finds that an "e" or an "i" in his name has been changed, and his parents have to go and swear to an affidavit in order to put things right. This sort of thing is causing people a lot of money. All of this is due to the fact that the staff is interchanged from time to time with some other Department, and the new people take some time to become conversant with things. 1 should

like to see something done to remove this difficulty and prevent parents from having to pay for affidavits.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, on this question of Birth Certificates, I have seen in some other parts of the Caribbean that it is possible for people to ask for Birth Certificates by post merely by enclosing the cost by way of a Money Order, setting out the necessary particulars and sending it to the Post Office. I think that, perhaps, the visits of people to the Registry to get these things are unnecessary. The problem both upstairs and downstairs of the Registry is the question of lack of physical space to accommodate desks and so on. Perhaps we could establish some sort of machinery whereby a person can go to the Post Office, fill out a form, enclose a Money Order, write out the particulars, post everything to the Registry, and somebody at the Registry can send the Birth Certificate to there levant address stated. I think that would relieve the position as to physical space. I know that people have to queue up downstairs as well as upstairs, and the apparent lack of physical space undoubtedly impedes the work itself.

The question that the sum of $60, 369 under Head 7- Registration - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 8 - CROWN SOLICITOR

Head 8 - Crown Solicitor - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $10, 256 under Head 8 - Crown Solicitor - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALM:

I beg to second that.

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

HEAD 9 - MINISTRY OF FINANCE GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Head 9 - Ministry of Finance (1) General Administration - was called.

Rt.Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $1, 957, 405 under Head 9 -Ministry of Finance (l) General Administration -stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, Item 17 - Central Purchasing Department. I wonder what progress has been made in relation to this. Secondly, I wonder how this is going to work out in relation to tenders. Thirdly, I wonder whether this Central Purchasing Department is going to assume obligations in relation to Statutory Boards, too. I am not at all . satisfied that the policy as laid down, as I understand it, by the Ministry is observed not only in the Civil Service, but also in the areas of Statutory Boards. This is most important. If you are going to have a policy in relation to tenders and purchasing in the Government as a whole, then these agencies that get their revenue from a vote of this Legislature should be properly controlled. We have to satisfy ourselves that the policies in relation to the Boards are such that the Government and the public can have confidence in them. The Government spends a large amount of money in purchasing things, and I like the idea of centralising these things because there is less scope for bu-ball".

Anybody who has been observing the construction industry in Barbados can see that private enterprise here has neglected the concept of private purchasing. It cannot anticipate the needs of this country, and it is causing delays and additional cost. I am not satisfied that bu-ball" is not operating in some of the Boards of this Island. I want to hear what is the view of the Ministry of Finance on the policy in relation to these matters.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW; Mr. Chairman, I have no evidence of any unsavoury or dishonest practice

by the Statutory Boards. Again, I invite hon. members to realise that they have a responsibility to the taxpayers, and, if they have evidence of this, that they can supply it to the appropriate Government Department. If the Government Department refuses to take action, then they are entitled to come here in the House and make allegations. I do not like to hear allegations made for the first time on the floor of the House when nobody has had an opportunity to gainsay or refute what is being said.

Mr. Chairman, we are not detectives; we are Ministers. We are dealing with the administration and carrying out of Government policy. Things that are contrary to Government policy would be kept from us. In so far as whether the Purchasing Department will extend its activities to cover the requirements of Statutory Boards, 1 do not see why this should not be done. For the simple reason that we have only just, I believe, made the appointments - at least the authority to make the appointments has been made. Certain buildings will be constructed at the Harbour site to store things. The hon. member made a good point when he said that the keeping of inventories was very important in carrying out a Development Programme. 12.00 noon.

If you are going to have a Purchasing Department, I take it this Purchasing Department will not feel itself constrained only to purchase through Commission Agents in Barbados, but they are going to get the cheapest quality goods wherever they can be purchased, hard currency considerations, of course, being taken into consideration. But in view of the fact that we do not place any restrictions on the purchasing of building materials and equipment from hard currency areas on the private sector, I see no reason why Government itself should be restricted if we can get them from Germany, Italy, Scandinavia, the United States or Canada more cheaply and more quickly than we can get them from the sterling area. When the warehousing facilities are established, and this must necessarily also Include provision for cold storage - we certainly had that problem with the Food-for-Peace programme in the Education Department, and they are getting their own cold storage with proper refrigeration facilities - we will think of taking on Statutory Boards when the thing is running smoothly; but we have not excluded the possiblility of insisting that Statutory-Boards should place their requirements before the Central Purchasing Department.

Mr. HINDS:

On this same item, Mr. Chairman, it is to be appreciated that purchasing is a somewhat specialised field, and we are to wonder if any personnel is being trained for manning this particular Department that is being set up. If so, how many persons and what kind of staff do you intend to employ initially?

One other point on Item 11. There is an amount of $700 for paying overtime for extra duties undertaken in the preparation of the Estimates. Now I am to wonder how any hon. member on that side, realising the inconvenience that we have been put to through the lateness of the Estimates, can expect us to consider favourably voting $700 for paying overtime because any customer who places a job with a

printer or wherever it is is willing to pay overtime if he is going to get his job within some specific time; but not the kind of treatment that is being meted out to us in the Opposition in receiving Estimates one week ago and with all these amendments. It is not fair. It is a sign that something is wrong somewhere, and some of the personnel concerned with the preparation of the Estimates have no: been pulling their weight, or on the other hand; the various Department Heads might have done all that could be expected of them, but the time lag has been elsewhere. We would like to know something about this and if there can be any attempt to justify the inclusion of this sum of $700.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

The question of overtime is not the fault of the Ministry of Finance. I work overtime all the time, at least $700in a night; but the question of overtime is because the other people keep us back, and not because the Ministry of Finance wants to work overtime. We do not work overtime on Exchange Control or any of the other matters that we have to deal with, but with the Estimates we start in late September or October, and in January and February we are still waiting for other people to send in information and matters of that kind. We issue warnings and there is nothing we can do about it; and when it comes to checking the proofs and that kind of thing, even after we have sent the stuff to the Government Printery in order to get them here in March at all, a certain amount of overtime work has got to be done. This is traditional. Until you can straighten out the Public Service as a whole, you cannot do anything about the Government Printery. Let me put it this way! Until we put our own house in order and straighten out the Legislature on the question of getting debates and proof-reading done, until we straighten out the Government Departments, you cannot blame the Ministry of Finance for this. This is a small amount of overtime compared with the amount of work to be done, and this has been going on for a long time.

On the question of training people for the Central Purchasing Department, I believe it would be an officer trained in financial procedures. This is the most important thing. But when it comes to quality and that kind of thing, we do this through the Crown Agents when we buy things from overseas, because they have their engineers and so on to check up these various commodities before they are shipped. If we buy Leyland buses, for instance, these are checked by the Commonwealth Agents or whatever they call themselves now. You do not need someone trained in purchasing; you need an honest person and somebody who knows something about accounting procedures and who can make recommendations and keep a strict control over the entrance and exit of goods purchased by Government into the warehouse and out to the various Departments in which they may be utilised. It does not call for specialised training other than in procedures, and I am satisfied from what I have heard that suitable officers have been recruited. What I think we will probably do, as I suggested some time ago to the Financial Secretary, is to send five or six persons to Jamaica - not one person, because I do not believe in training one person for a job because he believes he is indispensable. We find that when we send an officer out for training he comes back and tells all the young people that 'this is the way it has got to be done'. If six persons were on the course, the other five could say that this is not the way they were taught, and no one of the six would know who is to get the job when a vacancy arises. If you train one man, he feels he can come and sit down because he feels he is Manager-General or Pope, or whatever it is you appoint him to. I understand that a Bishop or whatever it is is being appointed to the Roman Catholic Church today. I am

sure that the Apostolic delegates have at least seven people in mind for the job. Many are called, but only one will be chosen. We do not need any special training other than in accountancy.

Mr. CRAIG:

Sir, on this question of overtime in the Civil Service Departments, I wonder if the Prime Minister would say if this is because of a shortage of clerical staff in the Civil Service or a breakdown in machinery in some Departments.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

I am satisfied that the Ministry of Finance has the kind of staff it should have both in quality and quantity, but the difficulty is getting the material from other people. The Development Plan, for instance, was in my opinion about eighteen months late. We could not get the Ministries or Departments to submit their requirements, but we were sending out reminders every single week, and we just could not get them to submit their requirements. One did not put in any at all and we had to put in a notional figure after making certain calculations, because we could not hold up the printing any longer. (Asides.) I think you should address the Chair. I cannot hear you, nor see you.

Mr. CRAIG:

If you take off your dark glasses, you would be able to see. Sir, the Prime Minister said that the Ministry of Finance is satisfied with the machinery there, but he had the problem of getting material from the other Departments. What I am trying to find out is whether in the Departments where you have this problem something can be done to get these things completed.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

I will put it one way if I think it is not going to be repeated. I asked a certain Public Officer one day what could be done, and his reply to me was that a lot of them in there needed sending home a long time ago.

The question that the sum of $1, 957, 405 under Head 9 - Ministry of Finance (1) General Administration - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 9 - MINISTRY OF FINANCE (2) VALUATION DIVISION

Head 9 - Ministry of Finance (2) Valuation Divis-sion - was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $100, 230 under Head 9 -Ministry of Finance (2) Valuation Division stand part

of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that. 12.10 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, Item 14 - Temporary Staff. We believe that this shifting of personnel, perhaps in the manner that we heard explained earlier by the Prime Minister under another Head, is causing considerable delay in the work of some of these Departments, and particularly in the Valuation Division. I would certainly like to hear some explanation from the Minister as regards this $25,000 to meet the cost of Temporary Staff to maintain the current Valuation List, because our information is that it is not being maintained, and it seems as if no attempt whatsoever is being made to relate the work that is being done to anything in the tune of $25,000. If things go on as they have been going on in the past, $25,000 might last for five years.

Mr. St. JOHN:

There are some peculiarities that operate with respect to this Valuation List that I do not understand, because I have had the personal experience that people sell property, the Solicitors inform the Valuation Committee and the Bills for the next two or three years still go out to the previous owners. I know that the people get fed-up and tear up the tax bills; therefore there must be a large proportion or a large amount of uncollected taxes when the bills go out in the wrong names. From the beginning it was a problem with the rate list, and alterations and corrections to the rate list; but up to now they have not grappled properly with the problem of up-dating the rate list quickly. There ought to be a system where this can be done as early as possible; there ought to be a modern method of doing things; it is an unsatisfactory state of affairs.

The second point is, I am wondering when it is proposed to bring in the new system of valuation because we passed the Bill here dealing with the site value of land, and as far as I know that Bill has not yet been proclaimed. I would be glad to find out what the position is with that. I would re-emphasise that it is unsatisfactory for people to receive tax bills when they do not own the land.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Of course I do not agree that the Solicitors always inform the Valuation Section of the change in ownership of land; I have had personal experience in that respect, and the last person who has just sat down should be the last person to raise this. I regret to say that Solicitors would make statements that they have implemented things when they have not implemented them; I regret to say that a professional body is guilty of such evasive tactics in carrying out their work, and if they know somebody they can blame they pass on the blame to them; but sometimes you will find that they have not even given the work to their own stenographer to do. There ought to be some law that you do not pay for work until it is done, and you will see a great difference in these things.

On the question of bringing the rate list up-to-date, this is a lot of work; and once this has been brought up-to-date, then this amount of money may not be necessary for additional staff or temporary staff. On the question of the new Act which will introduce a system of modified site value, this of course depends on the completion of the cadastral and other services which are now being carried out by the Lands and Survey Department with the assistance of United Nations. We had a training programme set up under the United Nations programme, and we have quite a large number of officers trained in this, and I have been informed that as soon as the surveys have been completed - and I should like to assure members that the surveys are being worked at- then we will be able to introduce the new valuation system. I personally do not think that that Act can come into force before 1971 if we are lucky, and possibly 1972. I would like it to come this year because we certainly could collect more money, but we can only work at the pace of the slowest surveyor, the weakest link in the chain, because it is very detailed work that has to be done.

The question that the sum $100, 230 be appropriated under Head 9(2) was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 9 (3) - RATES AND TAXES DIVISION

Head 9(3) - Rates and Taxes Division was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
There are no changes under this Head and I beg to move that the sum of $88,017 be appropriated under Head 9 (3).

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
- I beg to second that. The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 10 - ACCOUNTANT GENERAL

Head 10 - Accountant General was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, under Head 10 there are some changes. Under Item 28 the sum should read $5, 329 under Non- Recurrent, Furniture and Office Equipment; then the total Non-Recurrent should read $5, 329. The total expenditure is to be changed from $72, 206 to $74, 706; the reason for that is that to the explanatory note for Item 28, "for the purchase of chairs, desk, cash boxes, adding machine and cabinets", these words should be added "includes a revote of $2,500 for reconditioning of National Cash Register accounting machine".

I beg to move that the sum of $74, 706 be appropriated under Head 10 - Accountant General.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that. 12.20 p.m.

The question that the sum of $74, 706 under Head JO - Accountant Genera - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 11 - PENSIONS

Head 11 - Pensions was called,

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Under Head 11 -Pensions, Mr. Chairman, the amount to be appropriated under this Head is $1, 766, 231 and I beg to move that the sum of $1, 766, 231 under Head 11 -Pensions stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
(Aside) Does this include the increase...

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
The note of Item 11.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
That is what I was just checking on. Mr. Chairman, the total amount of pensions, of course, is $3 3/4 million, but Item 11 - Cost of Living Allowance to Pensioners - you will see in the Note there that the amount includes - it has risen from $476,000 to $1, 488,000. That is one million dollars in increase in this Head, and you will see there under Item 11, that this includes the provision to pay the additional cost of living allowance of $25 a month with effect from 1st December, 1969.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, this amount of $25 increase to pensioners, nobody has any objections to it; but it is a cost-of-living allowance, and, as far as we know, cost-of-living allowances that have been. given, in almost every case have been back-dated from the 1st April, 1969. There can be no doubt that the cost-of-living had the same effect on these pensioners from 1st April, 1969 as it would have had on anybody else. We appreciate the fact that it is a large sum of money involved, but surely the Minister of Finance would have some reason why he did not see his way to give these pensioners their cost-of-living

allowance dating back from 1st April as in most other cases.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

It is a question of simple arithmetic. The pensioners were dealt with after all the Civil Servants increases were dealt with. Now pensioners, when they leave the Government Service their rights accrue as of the day they leave; their rights, their eligibility and their entitlement will accrue on that day. It was never the practice of previous Governments, except on one occasion as far as I can remember when there was a general cost of living of 9% given to everybody in the Public Service, to give pensioners anything at all. Since 1 have been Minister of Finance, once pensioners have got a $45 increase in their pensions a flat increase of $45.

Now, I myself can see what the hon. member said may be correct that pensioners have to buy goods the same way as anybody else, and if the money was there they would have had it. It is a simple as that. As a matter of fact, 1 would like to give them more than $25; I gave them certainly twice-and-a-half as much as I gave them on two previous salary increases, and we have now established a principle that whenever there is a salaries increase, pensioners should be taken care of, too. We took care of all pensioners. We took care of Old Age Pensioners - not in this measure, but these are Government pensioners. We increased Old Age Pensions as well, quite independently, and it is only a question, as I say, of arithmetic and how much money you have. And I happen to calculate that I could spare $1,000,000, and that is why they got $25; if I only had half million dollars they would have got $12.50; and the furthest back I could take it in due conscience, without over-taxing the people in Barbados in this year, was to the 1st December. I really do not have any other reason for doing it. But I considered very carefully whether it was feasible to go back any further than that. I have had no complaints from the pensioners. I would like to do it my self to go back to the 1st January, may be, but there are certain realities that you have to face and I think that the quantum of increases is what they have considered important. If it was $10, we could have gone back. With $25 I could not go back.

Mr. HINDS:

That is what I want to ask the Prime Minister - if he could not find it possible to have given them $10 from January to 1st December and then $25 on. Could he not give some consideration to that? They have made their contribution and they have borne the brunt of the day. I would like to know if they can be given $10 from 1st April 1969 to December. I would like the hon. Minister of Finance to examine this...

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

The hon.membr can be assured that it has happened all the time, and if I had wanted to have that two-way business, I would have had to reduce it from $25 to $20, and then I could have come in here and said "Well, look; I have given them twice as much as before and I have even given them back to the 1st

December, even further back than the Civil Servants. "But I think in the long run they are going to be better off this way. That is what I had in mind.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
By September the cost of living is going to be further up.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Who said so?

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
As I see things, I say so and I believe the Prime Minister said so. I can appreciate the difficulty to arrive at this and how it is being done; but I was wondering whether it could not be done from the 1st April this year; as from, say, the end of this month or the beginning of next month.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
They are going back to December.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
I thought you said...

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW; The pensioners are going to get back pay from December, but we could not pay them before next month because it is included here. You see the Civil Service.....

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
I understand.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
The Civil Service got all the surplus money there was (Laughter.)

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

You gave the Civil Servants the money; why are you continually saying they got all the surplus money? We understand they are an army of occupation and so on, but you gave them! As we know the Prime Minister of this country, if he didn't want to give them - they could be 10 armies of occupation - they could not get one cent.

Mr. CRAIG:

On this point of pensions, I must confess I was ignorant of this for a number of years. I never knew that people paid income tax on their pensions. This is something I didn't know, and I am ashamed to say this after working as a Life Underwriter for a number of years. I believe I might have wrongly advised somebody on this. But, Mr. Chairman, I don't know if the Minister of Finance who would have the expert knowledge at his disposal would look into a matter of this nature.

12.30 p.m.

To my mind, a man receiving a pension should not have to pay income tax on it because it is not income earned, so to speak. He is paying income tax on income that he had earned years ago. Even if he had Jo pay income tax, there should be some way to have the matter streamlined. It must be remembered that he is given a pension for services rendered over a number of years, and he should not be called upon to pay a tax out of his paltry pension. I should like the Minister of Finance to look into this matter and see what can be done to relieve these pensioners of this financial burden.

Mr. Chairman, I was chatting with a few pensioners and I was told that sometimes they pay $8.00 or $9.00 out of their pensions for income tax, and some of them cannot afford to pay it. I hope the Minister of Finance will be able to get expert knowledge at his disposal in order to do something in this matter, but I have heard retired Inspectors of Police say that they find themselves in an income tax bracket where they have to pay income tax and they cannot afford to pay it,

The question that the sum of $1, 766, 231 under Head 11 - Pensions - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 12 - CHARGES OF DEBT Head 12 - Charges of Debt - was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, there are no appropriations under Head 12 because all of these charges have been fixed by law. I should like, however, to draw attention to certain changes in the Notes. Insert New Item 8A - "Bridgetown City Council Capital Loan 1959-60"; insert figure 9, 257 under column "Statutory Expenditure", and make consequential amendments. Add note to Item 8A to read as follows "Instalment of principal on loan of $9, 257 outstanding".

Insert New Item 14A -Southern District Council Capital Loan 1950-51; insert figure "2400" under column "Statutory Expenditure" and make consequential amendments. Add note to Item 14 A to read as follows:-

"Instalment of principal on loan of $2400 outstanding for two years".

I understand that this is $1,200 in each of the two years, and there should be two instalments. In the case of the Bridgetown City Council, it appears that the instalment due is one in the sum of $9, 257.

On page 24, under the same Head - Charges of Debt - the total amount brought forward would then be $2, 453, 903 and the consequential amendments will have to be done. This Head, of course, has no appropriation because all of these charges have been fixed by law.

On page 25 insert New Item 54 - "Bridgetown City Council Capital Loan 1959-60" insert figure "761" under column "Statutory Expenditure" and make consequential amendments. Add note to Item 54 to read as follows:-

"Interest at 8% on loan of $9, 257 outstanding".

Insert New Item 55 - Southern District Council Capital Loan 1950-51, insert figure "192" under column "Statutory Expenditure" and make consequential amendments. Add note to Item 55 to read as follows:-

"Interest at 4% on loan of $2400 outstanding for two years". The total Charges of Debt would then become $6, 450, 367.

HEAD 13 - CUSTOMS Head 13 - Customs - was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, the amount under this Head is fixed fay law. 12.40 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I do not suppose there is anything controversial under Customs or the other one or two. Why can't we do them and finish?

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that. The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. CHAIRMAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER, who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until 2 o'clock p.m.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

On resumption:-

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER:
When the sitting was suspended the House was in Committee of Supply. To that it now reverts.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee of Supply, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

HEAD 13 - CUSTOMS Head 13 - Customs - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, on page 27 under Item 26, the figure of $44,300 which appears in the Statutory Expenditure column is to be moved to the other column. This does not affect the total, but it should be put in its proper column.

I beg to move that the sum of $154, 640 under Head 13 - Customs - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, there is an amount, under Item 14, of $28,000 for overtime. I want to express the view

that for a Department like Customs, $28,000 is a small sum. You will see here the various officers that are involved in overtime work. There is in the Civil Service a post that is considered a floating post, that of Office Superintendent, and all the Superintendents are so far not 100% happy due to the fact that the post they hold in it self leads to nowhere, and it is a very unfavourable position in which certain members of the Civil Service find themselves. I would certainly like, if it is humanly possible, that the situation with regard to these officers be reviewed even by way of calling it by some other name, which puts them in a position where they can lay claims on the promotion ladder, so to speak. For instance, quite a lot of this overtime money is in connection with work at Seawell Airport, and I firmly believe that the Minister would be in a position to give us an idea of the type of operation that is going on at Seawell where, I understand, there. is a four-man staff operating on a shift basis. Even then, I understand that extra assistance has had to be given from time to time, and it would be well if we could he told what is the position.

Now your Invoice Officers come in for some of this overtime money. Can we say that the present system of examining invoices is working satisfactorily, or is it not true that there is still room for complaint? My information is that there is room for complaint, and this question of how they process invoices could be looked into. 2.05 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, a very strange thing happened only yesterday at the Customs; it affects the Customs in the sense that we have the Tug Pelican being sent to Trinidad for cleaning up, and it is expected to be out of the Island for about five days. All during the years past, the work was done here by the Central Foundry; what has gone wrong now?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, this is completely irrelevant, but nevertheless I will reply. I am the Minister responsible for the Pelican and I am the person who sent the Pelican to Trinidad. The real reason for this is that the tug here has to be sandblasted and it is much cheaper to send it to Trinidad to get it done.

Mr. HINDS:

Is the Minister saying that it will be done cheaper in Trinidad?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

The Foundry here cannot do this job because they do not have the equipment.

Mr. HINDS:

I know the Minister had his engineer from Israel to advise him, but, Mr. Chairman, on this matter of overtime you have here a Baggage Hall Officer. I wonder what the Minister would have to tell us about the work of this Baggage Hall Officer, and, when he is on call to these passenger ships, what really happens. Do you believe that the officer is satisfied with the turn-out when these extra passenger ships call? Is it not a case where an undue hardship is placed on a particular officer?

Item 26. There is an amount of $44,300'to purchase cash accounting machines, filing cabinets, trolleys, hotplate, chairs, bicycle, tables, desks, stools, filing racks, fans, protection cabinet, fire-resisting door, calculating machines, and adding machine'. If we were to look through these Estimates, it seems as if the Government has decided to buy out all the adding machines, typewriters and equipment that is being manufactured somewhere; I wonder who is the agent for all of these adding machines, because you will see also that there is an amount for repairs, and time and time again I have complained against the repair of some of these machines. What Government has got to arm itself with at this stage is to see that the suppliers of this equipment have mechanics to service these machines. That is a very important thing; as some people say, it is more than half the life of the machine if you have servicing available to it; but, as it would seem, Government is just buying up as many of these machines as one can hear about, and we are to wonder if they have been really properly advised in this particular respect. Too many Departments are wanting typewriters, adding machines and cash accounting machines at this particular time. It is true that these are the Estimates for the year but undoubtedly we would find that Departments have been functioning all along, the Government Auctioneer has a lot of work on his hands in disposing of the old ones that these new ones are to replace, and I am sure that the Minister would have some little thing to tell us on those matters I have raised.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

If any other hon. member wishes to make any points at this stage, I will hear them and than give an itemised reply because the answers have got to be prepared.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I would like some sort of communication on the question of these various machines, typewriters and other office equipment - whether the Government has any Department responsible for servicing these machines, and whether the Government will take some sort of survey as to the number of typewriters and other office equipment that is in its possession, and also the amount of money that is spent yearly in the maintenance of these machines. I wonder also whether the Government would look into the feasibility of setting up its own Department for servicing these machines - and, as my colleague, the hon. junior member for St. Peter has just reminded me, now that they have the Sanuel jackman Prescod Polytechnic, whether they would not consider training people to service these machines. It would be a means of employing other people. I know in certain Government Departments there is some machinery that, when it needs servicing, must be sent overseas; this is unsatisfactory. I will refer to this later on, but I am thinking particularly about a machine at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and it would be

useful if the Government would have a useful central office to deal with maintenance of machinery such as this, and all other Government machinery; possibly this could be set up in the Central Purchasing Department. 2.15 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I believe one of the questions asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter was about the shift system in operation at Seawell. My under standing is that this has been in operation from September 1969, and consequently there was a reduction in overtime expenditure. The officer at the Baggage Hall, Bridgetown, is the Customs Boarding Officer and his job is to board ships when they arrive. He is paid overtime fees for services at the official hours. Would that be satisfactory? Would the hon. member please refresh my mind on the third point.

Mr. HINDS:

Invoice Officer!

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Just let me reply to the point made about machines. The problem is that in Government you must keep a continual check on what in other concerns would be called rolling stock; therefore in any financial year there is bound to be a number of adding machines, calculating machines, typewriters in several Departments which become obsolete and have to be condemned. We think that the Central Purchasing System, when it gets going, will take all of this under its control, and will not only have a proper inventory of actual quantities in all Government offices but will maintain a close liaison with the Board of Survey so that replacements can be done as closely as possible every year at the same time, and that Departments will not be running to the House three or four times a year to repair adding machines, typewriters etc. It will take a little time to get this pull-together. I accept the point made by the two hon. members on the other side. Now that we have the Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute, one of the training courses there ought to be the servicing and repairing of the myriad machines owned by Government. It is silly, .really, to be spending so much money on replacements, repairs and servicing, and not at the same time be training our own people to do this. I take that point and I will pass that on to the appropriate authorities. I do not know if there are any other questions. Will the hon. member repeat the question? I do not believe that we got it quite clear.

Mr. HINDS:

What is the system in operation? How is it going? Overtime work is still involved, but there are complaints that people cannot get documents processed. Are you short-staffed? What is the position? There are quite a number of people who want employment who could be recruited into the Service to relieve the situation if there is congestion here. One of our difficulties has been that as soon as a person becomes familiar with any type of work, the person is transferred to another Department where he

cannot serve at all.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, I do not fully understand the question, but the overtime paid to Customs Officers is refundable; late working on ships and matters of that kind is refundable. People who go to St. Lucy to the distilleries - those fees are refundable; but there are other overtime fees paid to staff in nearly every Government Department that has to deal with the public which are of an administrative nature. I am not in a position to say whether this relates to Invoice Officers because normally one should clear ships between specific hours. You will find under Head after Head there is an element of overtime for all officers. On the question of staff, there are a large number of people, com-petent Government Officers, working at the Customs. The hon. member said that we should recruit more people. I cannot remember what the figures are this year, but I remember that at one time it was 60% of the people working down there who were not members of the Public Service; they were temporary staff, but working on a full-time basis. The reason for this was that they could not pass the Civil Service Examination, but they were, with a little amount of indoctrination and training, useful Customs Officers and quite competent at their particular jobs. You have two choices - either lay them off be cause they could not pass the examination, or to keep them here on a temporary basis. But what I should like to mention right now is that one of the Pusinelli re-classification recommendations which were laid before the House - I cannot remember how long; about 12 months at least - which I instructed should be implemented is that we should abolish this business of four Certificates at Ordinary Level for entry into the Public Service of Barbados because it is completely unnecessary.

As in the case of the Customs, we have had people down there working at the receipt of customs, the main port of entry where Government revenue is collected. Although they did not have the four Certificates and did not pass the English Literature Test which the Chief Training Officer may set them, yet they could do a good job; and the recommendation we are trying to implement is that the qualification for entry into the Clerical grades of the Government Service of Barbados should be one Certificate - any kind of Certificate, as far as I am concerned (excluding Scripture), but they say Scripture is a subject and you cannot exclude that. I have never really been able to distinguish the difference between Scripture and Religious Knowledge, but apparently there are two subjects: so you have people with two Certificates; one is Scripture and one is Religious Knowledge.

We would like one Certificate to be the entry because we are over 440 jobs short now. When the Banks and Universities are competing for people, it is nonsense filling the vacancies on a temporary basis when anybody who has been exposed, in my opinion, to a decent Seventh Standard education at Elementary Schools could carry on many of the functions being performed by Clerical Officers in the Government Service. It is a bit of a paradox that people who left Barbados years ago with a Junior Cambridge Certificate could go to the United States and occupy high Federal positions, but would not be qualified to enter the Barbados Civil Service to sell stamps downstairs. There are a lot of poor people sending their children to expensive Private Secondary schools who, because of inadequate staff and poor

teaching, cannot get the four Certificates; yet they have spend a lot of money on their education.

We would like to draft all these boys and girls with one Certificate into the Service, with the understanding that in order to graduate into the administrative and executive ranks, they must improve themselves and pass an Efficiency Bar. The position at the Customs may not have changed since I last checked up on it. There still may be a large number of temporary staff, but with the new changes which Mr. Pusinelli has advocated, and which I hope, will be adopted very soon, we should have more permanent officers employed.

2.35 p.m.

I should like to say that this does not mean that there will be no need for overtime. If you go through these Estimates from office to office, you will see that for some reason or other there is always a requirement for overtime fees. It is almost a statutory requirement.

The question that the sum of $154, 640 under Head 13 - Customs - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 14 - INLAND RE VENUE Head 14 - Inland Revenue - was called.

Hon J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $40, 365 under Head 14 - Inland Revenue - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that. The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 15 - STATISTICAL SERVICES

Head 15 - Statistical Service - was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $264, 480 under Head 15 -Statistical Services - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 16 - DATA PROCESSING UNIT Head 16 - Data Processing Unit - was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $154, 240 under Head 16 - Data

Processing Unit - stand part of the Schedule. This has been an entirely new Head in the Estimates. We had nothing in the Estimates for this, last year. For the information of hon. members, all of the equipment for the Data Processing Unit has now been installed and people have been trained. We have trained programmers; key-punch operators have been trained and, as far as I can remember, the appointments of many of the senior staff have been made. All of the senior staff are Barbadians. We have been very lucky to recruit some Barbadians who have had experience overseas.

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

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

HEAD 17 - PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (1) CABINET

Head 17 - Prime Minister's Office (1) Cabinet -was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 17 - Prime Minister's Office (1) Cabinet - be postponed. There are some figures to be adjusted under this Head.

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

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

HEAD 17 - PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (2) GENERAL

Head 17 - Prime Minister's Office ("2} General- was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, under Head 17 - Prime Minister's Office (2) General, at page 35, in column 2, Item 8, Stenographers, the number should read '3' instead of '2'. Under the column "Statutory Expenditure" the sum should be revised to $7,600. Under column 2, Item 10, the figures '12' should be deleted and the figures '13' substituted as the total number of the Establishment. On the right hand side the Note to Item 12 should read

"To meet payment to Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation of sum a equivalent to duties collected by the Government on television sets and component parts."

Under Item 13 - Culloden Farm - in the Explanatory Note, in the third line, the figures "450" should be deleted and the figures "600" substituted therefor.

In the Note to Item 15 at line 2, delete the inverted commas from the word "Course" and substitute a common V for the capital 'C' in the same word.

At Item 19 of the last Explanatory Note to Air Registration Board on page 35, the words "Increase due to increased cost of services provided by the Board." should be deleted altogether. 2.35 p.m.

On page 36, an explanatory note to Item 21 should be inserted on the page facing page 36 after the explanatory note to Item 20. The note reads as follows:-

"To pay outstanding claims in connection with the visit of the Governor-General of Canada in February, 1969."

These are all the amendments and insertions, and I beg to move that the sum of $288, 252 under Head 17 - Prime Minister's Office (2) General-stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, on the question of the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, I made a speech a few weeks ago; then I think, we went on to deal with the Development Plan, and when the House resumed the sitting I was not present. I should like to find out two things from the Prime Minister. Sometime ago I believe a Private Member's Resolution standing in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Joseph was passed in the House of Assembly to look in to the question of broadcasting the debates of the House of Assembly. I should like to find out from the Minister whether any decision has been reached on it and what would be the cost of such a broadcast.

Secondly, during the period 1956-61, I believe, the Democratic Labour Party, which was then in Opposition, constantly advocated the need to have Party political broadcasts. I know it was a topic on which my Party as then constituted would not agree, but the fact that the Government has been in power for almost ten years and C. B.C. has been in existence for six years and nothing has been done about instituting a system of Party political broadcasting in Barbados leaves me to believe that the Government who

once advocated the system does not now see any merit in it, but it was merely because they were in Opposition that they advocated the scheme in order to reach the people of this country in an effort to let them know what was happening in the affairs of the Island. Sir, if this was the reason why they advocated such a scheme between 1956 and 1961, today there is even more need to let the people know what is happening, and not only to allow one political Party to have the use of the broadcasting media, but to allow all political Parties in this country time to have Party political broadcasts. I say this because from time to time one hears an interview with the Prime Minister, and it is not an interview of a personal nature on the life of the Prime Minister; it is nothing but an opportunity to put forward the views of the the Government and the policies of the Democratic Labour Party, and to tell the people what the D.L.P. has been doing during the period they were in office.

Sir, if this opportunity is given to the Government or the Prime Minister, it is only fair that the same facilities and opportunities must be made available to members of the Opposition. I would just like to remind the Government that I deem the Barbados 'Labour Party was wrong between 1956 and 1961 not to allow the then Opposition, the Democratic Labour Party, to go on the radio; but the Government today is equally wrong, now that they have had an opportunity to put into effect what they so ably preached in those years, not to institute a system of Party political broadcasting. Two wrongs can never make a right. Today you are in Government; but in 1971-72 you may not be in Government and then you may find it necessary to ask us once again, when you are placed in the Opposition, to institute a system of Party political broadcasting. The fact remains that you have the benefit of a Government Information Officer who from time to time put on political broadcasts in favour of the Government, but you have a programme like "Something to Talk About". It is not that I agree with all that is said or see any merit in it, but the fact is that you allow people to express political views on the radio and television, and it is only fair that the Opposition Party should be allowed to express their political views and policies too.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, in the first place I do not accept a single word that has just been spoken by the hon. member. The Government has not had any political broadcast except at election time when the rules are clearly laid down and sent to the Opposition Parties, and they have an opportunity to put forward their political platform. There are two different questions. He is saying that the hon. senior member for St. Joseph asked the Government to allow debates to be broadcast. We are still looking into that matter. We

are not convinced that democracy functions best when all twenty-four members take up a lot of time, when a Bill can be disposed of in an hour and we have to have twenty-four half-hour speeches or sometimes longer. So this is something that has to be looked at very carefully, because the criticisms that we get about C.B.C are mainly on the grounds of its unprofitability, and we have to look at the advertising revenue. I am sure that you are not going to get anyone who is advertising a product subscribing to a Government programme that is going to occupy an inordinate amount of the broadcasting time available, or sponsor a political broadcast; so you would be asking the Government to pay C.B.C. for the time members of the House of Assembly would be misusing during that period. I know of no country in the world where all debates are broadcast. What we try to do is to partially broadcast debates of importance such as the Budget Debate. Now it seems to me that if you want to have parliamentary debates broadcast, you would have to set up your own wireless station just to deal with that.

2.45 p.m.

I am not pre-occupied with this at the moment because it is being looked into in other quarters. On the question of Government broadcasts to which the hon. member referrred, on the floor of this House it has been stated by members of the Opposition that most of the staff at C.B.C belongs to them. On the very first occasion after five years that I went up there to explain the settlement of the sugar dispute I had to thank them publicly, the employees of C.B.C, for allowing the Prime Minister time on the air to explain the settlement of the dispute. That was my first appearance on C.B.C. except when they flash a picture for about 1/19 of a second during newscast, and not for any length of time as another hon. member's picture so regularly appears. It is a matter of public and general knowledge that the staff of C.B.C., because they are always being badgered by members of the Opposition, and because some of them have been placed there by members of the Opposition - I will give you an example. Last week the senior member for St. Thomas complained bitterly to C.B.C. because a news announcer, getting a release from the Ministry of Health, had said that the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry was going to England on a course, and his big objection was that they should have said that he was going on the course as well. That kind of nonsense is what we are exposed to all the time.

I have probably appeared on C.B.C. three or four times since it was inaugurated, and at the invitation of Mr. Pat Castagne I initiated a series in which he asked me a few questions about what I thought about certain things. On the third occasion I faced a panel of inquisitors on the Development Plan, and this is what they objected to. Let me tell you that in Jamaica as soon as the television come son on afternoons, for the next hour it is nothing else but Government Ministers and what they did during the day - and at times particularly Mr. Seaga, the Minister of Finance, on every single aspect of what Government did that particular day, seven days a week. If there is one thing I have to do with the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation is to let those people realise that there is no such thing as a Government by Opposition, and the Opposition says it is a waste of money when broadcasts are done by Government. Government is here to run a country in a manner for the people of this country, and it is time that the Government's point of view is represented at some time during the 16 hours that they broadcast. Take the Government Information Service Broadcast to which we are entitled - and may 1 say that this Government

Information Service was initiated by the last Government, and by the licences issued to Rediffusion and to C.B.C we are entitled to half an hour a day seven days a week; I do not think that we get more than half-an-hour a week sometimes, and then there are a lot of academic subjects. And if you make the mistake of mentioning that a Government officer has been carrying out certain experiments, that is interpreted to mean that that is a political broadcast; so it is to be something completely irrelevant to what is going on in Barbados. You get people arriving in Barbados day before yesterday, and they monopolise Government time on the television; do you think that any Government would condone that sort of thing because the members of the Opposition can openly intimidate the staff of C.B.C.? There is one gentleman up there at C. B.C. now; they did not even have a job for him, and they had to create a post of some kind of Director, and every single day he serves notice that he is nothing to do with any Government; do you think he could survive in Trinidad or Jamaica? (Mr. HINDS: Let us know -who he is.) I do not call names of people on the floor of the House; if you ask me for information in writing I will supply it to you by registered mail. Too many of us have been trained as lawyers, and too many of us have been brought up in the irrelevant British tradition that has nothing to do with life here in Barbados; we have this sea of Government by Opposition, and Opposition can walk in an office or a Statutory Board and intimidate people, but this has got to stop. It happened up to the day before the member for St. Thomas went to the United Kingdom; it happens with the Advocate every single day. Letters have been written to Lord Thomson claiming that the picture of the Minister of Labour appeared five times in one month on the front page of the Advocate, and threatening people that they will be reported to Lord Thomson for publishing what the members of the Government - (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLE Y Is that so?) Lord Thomson came in my office and told me this, and all of you over there know that this is true. It is like my writing to the Editor of the weekly paper Truth and telling him that the picture of the Leader of the Opposition appears too regularly in his newspaper. If a man has a newspaper to run, let him run it. Every time I go up there to C.B.C., I have to say " thank you very much" and they do not realise that it is sarcastic. I tell them that all the time because I know what I am talking about. I explained the Development Plan, and I opened the Census to let people realise it is important; if it were left to me I would like to go every day and tell the people about the behaviour of the House of Assembly, and I would be entitled to do it. (Mr. HINDS You do not come in here.) I come in here when I have business to perform, as I am doing now. 2.55 p.m.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

On the question of C.B.C. 1 challenge the Prime Minister to get up and say that between the period 1956-61 he did not on th3 floor of this House of Assembly advocate the system of parliamentary political broadcasting, not only at election but outside too, Sir; 1 have heard it with my own ears as a school boy sitting in the gallery.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

On a point of order, Sir. I was trying to make the hon. member distinguish between debates broadcasting and Party political broadcasting. We have implemented Party political broadcasting at election time, and if there is any important debate here, both sides have equal time. When you are trying to pull a station out of the

red and get it in the black, you cannot.....If the

House of Assembly wants its own broadcasting station, you can have your own broadcasting station; but you would not have me in here. I will switch on the radio when I want to listen, and off when I do not want to listen. I will stay outside. But not C.B.C. As long as it is under my portfolio, it will not be monopolised on this kind of nonsense.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I do not know what kind of nonsense the Prime Minister is referring to.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
The kind of nonsense that you have to listen to here.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Yes, like you; you are speaking I am not talking about the broadcasting of any debates at the moment. I am dealing purely with political broadcasting. I do not deny, Sir, that at election time a system was devised which was beneficial solely to the Government. Certainly, the people are entitled to know what is happening to a political Party outside election time. This is what the Prime Minister is actually saying. Five years elapse between elections are not the people to know what is happening in the interval? The Prime Minister knows - he lived in England - that there are Party political broadcasts outside election time. I am not saying every week. You never allowed the Oppositior in this country to go on radio to discuss anything except at elections in 1966.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
That is more than you allowed us.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Do you see the attitude, Sir?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

And while the hon. member is speaking, all other members should observe Standing Order No, 29 (5). Let the hon. junior member for the City proceed.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I am indeed grateful to you, Sir. All I am saying is that between elections the people are entitled to know what is happening, what are the various policies of the various political Parties, and, in an effort to project this image, that we be allowed time to go on radio and television. Let us make no mistake about it, Sir. When the Prime Minister goes on television, he projects the image of the Democratic Labour Party and their policy, and despite all his nonsense of only going on two or three times or three or four times, it is well known that during the teachers' strike, the Prime Minister went on the television; he abused the teachers; and then, when the teachers asked for an opportunity to go on C.B.C., C, B.C. which came under his portfolio, said that they could not go on television.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

On a point of order, Sir. Everybody who heard me broadcast at the time of the teachers' strike - I am the Leader, and in a crisis people expect to hear from me. He is suggesting now that the teachers who are members of the Opposition should have time to abuse me. They had done all their abusing all over the newspaper. I did not abuse anybody. I said they were subversive, and I repeat that they were subversive. And when I tried to explain in detail their subversive actions, the hon. member told me to pass the salaries and forget about that. We have forgotten about that already; so don't let the hon. member bring that up.

Mr. HINDS:

Yes, I told the Prime Minister to pass it because I knew he was doing justice for a good cause.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

I understand your explanation and accept it in all good faith.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I have always realised that the more the hon. Minister on that side speaks, it is like the monkey climbing. The Prime Minister asked whether you expect to allow the teachers who were subversive to go on television. This is the whole attitude of C.B.C. and the Government. There was a dispute between teachers and the Government of this country. The Prime Minister as Head of the Government and as Head of one of the parties to that dispute went on television; was it wrong to ask that the other party to that dispute be allowed time to go on television to explain the position? Let us be realistic. The person who went on television and made that broadcast on behalf of the teachers is the same person that has

now been appointed Headmistress of Queen's College. Is the Minister seriously suggesting she is the person whom you refused to allow to go on television and make the broadcast? Are you seriously suggesting that that person was acting in a subversive manner?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

I did not refuse time to anybody to make a broadcast. He is now celling me that the Headmistress of Queen's College made a broadcast. The Board of C.B.C. said they were not giving time to teachers to make any broadcast refuting statements made by the Prime Minister because I made them as Head of the Government. Eveiytime Mr. Harold Wilson or President Nixon makes a statement to the nation, every dissident is not allowed to say "You allowed President Nixon time, and I want time to refute what he said." They write to the Press or the Prime Minister of Great Britain and say "We do not agree with what you have said." They had fulminated to their fullest extent against the Government before.

Then I should make it clear on the point on which I have risen now. At no time was such a request submitted to me, nor the name of any person who was going to make the broadcast, because it was neither under my jurisdiction or control.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

We are not fools, Sir; be realistic. The Government was one of the parties to that dispute; the Prime Minister was directly involved as Minister of Finance. When he goes on the television and puts forward his view as a party to that dispute, he puts forward the view of the one party to that dispute; do you mean, Sir, that C.B.C., as he said, refused the teachers time to go on television to refute the statements made by him? That is the attitude of the Government - mismanaging, misusing the medium of television in this country. Despite all the nonsense about political talk, it was a trade dispute between Government and the teachers - a recognised trade union -and the Prime Minister, Leader in two capacities, as Minister of Finance, Leader of the Government, Leader of the person who was one party to that dispute, refused the other side time to go on television! It is strange that the only person to refuse them was C.B.C., but that Rediffusion allowed them to go on.

3.05 p.m.

It is strange, Sir, that the only person to refuse them, was C.B.C.! Rediffusion allowed them to go on the air; so you Can see the attitude of C.B.C.

Let me go back to the point about Party political broadcasts. This idea of saying that you are going there as the Prime Minister or the Government is a joke. When you get there and put forward your

unadulterated views of the Barbados Democratic Labour Party - whose views are you projecting at that stage, Sir? If you allow the Prime Minister and Government Ministers to do this, then it is only fair that this side of the House should also have time to put forward the views of the Opposition. Let the Government continue; they must always remember that they will not remain in power forever; let them continue with their stupid attitude; let them continue to deny the Opposition Parties in this country the right to use the media of this country.

The question that the sum of $228, 252 under Head 17 - Prime Minister's Office (2) General - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 18 - TRAINING DIVISION

Head 18 - Training Division - was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $261, 622 under Head 18 -Training Division - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that. The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 19 - ECONOMIC PLANNING UNIT Head 19 - Economic Planning Unit - was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $1,004,072 under Head 19 - Economic Planning Unit - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 20 - BARBADOS REGIMENT Head 20 - Barbados Regiment - was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, before I move the appropriation of the amount under this Head, I think that I should make a statement to the House on the future of the Barbados Regiment. I have had the benefit of experts from the Canadian Government and the British Government on the reorganisation of the Barbados Regiment and the setting up of a local Defence Force in three divisions of modest size to relieve the Police in some of the duties which they are now performing, and to provide -training for our young people. If there is any delay

in the implementation of this, it is that I am studying all the financial implications very carefully.

I am pleased to say that, after seven years, the Adjutant has been appointed, and the Public Service Commission has also appointed Mr. Donovan as Superintendent of Prisons. (Asides.) There is a reason for it which I should like to explain to members of this hon. House. After the last British incumbent in the office of Adjutant left, we had to draft Mr. Banfield from the Prisons to the Barbados Regiment. The salary of the Adjutant of the Barbados Regiment was below the substantive salary of the Superintendent of Prisions; therefore, if Mr. Banfield had been appointed at that time as Adjutant, he would have lost financially. He was put there to act hoping that we would have the Barbados Regiment reorganised - I made a mistake when I said 7 years - in five or six years, when everything would have been put in its proper perspective. It had taken a long time to get these reports and submissions from the Officer Commanding the Regiment and from various persons interested. We now have comprehensive Reports from the British Senior Naval Officer in the West Indian Squadron and his staff, from members of the War Office and comments from other countries in the Commonwealth Caribbean that have established Defence Forces.

It is my intention to return to the Legislature in the new financial year, after laying the Report for Reorganisation of the Regiment on a more permanent basis, but still making accommodation for Volunteer Companies in the Regiment in order that those people who still are partly interested in military activities will be able to make a contribution to the community.

I am very glad, of course, that Mr. Donovan has been reinforced in his job because he now can exercise a little more control up there. The incumbent who is acting in an office is always in an awkward position in trying to implement any drastic changes in administration. That is some thing which I have recognised all along. It is only since the last Salaries Revision which we undertook here in December last year that we were in a position to recommend that the Adjutant who has been acting should be appointed with all the consequential appointments being made.

What we are now suggesting is a kind of stopgap measure to continue with the Regiment on its present basis, but only for a short time, with the distinct understanding that in this calendar year I am returning with proposals for the reorganisation of the Barbados Defence Regiment on the basis of a Defence Force for relieving the Police of a lot of their duties such as Ceremonial Guards at Government House, and that kind of thing. It will be a system which will in itself provide for technical and other training for whole generations of young school leavers.

I beg to move that the sum of $199, 602 under Head 20 - Barbados Regiment - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. CRAIG:
Mr. Chairman, I am very happy to hear that at long last the Prime Minister has found it possible to provide some sort of Defence Force for this country, but there are one or two things I should like to know from the Prime Minister. I am happy to know that Mr. Banfield has been appointed Adjutant and not Sydney Alleyne, because I remember quite well that he was going to shoot the Opposition down with acid and fire. I have known Mr. Baafield for a number of years - not personally, but I have always had some admiration for him. (Asides.) He would use bullets rather than acid and fire. 3.15 p.m.

However, there is one other point which I would like the Prime Minister to tell us about. There is an Adjutant appointed. We know that for many years the Drill Hall was the headquarters of the local Volunteer Force, or the Regiment as it is now called. 1 wonder if the hon. Prime Minister would be able to tell us where the headquarters of the Defence Force would be sited, in as much as he has appointed an Adjutant and spoken of three divisions.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BORROW:

If I used the word "division", it is not in a military sense. I meant three companies. A division is much larger than a company.

Mr. CRAIG:

I was never a military man; so I really am ignorant of what is a division, battalion or company. I would like to know what would be the actual cost of these companies, because when the Government was approaching the citizens of this country to take them into Independence, we were told that it would cost about $800,000, but today it is costing us over $3 1/2 million. We may have these fancy figures trotted out of the mouth of the Prime Minister that it would only cost $X and then when we go into it, we find that it cost millions more; so we would have to determine whether or not a Defence Force is necessary because there is a half-baked Defence Force in Guyana, a piece in Trinidad, and now we are to have one in Barbados. If this is only prestige, tell us, because I do not think it is necessary to have a Defence Force. I reckon you should have an aeroplane, and two frigates. I know that the Prime Minister can find this money out of tourism in particular, but he would not tell this House that out of each dollar the tourists spend in Barbados, 60 cents go back out of Barbados. I will deal with that at length later today. We want to hear about these divisions, battalions on companies and the Banfields. I only hope that at some future date I will not hear some talk about $7 million or $8 million, that there is inflation and that we do not have a country. I hope this is not a move to make sure that there is no Opposition, and I hope that the Prime Minister will tell us where the Defence Force will be sited. I know the Prime Minister himself is a very able flyer, and Carlton Brathwaite is a good navigator. I do not know if this is going to be a two-man affair again. (Asides.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

is the hon. senior member for St. James still addressing the Chair?

Mr. CRAIG:

Sir, we have one or two hecklers on this side.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

1 would advise you to ignore the heckling.

Mr. CRAIG:

I know there are Popes on this side, and you will soon hear that a Pope over here will be a Pope of the

division, because you have a Governor-General over here. You know whom I mean. I should like the Prime Minister to tell us more than that we are going to have a Defence Force, because Guyana has one and Venszuela is still running them down. Trinidad has one and the Black Power advocates are running them about. I want to hear what your Defence Force will be like and how many will comprise a company. You cannot come here and ask us to vote $X and then out of a clear blue sky.....

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

I do not think the hon. member understood. I could have said nothing because all I am asking the House to do is to appropriate the sum of $119, 602 for the Barbados Regiment; but I said that in fairness to hon. members I should like them to know that I will be coming back later in the year with plans for the re-orgainisation of the Regiment. Whether you call it the Barbados Regiment, the Barbados Squad or the Barbados Defence Force does not really matter, but the Regiment is going to be re-organised, and it is going to be removed from the Drill Hall as its Headquarters to, maybe, next door, because the British Overseas Aircraft Corporation have agreed to build a hotel at St. Anns Fore, preserving its historical site, and they are going to pay in lieu of rent over $1 million for re siting the Regiment. The Regiment needs to be resited because the Drill Hall is not adequate for the training they will be doing, but they will not be going very far. I will bring a document outlining the proposals to the House, and then I will come in with the necessary Money Resolutions after members have studied the document.

With respect to the business of shooting the Opposition, I would say that in all countries that have set up armies, it was the Government that was shot down, and not the Opposition. I said to the Civil Service Association four years ago that with a Civil Service Association you do not need any army in Barbados because they threatened that unless the Government took some action, their words would not be wasted any more. That is what the President told me at the Barbados Civil Service Association meeting held at the Trade Fair site; so when I got up to speak, I said that in Africa and all those developing countries they have armies that take over the Government, but we do not need an army in Barbados. I still maintain that we do not need an army in Barbados as long as we have a Civil Service Association. The hon. member need have no fear because if the re-organisation of the Regiment is going to entail the abolishing of any political group, history shows that it is the Government that is abolished and not the Opposition.

Mr. CRAIG:

I am very happy to hear the Prime Minister make the statement that the Government are the ones that the army sets out to shoot. Am I therefore to understand that they are going to shoot us in 1971?

Mr. HINDS:

Since I have heard the Prime Minister say that we are going to establish a Defence Force at some later date, I wonder if he has given consideration to enabling the setting up of a Cadet Corps at our Secondary

Modern Schools and all our present Grammar Schools.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I can hardly hear the hon. member for noises being kept by other hon. Members.

Mr. HINDS:
What we feel on this side is that if a Cadet Corps is established at each of these schools, it would result in helping to turn out children with a better sense of discipline than is exhibited at the present moment. You yourself know, Mr. Chairman, that schools are not now measuring up to the disciplining of the students, and it seems as if we will have to get a Cadet Corps to reach as far as Codring-ton College since we have seen what the students there are standing for. I would like to hear if the Prime Minister has examined any such thing and to see if we could benefit from spending small sums which would help to bring out something in the younger children themselves; the earlier we start to discipline them, the better.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, my proposals even go further than the hon. member's, I had the advantage of having been a Cadet, a member of the Barbados Regiment and a Boy Scout, and everything that has been going in the way of youth activities in this country. 3.25 p.m.

My proposals go much further than the hon. member's because I do not think that a Cadet Corps ought to be restricted to the three Secondary Schools, but ought to be organised on the basis of people between 14 years of age on a regional basis; that is, there ought to be one at Speightstown, one at Oistin, one at Four Roads with headquarters in Four Roads, as the hon. member said, two in St. John - one probably reserved for the Clergy - one in Belleplaine which would be necessitated for geographical reasons, to make sure that people from Belleplaine do not get over into St. George. I go further, and I say that the Cadet Corps ought to be opened to all young men of a certain age whether they are attending a Government Secondary School or not, and I think that it would be a question of age groups that we should organise people on. I do not believe that Cadet Corps should be organised only on the basis of learning to drill on a Barrack Square and doing Small Bore Rifle shooting and that kind of thing; I think that they ought to go into electronics and signals on various scales. This would be one way of mobilising the energies of young people who do not know what to do with themselves after 4 o'clock on afternoons, or even during the working day. I fully support what the hon. member has said.

The question that the sum of $119, 602 be appropriated under Head 20 was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 21 - CIVIL AVIATION

Head 21 - Civil Aviation was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Under Head 21, Mr. Chairman, on page 43 there are certain amendments which would like to make to the marginal notes. Item 20; this note should read "Includes provision for Civil Aviation Publications, signs, notices, general office expenses, maintenance of office equipment" - and right here we delete the word "and" it goes on - "postage" and add these words "and payment of Royalties".

Under the explanatory note to Item 24 -the last two lines - the word "tenants" should be deleted, also the word "their" in that line should be deleted; the word "and", the first word on the next line, should be deleted; the words"light and power and the operation of the Radar Installation" inserted; so that the proposed line should read: "Increase due to additional concessions with air conditioning of premises, additional buildings supplied with light and power and the operation of the Radar Installation."

Item 27, "bulletins, etc." without the hyphen, and in the next line under the same note 27, the words "of $554.00 per month" should be deleted.

Explanatory note to Item 31. The last four words in that need to be deleted so that there is a full stop after the word "fees".

Explanatory note to Item 34. The second sentence should read: " Also includes costs of maintenance services and spares for ATC Radar Equipment and installation."

On page 44 on the left hand side, a new Item 40 should be added. In the third column the figures "40" should be inserted after the figures"39"and in the seventh column for "Runway Sweeper" the sum of $50,000 should be inserted immediately after $20, 745, making a total under Non-Recurrent of $70, 745,

and the total expenditure $765, 268. In the marginal notes facing page 40 should be added after No. 39, the word "Re]vote" as the explanatory note. I therefore beg to move that the sum of $765, 268 be appropriated under Head 21.

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

Mr. St. JOHN:
Mr. Chairman, I have a number of matters which I want to deal with and I am very glad that the Prime Minister is here, because the first matter I want to deal with is this. I saw in a newspaper in this country an illustration being made as to the overall plans of the Airport to the Chamber of Commerce in this country. I regarded that, as I said not so long ago, as the greatest insult that could ever have been done by anybody to members of the House of Assembly in any country in the world.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
On a point of order, before the hon. member gets in full flight, the House of Assembly had voted money under that Development Plan for the Airport, and in accordance with good public relations after that money had been voted here by the House for the Development Plan for the Airport, I authorised that they could discuss it with any groups who would be interested in the Development Plan, but it was done here in this House long before. I am sorry that I was not here on the last occasion on which the hon. member was fulminating against the Chief Technical Director of the Ministry of Communications and Works, but to suggest that it is an effrontery is really completely out of context to what has taken place, because we had voted the money to do it. It is true that we have not voted the money for 1975, but this another matter, and a matter for the IADB.

Mr. St. JOHN:
I do not mind what the Prime Minister says; it seems as if not only the Project Manager is the culprit, but the Prime Minister is also a culprit.

3.35 p.m.

This thing is important enough that you must have a White Paper on it. I want any member of the House here to say what day, what time, what month, what year the Prime Minister ever brought in maps or plans .in here in relation to Seawell Airport. Not one! How come the Chamber of Commerce could get maps and plans? There are members of your Party who have never seen maps and plans in relation to Seawell Airport. But, of course, you feel that it is important that the Chamber of Commerce - the

Chamber of Commerce can get that information and we, the members of the House cannot get that information! What is more, the position is this. There are people in the constituency of Christ Church who are worried particularly those in certain districts near the Airport as to what the proposals are. If you had any sense of public relations, if the Lord High and Mighty Project Manager - and I am going to deal with him specifically. The Prime Minister of this country is the Minister of Finance; he ought to remember that he allowed the Project Manager to deal with the Hilton Hotel; it cost $14,000,000 in this country, and up to now you do not know where the money has gone. How much money does the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance estimate as having been wasted with the Hilton? 1 am going to give you an opportunity to answer.

(Mr. HINDS:
It was stolen.)

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
The Hilton Hotel cost $10,000,000(Asides). Ten?) As far as I am concerned, no money lawfully spent in the Hilton Hotel has been misspent. If they have spent $4,000,000 of your money, I cannot tell you about that; I can only tell you about the Government's money. (Aside The truth will come out!) It has provided employment for 370 people; we have $500,000 as a payment in this Estimates, and next year I hope to get a million. So if you can call that money badly spent, it is a matter for you. ....

Mr. St. JOHN:
It is the highest cost hotel per room ever constructed in the Caribbean. Money is wasted because if you had it properly done, you would have the same employment and more returns on the money involved. You say $10,000,000; the interest on $10,000,000 at 8% is $800,000. You have to subsidise to the extent of $300,000 right now; so what kind of bogus finance are you coming to put on us? I say it is a lax way to do any project of the magnitude of Seawell Airport - to put it into the hands of a Project Manager, without, at this stage, having proper planned specifications. You are encouraging...

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Again the hon. member is misleading himself; he would not be misleading the other members of the House who read the papers intelligently or listen to debates in here. The Project Manager is in charge of preparing the plans; at the same time we have got plans from the IATA people in Ontario and so on; but before we go out and tender to make our final submission to the IADB, all of these plans have got to be pulled together.

In the meantime, for the parking apron and the additional Passengers' Arrival building, we could not

wait until all these plans are approved; so we came to the House and explained the position. The Project Manager also supervises the extensions to the parking apron, and we have gone out to tender for the new Arrival building which would double the accommodation. But we have got specific permission from the lnter-American Development Bank to go ahead with these developments which will be considered part of the overall cost when we come to the eligibility for the loan. We have got it in writing - "Go ahead with the parking apron; go ahead with the arrivals"; we cannot keep the people out in the rain. Of course, the Project Manager, being on the spot, would be supervising the extension of the parking apron for which the House has already voted over $1,000,000 as part of the project, and we explained what was happening. We have to deal with an economist. We have an architect, and we have other people working up there doing nothing but putting the plans together for the submission to the IADB and other international agencies for the overall expansion of the Airport.

The last time that 1 was present when the hon. member spoke, his criticism was then that we were not doing any planning; now we have somebody up there permanently employed, putting these things together, they say we.....

Mr. St. JOHN:

On the last occasion the Prime Minister came here, he said that there was no specification or plan; up to this stage we have no specification and you are spending over $1,000,000 in providing facilities here. It must follow that you are spending the money before you have the specifications and plans; that is what I am worried about. This is the same Project Manager that built the foundations for the Hilton, the same Project Manager who started a certain part of the Hilton. That is so, Sir; but this is a very important point. I do not think that a project of this magnitude can be done - I do not care about any Inter-American Bank, because we have enough experience here now in executing projects of this kind; and if the Prime Minister hasn't got it, he only has to look back at the size of the Deep Water Harbour and he will see proper planning. That was properly planned; everybody who has come here, everybody who has gone into it has said it was properly planned.

Where are the alternative roads going to be constructed in Christ Church? That is what the people in Charnocks want to know. That is what my constituency wants to know; that is what even 'Softy" wants to know. Secondly, where are the parking apron and the new terminal building going to be in relation to the existing building? I see maps and plans mentioned; the Chamber of Commerce has maps and plans. Bring those maps and plans in here; we must see those maps and plans. We are not voting any money until we see those maps and plans; so do not sit down and fold your arms and say that we are not entitled to see them, and that I must walk up to the Ministry and ask for them. The point is that I know you would not adopt the policy that would have been adopted in a proper Government in any part of the world: that is, to set out a White Paper to which these maps and plans are annexed for the information of the House first, and then the public after; or else you should have presented these matters to the House of Assembly. We are entitled, as members of the House of Assembly, to see that public money is being spent in a proper manner, and in so far as my constituency is concerned, I am entitled to see that the

minimum amount of dislocation takes place and that any dislocation that takes place should happen in a manner that causes no undue hardship to my constituents. So, if you do not hear me here, you will have to hear me up in that corner in Christ Church because until I see these things I am going up there and agitate; you know that, once I start an agitation up there, it is going to have an effect and these plans are going to be brought down here. It is an important matter, and not a penny shall be spent on any terminal building without proper specifications and plans. Before the terminal building was finished last time, it was too small; that is your crazy planning. Build a new terminal building - it took you three years to decide to build it, and then it took you another 18 months to build it, and when it was completed it was too small. So it is the laughing stock of everybody! They say "How is it that this new building has gone up, and whenever the rain falls you cannot even get into it?" I hope that does not happen again.

3.45 p.m.

I hope that does not happen on this occasion. Because the IADB have promised to lend you money, do not think that they can dictate to us! How is it that the

IADB has authorized you to disclose plans? Who is running this country, the CIA or what?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, perhaps the hon. member has misunderstood me. I said that we could continue the parking apron and have it costed in to the overall loan. Normally, if you go and spend money, as when I went to get the Harbour - the same Harbour that the hon. member said was a big achievement of the Barbados Labour Party and they did not pay a penny for it and the boys had them in Court - when I went to the President of the World Bank and asked him for $16 million for the Deep Water Harbour, he laughed at me. He said "We do not re-finance anything, because we have to approve the plans before we make a loan!'. Similarly, when we told the IADB that we could not wait for the parking apron, we got permission to go ahead and spend our money on it and that money would still be considered in the elegibility of the overall loan. I' never said anything about IAD3 giving me any permission or authority to show plans. The plans are not theirs and they would have to be crazy.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, I want an assurance from the Prime Minister that he will publish a White Paper and bring down these plans to the House of Assembly.....

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member can see the plans every day. Day by day he can

go into the office every afternoon. I am not going to bring any plans to the House of Assembly until I am asking the House of Assembly to support them. 1 cannot bring in plans that I myself may not agree with six months from now. As soon as they are finalised I will bring them here (Asides.)

Mr. Chairman, the Chamber of Commerce invited the Project Director to say something about the matter. Do you know why they did that? It was done particularly because of the remarks made in here by the same hon. member that we were not doing any planning for the Airport. He is the person instigating all of this confusion, and now he wants to exploit the same confusion by saying that we went to them before we came to him! I invite the hon. member now to take in his constituents every afternoon or morning to the office to make sure that their rights are not being interfered with. I cannot do any more than that. The plans that I will bring in here will be the final plans and not anybody's pipe dreams; but if you want to see the pipe dreams you can go up there any afternoon. Until I approve them they will have to be pipe dreams. (Asides.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

All hon. members have the chance of addressing the Chair!

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, take the Insurance Bill, for instance. The members of the Cabinet will only see the Insurance Bill next week. That Insurance Bill has been around to the Solicitors and the Insurance Companies for a long time; for about three years I have been waiting on it, and that is the normal procedure. The people who are likely-to be affected should see it. The Bar Association had a special Committee dealing with it, but the members of the Cabinet have not seen it yet, with the exception of the Attorney General and myself, and they have more cause for complaint than any back bencher or shadow Minister on the other side. Here it is that we have had something for over three or four years circulating outside and the Cabinet has not yet seen it! If you believe in democratic procedures, how could you complain because they invited the Project Manager to explain things to them and told him "We hear from Mr. St. John that no plans are made for the Airport. Can you tell us what is being done"?

Mr. Chairman, the House has already voted for these extensions, and 1 have given an explanation as to why it is being done now as a matter of urgency.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, this is the whole point. The Prime Minister says that he has not approved the plans; there fore, what was shown to the Chamber of Commerce were the proposals. 1 feel that the members of the House and the people who would be immediately affected - namely, the people in the surrounding

areas - should have been shown the proposals so that you would have been able to get their comments, and then upon the basis of the proposals and their comments you would formulate your plans. You have absolutely no concept at all of public participation in important decisions. You feel that you must have a plan, decide things in the back room and ram everything down the throats of the people. That cannot be right. I am lot going to allow that to happen on this occasion, because there is too much scope in that area for land speculation arising out of this plan. I am not going to allow that to happen, and any information received must be public information. There are a number of people who will be affected by this.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, there is no land speculation because the House has already approved the compulsory acquisition of the only remaining plantation which will be affected, and that is Spencers Plantation. (Asides.) There are a few plots of land on the we stern side of the runway which are now illegally occupied by the red lights because we cannot find the people who have the titles. When we decide that this is necessary, the Crown Solicitor will negotiate in the normal way with these people. To the east of the runway is Spencers Plantation, and there would not be any speculation there.

Mr. CRAIG:

Mr. Chairman, at times I get a bit confused with my future Prime Minister. I am confused to hear my colleague get up in here and ask who is running the Airport. Do you not know? Norma Jackman, Bruce Weatherhead and a man called Ed Halkingham from I.S.L. Do you want to hear the three names again? Norma Jackman, Bruce Weatherhead, Carlton Brathwaite and a man called Ed Halkingham from I.S.L.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Those are four names. The hon. member is misleading the House. He said that there axe three people running the Airport, and I am sure he called four names,

Mr. CHAIRMAN; No point of order.

Mr. CRAIG; That is pure ignorance as usual; he is as ignorant as he is short, and he is very short. He should be the last person to get up and defend Sea-well Airport. The hon. Prime Minister snatched it from his hands. He said: "You can run the Deep Water Harbour, but you cannot run up here. Up here has free money, and you should not get in it".

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, 1 must set the record straight. Let me get this down in the Hansard. The hon. member said that somebody snatched something out of my hands. The Airport has never come under my Ministry. I do not have the Airport in my hand. The hon. member is misleading the House.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Point made.

Mr. CRAIG:

Mr. Chairman, the whole Airport is a big joke. It is regrettable that such a fine structure, provided by the Government of that day, can have all of the problems that we now have at the Airport.

3.55 p.m.

You have problems from the Red Caps to the administration - and when I say 'administration', I will deal with the Tower. You have problems with the taxi drivers, and now you will have a bigger problem by putting the whole Airport in the hands of Mr. Wason. One must bear in mind that the Prime Minister said that it cost about $10 million to build the Hilton Hotel which was originally projected to cost $4 million or $6 million. According to the Prime Minister's own words, it cost about $10 million, and nobody can yet determine how much it actually cost because the books have gone. The Minister of Finance who is responsible for the financial affairs of this country can tell you that a project of that magnitude cost about $10 million.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

On a point of order, in the first place I did not come in here to discuss the Hilton Hotel. I know the Hilton Hotel cost about $10 million plus or minus a few thousand dollars - and I think it is on the minus side; but if you make the statement that it cost $14 million, I say it cost $10 million. The hon. member said it was supposed to cost $4 million. Time after time when people mentioned $4 million, I was very careful to point out to the Press and everybody else that the construction costs of the Hilton Hotel was, I think, $4.3 million, and that has nothing to do with mechanical trades, furniture, carpets, linen and all that go to make up the hotel. This is what they went out to tender on, but it may have ended up costing over $5 million. When the hon. member says that the books have gone, the Development Board has duplicates of every single item, every certificate issued by the architects, .every invoice put through customs; and if anybody thinks that by having a fire in the store-room our books were consumed and we do not have every single item of detail, he has made a big mistake. The hon. member should not say it was to cost $4 million and it cost $10 million, because the Contractor's price is one thing, and the overall cost of the hotel is another thing altogether.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

While I have given quite a lot of latitude about the Hilton Hotel, I do not think it is appropriate to discuss that item under this Head. There are other Heads under which members will have an opportunity to discuss the Hilton Hotel, and I hope hon. members will confine themselves to Head 21

Mr. CRAIG:

Sir, I must really pay you credit this afternoon. You observed that I was talking about the Hilton, but somehow you allowed the Prime Minister to talk for nearly four minutes on a point of order. I am using the hotel as an analogy to show that Sea-well Airport is going to be placed in the hands of a Project Manager who was responsible for the Hilton Hotel. The Minister of Finance said in here that it cost about $10 million, and he is saying this evening that they have all the certificates and everything from the contractors and engineers. I want to know if after three years the Prime Minister cannot determine how much money the Hilton Hotel really cost.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

On a point of order, the hon. member is going on about the' Hilton hotel, but I was careful to explain that we are dealing with Head 21 - Civil Aviation. I do not keep a lot of figures in my head about how much the hotel cost. I cannot tell him how much my motor car cost, because I am no longer interested, and the Hilton is finished and bringing in money. I am not in a position to get up and quote figures, but I know it is nothing like $14 million; it was never and will never be $12 million, and I said it cost approximately $10 million.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I deem that not to be a point of order. I have already said that this Head 21 and the Hilton Hotel does not form part of the Head.

Mr. CRAIG:

The hon. Prime Minister is not interested in the cost of his car. That is finished, the Hilton Hotel is finished and he is finished with the country, or the country is finished with him. Soon he will not have a country. Mr. Chairman, I must endorse my colleagues remarks that unless there is proper planning you are going to have the spectacle of money being thrown away again at the Airport. When the Public Works were building the extension, that was poor planning. Long ago they knew they were going to expect Jumbo jets here unloading 300 passengers at one time and they built an 18'xl4' box. You knew in advance that you were going to expand Seawell. There is a conveyor belt at Seawell Airport, and the Minister of Finance got in here and said he cannot understand why it would not work. We are asking

you to let us know what is happening. We do not want to know who will get the most money. We are interested in watching the money of the taxpayers because we are the watchdogs of the Government.

When I heard that the contract for the Red Caps WAS given to Mr. Edey, I was under the impression that there was going to be some orderly approach to passengers, but you still find Red Caps saying;" Look me here, skipper". It was not necessary then to give Mr. Edey the contract. You have taxi drivers outside fighting morniag, noon and night. The Government says they must pay $40, and there are some yard-fowls who say you cannot join the Association unless you have a passport. I have a little thing going at Pilgrim Place where they come and drink; so I must hear these things. They do not know, head nor heels, where they are going. They are supposed to pay an additional $5, but they do not know to whom to pay it, and all day there is justling and jostling between Dear's Garage, the Taxi Association and I.S.L. cars, and the man with one car is the person who is suffering.

Mr. Chairman, the whole Airport needs a complete survey being carried out because it is one of the gateways to Barbados. It is a beautiful structure of which we are proud, and we can thank the Barbados Labour Party for building it. It is not like the Deep Water Harbour which the hon. Minister of Trade said was built in the wrong place; but if you ask him where it should be, he does not know where it should be. He was skipper of the railway ship then, but the Barbados Seafoods and Bajan Seafoods will wreck that ship over there. Sir, 1 am calling on the Minister who controls Civil Aviation to get down to some proper planning on Seawell Airport. If you look in the Air Traffic Control office, one of the most important offices in that Department, there is hardly elbow room, There is a man called George Fields who has been working there for a number of years. He has had three or four opinions from specialists - one from Dennis Bailey, one from Trieloff, one from Reader and one from somebody else, and they .claim that the Jet blasts have caused him to lose his hearing. 4.05 p.m.

Now you have a tug-of-warupthere, and Outram is being pitchforked because he is a member of the D.L.P. Since 1959, at which time you had the Viscounts coming in, 11 years ago, and up to this very day when you have Jets coming in, one has ever thought that the Tower should be insulated; the same way you are blinding people at I.S.L., you will make them deaf at the Airport. Until the Prime Minister decides to treat Parliament with the respect it should be treated with, we are going to harass him on all of these poor financial plannings. We hear a lot of talk about these soft loans through the hard window, and it is the people who are going to suffer most. I am going to call on Government this evening to let us see the plans for the Airport; let us know the people who tendered for the first phase of the work to be done and who was awarded the contract.

The question that the sum of $765, 268 be appropriated under Head 21 was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 22 - ESTABLISHMENTS DIVISION Head 22 - Eatablishments Division was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that under this Head the sum of $372, 790 be appropriated.

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

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

HEAD 23 - PUBLIC RELATIONS

Head 23 - Public Relations was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, there are no amendments under this Head, and I beg to move that the sum of $57,092 be appropriated under this Head.

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

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

HEAD 24 - ARCHIVES

Head 24 - Archives was called.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, there are no moves - in or amendments under this Head, and I therefore beg to move that the sum of $9, 879 should be appropriated under this Head.

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

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

On the motion of the Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported progress and asked for leave to sit again; Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until half-past four.

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

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

4.15 p.m.

On Resumption:-

HEAD 25 - MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Head 25 - Ministry of External Affairs - was called.

Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $3,016,500 under Head 25 - Ministry of External Affairs - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY; Mr. Chairman, sometime ago the Prime Minister said in this House, during the debate on the passing of a Resolution to buy a house in London- I think it is at Thames Ditton - for the High Commissioner of Barbados in the U.K., that it was the intention of the Government to appoint its own High Commissioner, and that the arrangement of sharing with Guyana would be brought to an end. It is a fact that Guyana's representative in the U.K. is now Sir John Carter, and I believe that Barbados' High Commissioner is still Sir Lionel Luckhoo. I would like to ascertain from the Prime Minister how long will Sir Lionel Luckhoo remain the Barbados High Commissioner, and if it is the intention of the Prime Minister to keep on Sir Lionel Luckhoo as High Commissioner for any length of time, or whether he will consider the possibility of appointing a Barbadian national to that post.

Secondly, I would like to know also whether that house at Thames Ditton has been purchased and whether the house is now being occupied by Sir Lionel Luckhoo. In addition, I believe that there was some money voted for the purchase of some property in New York and in Washington, and I would like to ascertain from the Minister of External Affairs whether that money has been spent and whether any such property has been bought in Washington or New York, Sir.

One other point. I see here voted with regard to the Embassy in Washington - I believe that the building is now the property of the Barbados Government - I see under Item 105, Maintenance of residence $7,500; is that the property of the Government of Barbados?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

There are two different buildings. The residence has been purchased over a year ago and is occupied by the Ambassador. The money which was recently voted is for the Chancery, or the office from which the work of the Mission is done. We voted money which was transferred; we have not got the title deeds. The money was sent down for the purchase and the contract was signed. It is only a question of whether the title deeds have actually been received, but there is a contract for the sale and I am not in a position to say if the office transfer has been formally effected. However, Item 105 is in relation to the residence which is already occupied by the Ambassador and has been for the past year.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

My query is, sir, that I believe the reason why the Prime Minister came before the House and said they should buy the Embassy - it was a question that you make one lump payment and then no more payments, taking into account the amount of money that you were paying for rent. I cannot recall off-hand the amount they are paying for rent. During the last two years, since you have purchased the residence, you have spent $19,500 on it. Looking at the Estimates, Other Expenditure, 1959-70, there is also a sum of $12,000. Again, Sir, I notice that the Government has decided to buy quite a number of motor vehicles in this financial year as it would appear that at almost all the Embassies you are going to buy motor vehicles.

There is the purchase of a motor vehicle -$7,000 - for the United Kingdom; at the Mission in New York, there is a sum of $12,000 for the purchase of a motor vehicle or replacement of one of the Mission's cars; in Canada last year, a motor vehicle was also purchased - again in Washington, you are maintaining a car, $5,200 - Item 104. Again, Sir, under Item 84, Barbados Mission at New York, maintenance of car $10,000 to meet the running expenses of official car. Increased to meet the increased insurance charges'. I think it is.....

Mr. HINDS:

Item 94 - In Canada.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I understand from Item 112 the Government is buying a new vehicle for the High Commissioner in London. Under Item 117 Government has $12,000 for purchasing a replacement of one of the Mission's cars. My understanding is that the Government is providing cars for those members of the Mission other than the High Commissioner.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Only two cars; one for the Consul General.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I would like a breakdown from the Prime Minister as to how many cars and what sort of cars the Government of Barbados owns overseas and, most of all, I would like to find out the position with regard to Sir Lionel Luckhoo in London.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
If I can first deal with the first point. Although Sir John Carter went to London late in the summer, Sir Lionel Luckhoo's official term, as communicated to me, expired on the 31st March, 1970. He is on sick leave from the Government of Guyana; therefore Sir John Carter took over. He still takes some interest in what is going on until 31st March in our Embassy, but most of the work is now being done by the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Sam Corbin; so that answers that point.

Sir Lionel does not occupy the house at Thames Ditton - "Inverta" as the house is called; both he and Mr. Corbin have been using the house for official receptions instead of going to expensive hotels for official entertaining, until somebody occupies the house; that deals with that point.

The establishment in London - there is a car, a Mercedes, which was bought this financial year for the High Commission.

4.45 p.m.

The Vauxhaul was bought with the house for the Welfare Officer, Mr. Lewis, who has to go to meet. unigrants. It is really a Station Wagon; we bought it for about one hundred and eighty pounds, and it was about eighteen months to two years old. The High Commissioner in Canada had a Lincoln Continental and, after three years, it was decided that it would be cheaper to change the car. We have already changed the car and it is now an Oldsmobile. The Ambassador, the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, has a Lincoln Continental, and the Consul-General changed his car, as far as I can remember, to a Buick which was found to be more economical. The Ambassador in Washington, I believe, also has a Lincoln Continental, but one of the cars in New York has to be changed this year. It may be a Lincoln Continental because two used to be up there: but, as far as I can remember, the Consul-General did not have a Lincoln Continental, It is either an Oldsmobile or a Buick.

Mr. Chairman, I know definitely that the High Commissioner in London has a Mercedes, because I got a letter to that effect yesterday. A Mercedes over there at diplomatic price will cost about L1250 at the outside. I know for a fact that the High Commissioner in Ottawa has an Oldsmobile, because I was there last week. I also know for a fact that there is one Lincoln Continental in New York, and the other car which the Consul-General has is not a Lincoln Continental. We know that the Ambassador in Washington has a Lincoln Continental. Those are the full complement of the cars with the exception of the Station Wagon which Mr. Lewis drives around to collect migrants and money, etc.

Now, the insurance on cars in the United States is very high; the running expenses are also very high because the officers have long distances to travel both to and from work. It takes about fifty minutes for the Ambassador to get down to his office; they have to do a lot of official running around and they have to do a lot of mileage. The running expenses here are for normal repairs, insurance, and also for gasolene and oil.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I do not quite understand what the Prime Minister said. He said something about a Mercedes purchased in London this year.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, I received a letter yesterday I think I have it in my bag - to the effect that the Mercedes has arrived for the London Office. I think it costs less than $6,000 over there.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Then the $7,000 is to pay for that.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Perhaps the $7,000 will include insurance and so on. I am not sure about this $7,000, and it may be for another car. The amount for the Mercedes was provided in last year's vote.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Is this $7,000 for another car?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, I am checking on that now. They may not have expected the Mercedes to arrive so early, but I got a letter yesterday stating that it had arrived. I think I have the explanation now. Under Item 112 - Purchase of Motor Vehicle - $7,030, the vote in last year's Estimates for a Mercedes was for the High Commission. The High Commission had no cars whatsoever; so last year we bought two cars; one is a second-hand Station Wagon for Mr. Lewis. Mr. Lewis was using his own car going to meet migrants, and he was getting a very low travelling allowance on the some scale as is paid in Barbados, which was ridiculous. He had to drive all the way down to Southampton and places like that. When the property was bought we asked the owners whether they would sell the Station Wagon which, as I said, we bought for about one hundred and eighty pounds or less than $800 - I have not figured it out. (Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY You said that it was included with the price of the house.) No, the motor car was not included. I was very careful when I was talking about the purchase of the property to say that the motor car was not included in the sale. The Station Wagon was not included in the purchase price of the property, and that is what I said. Check the Hansard and you will see the position. I asked them whether the Station Wagon had been included in the sale of the property and they said "No", but that it was available for sale. There were two cars in the garage a and they said they were not selling them. Eventually we persuaded them to sell the Station Wagon at a price of L180. The point is that we have bought the Station Wagon, and it was not included in the purchase price of the house. Mr. Lewis was using his own car formerly. The Station Wagon cost only L180 and that did not come out of the $6, 120. The Mercedes which was delivered last week was bought for the High Commission in London. Even before we knew that there would have been a Station Wagon there the Mercedes was bought for the High Commission that never had any car. We had a Deputy High Commissioner and a whole lot of staff, but no transportation. The only transportation we had was Mr. Lewis' car which cost about thirty-five pounds. We did not think it was fair for Mr. Lewis to be spending his money with these high maintenance costs on his own car in travelling all the way to Southampton; so we bought the Station Wagon for him to go and meet the migrants.

Mr. Chairman, the House voted money for a car for the High Commission, and it is the one which has just been delivered in London. The $7,000 that we i have here now is not a car for the Mission. Let me explain what the car for the Mission does. Mr. Lewis may be up in Birmingham collecting money. The special bag arrives at an airport and it has to be collected the same day, and it would be necessary to spend taxi fares in order to send a senior officer up there to collect diplomatic mail. Every time a Minister or a member of Parliament went to England and had to be met, they would have to hire a limousine and that is why we bought the Mercedes.

4.55 p.m.

Mr. Lewis' station wagon is for him and his collections and the migrants, and the $7,000 here is now for another car since we have decided to have our own High Commissioner and he will need his

personal car. Sir Lionel Luckhoo had his own car and the Guyana Government has a car; so he had two cars. We never had a car for him, Now that we are to have a High Commissioner, we have to have a car for him and that is what the $7,000 is for; so the Mission in London will have three cars when we purchase this new one - a Mercedes, a Vauxhall and whatever the new car is.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
Is Sir Lionel Luzkhoo still acting Commissioner for Barbados?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW; Until 31st March.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
Will the Prime Minister tell us whether Mr. George Moe has been selected to be High Commissioner?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
I do not know anything about that. We will have to wait and see.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, the Prime Minister will be in a position to tell us about these Barbadians under Item 64, which is for relief of Barbadians in Cuba - $6,000 - and than Item 65 - Old Peoples' Home at Panama, I wonder if the Prime Minister would have the figures of Barbadians in Cuba to be relieved, and also the ones at the Home in Panama.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
First let me deal with the Home in Panama because I have first-hand knowledge of this. I have visited the Home in Panama. It is run jointly by the Jamaican Government and the Barbados Government. As you know, the Panama Canal was built substantially by Jamaican and Barbadian labour, and because of the peculiar arrangement of the Canal Zone, if you are in the Canal Zone you are entitled to the Social Security benefits. The people who live outside the Canal Zone, when they got to retiring age, were in an extremely disadvantageous position compared with people who lived in the Canal Zone who would be entitled to go to the United States on emigration without any great difficulty; but not many West Indians were left in the Canal Zone when the U.S Administration carved out the belt and said that the United States Government had exclusive jurisdiction over that. That Barbadian Home is not on the Panama side; it is at the other end of the Isthmus of Panama in Colon. I visited this place and there may be about seventeen or eighteen Barbadians there.

When we come to Cuba, most of the Barbadians left Panama - some left directly after the Canal was finished about 1913 during the same period as the expansion of the Cuban sugar industry, and most of them went to the part of Cuba-oriented province where Mr. Castro originated, and a lot of them are still there. The number of requests that we get every year is between thirty and forty. From 1913 until 1970 is a matter of 57 years, and even if these people went there in their prime and youth, they are now old and most of them are very indigent and may not be supporters of the regime; but a lot are finding it very difficult to make out under the arduous conditions which exist. I would like to say that even in the former regime under Batista they were not any better off. For some reason they did not make provision for migrants to enjoy the same kind of welfare services as the people who were natives of the country itself; so the number of requests we still get every year for repatriation is between thirty and forty. I think the hon. senior member for Bridgetown would know this because many of them came to live in Bridgetown, and some of them had to be accommodated at the Infirmary when we could not find their relatives. Even before they got here they asked the City Council if they could make any provision for them when their families could not be found. A lot of these people sent back money to their relatives, and then when you went to find their relatives you could not find them because they do not want to be bothered with old people; but we regard them as being our responsibility because this is our country. The British Ambassador in Cuba and the British Consul in Havana are the people who make arrangements for these people to fly back home.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

There is just one point I would like clarified, and it is under Item 85 which provides for maintenance of the Ambassador's residence. I would like to know when you use the words "to meet basic and essential service at Ambassadors Residence" what exactly this includes.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Gas and oil $2, 920; servicing and repairs $5,500; car washing $500; parking fees $280, insurance $3,000 and tyres $300. I believe the insurance would be for the residence and cars. I think the hon. member asked about Item 85, the Barbados Mission at New York, and those are the figures. 5.05 p.m.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, one cannot help but feel that as regards the money spent on External Affairs in this country, there is a rapid increase in the money being provided. If one looks at the Estimates for this year, there is an increase of over $683,000; but even if one went back to the Estimates for 1967-68 the figure provided there was $2,052, 422, and that year there was an increase of $1.3 million. I think that when we are going to spend money on this sort of activity it must be placed in its true perspective, and I would have thought, as regards the West Indian nations, that some sort of attempt should be made to provide joint diplomatic representation abroad, and by ' joint' I do not mean in the sense of the one that existed

between Guyana and Barbados, because this was not joint representation at all; the relationship that existed between Guyana and Barbados was simply that you had two separate offices, but you had one Joint High Commissioner. That is not the sort of thing I mean by joint representation overseas. I think it is time that the West Indian Governments should get together for the purpose. There maybe those who are completely opposed to the Federal idea - be that as it may - but I think the time has come again when the nations of the West Indies must get together to work out a system of Joint diplomatic representation overseas. This may sound difficult to some people, but I think when one looks at the CARIFTA exercise, the West Indian Development Bank, and the suggested talk about a Caribbean Court of Appeal to replace the Privy Council, again the West Indian Governments are realising the need to come together to provide certain common services, and I think that heading that list of common services should be Joint diplomatic representation overseas.

I believe that the High Commissioner for Trinidad to India is also the High Commissioner for Guyana, and there the difference is that there is one complete office, one High Commissioner - not the system as you had in England. I would certainly like the Government, along with other Governments, at their Heads of Government Conferences to seriously consider having joint diplomatic representation overseas. There are a few problems, or a few areas, that one could never imagine, but as regards international relations where the West Indian Governments would not want to disagree, one cannot really envisage that at the international level there will be any great problems between the West Indian Governments. We have a common background, a common heritage; our problems are the same; and I believe that if, as regards international relations, we were to present a united front to the outside world, Barbados and the entire West Indies would be in a far better position.

I have no doubt that the Prime Minister, when he refers to the IATA as a conspiracy that is seeking to prevent certain benefits coming to Barbados will agree that it is to organisations like IATA that the West Indies must present a united front because in actual fact we are still dealing with international countries which seem to have the old Colonial idea of 'divide and rule', and it is well known, not only in Western countries but also in certain foreign Governments, that if they have to deal with the West Indies, the attitude is to divide the countries among themselves to prevent them from presenting a united front dealing with international relations. As I said earlier, our only hope, if we are to survive is for us to come together and to have joint diplomatic representation overseas.

The question that the sum of $3, 106,500 be appropriated under Head 25 was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 26 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS Head 26 - Ministry of Home Affairs was called.

Rt. Hon. E.W. BARROW:
Under this Head, Mr. Chairman, the amount to be appropriated is the sum of $402, 329 and I beg to move that this sum be now appropriated.

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Under Item 31, Mr. Chairman, Registration of Electors, I would like to find out from the Minister responsible what is the present situation as regards the Register of. Electors in this country. I would like from him an indication as to the number of people who have been actually registered as eligible to vote in the next General Election, whenever that may be - I am not saying it will be in June. Certainly the list of people eligible to vote has been closed, and I would like to find out from the Minister what the present list stands at. I would also like some information from the Minister as regards the number of persons who have had their photographs taken, and also a breakdown, by parishes, of those persons who have had their photographs taken. 5.15 p.m.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
There is another thing I would like to find out - Item 37 - Parks and Beaches. There is a vote for $115,000 and the note reads "To meet administrative cost of operating parks and beaches, services, payment of wages and salaries and other incidental expenses." Then you come to Item 39 - Parks and Beaches - $100,000. The note reads "To provide filing cabinets, desks, tables, chairs, typewriters, dips, fans, duplicating machines, jeeps and landscaping."

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Non-recurrent.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I know that it is nonrecurrent, but I would like to find out, Sir, what is this money being paid for? Is this the office of the Commissioner?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
As far as 1 know, Mr. Chairman, a Parks and Beaches Commission is being set up, a Control

Authority. This means we have to take over all the playing grounds and recreational centres formerly administered by the Local Government Councils; places like Queen's Park, Farley Hill National Park, Barclays Park. We have just completed the facilities in Christ Church at Silver Sands. The building looks complete to me; whether it is ready for occupation - we don't encourage cocktail parties now at handing-over of these things; so I am really never in a position to know -- when we opened the facility at St. John let me make this clear. The two members paid for that.

(Aside): From the Hospitality vote)

No. We do not encourage cocktail parties everytime a building is completed - this used to be done

before.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
By whom?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
By everybody. Let me try and explain the position. That was my way of knowing that the Public Works was really handing over a building. I would receive an invitation. I can only say from what I see outside that the structure at Silver Sands appears to have been completed. Now, in my constituency, naturally we have to let the people know that the thing is there; so that came out of our pockets.

Mr. CRAIG:
You got the best up there.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Well, should I get the worst? I am asking a question.

Mr. CRAIG:
Yes, Sir. I would say by 1971 you would have the worst.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

You mean you would have better than that? Charity begins at home. Do you want the people in St. John to do like the people in St. Joseph and say that they have not got anything?

Mr. CRAIG:

Leave out that for now; that is a hot cake.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

I was only mentioning that in reference to my knowing when facilities are ready for handing over - I was really pointing out that we have to take over all the facilities formerly controlled by the Local Government Authority. I would like to see something done at St. James, for instance, not because the hon. member is here, but I think that is a most valuable four acres of land at Folkstone. Now that Dr. Gibbons has retired, I think that, apart from the requirements of the Sub-Treasurer or whatever he calls himself - the Collecting Agency - I would like to see certain improvements down there at Folkestone. We also have to do some building at Speightstown to widen the Esplanade where we removed those houses, and a playing field for St. Peter as well. That first vote is for the running expenses of all of these facilities.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

I will give you $500,000 for where Gibbons used to live.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Not for sale; for the use and benefit of the public of Barbados. That is why we want to keep the beaches. I think we have -I am satisfied. ....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would like the hon. members to observe Standing Order....

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

At $10 a square foot it would be a million and a half, anyhow. I like to reassure the hon. member.....

Mr. HOLDER:

It pleases me this afternoon, Mr. Chairman, to hear it coming from the lips of the Prims Minister what he would like at Folkstone, St. James. This afternoon, that kills the great rumour that has been prevailing in St. James fora very long time that the Prime Minister had sold that property to Canadians.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Why, I couldn't sell it like that. I am not in the Real Estate business. My personal view is that there are good enough hotels on the St. James Coast and that we ought to keep Folkstone for the general public. I am serious about that. I do not see why we should sell it to somebody else to make money out if it. We have enough hotels in St. James already, and the public of Barbados must be entitled to somewhere where they can go without hindrance. I am not talking about the constituents in St. James; I am talking about the general public; they should be able to go somewhere apart from down be hind the Baltic or Morgan Lewis or somewhere like that which is far to reach and which does not have a good beach. Why can't we have some West Coast beach as well? This is my personal view and I believe that most of the Ministers on this side feel so, too, There may be a conflict of interest with some of the real estate developers in their functions as members of this House and in their professional capacity, but I have no conflict at all. So, I would like to give the assurance right here in the House to the hon. member in case he thought it was rather indirect - as far as I am concerned, I see no reason why the Government should sell Folkestone. If the St. James coast was a depressed area without employment and no hotels to be developed, in the same way that we came and set a standard in St. Michael by building the Hilton Hotel, I would like to go ahead and encourage somebody to develop Folkestone. But with all of those hotels down there, why should we let go Folkestone? I would like to see Folkestone developed in another way - as a proper park, with proper facilities for changing -and a playground for children and that kind of thing. This money that we voted here has to cover quite a large area all around the Island and inside as well. It may look like a lot of money; but when we consider that the three Councils used to spend money paying wages to watchmen and gardeners and that kind of thing, it is not really a lot of money. The $100,000 -Non-recurrent - is really to make the Commission mobile so that the senior people in the Commission would be able to get around to do proper supervision.

Mr. St. JOHN:

I am very interested in this point because I had a look at the new legislation dealing with the Beaches and Parks Commission and, in my opinion, it is defective in this respect we cannot see that any Town Planner has any right giving people permission to put up groynes. All around by Maxwell Beach, in Dover, people are putting up groynes with the permission of the Town Planner. I checked the newspapers; there is no longer any advertisement, nor special Bills - it is being done since the new Town Planning Act.

5.25 p.m.

I have no respect for the consistency of the Town

Planner in this country. I am waiting because when they put up some of these groynes, they are in effect putting them up in a manner that is barring traditional rights. While I was in Jamaica on this occasion I had a look at the Beach Control Authority there. Jamaica was one of the places which had a Beach Control Authority very early, because, contrary to popular belief, half of Montego Bay is a reclaimed

area; it was built up behind swamp land and by virtue of groynes. The Beach Control Authority have regulations showing how you can create a beach; the matter is advertised and people can see how they are going to be effected. I object now to seeing people come in here and put down groynes and say that they have the Town Planner's permission to do that. The Town Planner is not consistent at all in Barbados. You have a Beaches and Parks Commission, and you say that they are going to take certain functions out of the Town Planner's hands and put it into the hands of three or four members and have publicity. As far as these things are concerned, I feel that they are of very great importance in Barbados. They do not advertise the matter any more. All behind Dover you can see what is happening. I went and looked at things myself, Mr. Chairman.

I only hope that, now we have the Beaches and , Parks Commission, the standard of maintenance at the playing fields will improve. We have to understand that a playing field which is given to the public is not a place for grazing sheep and goats. If it is a playing field; it must be kept up to a certain standard, and the public must understand that other areas must be found for grazing animals. You cannot have a proper playing field with sheep, goats and cows grazing on it, because it interferes with the roots of the grass. At. Ellerton you can see goats staked out on the playing field. You cannot maintain parks and playing fields properly in this country unless you have some degree of supervision over things. We need a lot more parks and playing fields. We have been promised two in Christ Church, and I hope that they will come to fruition. There are 35,000 people in Christ Church.

Secondly, in so far as the games are concerned, we are not providing enough equipment for the people. During the football season you can see two goal-posts up and no crossbars. I do not know how people score a goal there. This provision is necessary, and I only hope that something is done very quickly to take this authority and power out of the hands of the Town Planning Office completely, because they will never be consistent. You only have to pass along Worthing and see how consistent they are!

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I want to speak, firstly, on Item 31 - Registration of Electors. There can be no denying the fact that the registration as has been carried out during . the past few months in this Island borders on

a scandal. I will speak about the parish of St. Peter first. There are people in St. Peter who are willing to testify on oath that no enumerator ever called at their homes. There is a case of, let us say, the Boscobelle Vicarage - or the Rectory, as some people call it now. One has to explain how it is humanly possible for an enumerator, who is being paid 50 per head for enumerating people, to go to a Rectory in a parish where there are 7 people in that house eligible for registration and he merely enumerates three and leaves the other four.

Mr. Chairman, you go into the same parish and district and you find a shopkeeper, who must be on the premises at some time or other - the shop sells groceries and people must assemble there; but what do you find? At this very house a policeman lives there and he is home almost every night; he lives at his mother's house; his sister is a school teacher, and I cannot see how an enumerator could fail to enumerate those people. There are other people who will tell you that they met the enumerator at a certain point; he gave them a slip for a wife and a slip for a husband, but when he was asked about the other people living in the gap he told the people that he would see the others later. The 'later' has not come up to this present moment.

Mr. Chairman, I have said this on the political platform, and I am saying it here now that the way some of these enumerators did their work makes me feel that they were being paid 50 officially for enumerating, but they were being paid or offered something more for not enumerating certain people. (Asides,) That is the position, and it is as serious as that, I am not saying that members of the Government promised them something, but I know that something has gone radically wrong in the parish of St. Peter. I can tell the Prime Minister that I find enough registered who will support me if there is an election tomorrow, and I will be returned. I have no doubt about that at all, but I am not boasting. The Prime Minister can call an election tomorrow where St. Peter is concerned.

I repeat that something has gone wrong; and now that some of us are going amongst the people, they are becoming very much embittered to find that in the event of an election being called they would not be able to exercise their votes. That is not all. We have cases where people went to the Camera Centre; they did not have the slip that the enumerator had left at their houses; they returned the following day or subsequently; their names were found on the list and their pictures were taken. However, now that the names have been published, some of the names of these people do not appear on the list. In the event of an election being called, what would be the position of those people ?1 would like to hear from somebody who is speaking for the Ministry of Home Affairs on this matter. These people have had their photographs taken, but their names do not appear on the list that has been published.

Mr. Chairman, I have discussed the matter with the Attorney General already, and I told him that we are going to get enough people from St. Peter to bring an action against somebody. I am not saying that all of the enumerators acted in that manner. We will know whom to bring the action against when the

time comes. Up to the present moment the cameras have not gone to all of the stations where polling is carried out at election time. The people are becoming frustrated, and they do not know what is really intended. The people are not happy with this situation. I am sure I am saying exactly what is the true position in that the enumeration was badly carried out and, in some cases, not carried out at all. 5.35 p.m.

You will find that the enumerators had the list used in 1966, but I have come across a case only last Sunday in St. Peter where the name of an elector was on the 1966 list, and when that same elector went to the Camera Centre to have his photograph taken, the name was on the 1966 list but it is not now on the 1969 list. How can you account for this kind of thing? I cannot cover the whole Island; I can only cover as much of my parish as possible; but I am drawing to the attention of the Prime Minister and of everybody who ought to be interested in the matter that the enumeration was not carried out sufficiently well to make people feel satisfied and happy. I am willing to admit that some enumerators went around and encountered some difficulties in the first instance. They visited people's homes and as soon as they asked them to sign the master-card, some people refused to sign. I am willing to put both sides of the picture. There are some who signed the master-card who have since been reluctant to go to the Camera Centres. I have come across a number of cases where people cannot get out from their homes to attend the Centres,

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

In respect of the last point, I think we have already told the House that we will make arrangements to send around the photographer to incapacitated people. I understand that you will need a special piece of equipment to attach to the camera; this is on order, but has not yet come. May I just say before the hon. member resumes that the number of people photographed so far is 55,000 which is less than half. I am waiting for the figures now, but my recollection is that the register should carry a figure of 124,000.

Mr. HINDS:

I wonder if the hon. member can tell me how many have had their I. D. cards, because many people are complaining that months have gone since they had their pictures taken, and some have been recalled to take the pictures all over again.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Could the Leader of the House give us a break-down parish by parish?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This was just an interim report. I will get the rest later.

Mr. HINDS:

With regard to those people who are registered and voting for the first time, I learned from the Chief Registering Officer that specific instructions had been given to the enumerators that they should see these first timers for themselves because it would necessitate their signing the master-card. Now the enumerators, I understand, were also instructed that in the event of their going to the home of those who are now being registered for the first time and not finding them home, they should leave an appointment card or slip to let the prospect know that the enumerator would be returning on Tuesday or Wednesday at some given time to accommodate the prospective elector; but in the parish of St. Peter I am to say that I have not come across any case of the enumerators leaving a notice that he would be returning on such-and-such a day. Something has gone wrong in the matter.

I know that cameras are being posted at points to accommodate some people who did not exercise their right in the first instance when the cameras were in those areas. I have spoken to the Chief Registering Officer himself and I know what is being done in that respect; but what we are saying is that there are hundreds in the parish of St. Peter who would have been voting for the first time whose names cannot be put on the register because the enumerator did not carry out the enumeration in the way he was instructed. I must say that the wrong type of people were appointed to carry out this work in many cases, because after they had put in a day's work they had to drive miles to their homes tired and only mat two people and went back. I would really like to hear what can be done lor those people who have not been given an opportunity through no fault of their own. It might be argued that an opportunity was given to those people when the list was posted up at various stations and points, but we have to look at things in their true perspective. Our people like to earn their living, and it would necessitate in many cases some people leaving their earning or some portion of a week's work to attend these various matters to see if their name is there, and when they see that their name is not there, they get so frustrated that they do not go anywhere to tell anybody and see what can be done. I am asking you to see what can be done for those people whose names ought to be on the list and happen not to be on the list.

Mr. CORBIN:

Mr. Chairman, after listening to the last hon. member, it inspired me to feel that the fault is not on the enumerators, because I can assure you that many of the enumerators have to go back and forth to people to get their names; but now that they see the seriousness of having their identification cards, they are now shouting. I know that enumerators have gone on several occasions to the homes of people in my constituency and they just turned them around like babies saying that they were not ready. I think the Government should make it compulsory for them to register, because that is the only way it will be done. I am not putting all the blame on the enumerators. All along the people were careless and did not care whether they voted or not, but now that they have seen other people with identification cards, they are running to hon. members. 5.45 p.m.

Some of the people that come to me I know that they had turned back the enumerator many times and were then asking me to do something to help them, but whether they vote or not I am not running. The important thing is that the opportunity they have today they should take rather than refusing to make use of it and then find themselves running here and there in an effort to get these things done. (Mr. HINDS: You are full now.) You try and get full too They failed to co-operate with the enumerators who sometimes had to go three and four times to one house to ask a man to give away his name; that is hard on the enumerators. I am sure that if the people in the country of Barbados would be more willing to co-operate with the enumerators everyone would have his name taken already and there would be no trouble. Every politician should go to the people and ask them kindly to assist the enumerators and there would be no more trouble; if the people co-operate with the enumerators, they will get the benefit.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, some hon. members might feel it is a waste of time to reply to the point raised by the hon. junior member for St. Andrew, but I do not think so; gladly, the people in St. Andrew are not hearing him now. Mr. Chairman, it might be a case whew an enumerator enumerating in the Riverside Drive area at Lakes, St. Andrew, did not have much work to do, but I want to bet the hon. member that he cannot produce an enumerator, apart from the one who went to Lakes, who went to anybody's house two or three times. What I will say is this, that the approach of some of these enumerators is in part responsible for the people not cooperating with them. On Sunday, I sat in a car in St.

Peter, not my own car that I was driving regularly, and I overheard an enumerator with the census saying how he went to a house - and I want to tell you this, if he had come to my own house in that manner I would have asked him to leave, but I was good enough and I waited until the enumerator came out of the house. He was surprised to see me there because he did not know the car I was driving, and I talked to him and I told him that I did not want to tell him how to do his job, but in my opinion he should have gone to this person in an entirely different manner; I tried to at least fit him out for getting on better in the future; that is all I did. I am saying now that some of these enumerators went around in a manner making people believe that this was a political Party issue and that they were registering for a particular Party; and if he knew somebody who expressed a feeling that he does not like or had something to say about the Government in power or something of the sort, he is not concerned whether he registers you or not. I remember that the Leader of the House in a reply to the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, had promised, or rather he said he would have welcomed the idea of what we might call referees from both political Parties accompanying the enumerators; if that had been done, every living creature, with very few exceptions, in Barbados would have been registered, and there would have been no complaints now.

All I am asking is that we be told now what can be done to correct this situation that has been thrust upon the people in the interest of the whole Island. This is not a political Party issue; we want to know what can be done to get these people who have not been registered in the first instance on the register

now. Mr. Chairman, before I sit, there is one other point here and it is this Life Guard Service. The hon. member wishes to speak about enumerators; so I will sit.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I do not think the hon. member who has just sat down was singing any solo in respect of the registration. So often we have got to criticise some Civil Servants, and before I begin I would like to say that the present Registration Officer, Mr. Smith, is a very hard worker and a very polite man, and you can find no contempt of Party or prejudice about him; he is always willing to give an answer to any matter affecting registration. But what I rose to say is this The hon. Leader of the House said there were some 50,000 people who had their photographs taken out of the 100,000 odd, and as far as I am concerned, unlike other hon. members, I suppose persons who are interested in running in A campaign should also get electors to register as I did. I had an interest in an election quite recently, and what I did was to get four cars and send people to the Registration Office. What I am worried about is that as far as the pictures are concerned I do not think it has been brought home to the general populace the reasons for taking the pictures, and some of them still have some doubt as to whether they should take the picture. You can imagine some labourer - after all, most Barbadian people have some pride, and you can imagine a labourer working at some plantation, whether it is Pride and Industry or whatever it is, and after coming home from heading canes or something- she has not got running hot and cold water; she has to take a picture and the place is not open to her on Sundays, and she has to go. That is not worrying me at the moment. If the name is on the list and the ' person lives in one particular area, the photographer has only a list for the particular district, let us say, in the parish of St. Michael where you have eight constituencies, and if he cannot find it there, he is just not taking the picture. 5.55 p.m.

They get frustrated and they are not going. But I must say Mr. Smith is doing everything he can to help electors get over this, but the list is actually closed now. How are you going to get these people to be photographed? There are still thousands of people to be registered right now. People who have moved from one district to another - they cannot be registered because the list of registration is actually closed. I know that you have to revise it every year, but it is closed now. If the election is called tomorrow, how are they going to vote? I hear all this talk about somebody not being able to go into the Farm Road and talk; this is a joke to me; but the people you put in the Farm Road came from other areas and they cannot get pictures taken. They go to the Centre in that area, but the man at the place has a list and their names do not appear in that list. They are told to go to the tenantry or place where they come from. I hope the Leader of the House is listening to this. They can get frustrated and are not worrying about it. Personally, I have had very little trouble except with one enumerator who had the courage to tell people, when he had finished registering, that he wanted them to vote for so-and-so. The people said: "Well, if you are not registering for so-and-so, do not come in here." They walked out; they have no business to walk out. All they have to say is "I am nothing to do with whom you are voting for, but I will register you." I had a man from St. Philip who did not know the area and I was keen enough to follow up the district which he went into everyday and found that the man was quite fair.

But the difficulty is the organisation. The wrong people were put into areas which they knew nothing about. In my opinion, you have 55,000 people with pictures. If you say you are having an election - I do not care when you have the election - as far as I am concerned, whenever you are calling on election I am going to be sure to put enough motor cars in the area to get people in to have their pictures taken, if you are going to say there ought to be Proteus are thousands of people who have not been re and those who hive been egistered find to get their pictures taken because they go area and the photographer has only the list for the. area, but they have moved out of another area, and therefore this is the difficulty.

I would like to speak on Town and Country Planning which comes under Home Affairs. What is happening there is a little confusing to poor people, I remember when Peter Stevens was Town and Country Planning Officer, he expressed the view, when I had to do with the City Council, that when people were putting up small chattel houses and block stone in a small spot in a little avenue or side street, that did not matter because the idea of Town and Country Planning was for 100 years ahead and that could always be moved.

But now it has been brought to my attention that people putting up small chattel houses, removing them from one place to another, are required to draw a plan. I know that the Town and Country Planning Officer will say this is not true. I can swear this is true. I can bring evidence of people putting up a chattel house being required to draw a plan. What nonsense is this This is creating a definite hardship upon the people. The Minister of Home Affairs should look into this matter. People moving a chattel house and putting it up, they are not building a wall structure, but they don't come back 15 ft. from the centre of the road or something like that, and they are asked to stop doing it and put in a plan This is not right.

Mr. CRAIG:

Mr. Chairman, Item 32 - LifeGuard Service $2, 956 "Contribution of 50% of the annual costs of operating two full-time life-guard stations at Rockley and Graves End Beaches." Some time ago I joined with members in praising the J.C.C.'s for providing a service of this nature. However, Government again has failed in its efforts to provide for this country a proper Life Guard system. I always feel - and you may agree with me - that this is a very skilled job. This is going into the water, risking your life to save somebody's life; and very often you find two Life Guards on the beach. You have two stations - one at Rockley and one at Graves End; but you have a place like St. Lawrence beach where there are two Life Guards operating, but no station. You have Silver Sands, a popular swimming place, but no Life Guards; just recently you had at Cattlewash, Bathsheba no Life Guards. I say that the country should have a wider service of Life Guard facilities. You are asking for $2, 956 for the purpose of paying 50% of the operating cost at Rockley and Graves End. Why should Government not take over this service altogether? If you are pushing tourism as part of your country's economy - you are boasting that it is the Number One economy - some cartoonist, a couple of weeks ago, drew a cartoon in the Advocate showing a man with the tourist log on his back, his knees starting to bend, and the man in front asking him if his knees are getting weak already. You are building hotels all over the place, yet you would not

provide facilities to meet this great demand. I have seen with my own eyes that a young boy was drowning off Half Moon Hotel trying to help a women out of the sea; his friend went to help and his friend got drowned - both the boy and the old lady survived. But if you have a wider range - if you had more Life Guards, more stations - you may not have as many Life Guards at Bathsheba and Cattlewash, as they have not got as great an influx of people there.

6.05 p.m.

If you are expanding your hotel industry, you do not have one along the East Coast Road. People go there on a picnic every holiday and on Sunday. You can see people going there all the time to swim and enjoy themselves in the water, but you have no Life Guard Service there. You do not have any danger signs indicating that certain parts of the water will be dangerous to bathe in. You have now come here to ask for $2, 956. Why do you not set up a proper Life Guard Service and ask Parliament to provide the necessary funds, instead of sharing the cost of the service with the Jaycees? When you are setting up the Beach Commission you should also provide for a full Life Guard Service. You have Steve Mascoll here from the Peace Corps; you have Best and other skilled people in this profession, and yet you have a few boys around the beaches looking out for white girls on evenings because there are no proper facilities. I would suggest to the Government that it should include a proper Life Guard Service for the Island as a whole when it is setting up the Beach Commission.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I think it would be useful, at this stage, if we could get some sort of statement from the Government as regards its policies on work permits. I think it is relevant because, when the junior member for St. Peter asked a question about work permits for the hotel industry, one saw that a list of hotels was supplied and the Government's statement was to the effect that it usually told the hotels that if we did not have qualified people to fill the jobs, in issuing the work permits they would have to train people to fill the jobs. That is one of the conditions precedent to getting a work permit in the hotel industry. I believe the Leader of the House had to admit on that occasion that, perhaps, the Government was not carrying out sufficient investigation after the granting of a work permit to see whether or not the person to whom that work permit was granted was really fulfilling the conditions of the work permit.

I say that, Sir, because one of the main fields in which work permits are granted is in tourism. Now on the list supplied by the Government the names of two St. James hotels appeared. To show the attitude or the failure of the Government to enforce a proper work permit law, you have Coral Reef and Discovery Bay owned by the same people, and Colony Club and Settlers Beach owned by the same people. It is amazing to see that work permits were granted to Coral Reef, and I have no doubt that the work permits granted to Coral Reef were granted on the basis that Coral Reef would train persons to take those jobs in future. It is obvious that the Government did not follow up the granting of the work permits to Coral Reef, because some time subsequent to the granting of the work permits, Coral Reef opened a subsidiary company or another hotel in Barbados, and this Government granted them more work permits to bring in

more people to work as Manager and Assistant Manager. Sir, this cannot be right.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Under what Item are you speaking?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I am dealing with Head 26 and I am speaking generally. I am speaking generally on Home Affairs. I will take Item 23, Government Advertisements. If people are coming here to ask for work permits, then they must advertise to find out if local Barbadians are qualified to fill the jobs. What we would like to get from the Government is a statement regarding the conditions under which work permits are granted in the hotel indus -try.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, a question was asked on this matter some months ago, and we gave a reply, part of which is as follows

"Before the issue of any such work permit, the applicant is required to submit copies of such advertisements. The employer must satisfy the Ministry that there are no suitable Barbadians applicants to fill the post."

That is still our policy. The hotels are normally required as a condition of the issue of these permits to train nationals to fill positions in respect of which the applications have been submitted.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, the hon. member says that the conditions under which the work permits are granted is that they train nationals to fill certain posts. The Government does not follow up to see whether the hotels are doing that. I am making that statement as a fact. Look at Coral Reef and Discovery Bay and tell me whether Dis-covery Bay was not opened within the last two or three years. You turned and granted Discovery Bay a work permit. You granted Coral Reef a work permit and Coral Reef did not train anybody to be Manager or Assistant Manager. You have now granted a Subsidiary Company at Discovery Bay a work permit. If you had made a check to see whether Coral Reef was in fact training people you would have known the true position of things. (Asides.)

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, the position is that in so far as Managers are concerned the Government now has a Training Programme with the assistance of the Canadian Government, and we are working very closely for the establishment of a Hotel School not only to train bell boys, maids, cooks and waitresses, but also Management as well. 6.15 p.m.

I have made a pronouncement about Government's intention to train people at all levels to a meeting of the Caribbean Travel Association. It is very rare and, as a matter of fact, it is almost impossible to find at a top class hotel a Manager who has been trained in a hotel by another Manager. Hotel management is a professional training course Just as is a legal training course for barristers, Cornell University and the University of British Colum-bia are two of the outstanding universities in this respect. We have several young Barbadians at Ealing in London training as well, but it takes time to train management. I do not think the Government has anybody on a scholarship at Ealing, but we certainly send them to Cornell University and the University of British Columbia. It is very difficult to get Managers trained in a hotel; no Manager is going to train his under-Manager to displace him. Let us be realistic. We have to expand the training facilities at the University of the West Indies to train people of managerial calibre. The statement in respect of training people relates to the sub-professional staff - Accountants, Front Desk Managers and people of that calibre. When you come to Managers, I am going to say quite categorically that we have never insisted that Managers train Managers because we think it is unrealistic, and it would be difficult to get a hotel looking for a new Manager to accept somebody trained by the person that they are getting rid of. The question of training Managers is something we have to look at on a long-term basis. We cannot say that because Discovery Bay is a subsidiary of Coral Reef, they should have sent the under-Manager from Coral Reef to Discovery Bay, because this is what is inferred by the hon. junior member for Bridgetown. I am satisfied in the Ministry of Home Affairs that in every single case you see in the newspaper day after day, not only must an advertisement appear, but the Ministry of Home Affairs has to be satisfied that a genuine effort on a non-discriminatory selection basis has been made to recruit staff, and only then do we allow them to bring in somebody.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I do not believe the Prime Minister knows what he is saying, because if a person comes here and you grant a work permit on the basis that there are no Barbadians qualified for that job, it means that if you look at the list of work permits granted to persons you will see that these are for Managers, and if it is one of the conditions of Government that you train people, you are suggesting to me that you will grant permission to a hotel to bring in a Manager from outside on the condition that he trains somebody. In other words, you are only concerned that a hotel should train Front Office Managers and leave it at that. Should you not call on a hotel which is getting so much money out of this country every year to send away somebody to train? (A VOICE Some are doing that.) Very few hotels outside Sandy Lane and the Hilton send people away to train, and you are still allowing people to come in here and you grant work permits for the better paid jobs like Managers, Assistant Managers and Chefs. If you grant a man a work permit to work as Manager, do you not think that the hotel should train somebody so that at the end of three, five or six years, when the Manager leaves, a Barbadian could take over that post?

Mr. Chairman, the hotels are making a great deal of money out of this country every year, and it could not cost them more than $US2,000 or $US3,000 a year to send a person to Cornell University to train, and I have no doubt that some arrangement could be made. The majority do not pay taxes, anyhow. After ten years of Democratic Labour Party rule and ten years of tourism in this country, how many Barbadian Hotel Managers do you have? (Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: How many did you have before?) That is the sort of stupidity you get from people like you. You can only look backwards and inwards. Do you not know about looking forward after ten years? I defy the Leader of the House, the Prime Minister or the Minister of Trade to call ten Barbadian Managers at the hotels in this country. You called the name of Parris. Let me tell you about Parris. The Government offered Parris a scholarship to go to Geneva to study hotel management in a school, and one of the terms was that Sandy Lane should pay his salary and they refused to do it. (Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW He is a Manager now.) Because he had to leave Sandy Lane. At the same time you still allow people to come and work at Sandy Lane. (Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW You are illogical.) I would always be illogical to you because you cannot see that you should stop people from coming here unless they train Barbadians.

It would be interesting to know what is Government's policy. I wonder if the Government has ever heard of a man called Glen Cooke . There was a gentleman by the name of Glen Cooke who came to this country and he was given a permit to work and to invest money. 6.25 p.m.

I wonder what sort of check was made upon this man's past because this same gentleman was on 12th January, 1970 convicted in Toronto for stealing almost $1 million, and one of his assets.....

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

On a point of order, I think that it is highly undesirable for members of the House to come in here and accuse people of stealing money when they may have their facts wrong. There is one gentleman called Mr. Cooke here in Barbados managing and owning a place called La Bonne Auberge; he is married to the daughter of one of the eminent legislators in Grenada, and I think it is highly un-desirable that people should come in here making allega -tions of this kind which are defamatory against people who are not in a position to defend themselves.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

That is not a point of order.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
It is a point of order because it is against the rules of the House.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I still say it is not a point of order; tell me which rules I have broken.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
No one has the right to come in here in the course of a debate.....

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

Rt. Hon. E.W. BARROW:
I am on a point of order, Sir.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I reminded the hon. Junior member for the City when he was speaking on work permits that he should let me know the Item to which he was referring, and looking through the Head I have seen nothing at all about work permits.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
With all due respect to you, Sir, did you see anything about playing fields when you allowed the Prime Minister to deal with playing fields?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I am not dealing with playing fields, either. What I would like hon. members to do when they are debating a Head is to call the Item which they are dealing with so that the Chairman can understand what they are dealing with.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, under the question of Government Advertising, I would like to know whether the Government advertised to find out the character of people working in this country. I would like to know what sort of investigations are carried out, and I would like to know whether any investigations were carried out into a man by the name of Glen Cooke, a former Policeman, who stole nearly $1 million from his employers and who was sentenced to five years by Judge Williams.....

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Will he persist in doing this?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Why would he not let me finish what I am trying to say?

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Let me get the record straight; I have never mentioned anybody at La Bonne Auberge; I do not know anybody up there. What I said was that there is a man called Glen Cooke who stole $1 million.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I at this point would like to let hon. members - I wonder if the hon. senior member or the City would listen to the Chair; the Chair is speaking. I want to advise all hon. members that when one member is addressing the Chair all other members should be silent.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I have never said anything about anybody at La Bonne Auberge; it was the Prime Minister who got up and said I was talking about him.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
On a point of order, I would like to ask the hon. member which hotel he mentioned. There is nothing at all about work permits or hotels under this Head, but since you have given him the latitude I would like him to state which hotel he referred to.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I would like the Prime Minister.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Apparently hon. members do not understand what I am trying to say,

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
You can fly at me as you like.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Every single member getting up must address the Chair. (Asides.) I have repeatedly asked the hon. senior member for the City to be silent when another hon. member is speaking.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I was making a speech and before I could finish the Prime Minister got up and said I was referring to somebody at La Bonne Auberge; that was not true. The man I am talking about was sentenced to five years' imprisonment; he set up an office under a false name in the West Indies, and also he owns 5% of the shares in a Barbadian hotel.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I am still at a loss to see what part of the Head we are dealing with. (Mr. HINDS Item 23.) That Item is Government Advertisements, and that has absolutely nothing to do with work permits; I am going to ask that this type of behaviour be stopped.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
If you have some difficulty in following me, would you permit me to show you how work permits can be related to Government Advertisements?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

There are no appropriate Heads where you can deal with work permits. If that time comes, I will hear the hon. member.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, Sir, from time to time the Government may find it necessary to advertise to see whether the people are qualified for certain jobs in this country before they are offered work permits.

6.35 p.m.

Now, Sir, that is the position. The mere fact that the Prime Minister is asking me now at this stage, Sir, with his loud aside, whether the man had a work permit - do you mean that people are going to be allowed to come in here as they like?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Again, I repeat I am not hearing the hon. member on work permits. I have heard quite a lot on this.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I would like to know from the Prime Minister, Sir, whether Mr. Glen Cooke bought 50% of the shares in a certain Barbadian hotel, whether Government advertised. Item 23 - was there any Government advertisement?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

You cannot allow that; the man is out of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN; For the last 5 or 6 minutes I have been hearing the hon. member repeating himself and I would like to draw his attention to Order 36.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

On a point of order, Sir. What has the Prime Minister got to suppress, preventing the young man from talking about a criminal coming in here? And you are encouraging him in it!

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
That is no point of order.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
I say it is a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
And I say it is no point of order.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
If the hon. member would constrain himself, I am on a point of order now. The hon. member made a statement. I am not suppressing anything. Government Ministers come in here, Sir, to do Government business and to get...

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I am not giving way to that; it is not a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
It is for the Chair to rule whether it is a point of order or not, and not any other hon. member. Let the hon. member proceed.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
I am making it a point of order, Sir. First I should ask the hon. member to withdraw the statement about what have I go to suppress. I have nothing to suppress. We have come in here to do the people's business on the Estimates. The member is irrelevant. In the first place, the question of anybody purchasing land or shares in any property in Barbados.....

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
This is not a point of order, with all due respect to you, Sir. You cannot interrupt me in my speech.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
I am entitled as a Government Minister to get up and explain Government policy at any time.....

(Asides.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Both hon. members will sit. I have said that I never thought that this type of behaviour would go on at this stage. We have got to build up the dignity of this Chamber, and this behaviour does not at all build it up.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Address your remarks to the hon. senior member for St. John, Sir.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I was referring to the hon. junior member for the City.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
If that was 'Slims', they would have had him outside long ago; he can do as he likes in here.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I would draw the hon. junior member's attention to Order 36, that the Chair can rule, If the hon. member wants to continue with Head 26 and any Item thereunder, I am prepared to hear him.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I am indeed grateful to you, Sir, because for the last few minutes I have been trying to make a point and for one reason or another I am not able to do so, I am indeed grateful to you, Sir, for permitting me to continue. Thank you. For the sake of peace, Sir, I shall pass on from work permits and the stealing of Glen Cooke and half the shares in the White House Inn, Sir.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I would like to advise hon. members that this House is not suspended.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I abide by your ruling and I shall not on this occasion have anything to say about Glen Cooke and the stealing of the money, and the buying of half the shares in White House Inn and the plantation in St. Lucy. Let us go to another topic, the Botanical Gardens. I believe I am right in saying that sometime, Sir, a number of organisations in Barbados have applied to the Government to allow them the use of the land surrounding the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Which Item is that?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Sir, I am dealing with Items 37 and 39.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Let the hon. member proceed - Parks and Beaches.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I am again grateful to you, Sir. Mr. Chairman, the sooner that some people realise that my father has no control over me, the better it would be. (Aside Hear! Hear!)

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
That is very obvious.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLE Y:
As I said, Sir, a number of organisations have approached the Government on the possibility of using that portion of land outside the Queen Elizabeth Hospital which belongs to the Government as a Botanical Garden. I know that the Arts Council, the National Trust, the Lions Club, are some of the organisations that approached the Government on this and now that you have Parks and Beaches Authorities, it would be a great benefit to the people in the City and the Island as a whole if that land

could be vested in the National Trust or the Parks and Beaches Commission and the land be used to develop a Botanical Garden in the City of Bridgetown. I believe that of the larger Caribbean territories Barbados is unique in this respect, that we do not have any sort of proper garden, botanical or otherwise, in the metropolitan area for the citizens of the metropolis to visit. It would be useful if the Government decides to use this land as a Botanical Garden - I would go a step further by suggesting that this Botanical Garden would be a very good place in which to build an Arts Centre. The Government must seriously consider the welfare, not only the social welfare of the people of this country, but must give serious thought to the cultural welfare and to promoting the cultural activities of the people of this country. Sir. I believe that Queen's Park House has been condemned and the people are going to find great difficulty in finding some sort of Centre whereby the Arts could be promoted in this country. I think it is Important because people cannot merely develop financially and develop their welfare and not develop the cultural side of their life, Sir. 6.45 p.m.

I would seriously suggest to the Government to use that portion of land outside the Hospital and to extend the facilities at Queen's Park to provide a garden for the citizens of the metropolis as well as an Arts Centre.

Mr. Chairman, something was mentioned earlier about the enumerators. I believe the Government is now carrying out a census. I have not heard for myself what questions are being asked, but I received one telephone call and a lady visited me in connection with the matter. She said that one question which the enumerator was asking was causing some embarrass -ment. There is one question in particular which I think is causing some embarrassment to people, and it is a question which cannot be asked in a Law Court. When a woman discloses to the enumerator that she is separated from her husband, he then goes on to ask her if she is committing adultery with any person. This was told to me by a lady who was asked this question by an enumerator. (Asides.). Do not tell me that it is nonsense.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I would like all hon. members to address the Chair.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
I am on a point of order, Sir. There is no question that any enumerator is entitled to ask any voter registered about whether she is living with any man. (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY I am talking about the census.) Well, under the census there are certain questions asked which are questions approved by the United Nations Organisation on the question of fertility. "How many live births have you had" and so on. This is a universal thing all over the globe with 125 nations involved. This is nothing which is being invited by the Government of Barbados I think the hon. member who has just sat down has given us a slight twist of the matter, or the lady has given him a slight twist of things due to lack of understanding of what the census is all about.

Mr. CRAIG:
Mr. Chairman, the Prime Minister said that this is something by the United Nations.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I see here under Item 31, Registration of Electors.

Mr. CRAIG:
Mr. Chairman, apparently the Prime Minister seems to think that this is a fair question. If anybody asked the Prime Minister a question of that nature, what would he say today?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
I am not a female; so I could not answer the question.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, what I was saying is simply that the Prime Minister, as a lawyer, knows that you cannot ask a woman who is separated from her husband whether she has committed adultery. You cannot ask a woman that question in a Court.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
Mr. Chairman, there are questions relating to fertility. How many children do you have"? "How many live births did you have"? Under the law you have to compulsorily register the birth of a child whether you are living with your husband or not. There is no question of adultery or any of that nonsense.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I think that I have already ruled on this matter. I have decided that we are not now dealing with any census that is taking place in Barbados. We are now dealing with the Registration of Electors, and I am not going to allow any hon. member to deal with the question of the census.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I asked a question about the Registration of Electors, and I have not yet received a reply.

Let me go a little further. With regard to Item 32, Life Guards, with the coming into being of the Beaches and Parks Commission, exactly what is going to be the position of these Life Guards that are now provided by the Jaycees? I understood from the Minister of Health that the Beaches and Parks Commission would be taking over the entire Life Guard Service and providing a Round-the-Island Life Guard Service, where necessary. The Jaycees may be asked to pay half of the cost for the present number of Life Guards, but would they be asked to pay half of the cost for the entire Life Guard Service around the Island?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, as far as I understand from the Minister of Health, who was largely instrumental in bringing this matter to some conclusion, the Jaycees are now paying half of the cost for the Life Guard Service on certain beaches and we pay the other half. On those beaches the Jaycees will be asked to continue to provide half of the cost of the service, but they will be under the control of the Commission. Any additional services that we supply we cannot ask the Jaycees to pay half, but if they volunteer to pay half of the general cost we will gladly receive it. We will certainly encourage them to pay the 50% that they are now paying in respect of certain beaches.

Mr. HINDS:

Tell us about the Registration of Voters.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

Mr. Chairman, the Leader of the House gave some information on the Registration of Voters.

Mr. HINDS:

We want to know if you can keep the register open, so to speak, '(Asides.) Mr. Chairman, we want a re-opening of the register and to make it abundantly clear that those people who were 18 years old on the 30th November, 1969, whose names ought to have been on the register and are not now on, should be given an opportunity to be registered. Some provision should be made for such people to be registered, so that in the event of an election being called they will be able to vote.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, the position, as far as I know it, is that the register for 1966 is still the standard register by which the Registering Officer is guided. In the case of people who have been removed from one district to another district, the necessary changes have been made. The difficulty arises in encouraging the old electors to go and have their photographs taken at the various Centres, 6.55 p.m.

This has been the difficulty - in having the pho -tographs taken and in securing their identity cards - but the names are on the old register. In other words, to finalise their position they must of necessity have their identification cards, but it does not mean that their names are off the register, because the Government's register is the 1966 Register by which they are going. On the point about the final list, as far as I am aware, the time has been extended to 31st March, and that is done with the object of inducing the electors to come in within a prescribed date. What the hon. junior member for St. Andrew has said is not entirely wrong. There is a certain amount of reluctance, and people wait until the last minute to run in, and a lot will not get done. That is the mentality of the people and we all know that. They are holding back and the Government is trying to accommodate them all the time and has extended the time until the end of March, hoping they will come in.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, what is the Minister saying remains open until 31st March? It is only the taking of photographs that has been extended to 31st March. We are not concerned about that because we feel we can get the people photographed. What we are concerned with is that you have closed your new list and people whose names ought to have been on that list are not there. We want you to give these people an opportunity because we are maintaining that it is not all the fault of the people. I have given cases where people have got their photographs and their names are not on the list. What can you do about these people? Do you want them to bring an action against the Attorney General and the Registering Officer?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

There is a difference between the register and photographing people. The register which is in existence now and which has been closed on 9th December will exist for one year. There is a permanent register which will always be open so that right up to a week before the actual voting day if you qualify or become eighteen years of age, it is possible to go and register. This is legislation which we will bring in. At the moment we have to go on the 1969 register which closed on 9th December. There are 117,000 people registered under that and all of them have not got their photographs, but this of course under the existing law does not make them ineligible. The system that we are contemplating is a permanent register and this means there must be a permanent office. There might not be 15 or 24 offices, but at least two or three where you can go and get photographs during the normal working hours and possibly on Sundays. There will be a permanent office for photographs and a permanent register.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, if a person's name is on the list but the person's photograph has not been taken and an election is called, could the Prime Minister say whether that person could vote?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

What we are aspiring to is that you should not be able to vote unless you get your photograph taken, but my recollection is that the last legislation which was passed by us made it possible to vote even if your photograph was not taken. The ultimate intention is that you must get your photograph. I think we stated this very clearly. When we get the permanent register established, there will be no excuse for not having your photograph, because if we have permanent photographing and a permanent register you cannot expect not to have it. At present I am only speaking of the legislation which we have passed in here by which you can vote without a photograph if you can establish your identity in one of the ways which we stated.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, the Prime Minister has given me of his recollection, and when the time comes he will also repeat that he gave us of his recollection on the legislation that has been passed in here, but what I am saying is that the list has been published for 1969. Of the 123,000 names on that list, only 55,000 have had their photographs taken. If an election is called tomorrow, can people other than the 55,000 exercise their vote?

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

If I recall correctly, the Bill that was debated and passed here gave four different conditions under which you could vote in a bye-election, but if an election was called any time between now and 1971 you had to have your photograph taken.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:

If you know the Act, why ask me the question? You wanted to know the position with the permanent register. I would like to say to hon. members that we cannot call an election tomorrow because we have to finish the Estimates.

Mr. CRAIG:

On a point of order, there are 123,000 people registered and 55,000 have had their photographs taken. I would like to know from the Prime Minister, if an election is called next week, whether the 123,000 can vote or only the 55,000.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Point made.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW:
I said I was speaking from recollection, and the hon. senior member for Bridgetown has challenged my recollection of what the law is; so I will come in tomorrow afternoon and give you a detailed statement on what the position is on the registration and voting because it would be better that I check fully what the position is,

The question that the sum of $403, 329 under Head 26 - Ministry of Home Affairs - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended for one hour and a half.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in affirmative without division.

7.05 p.m.

On resumption:-

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:
When this sitting was suspended, the House was in Committee, and to that it now reverts.

Mr. Chairman resumed the Chair.

HEAD 27 - LANDS AND SURVEYS Head 27 - Lands and Surveys - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $63, 896 be appropriated under Head 27.

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

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, one must appreciate the fact that much generally depends on the progress this particular Department is making in the various services, and the thing is that we are wondering if the equipment that is being bought is put to use in every sense of the word. We have known that the Ministry of Communications and Works has spent lots of money in purchasing equipment for the Drawing Office and from one thing to another, and some is still being thrown about on the floor of that office. I am wondering if in our Lands and Surveys Department our printing material, for instance, is being put to use, and if it is not a case where some of the steelband chains are allowed to remain and rust and then cast aside. I have nothing more to say on this Head, except that we are wondering exactly what

progress is being made with the work of this Department, because as I have said, much depends on it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
The question is.....

Mr. HINDS:
No question yet; otherwise I will talk till morning.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I would like the hon. member to continue, not until morning, but until the reply which is being prepared has arrived.

Mr. HINDS:
For instance, money is being spent under Item 14, $5,300 for the construction of control marks, survey marks and the purchase of steelband chains and linen tapes. There are some people who for one reason or another find themselves slipping into the dangerous path of interfering with some of the marks that have been placed from time to time by this Surveys Department, and I wonder what information the Minister has as to what extent there was damage or interference by people removing the marks which have been put by the Surveyors, because in very many cases that entails going over work that has already been completed. Apart from that, Mr. Chairman, there is nothing under this particular Head which would cause the Minister any concern.

We have some Trainee Draughtsmen here, and I wonder how many Trainee Draughtsmen we have now, be cause there were five last year, 1969-70, but we do not see exactly how many are Trainees in this instance; we certainly like to hear what the Minister has to say on that score.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR; Mr. Chairman, I do not have the information available here at my disposal; what I am suggesting is that we postpone all the Heads under this Ministry until I am in a position to be properly advised. I beg to move that Head 27 be postponed.

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

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

HEAD 28 - POLICE Head 28 -Police -was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $898, 651 be appropriated under Head 28.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that. 8.45 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, it is very well known that under this Head there will be some criticism, and, undoubtedly, if one should look at it, you can begin from Item 30 and carry on from there. Now, there cannot be any question about it, that discipline in the Royal Barbados Police Force is on the downward trend. The first thing that comes to my mind is to enquire if power has been removed from the hand of the Commissioner where discipline of these men is concerned. I know there was a time when the Commissioner of Police could impose fines on members of the Force for certain acts committed by them, and they were tried and investigated by him departmentally, I am wondering if power has been taken from him; and if not, what could have gone wrong that we have this downward trend in the discipline of the Force.

(Aside): Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON - Logging)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we know that the fault with the Royal Barbados Police Force has a great portion of its root - or the root cause is to be found in the product that is now being turned out by the Regional Police Training School. On this score, we find at the Regional Training School, that Sargeants, Corporals who come here from the Leeward Islands, from Forces where the discipline and standard of policing is below the standard of our Force....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I take it that I heard the hon. member said he was speaking on Item 30.

Mr. HINDS:
I can go back to all the various Heads.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Item 30 says 'plain clothes allowance'.

Mr. HINDS:
What I am saying is this, Mr. Chairman, the product that is now being turned out from the Regional Training School is not the type of product that we had been turning out in earlier years. As such, the policeman on his beat today is very sloppy in his appearance; the policeman on his beat, including some Corporals as well as Constables, is found engaging in conversation (not receiving reports from the public) at the corners, in shop doors and other places where it could not happen in the past.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
This, in my opinion, as I have advised the hon. member, has absolutely nothing to do with the plain clothes allowance. This Item 30 is dealing specifically with plain clothes allowance.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, I said I would speak from Item 30 down - all the Heads that come under Item 30. I am.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I will not be able to follow the hon. member this way.

Mr. HINDS:
Well, this is a matter for the Chair.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
If the hon. member is speaking on a particular Item, then I can follow him.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, with all due respect to you I am speaking on Items 27, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41 and....all the way down. If the Chairman has a one-track brain I am not responsible

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I am expecting the hon. member to call an Item and deal with it.

Mr. HINDS:
I am capable of calling 24 Items and dealing with them. If the Chairman has a one-track brain, I repeat, I am not concerned.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
The Chairman has no one-track brain, but I want the hon. member to understand that he called Item 30 and he was not then dealing with Item 30.

Mr. HINDS:
I said from Item 30 down - if it doesn't suit the Chairman to hear from Item 30 down, it is a matter for the Chairman. The Chairman knows very well why I see him or hear him - merely because of convention. (Aside Mr. CORBIN Name him.) Let us get on with what we have to say. What we are saying is this, that the policeman today does not lend himself while on the beat to inspiring any confidence in members of the public, and we want to lay the blame in part on the type of training that he is receiving.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
May I enquire what Item the hon. junior member for St. Peter is speaking on?

Mr. HINDS:
69 suits you, Sir?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
If the hon. member calls an Item, I expect him to speak on that Item. 69, go ahead.

Mr. HINDS:
If I am going to move from one Item to another, do I have to tell you?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Yes.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, what I am saying is this, that apart from the lack of training that these youngsters receive now at the Regional Police Training School, there are other elements in the Force proper which must be held responsible for the lack of discipline that we find in the Force. I had asked earlier if the Commissioner of Police had been stripped of any powers which he held originally because there is no denying the fact that we turn these men out from the Training School to find that they cannot match up in any respect whatsoever; they know nothing about the laws of Barbados. I can say this; that 20 years ago, a recruit, coming out from the Training School, was in truth and in fact a walking volume of the-laws of Barbados. Whilst there, he is specially trained to know certain laws which he would have to put into action or apply more readily than he would have to apply others in the course of his daily duties. We are finding today that the end product is lacking something which had been given in the past. 8.55 p.m.

Now, you have a situation in the Police Force where there is division in the upper ranks, and that division in itself does not lend dignity to the office; it does not inspire and cannot be expected to inspire the men who are under these senior officers; so you will find that a recruit comes from the Training School and walks into a situation that cannot do him any good in the long run, regardless of what may be done to deal with the situation.

This question of taking officers from Forces whose standards are far below that of ours and putting them to train our recruits is rather stupid. If one goes to the Regional Police Training School today one will find that the youngsters are taught for the most part how to jump over the backs of each other. You will find that some of the trainees have been responding more readily to that type of thing than to learning the laws.

Now, as a result of this inefficiency or deficiency in the training, you will find that a policeman who is placed on his beat cannot exercise that vigilance which is so necessary for the protection of life and property. All of this can be traced back to the Training School. This situation has remained so for over a period of years, and more particularly so during the past 10 years. We can say that whilst we are falling down at the Training School, there is an increase in the crime rate. You will find that the authorities have been so befuddled with the situation that with the increase in the rise in crime they decided to close the Belmont Police Station, the Brittons Hill Police Station, and converted the Four-Roads Police Station into a Fire Station.

Now, if one were to take all of these things and relate them to the incidence of crime, rape, robbery with violence and other types of crimes that are being committed in our midst; if one happens to meet some of these recruits, one will find that they have no training to equip them to take their rightful place either on the beat or if they were sent to do what is special duty. They do not know what they are doing. You will find that when you have a situation such as this it can do the community no good whatsoever.

One other point comes to my mind, Mr. Chairman, and it is that the type of recruit that comes from the Training School today seems not to know the definition of what is called "indecent language", because wherever you go about the streets in Barbados today not only in the City of Bridgetown, but in the country districts, too, you can hear people using the type of language which I am sure you, Mr. Chairman, would like to see rooted out from the community. Some people find it difficult to carry on a most friendly conversation with a friend unless they use this type of language which, to my mind, is not being properly dealt with either by the policeman on beat duty or by the Courts in this Island. (Asides.)

Mr. Chairman, I am being heckled about this matter that some members have other things to do. I now refer to a situation in the Police Force where Police horses are being used for training other people who want to become good horse riders. Now, I want to ask the Mister who is going to answer for the Minister of Home Affairs one reasonable question. Can any member of the public apply to the Commissioner of Police or to the Minister of Home Affairs for permission, or the privilege which has been extended to certain members of the public, to ride Police horses? Can any and every member of the public apply and be expected to be granted the same concession extended to others?

We have to bear in mind that Police horses have their rightful place in the Police Force, and any misuse to which they might be put cannot be considered to be authorised, to my mind, either by the Minister of Home Affairs or the Commissioner of Police. I am very serious when I say that. It is not fair to give permission to one type of individual to go to District "A" Police Station, and have the services of a Police horse to ride up and down and to have policemen on duty to assist in the training of these!

riders. If this is to be the policy, then why not get a number of children from each school in the Island and see if you can interest them into making horse-riding a career? That is the type of thing I would like to see. (Asides.)

Mr. Chairman, I am going to sit down, but I am definitely going to get up again.

Mr. HOPPIN:

Mr. Chairman, under Item 85, a substantial amount has been voted for motor vehicles and the note says "For replacement of car, motor cycle, Land Rovers and bus, also to purchase car, scooters and motor cycle".

9.05 p.m.

I feel that an addition can be made here, and I would suggest a wrecker for the Barbados Police Force, especially nowadays when the roads are so congested and we are having so many accidents. I know of an area in St. John where some accident occurred -I suppose you have seen it, Mr. Chairman - and the car has been put by the side of the road in a very dangerous spot. For people who happen to traverse the country by night and are not well acquainted with the roads, this is a hazard, and I do feel that if this car remains in this position for some time, more accidents could occur there. The number plates have been removed and therefore the owner seems to have abandoned it, and if the Police had a wrecker, cars like these could be removed from the highway and put on some dump or Government compound. I feel that the Police should have at their disposal some wrecker for the removal of such dangerous hazards that are left by the wayside.

There are other items which I hope the Minister will reply to. Under Item 88 - Weights and Measures - there is only a token vote of $1.00. There has always been and will always be trouble with weights given to consumers in the markets and sometimes at shops until something definite is done about it, and I am wondering what is the Government's intention. We have had complaints that people go to the fish markets and call for three pounds of fish, and on reaching home and weighing it on their scales they find that they only have 21/2 pounds or 2 1/4 pounds. I hope the Minister will be able to explain what is Government's intention on that.

Mr. Chairman, there is also Item 43 - Burials and Item 70 - Corpses. I am wondering if these amounts are in case of accidents on the road and the Police are responsible for the removal of these corpses and for burials.

The last Item is 52 - Motor Transport. There is considerable increase, and this includes provision for awards of two prizes quarterly of $15 and $10 to the policemen responsible for the two best kept vehicles. That sounds very nice, but I have known on occasions that you call up the Police Station where wagons are supposed to be kept and you are told that they cannot move out because there is no gas in the vehicle or the vehicle has broken down. I am wondering if it is good enough to continue paying $15 and $10, and when you call up in cases of emergency you get an answer such as that. I hope the Minister in replying will be able to explain these few points that I have raised in connection with Head 28.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, let me begin by repeating a query which I made a few weeks ago under Item 85 - Motor Vehicles. This item is 'for the replacement of car, motor cycle', etc. On that occasion I queried what was the position with one of their 3-litre Austin cars that was damaged, and the Leader of the House on that occasion gave the House the assurance that he would investigate the matter and inform the House. I hope he has investigated the matter and is in a position to tell the House exactly what happened with that motor vehicle, whether it has been repaired or is going to be repaired or whether it will be sold.

On Item 38 - Clothing and Uniform Allowance, I think the time has come that the Government must stop promising the Police to change their uniform. I do not believe that I have to elaborate on this matter except to say that the Government should know by now the feeling of the Police on this question. During the investigation of the Police Force all these points were taken, and it is now four years and we still find the Police are called upon to wear that ridiculous uniform which is extremely hot. One only has to look at the policemen on duty in Broad Street. I know that the Police Association has made various recommendations to Government on this question, and I thought I would have seen in the Estimates some mention that the Government proposes in this financial year to change the uniform of the Police. I do not want to say what sort of uniform they should wear because I think the Police have made strong recommendations on this matter, and it is unfair to keep on shelving there commendations and have the Police wear the same uniform that they have been asking to change. Since I have been back here practising at the Bar for ten years, the Police have constantly been asking the Government to change that uniform. This is not a Party question. It is not because I am pushing it that you should reject it. It is something which the Police have been asking for for a long time and it is only fair that their wishes should be adhered to.

Under Item 10 - Inspector, Weights and Measures - I would like to find out from the Government whether this post has ever been filled, and if anybody holds that post at present, I should like to know the name of that person. This follows also what the hon. junior member for St. George was saying. People have been complaining about getting short weights in the markets and various places, and there is no person responsible at the moment because I do not believe that there is an Inspector of Weights and

Measures. 9.15 p.m.

1 think representation should be made; I know the Government will say they do not have the appointments to make, but I think the Government should make representation to the Police Service Commission who has the power to do something about the appointment if the post has not been filled, and I do hope the post will be filled.

Item 53, Maintenance of Prisoners. I believe this refers to people who are arrested and are remanded in custody and not granted bail; to persons arrested on a felony and serious charges. I think anybody who from time to time would have to visit the cells at the Police Stations would know the shocking conditions of those cells; in fact, I think I am right in saying that all the cell contains is a piece of hard wood for the prisoners to sleep on. A person who is arrested, at that stage only charged with an offence - I do not honestly believe that he should be in any worse position than a person convicted of any serious crime; but what happens is that a person who is convicted of a serious crime and sentenced to a term of imprisonment at Glendairy has far better facilities than the person who is put in the cells at Bridgetown. The cell at St. James, too, is even worse; I recall about two years ago there was a long weekend, and a chap was arrested on a Saturday morning for stealing quite a large sum of money and was not granted bail. The Monday was a Bank Holiday; so he had to remain in the cells for three days before he appeared in Court, and the only thing - as a matter of fact, there is nothing at all in the cell at Holetown for a person to sleep on. That prisoner, like all the other prisoners who had been arrested, had to sleep on the cold concrete surface for that entire weekend. That is really not a satisfactory condition in this day and age. I know it is not a hotel, and I know people tend not to take it seriously; but you must remember that any person could be arrested for any offence whatsoever and not granted bail. A person may be arrested; the Police may not choose to take them before any Magistrate and he may be arrested on the Saturday morning. It can be a member of this House of Assembly; it can be a member of our family, and I am quite certain we would never like to find ourselves in a situation where we would have to sleep on bare concrete; it is not right; it is so perhaps in all the cells at the Police Stations. I know they may take a light-hearted attitude and say the man has no right being there, but I would say those who are convicted of crimes have far better facilities at Glendairy Prison than those persons who are only charged with a criminal offence.

Let us for one moment take the case of those three Police Officers who recently were remanded in custody - two for manslaughter and one for murder; let us assume they were remanded at Holetown Court; do you know they would have had to sleep on the cold concrete, irrespective of the fact that their remand was bad, irrespective of the fact that the charges against them could not stand? But they never expected to find themselves in that position. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Should you let him go on with this?)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I wonder what position this case has in the Courts, if there is a case or anything of the sort pending. I would prefer not to hear any argument at all on this.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Let us for argument's sake say that a Minister of Government is arrested on a false charge by somebody swearing information against him; do you mean that he would feel satisfied...

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would like to advise all hon. members that when one hon. member is speaking all other members shall be silent; let the hon. member proceed.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I was saying that this is no matter to joke about; I think we should look at it that when we see a man go into the cells at any of these stations our attitude should be "But for the grace of God, there would I be also". Today we may be better off, but through some accident we may find ourselves in that position, and the sanitary condition is very unhealthy; it is unfair to expect in the Twentieth Century a human being to sleep on cold cement where he has not been convicted, but only charged with an offence. It is most unreasonable; and when we say we pay so much respect for the rule of law and the dignity of man, do you mean that just because a man is charged with a criminal offence he loses all his dignity? Is that the sort of society in which we are living? I would like seriously to see the Government investigate this situation, because it is extremely unhealthy, and I think, with all due respect to the Government, they should investigate this situation and remedy it immediately.

Under Item 63, Court, I see there is a vote of $400, and this is provision for the payment of costs awarded against the Police and fees for appeals to higher Courts. I notice also that the sum voted last was only $400; I think the average sum awarded by the Courts is about $20 against the Commissioner of Police, and I am positive that there were more than twenty cases last year in which costs totalling more than $400 were awarded against the Commissioner of Police. 9.25 p.m.

I say this, Sir, because only on Monday this week a leading Barrister - a senior Barrister, a Queen's Counsel - was complaining to me as Secretary of the Bar Association stating that when costs are awarded against the Commissioner of Police - he had two cases in which costs were awarded to his clients against the Commissioner of Police and he could not obtain that money since September last year. If a client/appellant goes to the Divisional Courts and he loses the appeal, and costs are awarded against him, that person has to pay his costs to the Government. It is only fair that if the Commissioner of Police loses the appeal and costs are awarded against him, those costs should actually be paid. As I

said, Sir, the successful appellants are experiencing great difficulty in obtaining costs from the Commissioner of Police. This is another situation which we would like to see remedied. Item 79, Scientific Investigations. I believe sometime last year we voted some money for the training of persons.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Forensic.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I want to deal with Forensic and also with Item 21 which deals with Medical Officers. I think the Government should look into the possibility of having a full-time Medical Officer who is trained in forensic medicine who would act as your expert in handwriting, ballistics and pathology. He should be trained because forensic medicine is not a subject that one can grasp at any one sitting, despite the fact that there are people in this country who masquerade in Court as ballistic experts and who know absolutely nothing about ballistics. The Government should consider making the Medical Officer a full-time officer responsible for forensic medicine, looking after testing where people are raped, murdered, for fingerprints and various things, because whether you like it or not, it must be a person of a certain educational background, if you are going to become a forensic expert. It is a subject taken far too lightly in this country, and I believe that the Government will soon realise that the money that is spent on bringing experts from overseas - the number of cases that are lost because of the unavailability of a forensic expert - the Government will soon realise that there is need for a full-time forensicexpert who, I would suggest, should be the Medical Officer who will deal with all forensic medicine and jurisprudence.

There is one other point, Sir. I see here also Item 90 - Beds and Pillows for the Police. I believe, Sir, this Item is being provided as a result of the Commission of Enquiry into the Police Force. What I would like to enquire from the Minister is whether this figure is designed to provide the full quota of beds i and pillows that are required by the Police > Force, or whether this is for a portion of it. I think the time has come when the Government must seriously implement the recommendations of the Enquiry.

Now, Sir, there is one other point I want to deal with before I sit, and that is that the present conditions, the present regulations under which policemen are disciplined in this country, are not satisfactory to the Police Officers. I say this because it is only in certain cases that a Police Officer is allowed the right to take a lawyer of his choice before that disciplinary body. I think the rules of the disciplinary regulations should be amended to allow a Police Officer at all stages of any enquiry where he stands not only, as provided now, to be kicked out of the Force, but where he stands to be reduced in rank, to lose an increment, to suffer physically, bodily, financially, he should be allowed the right to have a lawyer representing him and not merely to be represented by a Police Officer of the same rank.

This is something which the Government should (seriously consider. I believe that in other places, in the Civil Service, if members of the Civil Service are to be disciplined, they are entitled to take a lawyer of their own choice before the Public Service Commission. I feel that the Police should have the right to take lawyers of their own choice before any Disciplinary Committee. Those are all the points I have to make at this stage, Sir.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I want to speak on Item 32, that deals with special increments and bears a considerable relation to Item 41.

9.35 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, I cannot discuss Items 32, 41, 51 and 52 without at the same time touching on Items 53 and 68. I cannot speak on one Item without speaking on the other. The Minister ought to be in his place because I want him to hear what I have to say. I want the Minister to carry out an investigation into this matter. Now, a Police Constable who happens to be one Brathwaite, and he is the same person who was charged with murder a few days ago, has been doing a lot of things. He is attached to District "C" Police Station and is stationed at St. Philip. He arrested a man; took him to the Station; kept him there until midnight; took him from the prison cell; stripped him naked; and then put him in one of the stables with a horse at District "C". He was trying to elicit information from the prisoner who would not talk, and he decided to do that.

Mr. Chairman, one must look at this matter in this light: each horse at a Police Station is assigned to a particular Police Officer; so when Constable Brathwaite did such an act he was trying to involve another innocent Officer. It so happened that although Constable Brathwaite urged the horse in the dark - I must remind you, Sir, that he had blindfolded the man he had arrested before he put him in the stable with the horse.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I am listening attentively. (Asides.) It is some other hon. members who think it is a mare's nest.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Let the hon. member proceed without interference.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, the horse would move from side to side, but it would not kick the man as Brathwaite had hoped it would have done. The arrested man remained in the stable for more than one hour. I am asking the Minister to investigate this matter, because it happened at District "C" Police Station. (Asides.)

Mr. Chairman, Item 47 deals with the Police Band, and I would like to see the children in our schools given instructions in playing musical instruments, and this may give us an opportunity of finding out the natural bent of some of these children. I remember in years past that there was a School Band at the St. Joseph Boys' School under Mr. Walcott, but he has passed away and I do not know what has happened to the School Band. This is something that we can encourage the children to do rather than allowing them to roam the streets. In the days of this "mod" music, I think we can do something for these little children. If they become interested in playing musical instruments, some of them may one day have their names in the Hall of Fame as composers.

With regard to Item 50, there is an amount of $5,000 provided for fuel consumed by policemen in the course of cooking their meals and to provide for replacements and purchase of additional stoves. Now, I hope it is the intention of the Government to supply these policemen, where necessary, with modern gas stoves. We do not want to hear about policemen having kerosene oil stoves in the Stations today. We appreciate the fact that the deployment of the members of the Force is such that you may find at a Station a number of men who have to prepare their own meals. On the other hand, you may find only one man at a Station who has to prepare his own meals. Nevertheless, consideration should be given to the question of providing a maid or a cook at such Police Stations to prepare the meals for policemen who have to prepare their own meals.

On the other hand, my view is that Barbados is becoming smaller as transportation becomes more readily available than in years gone by, and you will hardly find a large number of policemen preparing their own meals. Perhaps when they are off duty they could go home or somewhere, have a meal that is already prepared, and return to their Stations to be on time for the next tour of duty. I would like these things to be gone into.

Now, at Item 41 provision is made for fodder for Police horses, food and medicines for dogs, etc., and I am to inquire from the Minister what service the Police dogs are rendering to the Police Force today. 9.45 p.m.

What I would like to hear the Minister on is, if there is any breeding that is engaged in with the police

dogs, what happens with the pups and whom do they go to. Are mating services from the dogs in the Force made available to members of the general publicor to a select few? The Minister might be able to tell us if after a highly trained dog like the police dogs are used in mating whether they are of any use in tracking down criminals.

Under Item 65 - New Bicycles - you are going to replace six bicycles. Under Item 68 you are going to replace two horses, and under Item 82 you are going to replace three motor launches. We believe that on all these things that are to be replaced you would have had a Board of Survey, and not merely, as we have had on a previous occasion, where the spare parts imported for one of the launches had been taken to the home by a police officer of gazetted rank to put on his boat.

On this question of horse boxes, I made mention not so long ago in this House about supplying horse boxes for conveying hornes Lack to their Stations after a long tour of duty, and I remember making mention of the horses having to go from Speightstown in St. Peter to District "A" after having put on a special display at the Alexandra school. I said then that the horse boxes could be attached to one of the jeeps and carried back to the Station, and in some cases the Mounted Police could be conveyed by police car or jeep or police bus, because I do not consider it fair to have them put on these rides for the amusement of others and then have to ride long distances afterwards, reaching their Stations in some cases two hours after.

I think I have already dealt with the point on a previous occasion under Item 87 about the V.H.F, Radio Telephones for Holetown and Crab Hill Police Stations. You are also going to purchase mobile Radio Telephone sets for Inspectors' cars. The Minister had promised on a previous occasion to investigate what really happens with the sets in the cars of police officers when they are not using the cars themselves and lend them to their friends or their children, because my information is that there is no special way of turning these sets off that they annot be used by the untrained. I do not see how we could possibly put these sets in the cars of police officers when mechanics and other people have them driving about the country, and there is nothing to prevent them from tuning in to Police Headquarters or wherever they are linked up and becoming in possession of information which should not normally fall into their possession.

There is an amount of $620 under Item 64 for tickets used by Parking Attendants. I wonder if the Minister can tell us whether these tickets are printed overseas or locally to help employ unemployed people.

Under Item 73, to show you how little attention the Police Department pays to the incidence of setting

cane fires in this Island, one will see that all the provision they have made here for giving rewards for information leading to conviction for arson is $50, which means that the Police Department apparently is not serious in checking the incidence of cane fires which is ruining the economy of this Island. When we look at the vast acreage that is burnt by day and by night, we must ask ourselves if the Police are not now satisfied that there is nobody to whom they must pay even $50 in the course of one year, because they seem satisfied that the people who are really causing the cane fires today are not to be found amongst those people about whom information can be gleaned so easily. 9.55 p.m.

I want to throw this out quite briefly - that it is the keen rivalry in attracting cane cutters today that is responsible for the greater part of the cane fires that are occurring in this Island by day and by night. There is a shortage of cane cutters, and when canes burn here tonight there is the likelihood of attracting cutters from other estates to get these canes reaped as quickly as possible, and that is the method that is being employed to get the harvesting to proceed as rapidly as some people would like to see it. Perhaps the Police might be in possession of the same information which I have just related, and that is why all we see here is a paltry $50, for supplying information to the Police on matters of this sort.

Item 75 is in respect of Passports, and Forms. I wonder if the Minister can explain the note to Item 75 because Item 75 is for $800 for Passports and Forms, but the note says it is provision for the purchase of Traffic Statistics Forms. Is the note right or wrong?

Under Item 52 there is an amount of $75, 443' to meet the cost of upkeep of motor vehicles. Includes provision for awards of two prizes quarterly of $15 and $10 to the policemen responsible for the two best -kept vehicles, ' and this amount is 'increased to provide for new units;' Just over $3,000 increase. This is a small point, yet it can be an important point; the Minister ought to be in A position to tell us how many authorised drivers there are in the Police Force, and when we say in the Police Force we mean for the driving of Police vehicles, because I know there is a feeling that any policeman who can drive feels that his licence ought to be renewed not at his expense, but at the expense of the Department. If the Minister can give what information he has at his disposal with regard to these points, I feel we may be able to get on with the passing of this Head.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Let us start with what I have, and perhaps before I finish the replies to the others will come. As to Item 64, Parking Tickets are printed overseas. The makers of the machines supply the tickets for use; we have no machinery at the moment for doing this.

Item 65, six bicycles are to be replaced, and all the bicycles which are to be replaced have been

condemned by a Board of Survey.

Item 68, to replace two horses; these horses are to be replaced on the advice of the Government Veterinary Surgeon. I must say with respect to Constable Brathwaite whose name was mentioned by the hon. member, if the facts are as reported, that Constable must certainly need to see a Psychiatrist; why somebody should blindfold a naked horse for a prisoner to kick is really beyond me.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I am sorry, Sir; the Leader of the House has it the wrong way. It is that the prisoner was blindfolded and put in the stable for the horse to kick, not blindfolding the naked horse for a prisoner to kick.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, I said Police Constable Brathwaite, the same one who was charged with murder, blindfolded a prisoner and put him in the stables at the District "C" Police Station in the hope that the horse would have kicked the information out of him. (Laughter)

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I am not laughing at it; I have got it the wrong way. (Laughter)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

May I inform hon. members that this sitting has not yet been suspended?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I really do not mean to be facetious, but I really thought that the hon. member had said the Constable blindfolded a naked horse for the prisoner to kick. (Laughter) Anyhow, Item 50; gas stoves are provided at all Stations, and bottled gas is provided at those Stations where natural gas is not available, Under Item 41, it appears that the only servicing dog died recently; during his service - the nature of the service is not hers disclosed - he was used in assisting in the investigation of crime.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, why are we providing money here for dogs if the last one is dead?

Hon. J. C, TUDOR:

The provision here Includes provision for fodder for the horses and food for the dog. (Mr. HINDS For the one that is dead?) He may have died since the appropriation. 10.05 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:

I Now that you are in possession of that information, would you seek to amend the Note?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This would not be necessary. The balance will remain in the Treasury unless the horses eat it.

Mr. HINDS:

You are asking for money to buy food and medicine for a dead dog?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I believe that I am old enough to say that you cannot pick grass to feed a dead goat.

The Austin 3-litre car was damaged in an accident in Worthing in 1969; it has been repaired and is being paid for and should be available for use in two weeks' time. Item 63 - supplementary provision was applied for and approved about a week ago. Item 79 - at present negotiations are being-undertaken with the Government of Canada to have training carried out, in respect of scientific investigations. On 90, this is a three-year phase and this provision will give us 694 beds and pillows with the remainder in the next financial year. The maintenance of prisoners, Item 53, provides for meals for prisoners while they are in custody.

Mr. Chairman, Item 88 - provision is made for an Inspector of Weights and Measures; the post has not yet been filled; it will be filled shortly.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

About how many years?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

We hope to fill it shortly. Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY How shortly? Hon. J. C. TUDOR Soon, very soon.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I will re member these words for the next Estimates.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

And token provision, Mr. Chairman, of $1 is included for the purchase of equipment. I cannot find anything else.

Mr. HOPPIN:

Mr. Chairman, the Minister has not answered my point. I think it is very important to have these cars that have been abandoned about the streets removed. I feel that most of these cars create accidents; there are such cars in St. John, along the Deep Water Harbour road; it is unsightly, These things should be taken off the road. I do not know whose cars they are. In Trinidad and the Dutch Islands these cars are removed. The traffic here is increasing daily. I do hope that something can be done.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Sir, there are two other points to which the Minister has not replied. The printing of the tickets?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Those are done overseas, Mr. Chairman. Somebody asked about the number of authorised drivers in the Police Force - approximately two hundred. Another member asked in respect of Item 87 - Wireless Equipment. At any time an authorised or unauthorised person is using a set, which refers to equipment in the cars, it can be detected from the Control Room. There is only one occasion on which persons other than policemen use these cars, and that is when they are sent to the Highways & Transport Department for repair.

(Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

What about the horse boxes? Investigate.)

Mr. HINDS:
It can be detected by the Control Room. Has the Control Room detected that a set in a police officer's car was being used by someone other than by a police officer?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
The answer to that is no. Mr. HINDS What about horse boxes?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I inquired of the Minister whether Government would consider changing the uniforms of the Police; this is a very import ant question and I would like an answer to it. I don't want the Minister to say just yes, or 'I will see to it'.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I don't know.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
How do you mean that you don't know? The Police have been making recommendations for 10 years and do not know whether you are changing the uniforms.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
This cannot be earth-shattering. If they want the uniform changed and make recommendations, I cannot imagine the Government saying no.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
How do you mean. "If they want the uniform changed to make recommendations"? This has been happening for years. It may not be important to you; it is important to the policemen in the country.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I have seen them changed in my time, Sir.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
It is not the question that representation has been mode.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Will hon. members please address the Chair?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
On a point of order, Sir, he is repetitious.

Mr. HINDS:
On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, - Item 82. I asked the Minister if this amount of $2, 390 is contribution towards the replacement of three motor launches. 10.15 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, I am asking the Minister, since this is a contribution towards the replacement, from where is the remainder of money to come?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I had asked the Leader of the House, under Item 53, Maintenance of Prisoners, to carry out some sort of investigation with a view to providing facilities for prisoners who are remanded at Police Stations. I do not quite under stand the answer from the Leader of the House on the question of purchasing beds and pillows.

There is one other question with regard to Item 83, Air/Sea Rescue Launch. I would like to know whether the Air/Sea Rescue Launch is still being used by the Prime Minister and Carlton Brathwaite for the purpose of fishing and, if so, whether it will be possible to make it available to members of the Opposition for fishing, too.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
With regard to the horse boxes, Mr. Chairman, the answer is that one will shortly be put in use, and it is proposed to rent others to be used from time to time.

With regard to the change of uniform, the matter is being handled through the Police Association and the appropriate officials of the Government.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Is the Minister now admitting that representations had been made and the matter is being handled?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Yes, I said I could not imagine if representations were made that the Government would not have dealt with the matter.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, at Item 65 it is intended to replace six bicycles. Has the Minister any information that one of the six bicycles to be replaced has been stolen from the Police Department? (Asides.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Hon. members must bear in mind that the sitting has not yet been suspended.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I give the hon. member the assurance that that information has not reached me. If the hon. member wishes me to know about it, then I am glad to hear it.

The question that the sum of $898, 661 under Head 30 - Police - Bland part of the Schedule was put and re-solved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, this is just a small matter on the motion for the adjournment.

Hon. J. C, TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, ! beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

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

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until four o'clock tomorrow evening.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that. FOOD POISONING AT SCHOOLS

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Speaker, I should like to inquire from the Leader of the House if he has any information to the effect that at Grace Hill School, Sharon and St. John the Baptist Schools there has been an outbreak of poisoning to the extent that at these schools pupils had to seek medical attention. The first report came from a teacher at Turner's Hall School yesterday and, no attention having been paid to that teacher, today things got worse and the Ministry informed certain schools that they should not partake of the meal that was being served.

Mr. SPEAKER:
I am afraid that I was not given notice that that would have been raised here on the adjournment.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, the menu was mashed yam, split peas, minced meat boiled in gravy, and supplied from the Westbury Food Centre. Today's meal was fried flying fish and bread. The Ministry tried to protect other children from being victims of this food poisoning and suspended the service of the meal.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I am really distressed to hear this and I promise the hon. member that I will have the matter investigated.

The question that the sitting be now suspended until 4 p.m. on Thursday, 19th March, 1970 was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

10.20 p.m.

On resumption;-

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:

When this sitting was suspended yesterday evening the House was in Committee and to that it now reverts.

HEAD 27 - LANDS AND SURVEYS Head 27 - Lands and Surveys -was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I believe we had postponed this because some hon. member -1 think it was the hon. junior member for St. Peter -had asked about the Trainee Draughtsmen. I under-stand we have five in training; two of the Surveyors are taking degrees and one of them will complete his studies this year in June.

The question that the sum of $63, 895 be appropriated under Head 27 was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 29 - FIRE SERVICE Head 29 - Fire Service -was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $68, 953 be appropriated under this Head. I believe that on the last two occasions when we had made requests for supplementary provision, the hon. junior member for St. Peter had asked about the appointment of a Deputy Chief Fire Officer; I understand that an appointment has been made. I am not in a position to say who the person is; perhaps the hon. member might be able to tell me.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

The question that the sum of $68, 953 be appro-priated under Head 29 was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 30 - TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING

Head 30 - Town and Country Planning-was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $23, 770 be appropriated under this Head. I believe some time yesterday a question was asked relating to groynes; I have had a check made with the Ministry, and I am authorised to say that Town Planning permission is required for all types of development being carried out in the areas under the control of the Chief Town Planner; but since the erection of groynes involves the use of land below the high water mark, permission of the Ministry of Home Affairs has also to be sought.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. St. JOHN:

I agree with that; but whereas hitherto a Bill used to be promoted for authority, now this is a matter being dealt with by the Town Planner and the Ministry of Home Affairs, and there are groynes that have been put up in certain areas in my constituency, in particular along Maxwell, and the rights of the prople around the re, and the traditional rights of the fisherman of access and so forth, have been taken away and they have had no opportunity to object. That is the basic point I am making. When you had the Bill, it used to be advertised and people used to be able to do that.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Would the hon. member indicate whether this is Maxwell or Dover he is speaking about?

Mr. ST. JOHN:

Nobody knows where one begins and the other ends, but it starts where there is an old grave yard. The trouble is along that beach running right down, along the beach there are groynes and a lot have been barred up. Fishermen used to go down there with their fish pots and so on. I am not satisfied with the existing machinery of this at all, and, as I said, there is a defect between this and the Beaches and Parks Commissions Act. If you look at the Jamaica legislation on this - I had the opportunity of studying it - they vested the power to erect groynes under the high water mark in the Beach Control Commission, and they had the machinery which required advertisement. As it is now the Beaches Commission only goes above the high water mark; so therefore presumably the Ministry of Home Affairs will still have the power vested in it below the mark, and that is where the trouble comes. When you put in a groyne you do not know what is the high water or the low water mark, and it is a very serious thing. We have had a complete departure in the administration from what it was before. When we first had Town Planning here, it was the practice of the Town Planner, before he allowed change of use, to circulate the affected interests around to have their observations; but it does not happen today. All you know is that one day you just see a change of use taking place at the property next door and you never had an opportunity to put in any representations with respect to it.

I hope that the time has come when the Government will decide that a planning decision is too important in Barbados to be vested in any individual -that a Planning Authority has got to be created. We had something like a Planning Authority before, when you had the Councils; they were able to make representations because they had a consultative function. With the abolition of Local Government, the consultative function is out; so the only consultative function you have now is the Ministry of Agriculture. We have nothing now; nobody knows anything now. It seems to me that they have double standards, because if you look at the Caribbee, I would like to know what parking ratio was required. If the Planner had certain norms and standards, it is my view that if he feels that those are in the interest of the country as a whole they should prevail, but they should be generally known so that the public will know whether there have been any departure in respect of them or not. That is most important, because there is nothing that can create more bad feeling in a country than when you have planning that is

absolutely necessary and people feel that it is inconsistently administered; the legislation we have is imperfect in many respects. I would like to know the guidelines for permission, in particular, that the Ministry of Home Affairs uses for the erection of these groynes.

The last thing I want to deal with is Item 17; I see there is a sum of $500 for enforcement, and I would like to know how much enforcement was given last year. There were breaches in the Town Planning Act last year - there must have been - and I would like to know how much enforcement was done. We have been repeatedly promised on the floor of this House a copy of the Physical Development Plan. The Prime Minister said it would have been ready last year; this year he said it was only a question of printing and it would have been ready within a week, but up to now we have not got a copy. I have seen decisions given in reference to it, because there are areas in Christ Church which have been released for one purpose, and contiguous areas have not been released on the ground that sufficient land is available already for that particular purpose when these applications have been in there prior for the specific purpose.

4.10 p.m.

Let us hear about this Physical Development Plan. It is time that people in Barbados know what is required. This comes under Town Planning too. I wonder how far they have got with the Oistins-Speightstown Developments. I know there has been a Report, amd I understand plans have been drawn; I have no doubt that this is so. We want to know how far towards implementation it is.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, in answer to the question in relation to the Oistins Re -Development Plan, I would like to report that we have had several meetings. We have had sub-committees that have met on several occasions, and despite the remark made here yesterday by certain hon. members to the effect that the people are never involved, as far as Oistins is concerned, the fishermen were directly involved in a sub-committee which dealt with fishing rights, groynes, beach facilities, market facilities, fishing, new market facilities, docking and the jetty. They were involved and are fully aware of what is going on.

The position is that we have all the various plans and the assistance from the U.N. expert on traffic engineering; all the preliminary meetings have been held and the paper is ready for Central Planning Committee - probably by the next meeting. In so far as the road diversion is concerned, there are three separate and distinct suggestions or plans; recommendations were made, and the one which has been recommended and accepted will serve as a means of avoiding the traffic and will alleviate the situation a great deal. The road will be going up the hill, and that diversion will relieve the pressure in the Oistins area and the daily congestion.

As far as the siting of the tanks are concerned we are making sure that nothing is done to affect the people in the area as far as the amenities are concerned, and the tanks will be sited in an area which we consider would be most suitable for the people of Oistins and the fisherfolk and everybody who uses Oistins; and if the Oil Company has to spend another $2000 or $3000 in siting some of the most unsuitable lands, I think the Oil Company makes enough money to do that. So, we have the interest of the people at heart, and the Oil Company which will be receiving the benefits of these faciltiies will have to co-operate and pay any extra cost. Our Committee, as constituted, will always see that the interests of the people are always protected from first to last,

Mr. St. JOHN:

Let us deal with these, one at a time. I know where the Oil Companies are starting to plan because they started excavation - it is in the swamp area next to the Esso Station in Oistins. What I am not clear on-and this is where the Government should have driven a hard bargain in allowing them to put a jetty in the sea; a proper jetty should have been built not only for fishing. The important thing about the Oistins area, as the Hon. Minister of Labour will recognise is that it is one of the most sheltered places of all, and is a first-class area where you can have a Charter boat in the sense of amenities for the tourist industry, because the fishing boats are within short distance. You want an area where the people can walk from land and get into the boat.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

The hon. member is not au fait with what we are doing. He has really explained an omission on my part. It is a marina, and we have reclaimed over an acre of land and we have a lot of parking space through the reclamation. The jetty as intended, will be not only for fishing purposes (for accommodating the fishermen) but for providing a means of getting the fuel to the tanks and also for marina purposes, as indicated by the hon. member. The plan is a very comprehensive one; the tourists and the fishing industry will benefit. The people of Barbados will benefit generally, and the people in the Oistins area in particular. People using the road will all stand to benefit and those who sell fish will have better accommodation and facilities. We are also putting down beach facilities -maybe not as elaborate as those at "The Pebble"', maybe not as grandiose; the hon. member will no longer have to go as far as "The Pebble".

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I think the, hon. senior member for Christ Church enquired as to what progress has been made with the Speightstown Develop-ment Project. The Committee met on several occasions. They have finished their Report and that Report is now in the hands of the Central Planning Unit and, I hope, will soon reach Cabinet.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I have some answer to the points raised earlier by the hon. senior-member for Christ Church. With respect to enforcements, there were none last year. We have put in the same figure. With regard to the standards used at the Caribbee Hotel, the decision was made before current standards were adopted which the developers now know about. Secondly, the parking was adequate at the time for the development for which permission was sought. As to the Physical Development Plan, the final draft is with the Printery. There are several final tables which still have to be checked.

Mr. HINDS:

I understand from the Leader of the House that there were no enforcements during last year; were there no appeals? How many appeals last year? There is another important point about a Trainee Town Planner. I would like to know what standard is being set for your Trainee Town Planner and exactly where he is being trained. I want to say here and now that there is little, if anything, that could impress a Trainee that is exhibited by anybody in the Town Planning Office in Barbados today.

4.20 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, there is no standard set by anybody for a Trainee to wish to emulate. I sincerely hope that what seems to me to be quite evident will soon be blotted out. It seems to me that Town Planning in some respects is practised or put into effect depending, in many cases, on who is the owner of the particular property involved. This is what I think the hon. senior member for Christ Church referred to as double standards. I want to support him 100% on that, because I am somewhat convinced that Town Planning is practised on a basis along those lines. That sort of thing is unfair, and it should not take place in Barbados.

Now, Mr. Chairman, with regard to Item 16, Library , the Note mentions the cost of technical books and subscriptions to Journals. I should like to know if these technical books are placed at the disposal of the Assistant Town Planner and the Planning Assistants.

Mr. St. JOHN:

, Mr. Chairman, I am glad for the explanation given in relation to standards in respect of the Caribbee. The decision was made at a time when the current standards were not applied. What I feel will be useful from the point of view of building up confidence is that when these norms or standards are made they should not rest in the breast of the Town Planning Office, but you should allow them to reach the public so that the people who have to deal with the Town Planning Office would know what the standards should be.

Some countries operate by way of a system of codes, and you can plan and design things within the existing standards; only when there is a question of variation will you have to seek the necessary assistance. You can publish these things by reference to the area in which they operate.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I believe that the hon. junior member for St. Peter asked a question about Town Planning. There is training avail-able in all aspects of the Department and, apparently, Trainees are encouraged to read extensively. Training is done within the Department as well. They get training in the Waterworks Department, and sur-veying In the M.C.W. as well as in the Housing Authority. I am still awaiting a reply about periodicals,

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, is there any provision for overseas training for Town Planners?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Yes, Mr. Bourne is on a course in England at the moment.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, there is a general overseas training programme for all Civil Servants.Mr. Bourrte is in England on a course. Mr. Gill has been trained, and we are sending up Civil Servants to be trained every now and again.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, at present an officer is being trained at Leeds University.

The question that the sum of $23, 770 under Head 30-Town and Country Planning - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative with-out division.

HEAD 31 - PRISONS Head 31 - Prisons - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, there are no amendments to this Head. I beg to move that the sum of $82, 742 under Head 31 - Prisons - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, at Item 24 there is an amount of $3,050 and the Note says "To meet the increased cost on the Farm." I wonder whether the Leader of the House is in a position to tell us if this increased cost involves the making of duplicate keys that have recently been found in the possession of prisoners. Others have been found with ice picks. This is a serious matter because information is to hand that it is within the compound of the Farm that all of this mischief is being engaged in.

I may offer a little assistance in this respect. The officer who is presently in charge of the Farm concerns himself more with conducting & courtship, and the prisoners on the Farm can go and engage themselves in all sorts of mischief. That is creating problems in the whole Institution.

4.30 p.m.

Something has got to be done about this officer. Exactly how efficient or inefficient he is at the Farm I do not know, but something must be done to stamp this business out. I suppose the Minister would be in a position to tell us about the latest development where a prisoner was found in a tree only yesterday. (Asides.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Hon. members not addressing the Chair must observe the Standing Orders.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, if the hon. member would give way; how would I know that? Both the hon. member and I were here yesterday until whatever time it was.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I did not know how poor the Leader of the House was until this hour. This is a serious matter, and if the Minister of Home Affairs did not communicate with him and let him understand that he is coming here to ask for $82, 742 for the upkeep of the Prisons, and he did not tell him what was going on, then the Minister of Home Affairs is beastly unfair to the Leader of the House. Are you going to try to make this Committee believe that a prisoner being found in a tree is a joke? I am sorry, Sir, that the prisoner did not hide away during the night and wake up the hon. member when he was asleep. What are the security services doing for them? You see how our security services are at work keeping us well informed of what is going on, but you have no need to be concerned about what is going on either there or elsewhere. I wonder what you are going to tell me when we come to the School Meals Service. Let the hon. member tell us about the ice picks that were found in the possession of prisoners, and the false keys that were manufactured on the Prison compound.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I am not replying; I am speaking on this Head. I remember when I was a backbencher on the other side, during discuss ion on the Estimates I raised a very serious point, about which I feel the same today. I do not see why a man who lived in a low element should go to prison and enjoy a better standard of living while he is there. I said this on the floor of the House and was castigated by the hon. member who just sat down. If it is found that prisoners are making weapons, I do not see the reason for all this hullabaloo by the hon. member, because when I criticised some time ago the way prisoners are treated, I was told everything except that I was a human being. What I do know is that some people use the Prison as a place for relaxation, and they do not need provocation to get themselves there. You would say something trivial to a man and he would go to the limit in order to get up there. I remember that not so long ago a prisoner who was serving seven years ran away the day before he was to come out of prison, but he did not run fast. I do not know if this is the same prisoner he is talking about. He went far enough to be caught so that he could have a longer time. We have to be realistic.

Mr. Chairman, we talk about the rehabilitation of prisoners; it is true there are some prisoners that can and must be rehabilitated, but there are some scamps on whom the taxpayers' money is wasted. We spend a lot of money rehabilitating these people, but not one of us would want one of these prisoners to marry our daughters, I would like to tell the hon. member that if he sees that we are spending money to rehabilitate these people and give them something to do in their spare time and they make implements, he cannot accuse anybody on the Government side because we are not warders. He said he heard of this incident. I have not heard, but this goes to show that there is something Inherently wrong with this society. We would get here and talk; but when the time comes to take action, not one of us is willing to do what we think is right. Nobody wants to see a pris-oner ill-treated, but I cannot understand how a man can commit an offence against society and go to prison and can argue with the Prison Officer that his eggs are too small. I see that in other Prisons they do not eat the food because they do not like the conditions. If I had to dispense justice, I would be the greatest penologist in the world because if they did not eat they would die. A man arms himself with a knife or a gun and leaves his home at 2 o'clock in

the morning to go into somebody's house. He would scarcely be going to suck cane or to peel an orange or to have target practice, and when you get up to go to your toilet he tries to kill you. He goes before a jurist and is given a slap on the hand, and is bound to his peace for a month. This is a waste of time and justice.

I think the time has come when we have to sit I and think afresh, because if we go on with that nonsense Barbados will become worse than Jamaica or the United States. Do not say it cannot happen here. It is going to happen if we do not take a firm hand. I remember that some years ago pick-pockets were rampant in this country until somebody picked Sir Allan Collymore's pocket and got twelve years, after which pick-pockets went out of fashion. For the five days of the races they flourished, and when Jackie Opel was buried the other evening, they had a field day. I am hoping that the papers publish this so that the jurists will see what I am saying. They are handing out too lenient sentences. Twelve and fifteen years' penal servitude will stop this sort of nonsense. You have a lot of half-baked lawyers who sometimes turn to witnesses in order to gain a case. They too should be sent to prison, and I hope the Judges will hear that. There is nothing wrong with sending a lawyer to prison. I do not know what sort of convic-tion a lawyer could have to know that a man deliberately commits an offence and he goes in Court and argues about a point of law and a point of fact. My idea is that they should argue that, after having fifteen years in prison. I do not want the Police to pro-tect me. I must be able to walk unmolested, because lam a hot-tempered person and would hate to go before a jury; but if 'push' comes to 'shove', I would prefer to- be before a jury than before one of these scamps. 4.40 p.m.

I am serious about what I am saying, and the time has come when we have to take stock of what we are doing as leaders in this community and stop trying this mamby-pamby handling of this situation, because if we go on like this it is going to get out of hand. The other day I saw something happen - I will give another incident to this House and you can start laughing again. A van which was coming from Government House stalled, and the warders had to be out-, side pushing the van and the prisoners inside sitting down. If something goes wrong with my car I have either to walk to my office or send and beg somebody for a lift, and I am a Minister and an honest citizen of this community. Why should prisoners be driven to work? If you get yourself in trouble and you go up there as a prisoner, except for alimony or getting into a simple fight for which you would have my sympathy - but when you break into somebody's place you do not have my sympathy; I do not only think you get locked up for it; I feel you should get the "cat" as well.

You can say what you like about me; but I know that what I am saying today, a lot of members would like to say; but they are afraid that when they walk down the street, some prisoner who says he knows his room number would come and hit them. I am not going to go on putting up with all this nonsense at all; prisoners are living better in prison than they are living outside, and this is the reason why they are so many of them. I saw a chap the other day who goes around pulling off locks on Saturdays; one day I was in the Court and he was rude to a Magistrate - it was a Friday - and the Magistrate told him to shut his mouth or else he would sentence him for contempt of Court', so he was rude again and he was

sentenced for contempt of Court. When the Magistrate came out I told him that he had played straight into the man's hand because he wanted to go up for the weekend; things were tight outside and he was going up where he knew he would get stewed beef and cou-cou, and pigtails in his rice, two large eggs every morning for breakfast. This morning I did not have any eggs; I had to get what I could in order to run down to the House. But this is the kind of thing we are going on with, and I am hoping that what I say does not fall on deaf ears. I admit that lawyers want to work for their money; therefore they are going to look for every loophole in order to get off some of these scamps. I also admit that many an honest man has been sent to prison unfairly, but I also know that many a scamp has got off, and that there are more scamps up there than people who have been sent there by misfortune.

Look at the records and you are going to see how many of these people have returned two, three, four and sometimes five times, because when they come up before the Judges and the Magistrates they do not hit them a stiff penalty. I am not going to interfere with justice, but I only want to bring an incident to the House. I know a man who went before the Court of Grand Sessions for inflicting punishment on a man without provocation - the man is a cripple today;at least he has been paralysed - and after going to the Court of Grand Sessions the man got six months. This is a waste of time and the taxpayers' money. I am not criticising anybody, but as a citizen of Barbados and a leader of the community, I think I have the right to speak out, and I am really hurt at some of the things I see happen about here, how people can go the limit and then walk out of Court free persons, or if they do get confined, probably with a one-month or two-month sentence. This is a waste of time. All the legislation we pass in here is not worth its salt if the jury will sit down and start 'playing-it-soft' for some misguided reason. Do you know when they will realise that things are getting rough? As soon as these criminals start to attack their families! Do not let us forget what happened to a female Magistrate we had around here, and the members of the community scarcely opened their mouths; they murmured. But I can afford to talk big because when my time is up it is up, and, as I always say, if my time has to be up in any violent way, some-body has to go down with me. I have no fear; I have said on the floor of this House that I am afraid of only three things in my entire life - old age, poverty and retribution.

Mr. Chairman, I hope that the Government in power now - my Government - will take a serious view of this. I am not trying to throw any sticks at anybody, but I think the time has come - and I am sure my colleagues know how I feel about certain things such as capital punishment and so on - I do not hide this - but I am hoping that before long we will really get down to serious business and start dealing with these offences in a more serious matter. We on this side have absolutely no intention of interfering with justice, or of telling the Magistrates or the Judges what they should do; but I as a citizen am saying I am not satisfied with a lot of the sentences I have seen passed on renowned criminals, I do not know if the Judges get tired seeing these people; but if they get tired seeing them, they should send them up for a long time.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would be very grateful if the hon. member would intimate which of the Items he is really speaking

on.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I was speaking, Mr. Chairman, on Item 32, and I was speaking in reply to what the hon. member said about prisoners up there making sharp-edged weapons and keys and so on. I was not replying on Government's behalf, but I was saying my piece on the floor of the House for the Hansard, be-cause I want the world to know how I feel. I know when I go out I will hear a lot of nonsense; but as I said already, they will talk; but nobody is going to really touch.

Mr. Chairman, before I sit down let me say this again. The time has come when as leaders of the community - we do not have to be tyrannical; we fix the law and leave it there, and it is for the Judges to interpret the law and to impose the sentences. But I would hint to the Judges and to the Magistrates that I am not satisfied with some of the sentences that are being passed. Here it is, we are not alarmed yet; but we will be when what the junior member for St. Peter said would materialise. A warder might be stabbed or something with one of these implements that are being made; that is when we will get alarmed. I do not want this to happen in my community, because these things can spread all over the world, and we do not want to have it said that Barbados is a place in which you cannot live. I do not have any place to go; this is my country; I was born here and I intend to die here; but I do not want to see this country come down on my head because of a few scamps.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

I want to ask the hon. member just one question. I agree with him. If a prisoner is getting two eggs for breakfast, he is lucky - to put it mildly; but who, if not the Government, is responsible for the diet at the prison? If not the Government, tell the authority not to give so elaborate a diet. 4.50 p.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

When the Leader of the Opposition was in power, he brought Mr. Redhead here I think he is responsible for that. If we had said that the prisoners are being fed too good, which I believe and I do think that he believes so too, the Opposition would be saying "Oh! they want to treat the poor prisoners badly." Everybody would now represent the poor prisoners. We feel that the pris-oners are being fed too well. The prisoners are living better than the people in the Mental Hospital, which is unfair to the society.

Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS:

I don't remember what the position was when I was Premier. When I was in the old Executive Committee, the diet scale used to come to me as a member of the Executive Committee. I had every

opportunity of saying "Not this; not this;" - along with my colleagues, of course I want to know who could have made this mistake and he should be told by the hon. member to change it.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

A real giant was sent to the Prison after Mr. Redhead was relieved - not big in size, but of my temperament. He agreed that the prisoners were playing the fool. One prisoner was coming out and wanted his pants pressed. This is true. When the Superintendent asked the prisoner, he said he wanted his pants Hoffmaned - steam pressed. When my giant went up there he decided this was nonsense and he was putting a stop to it. As a result there was a big noise; they went on the roof and got on in a ridiculous manner. Everybody started to get down on the man; they said he was too austere; he had to slacken off. This is true. I want it to be known that the prisoners do not have any friend in me.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, eggs are given as a special diet only when recommended by a doctor, and are not given to ordinary persons. In the case of the keys, two unfinished keys were found, but were not made on the Farm. The prisoner who, it was alleged, was found in the tree, was admitted on Tuesday afternoon; he is suffering from a mental disturbance.

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

HEAD 32 - PRINTING OFFICE Head 32 - Printing Office was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $204, 803, under Head 32 - Printing Office, stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, -Item 30 - Materials - $125,000 "To meet the estimated requirements of new Departments and the increased demands of others". They are buying materials. Materials, as we know in

printing, have got to be related to some other phase of activity within the printing compound. From that I turn to Item 37. I would like to hear from the Hon. Leader of the House what type of Printing Press they intend buying for the amount of $52, 650. For what purpose is it required? And then we turn to the Justowriters, Varitypers and a Platen Printing Press. Very careful consideration had to be given before seeking these allocations here. We have got to be told today if it is Government's intention to continue printing, employing the Justowriter type of machine as well as the Varityper. We must be told as well, what is the condition of the machines - not those that are presently in use, but the ones that have been laid aside; that is our concern here. What are the reasons for having them laid aside? What are the ages of these machines? Are we satisfied that the taxpayers' money was properly invested in the first instance, and if we are not, what justification there can be for seeking an additional sum of $52, 750 to put in a similar type of machine to what they had before?

Mr. Chairman, I have gone to the Government Printery, and I learned from the mouth of the then Government Printer and from the printers in charge- the various foremen - what was wrong with the machines that they had there. I also learned much of what was preventing the Printery from functioning to the satisfaction of the various Departments who are making demands on it.

5.00 p.m.

In addition to this, Mr. Chairman, I have discovered that the Government Printery has been engaging in private work, and this is something that I have brought to the attention of this Hon. House; but, strangely enough, the Minister of Home Affairs took time enough in his hands to communicate with me asking me to supply not only the samples of the work done at the Printery on which I had given information to the House and had in my posses-sion, but the Minister also asked me to supply the names of the persons who had engaged in such activities on the premises of the Government Printery.

I do not blame the Minister for that, but I would have to blame myself. I should not have been in my present position if I had fallen into the trap in which the Minister has tried to put me. The type of printing engaged in at the Government Printery is called offset printing for the most part, and what I had in my possession, if examined by anyone, it would be found that it was not a case where a boy could have gone into the Government Printery to do "perrie" printing. The samples which I had in my possession would show that it was necessary to go to the camera room and that the plates had to be made there.

When I called on the Leader of the House and asked him to let us journey to the Government Printery and lay hands on the culprits and the Minister refused to do that, he was lending grist to the mills of those people. The Minister of Home Affairs did not want to find out who were doing these jobs. I would have supplied the names if the Minister had gone to the Government Printery and seized the plates. After

the Minister of Home Affairs and the Leader of the House gave the people all the time to destroy the plates, what purpose would there be in supplying the names? I could not believe that the Minister of Home Affairs could be so silly or could expect me to be so silly as to do that.

I did everything I possibly could to help the Government to appear to be doing something to get the Government Printery going on a good, sound footing. They failed to take advantage of the opportunity. I want to charge both the Leader of the House and the Minister of Home Affairs with giving the people at the Government Printery a chance to get rid of the plates. Mr. Chairman, I am laying that charge against the Minister of Home Affairs and the Leader of the House, because they know why they gave the people a chance to get rid of the plates.

Mr. Chairman, at Item 29 there is an amount of $300, and it is required to pay for printing of special cheques. I want the Leader of the House to explain why this amount was inserted here. Why is it so small? From what I know is involved in the printing of these special cheques, I am saying that the work is being done for nothing.

At Item 32 there is an amount of $7,000 and that is to keep all equipment in proper working order and to purchase spare parts. Are you buying spare parts for the Justowriter? Is it a case where you have decided to buy spare parts for the machine after you have been told by the agents who supplied them that they ought to be replaced? For what are you buying these spare parts? Where are you going to keep these spare parts? Are you going to keep them at the Government Printery? The situation at the Government Printery is different from printeries where you use the linotype machines. Linotype machines necessitate the carrying of small parts; but in a Print-ery like the Government Printery, what spare parts are you going to carry to the tune of $7,000!

Now, with regard to Item 30, we understand that there are new Departments making demands on the Government Printery. As you know, Mr. Chairman, this Honourable House is still in a position to make demands on the Government Printery. Is there any provision in this amount of $125,000 for meeting the demands from this Hon. House?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, let me divert for a brief moment to answer the charges made against myself and the Minister of Home Affairs, in-ferentially at any rate, that we aided and abetted wrong-doing at this Department.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr Chairman, I never said that the Leader of the House or the Minister of Home Affairs aided and abetted anybody, but they may have been accessories after the fact. 5.10 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I reject this categorically. The facts are that the hon. member on two separate occasions that I recall, spaced about three or four weeks apart, mentioned in this House that he had evidence that work was being done in the Government Printery which was not the Government's work, by a person or persons working there for people outside. I did report to the Minister of Home Affairs when the first allegation was made, and I believe on the second occasion I told the hon. member that I had already reported it.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, the hon. member never said he had reported it; he said he was investigating the matter, and after weeks had elapsed and it was mentioned a second time, we discovered that he had misled the House when he said he had had it investigated.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This is not true. On the second occasion when the hon. member made his row, I reported, when he asked about the first time, that I had reported it to the Minister.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, when you did report to the Minister? On the first occasion or the second occasion?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

That is no point of order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

After the hon. member had made the first complaint, I reported to the Committee, when he made the second complaint, that I had already done so.

Mr. HINDS:

I do not want to appear to be interrupting the Minister. If the Minister is saying that he reported to the Minister of Home Affairs after I had made the first complaint, does that also mean that he reported when I made the second? In other words, when I made the second complaint, it was undoubtedly after the first. This is a Minister who has studied his language; so when he said that he reported after I had made the first complaint, I am asking if he also means that it was after I made the second complaint.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

No. I reported in the course of the debate on the second complaint that I had already reported, I told the House, when the hon. member raised it the second time, that I had already reported to the Minister when he had raised it the first time. In the course of the debate on the second occasion the hon. member urged upon the House a course of action which I really did not think the House could properly take; that is, to ask the House to suspend its labours and go to a Government Department in an inquisitory role. With respect, Mr. Chairman, I do not think that is what Parliament is for. It is possible that if we had done so then we may have seen some evidence; but my reasons for not taking up the challenge was certainly not to allow guilty persons, if there were such, to escape or to cover their wrong-doings; it was merely because I did not think - and I still do not think - that that is a function you can call upon Parliament to perform. The hon. member is a much cleverer person than I am, and I am not saying this sarcastically. I wish sometimes that I had one-tenth of his brain; but be should know that the real way to handle this matter was not to have made a fuss about it in here at all until after he had taken steps to secure the guilty persons by giving the evidence.....

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, that is what the Hon. Leader of the House and the Minister of Home Affairs did. They secured the guilty persons and then wrote me.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Nonsense! Mr. Chairman, this is completely untrue. The hon. member comes into the House and makes a big hullabaloo. The hon. member knows very well that anything he says in this House is spread on the wings of the morning or afternoon, according to the time of day he says it. He could not say anything in this House which within five minutes would not be heard by the persons against whom he said it or whom it concerns; so the very fact that he made a fuss in here meant it would be conveyed - not by anybody in here or anybody in the Gallery, but if you do it this way and then tell us to let us go up there, even the fastest horse could not get to the Printery quickly enough in advance of the people who would already have heard it. I therefore do not accept any responsibility in this, except the responsibility certainly of refusing to accompany the hon. member when he Invited the Committee-or House, as the case may be, to do that. I do not think that was our function. If this is being culpable, I accept culpability; but in no other respect could the Minister of Home Affairs be guilty, because we are just not detectives. I think it is wrong also to accuse the Minister of Home Affairs of being an accessory after the fact.

Mr. HINDS:

Even to the extent that when the Leader of the House told this House that he was investigating the matter, we learned later out of his own mouth that he had not spoken the truth and mis -led the House on that occasion.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

That is not true, Mr. Chairman. This is the fourth occasion on which we are discussing this, because we had postponed the Resolution and then did it last week. On the second and third occasion, and on this occasion I told the House and the Committee - and I told the hon. member when I raised it the first time - that after the debate was over and the House was adjourned and I next met the Minister, I told him that the hon. junior member for St. Peter had raised in the House the question that work was being improperly done at the Government Printery which did not concern the Printery. (Mr. HINDS Did you start the investigation then?) I didn't, but he did.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, here is a Minister going to carry out an investigation into a matter. I had volunteered to be an informer and to place at the disposal of the Minister or whoever was going to Investigate certain exhibits. Are you going to tell me that investigations are to be carried out without my knowledge and behind my back? What is the Minister groping in the dark, looking for, when the junior member for St. Peter told the House that he is In possession of exhibits? Should the Minister not try to get those exhibits from me or seek my co -operation before he initiates any investigation? All the Minister did was to send around the Printery and let people know to secure themselves that so-and-so was going to happen.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I do not accept this, but the hon. member knows enough about these matters to have known it was competent for him, even before he had come to the House with it, to have made the evidence available to the Minister. He may not have chosen to do it that way.

Mr. HINDS:

I promise that as soon as there is a Minister of Home Affairs whom I can trust, I will do it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

When the hon. member says that, he is not really Insulting the Minister. Why can't he trust the Minister? What has the Minister done him? Anyhow, Mr. Chairman, I am merely saying that the alleged charge that we are accessories after the fact just cannot stand. The hon. member, I believe, was on safer ground when he asked questions of fact.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, is the Minister now suggesting that I was not stating a fact when I said that persons employed in the Government Printery were undertaking work on Government premises and using Government machinery and equipment for private individuals? If the ground is not now safe, he and the Minister of Home Affairs made it unsafe.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

You do not needall this indignation on the matter. I said the hon. member is on safer ground on questions of fact, because I can answer certain specific questions which he has asked in the course of this debate. 5.20 p.m.

He wanted to know something in respect of Item 33 - Materials; the answer is that the Printery is undertaking all the printing of the Rates and Taxes Divisions which used to be contracted for by Local Government Authorities hitherto. The hon. member also asked a sort of supplementary to that as to whether the new Department involved might have been Parliament, and if work for Parliament is included in this. The answer is "No"; but, as the hon. member will see shortly in the next financial year, there will be a separate Item under Head 3 for the printing of Parliament papers and so on.

With respect to the $7,000 provision under Item 32, the condition of the machinery was of such a nature that a Board of Survey was held and it was recommended that these machines should be replaced. This provision is for the purchase of spare parts and also for the general maintenance of all machines. He asked a question in respect of Item 37 - Furniture and Equipment; it appears that the Linotype method of composing has become outmoded. The people who produced these machines have recognised this, and apparently have gone to the trouble of keeping abreast with the times by producing what is known as a Linofilm machine to be used in the photographic process of printing.

Item 29 - Special Printing. Cheques are printed overseas for security reasons and used by the Accountant;General so that the amount required is adequate to cover the cheques; the amount of money is only to pay for these cheques. I do not know if I have accommodated the hon. member, Mr. Chairman, or whether there is anything else he wants to know.

Mr. HINDS:
I just want to know what types of machines you are buying under Item 37.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I believe that is the Linofilm machine.

Mr. HINDS:
The Linofilm machine, I understood you to say, is a machine not for printing as such, but for composing and will take the place of the Linotype machine.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
This is the lithographic process.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Item 37 says "to purchase Printing Press, etc....."

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
It appears that the equipment comprises one large Lithographic Printing Press, two Justowriters, one Varityper, one Platen Printing Press and two additional Justowriter machines.

Mr. HINDS:
Are you buying four Justowriters or two?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
The Lithographic Printing Press, the two Justowriters and the Varityper are replacements; there are at present six Justowriter machines, one of which is used for the Gazette and another mainly for the debates of the Legislature. One of these machines has had a breakdown and it had to be sent to Puerto Rico for repairs because the local mechanic cannot carry out these repairs. It has been there for five weeks now, and despite repeated enquiries they have not been able to have it returned,

Mr. HINDS:

What about the other two Justowriters you are telling us about? Are you continuing to spend the taxpayers' money buying machines which you cannot service?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The two machines that are now requested will be used to adequately equip the staff who will be composing the debates.

Mr. HINDS:

Are you referring to the Lithographic machine?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

These are the two Justowriters the hon. member is asking about; I have listed the equipment, Mr. Chairman, as being one Lithographic Printing Press, two Justowriters, one Varityper, one Platen Printing Press and two additional Justowriter machines. The first four items are replacements, and the other two are additional equipment.

Mr. HINDS:

Are all the Justowriters new machines?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Of course they will be now, but two will be replacements and two others.

Mr. HINDS:

What is the age of the ones the Board of Survey has turned down?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The hon. member might like to speak while I get that information.

Mr. St. JOHN:

I will say that this illustrates quite clearly what we have been trying to get across in this House for a long period of time - that if you are going to provide things for a purpose, except where it would take up a lot of space, you should have annexed to your notes the machines and the approximate cost so that we would know. Surely it is better for the Auditor General and for your accounting purposes. You have it here now, and we do not see any reference in here at all to Lithographic Printing Press; that is not satisfactory.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, the note to Item 30 states that this $125,000 will be required to meet the estimated requirements of new Departments and the increased demands of others. 5.30 p.m.

The Minister tells us that sooner or later Parliament will not be making demands on the Government Printery as such. We are glad to hear that. In relation, what are the new demands made on the Government Printery at the moment, taking into consideration the fact that over a period of months you will be phasing out Parliament. How do you stand with this new demand? In other words, the Government Printery could not cope prior to September, 1969, when this new demand really came upon it. Complaints have been going from this Hon. House from time to time, and they have been receiving excuses that the Government Printery could not cope. As a consequence, a Committee of this House visited the Government Printery and we found that the Printery was in a dilapidated state, as far as the compoing and plate-making were concerned.

What has been done to bring the Government Printery up to standard to cope with the demands that have been thrust upon it from the beginning of September? I hope the Hon. Minister understands what I am trying to elicit from him. This heavy demand that necessitates the expenditure of $125,000 for materials - what has been done between the time the Committee from this House visited the Government Printery and September? How are these new demands being met now? We appreciate the fact that although there are complaints still going out from this Hon. House - and we believe that the Government Printery is genuinely making every possible effort to satisfy us here and close our mouths, but we still have to be complaining about the matter. What is the true position with the Government Printery?

Mr. Chairman, I challenge the Leader of the House to deny that the people who are responsible for making the request for $125,000, the same people who have made the request at Item 37, for $52, 650, know little or nothing and care little or nothing about the taxpayers of this country. They have very little regard for what is said or done in Parliament, and they know as well as ever that supplying the type of machines that are being asked for, they will not be able to meet the demands even from the Local Government Institutions that have been thrust upon them in September. People at the Printery have been

a bucket of nerves. Some of them have worked their fingers to stumps trying to produce something out of nothing. They have no machines at the Printery as such that a Varitypist can operate and feel confident that it is not going to break down. We have got it out of the mouth of the Leader of the House. When the Committee visited the Government Printery, the machine was already in Puerto Rico for five months; so it is unfair now to say that the machine has been in Puerto Rico for 5 months. Why are you taking the taxpayers' money and spending it on a machine that cannot be repaired locally but has to be sent to Puerto Rico?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I am informed that these machines are usually serviced in the repair room of the Printery, but there are some parts that are better repaired at the factory where there are special tools and experts, and that is why this particular one had to be sent away.

Mr. HINDS:

I happen to operate a printery myself; there are other printeries in Barbados. I am saying here and now that if any machine is in use and needs a part, that spare part can be brought out here from Puerto Rico by the first flight in - in a matter of hours. Is it the case that you have bought machines and they have gone out of production and a part is being manufactured now in Puerto Rico for the machine? What kind of people have you been buying machines from? Do you buy machines from people who cannot cable their manufacturers and get a part flown down here? This is the Government Printery. Are you going to tell me that even if you send the machine out, it is going to remain out 5 months? What kind of pride has the Minister of Home Affairs got on the Leader of the House in a matter of this sort? The machine is out for 5 months and they are satisfied with it!

They are asking us to vote $204, 803; it is quite alright; it is the taxpayers' money. Nobody is concerned about this; that is the feeling of the Minister of Home Affairs, and the Government as a whole. You have got to get around to buying machines to keep the Government Printery going. Your machines should be of the type that if they need parts, they can be got locally. You should not put yourself in this kind of isolated position. Suppose something goes wrong with another machine that you are trying to make-do with; are you going to send it away for another 5 years and are you going to continue to buy that type of machine?, We want you to get serious. We want to see the Government Printery functioning properly, but not in some isolated camp. They want a Government Printer, anyhow. This is not fair to the taxpayers, Mr. Chairman, and we are asking that a survey be carried out as to the true requirements of the Government Printery and I would like to postpone this Head.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR; What for?

Mr. HINDS:
We had better talk it out then.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
What are you going to postpone for?

Mr. HINDS:
Because we do not feel it is fair to the taxpayers to be spending $204, 803 just for people to throw away. This is the case with the Government Printery. The people at the Government Printery who know and are willing to advise the Government are never called upon. We are asking that something be done; we are not satisfied with what is going on there. 5.40 p.m.

The Minister must be told by the various Departments of the difficulty that they are experiencing at the Government Printery. What are we doing about that? The custom is that all of the printing materials must be ordered from the Government Printery. You place an order with the Government Printery and then for 6, 7, 8 or 9 months your Department cannot function.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that your own Board has had that type of experience that I am drawing to the attention of this House. The Government Printery cannot cope with the work. It does not have the equipment and the personnel, and when it gets the personnel, the personnel usually print their own private jobs first. With regard to the question of illicit printing at the Government Printery, I want to say that it is done by no boy who came through the door yesterday. I have every reason to believe that a Committee of this House was not appointed to go up to the Government Printery and seize the culprits when I suggested that because it would have given fame to the hon. junior member for St. Peter. Another reason is that certain people are involved in this matter.

Sir. GRANTLEY ADAMS:
Mr. Chairman, in view of this very serious accusation of a criminal offence by Government employees and the statement made by the hon. member regarding the Minister of Home Affairs and the Leader of the House, I am prepared to put the hon. member's statement before the Public Prosecutor. If the Government does not do it - (Hon. J. C. TUDOR You do it!) Mr. Chairman, the Hon. Leader of the House tells me to do it. Where honour is concerned, he is telling me to do it. If anybody had accused me of a criminal offence, I would have asked him to prove it in a law court.

I know that unless you are a super-foreman or you have a special watchman who is unknown to the people, they will print dance tickets and so on for their friends. In every printery you have to watch out for that sort of thing, but it should not happen at the Government Printery.

Mr. Chairman, a very few days ago I carno across an old Official Gazette in which there appears a strong statement by His Honour the Speaker who was then on the floor of the House and in the Opposition calling on the Government to see that the debates were printed within a fortnight of being delivered. In looking through the Official Gazettes I find that I have only recently received the Debates for May, 1969. I ask the Government to see to it that the Government Printery is run not only honestly but efficiently. Why should we have to wait until six months afterwards to try to check on what was said in the debates?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, much of what the hon. junior member for St. Peter said has been noted. I think I am rational enough, to be able to separate the indignation in which it was said from the thing in itself. Of course, the Government Printery needs to be more efficient; there are a lot of silly things going on there that should not be done, and I am not talking about anything criminal at the moment. There must be a lot of wastage as well as the inefficient use of the machines and so on; but certainly the members of this House know ad nauseam the difficulties we have in getting the Hansard , and they also know the steps we are taking to correct that. When all is said and done, I do not think you will assist a Government Department by harrying it. I think that you ought to make serious criticisms as frequently as is necessary, and after you have made the criticisms you should give that Department some time to put its house in order.

Now, if three weeks ago you talked about something, last week you talked about it, and this week you talk about it, you must remember that Government Departments do not have the same temperament like mine. You can quarrel with me until eternity and you would not worry me, but the people who run Government Departments get nervous when criticism is made against them. I think that the criticism will do them much better if you were to give them time to put their house in order. (Mr. HINDS: Give them time to hide the plates!) I have not said that they should be given a chance to destroy anything. If you wish to say that a Department is not being run efficiently, then you do not want to say the same thing next week because the critic isms may only just have been communicated to the Department.

I agree with the hon. member that there should be machinery nearby in case something breaks down. You should be able to go next door or in the Caribbean and get what you want. You should not let something remain in Puerto Rico for five months holding up the production of things because your machine is lying down. You want trained people to use these machines and so on. I accept all of that. I

also accept the hon. member's point about perfecting the discipline in the Department itself so that people will not only know what they have to do, but will be efficient at doing it. 5.50 p.m.

Now when you separate that from the hullabaloo which was raised, you can easily see which is the more important. The more important part of his discuss ion and contribution was the pointed advice which he gave to the Government Department; but to make out that some people in the Printery are being shielded merely because they are not on the Established staff does not get us anywhere. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition has made his comments in this Committee. My only reply is to say that I am very pleased to see him among us today and restored to his customary vigour.

The question that the sum of $204, 803 under Head 32 - Printing Office - stant part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative, the Committee di- (' uiding as follows:

AYES:

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON; Hon. J. C. TUDOR; Hon. C. E. TALMA; Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS; Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS; Hon. N. W. BOXILL; Mr. LOWE; Mr. SPRINGER; Mr. CORBIN; Mr. HOPPIN; Mr. SMITH and Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY - 12.

NOES:

Mr. HINDS Mr. CRAIG; Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY; Mr. HOLDER; Mr. St. JOHN and Sir GRANTLEY ADAMS - 6.

HEAD 33 - MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Head 33 - Ministry of Agriculture, Science and Technology - was called.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Chairman, before I move that the sum be appropriated, I am asking that certain amendments be made to the Notes.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, I do not want to interrupt, but I do not know whether it is in your power to do something about what is going on outside.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Whatever it is, it is certainly preventing us from hearing.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I think that you ought to direct that whatever or whoever is causing the disturbance and therefore assaulting the privileges of Parliament should be asked to cease,

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I have asked the Clerk to investigate. Let the hon. senior member for St. Peter proceed.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Chair man, before I move the sum to be voted, I am asking that certain amendments be made to the Notes. Items 22 and 23 are to be bracketed, and Items 26 and 27 are to be bracketed. On page 77 delete the heading "Commonwealth Agricultural Bureau". In the note to Item 111 the word "copier" should be deleted and the word "duplicator" substituted.The note to Item 106 reads "Includes provision to pay for Audit of Co-operative Societies, accounts, printing and stationery and extensive work including holding of Seminars". The word "extensive" is to be deleted and the word "extension" substituted.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

On a point of order, if you use the word "includes", it means that the Auditor General can spend anything that he likes because it would mean anything beside this.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

The note reads "Includes provision to pay for Audit...."

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Certainly hon. members will understand how hard it is for the Reporters to take notes this way.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, what the hon. senior member for Bridgetown is drawing to the attention of the Minister is that if you have a note which reads "lncludes printing, etc.", it means that when you have completed the gamut of things, there are other things on which some of this money can be spent. 6.00 p.m.

In as much as you have that this amount of money includes provision to pay so-and-so, this means that there is something else besides what is stated here; we are saying that you should delete the word "includes" and start with the word "provision".

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Chairman, I do not see the need for that at all; I therefore beg to move that the sum of $1, 374, 522 be appropriated under this Head,

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:

I beg to second that.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

With all due respect, Sir, I have not heard what the Hon. Minister has said.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Chairman, I do not intend to shout and if there are other attractions affecting the hon. member, that is purely a matter for him; there are some people with raucous voices that you can hear them anywhere. I move, and I hope the hon. junior member for the City will hear, that the sum of $1, 374, 522 be appropriated under this Head.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:

I beg to second that.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Chairman, I will ask any hon. members who want to ask questions to to do so and I hope I will be in a position to answer them.

Mr. HOLDER:

Mr. Chairman, speaking on this .. Head - Agriculture, Science and Technology, it is the Head that in this Island everyone has been looking at very seriously. Agriculture has controlled our main industry from the earth and sometime ago it was said - I read it - that we will live in Barbados and not see canes, but those kind of things would not worry me. Yet I am pleased to see the Estimates, and I see the Government is still trying to fight with the industry. There is no getting away from the fact, irrespective of other things that may come in. I hope Mr. Chairman, you will be able to follow me; as I go on, if you cannot follow, I will explain. It is a known fact that in our little Barbados, sugar cane will be grown irrespective of what other industries come. I throw my thoughts back in saying this to some years ago in my young days when Barbados ran out of sugar, and sugar was brought here from Demerara, as it was called in those days - I have been informed by the senior member for the City that it is 50 years ago today - I did not check on the date, but I remember that incident and what it meant to the people of Barbados, There were two types of sugar cane and some people could not use it at all; one was pure mud put together, and when you bought it at a shilling per pound you could not use it; it had a sort of green stuff. I do not think there is any other island in the Indies that produces better sugar than Barbados.

Another thing I want to talk about is rum which is the national drink and is derived from sugar; if you do not plant canes in Barbados, are you going to import molasses in Barbados to make rum? In my opinion that day will never come; the Sugar Producers' Association and the owners of the greater portions of land will still plant canes.

Diversification is an excellent thing; but diversification on an island like Barbados, in my opinion will have to be practised on a certain percentage of land of the big areas of the plantations. Ouring the last war plantations were supposed to have a certain percentage of their acreage under vegetables and ground provision for the diet and use of Barbadians; therefore that expression about canes being obsolete is not real. There are many points under this Head that others will speak about, but I am interested in certain things where the peasants are concerned.

The Sugar Producers' Association will take care of them as far as the canes are concerned, and all the poor peasants will follow on in that category. But there are certain things that I feel the Department should put on Rediffusion for the peasants as a whole; they all do not buy newspapers, and we are at a loss to know certain things, especially now that things have gone to such a state. The Trade Union controls the prices of things of that sort, and peasants have to face up to everyday prices and meet the

situation to till their land.

The Agricultural Credit Bank was an exceedingly good move for the peasants, but I do feel that today it is going; the amount of money being loaned to peasants is so slight per acre with the everyday costs and things to do - I think the limit now is $100 per acre - and a poor peasant, if he has three or four acres, can only get $100 an acre. Look in another direction and you will see the plantations. If they borrow money from the Agricultural Credit Bank they work it out in pounds, their lands are assessed, and they get a minimum of 100; they are safeguarded just as the peasant is safeguarded; but what can $100 do today when the cost of even preparing an acre of land is so great, and we have to remember that when that Bank was started there were a number of persons who used to go to the plantations to borrow money to buy manure; and some of those peasants in those days actually worked the lands for themselves. Today that has changed and there are many artisans, Policemen and everybody who have got a great portion of land of some sort and they have to employ people; therefore they have to pay the same thing as the plantation owners. I do not know if in throwing that hint out that those in charge of the Credit Loan Bank can see what they can do. At this time and in this age with the cost of things at such high prices, $100 per acre is very, very low. You cannot even get people to work now in the plantations; a day's labour is $4.80 per man at the minimum. 6.10 p.m.

In some cases $100 for an acre of land is swallowed up in preparing the land and when you come to think of it you should have to protect the Bank; but I do feel, they should see what can be done for the tenants.

We are suffering from cane fires, and I can see that we are spending about $3,023 under Fire Services for the controlling of fires. I would like the Minister to give the House some report on how that is done. I have never read it, but I know what they are doing. We are getting a lot of fires, and is there any help coming to the peasants? The plantations will take care of themselves. I am speaking for the small man. The plantations have water tenders and they telephone each other, but the small man has to depend on the Fire Brigade. I want to know what help goes to peasants from this amount of money different to tenders. A fortnight ago, with in a stone's throw from my house there was a sea of fire for over 4 hours, and about 12 people got their canes burnt flat; I escaped by the skin of my nose. We tried to get the fire engine just to save the house that was involved. Thank the Lord that the lady's paling was made of galvanized iron;; or else it would all be in ashes. At the same time the firemen reported that the hose had given out and there was not any more water, and so they had to leave. What are the duties? I would like the Minister to give me some idea. The days are gone when people will turn out and help put out fires. This is not going on today and I want to know what benefit we will get out of it. It is a most serious thing. It is alright to hear the engine going, but to actually see people's homes going up in flames!

I read a lot about Leaf Scald disease which is threatening the Island. Years ago when we had the

Mosaic disease, there were Inspectors who used to come around - the Department went all out to save the industry. I would like some explanation about this Leaf Scald disease; it may get out of control. I have never seen anybody come to my home. I do not know if there are still officers at Bullens to service those things. I think the duties must be changed. There was a gentleman by the name of Mr. Ward who is now in National Insurance; he is a live wire. I am not saying anything about the officers who are there now. Therefore if there is a change, it would be for the good; Rediffusion should be used to put these things over to the poor people.

Pork Processing Plant. I am wondering when this is going to move off and if the Government is depending on pigs only that they raise. I feel that to start processing, the Government should be producing a great number of pigs all the time. But what help is given to the poor peasant? Years ago there was a subsidy; that was taken out. I am speaking from my experience as a Livestock Inspector years ago in 4 parishes, and I know the difficulty of the poor people in raising a pig. They call it their 'puzzling box', and when that subsidy was taken away the Island was producing a beautiful line of pigs. They took pride in raising the pigs because, , as the mother produced piglets, the Inspector came in and took the date of birth and the number of piglets and you got the feed to help you to produce a proper pig, not a suckling.

Today, that is taken away and you bring a pork processing plant; what are you doing? You still have to have your market so that people can get their meat on Saturday.

Another thing: I raised the question in the Hon. House already. It is very hard when you have a sow and you want to send it out to servicie. Donkey carts are on the wane. I am speaking about my own parish; to get a pig to Bullens Farm is around $5. The pickup man will charge $4 or $5, and if the pig is a large one, you have reared your pig and so you want it taken care of. Sometimes you have to get somebody to help the pick-up man who would not touch the pig. I am speaking from experience because I laid the Question here already and got no answer. You have to pay that man 4 +1 or $1.50, but your heart is in your hand till he returns with your pig. Insemination of pigs is done in the big countries; why can't it be done here? Use a small van with a trailer. 6.20 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, some people have lost their pigs through travelling. The fee for service up there is only 2/-, but to take an animal up there will cost between $5.00 to $6.00. I know a man in St. Thomas who travels all the way down to St. James with his pig. I have passed him with that pig at Black Rock. When the 4-H Clubs are given pigs, why do not the Department go into the different districts and encourage people who have an acre or two acres of land to raise boar pigs? That sort of thing would assist in producing more pigs in the Island. It is necessary to keep this programme going.

Pig-keeping is an interesting and profitable thing. I would like to know, when this Plant starts , how are you going to run it. Will your Farms be able to keep it going? A lot of money will be spent in different things, and I want to know what assistonce the peasants will be getting. When I refer to peasants, I mean the poor man throughout the Island with his half acre or acre of land and so on, I am not here this afternoon to quibble and go into things. I leave that for other hon. members to do.

Mr. Chairman, this Head is a Head that can make money if things are run properly, It is all right to talk about tourism and so on, but we have to think of diversification on a large scale. The poor man cannot think of diversification on a small plot of land, but when he gets potatoes or yams and plants them they will grow up and help keep down the grass if he weeds the ground from time to time. That poor man will then be able to work elsewhere. If he wants to diversify an acre of land, it will be necessary for him to employ people to look after it. A vegetable garden is like a small nursery with children in it. I am speaking from personal experience and, therefore, anything that can be done to keep the industry alive should be given assistance. The day you see the sugar factories close down in Barbados, then you will know that we will no longer be planting canes. I still know that you will find people who will plant a plot of canes and sell them in order to make money. Cane juice is a sort of medicine, and if you use it properly you will find that it is a food-builder. I hope the Minister will take note of what I have said and will give me the necessary information when he gets up to reply.

I have not come here to find out why you are spending so many thousand dollars on this and that, but I know you cannot spend too much on agriculture in order to get good returns. Things are very expensive where cultivation is concerned. We know that things are hard during the reaping season. Sometimes you reap your canes and cannot get them hauled away. To get canes hauled away is a big job nowadays. Hotels are going up and construction work is going on all over the country and it is necessary to find labourers to assist in the construction of these buildings.

Mr. Chairman, I have heard about the harvesting machine in the Island, and I have to go and see how it will work. Years ago we had windmills, and when they turned to factories there were no cane hoists or cane cranes in the Island at the time. You had to carry 28 people in a gang and do shift work with about 56 people. They were unable to keep up with the mills, and they could never keep the mills going properly. The people turned their thoughts to cane hoists and cane cranes. Things were not as they are today and the people were not taken care of. Anyway, the people constructed their cane hoists and cane cranes, and the workers settled in. The workers will settle in again if we get the harvesting machine going.

You will be surprised to hear that there are people in my area who have burnt canes in their land and some are still standing. The canes have been lying in the land for two weeks and the owners cannot get

them hauled away. What will happen with them? If they do get the canes to the factory, it may be found that the Juice is no good, If the Producer' Association brings in a machine that can cut the canes and it works properly, you can cultivate the land to suit it. It would be an incentive and a stepping stone for the Government to see what it can do in this direction. The same way the Government brings down tractors and so on, it may also bring down a harvester in times to come. The harvester can go to the different areas and reap the people's canes. We have to change to suit the situation.

With regard to Veterinary Surgery and animals, I would like to know what is being done. There is a lot of money spent at the Pine. I have heard of Black Belly sheep. Do you have them at every Agricultural Station? I am speaking on this Head chiefly with the peasant in mind. When we think of the number of tilings he has to do to make a living, then we should really know something more about the Agricultural Farms in the various districts. 6.30 p.m.

With those few remarks, Mr. Chairman, I am sitting and hoping that the Minister will give such a report that I can feel confident, because I know that the Minister in charge of Agriculture is from the St. Peter area, but he is always turning in the rustic part of the country; so he knows what I am saying is definitely correct.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Chairman, under Item 53 -Standing Cane Fire Board - the explanatory note says "To pay firewatchers and to meet expenses of the cane fire campaign". I would like to know from the Minister how many firewatchers there are, how much money is being paid to them and the cost of the campaign. What really are the functions of the Board and how many times a year does it meet? Sir, year after year we are getting more and more fires. People that never had fires before got fires this year, and the Government is only prepard to spend $3,032on a Board of this nature.

I can remember that when I was a boy I used to see, before the crop started, stickers offering - 50 as a reward to people who could give any type of evidence on people catching fires. With 50 in those days you could be a millionaire, because even 50 pounds of yams was something difficult to raise, far less L50 in cash. I do not read of any reward being given here. I can remember that some years ago there was a Labour Officer who called on politicians to go through their constituencies with him and speak to the people on the danger of burning canes. I have not heard about a campaign of that sort since. It could not be much of a campaign If you are only spending $3,032. I would like to know if these firewatchers are being paid to watch the fire when it is burning, ' because if you put it in its right perspective, fire-watchers would mean somebody watching the fire burning, not preventing it in any way. I can only watch a fire after it has started to burn, and I cannot see for the life of me what use this Cane Fire Board is at this time, because Mount Wilton which is next door to me never used to have fires, and they had so many ! that day that they could not reap the canes, and there are going to be a lot more like that. What is

the Government doing about it? If I were a member of the Government I could not feel happy to see fires every night, You get people cutting canes at one end of a field, and the other end is burning, I could understand this happening during the night time when somebdoy could go and draw a match, but something is wrong, We really need "Fire Preventers",

Mr. Chairman, I would like to know the personnel of this Board, and whether they are only two men from' around the City, because this Board should be comprised of men from all over the country, who know about the fields and the cart road. I wonder If members of this Board are being paid or if they are the firewatchers. $3,032 is no money at all to spend on firewatchers. How extensive is the campaign? If this job is well done, we stand to benefit from it. Does this Board meet any time before the crop starts? They should not wait until the crop starts to meet and say they cannot understand why the canes are being burnt. It should be the duty of the Board to make representations to the Minister and let the Government know how much the campaign is going to cost, what is to be done and how it is to be done. I can only say that the absence of a campaign is responsible for the great percentage of fires. Surely on T.V. or on C.B.C. people should be told how serious a thing it is to be sitting back and not putting out the fires. Last Sunday something could really have been done to put out the fire, but people were standing there watching the fire burn and no effort was made to put it out.

I can remember there was an old man at Mount Wilton called Dumb Joe, and no sooner had he seen a fire, he went with a big stick and lashed it, and others followed him and tried to put the fire out. I feel that people should be told on the radio how serious it is. They should know that all is well that ends well. If as soon as the crop is finished we got heavy rainfall, we would stand to benefit by having another good crop, but it is not always going to be like that. The bucket will not always come back from the well. Some time the bucket will remain down there, and you will not be able to get any water. Some people may feel that we can get through without canes, but I cannot see it yet. 6.40 p.m.

When they are talking about diversification, that will come, but some of us might not be around. Most of us will be gone before they get diversification working as it should, and to make the place of sugar cane; not in a hurry - you have to do too much planning and spending too. We must try now and care the one we have and do something in some way to help; let all of us jump in the line and do something. But what is the Cane Fire Board doing? I would be glad to know where it meets, because I will be only too willing to go and give them some of my ideas about how to go about it and see if we can do something about it. We can only make an effort, but you do not know until you try;you might be successful. I hope that the Minister would make notes and let us know the personnel of the Cane Fire Board; how many fire watchers there are and where they watch, because they would have to be working miracles. If you post them here and the fire is working down yonder, I would like to know what purpose the fire watchers serve, If they do as much they should be compensated; but I suppose when I hear from the Minister it may not be more than $10,00 a week, and If it is like that, you are paying them to watch the fire after it is finished; that would not be too much money, but $3,000 cannot pay for the campaign alone, I know what a political campaign costs, We know it is an expensive Item, and if they are really

going about this in the right way, $3,000 is only a start,

I hope that the Minister will be able to help us, and I am willing to help this Cane Fire Board. If they call on me, I will be able to sit around a table and let ' us make some plans and do something; but in my opinion this Board is not working as it should, and it is not ; worth the name "Cane Fire Board" when we see what is happening with fires burning all day. There are more fires being lit during the day than at night and that is what has me puzzled; at one time you used to get a fire possibly a Saturday or Sunday night, but not during the week; but it is happening at any and all times now.

Mr. HOPPIN:

Mr. Chairman, a small point; Item 64 which deals with tractors in the tractor cultivation scheme. There have been many complaints, especially by peasants who use the Government's tractors for ploughing. The work is not properly done in some cases; you pay your money and you are promised to have your ground cultivated in time to meet the rainy season or the planting season, and whenever you go to the Agricultural Stations you can never get a proper answer. Many people have become disgusted; they have not decided to continue to make use of the Government's ploughs. The Government's ploughs in my estimation, are much cheaper than ploughs by outsiders, and I think it is a very good idea that the Government did start this tractor system; but I would like the Hon. Minister to do something about it, extend the time and see that proper supervision or proper work is being done. I have suffered at the hands of the Government this year, plus those in my area, and there have always been complaints about getting the tractor to come and have the work done; so I do hope that we will see some improvement in this system and the time extended.

Item 73. Some reference was made here already by the hon. senior member for St. James about the pig breeding. There is great difficulty in getting pigs from these Government farms. We can always hear that good breeds have come from Jamaica, and we are encouraged to get some of these breeds; but when - ever you make your application, the Agricultural Officer has friends or somebody else, but you never get any. There have been complaints at Groves in St. George and many other Agricultural Stations where these special breeds have been brought in, so that the country as a whole can benefit from them; but when-every you go you are told you have to wait until the next time, which never seems to come. If peasants are asked to make a contribution in this pig breeding so as to meet with the processing plant, something should be done to help those peasants who are Interested in getting these pigs. The price of pork today has gone up, and if the Government is going to do something about that, I think we should start at the breeding stations i make sure that the poor peasants will get some of these special breeds which we hope will increase pig breeding in barbados.

The last Item I would like to say a few words on is Item 81; quite a large sum of $125,000 this is in connection with the activities at Graeme Hall - we understand that it is Government's intention to go into

diversification, I would like the Minister, when his opportunity comes to reply, to give some further explanation as to what is taking place at Graeme Hall today, because there are some people who are in doubt as to what the Government intends to do, and I have been informed that some very valuable and expensive machinery has come to assist in the diversification of crops, and I do hope that the Minister will find it possible to give us a breakdown of what is happening there. 6.50 p.m.

Mr. ST. JOHN:

Speaking under the Head, Insecticides, Pesticides. Not so long ago complaints were made particularly in the St. David's/Upton area in Christ Church about the indiscriminate use of these insecticides, , pesticides and weed killers etc. and a delegation went to the Ministry of Agriculture pointing out the effect on the growing crops of the use by the plantations at certain times of the year of these various chemicals. It was pointed out that the intention was not that the use should be prohibited, but that it was felt that the insecticides should only be used under regulations of some kind to protect the other farmers in the area who plant alternative crops - mostly food crops - and whose crops were ruined by virtue of the indiscrimate use of these chemicals.

I do not know whether there is an authority for it - any legislative power - at present, but it does seem to me that at some time Government must arm itself with powers to make regulations to prevent the indiscriminate use and control the method of using these chemicals.

Now, I would like an interim report from the hon. Minister on the results of the cotton trials -cotton has been planted, has been reaped; can we get an Interim report on what has happened? A lot of cotton is grown in several parts of my constituency. I have seen mechanical picking, and there appears to be a lot of cotton left back. What are the Minister's views and the reports from his advisers on the experiments done on cotton so far, which is grown at Graeme Hall, Fairy Valley? Has the Minister as a matter of policy worked out incentives to give greater impetus to the diversification programme?

Sometime ago I asked the hon. Minister whether there were any companies or individuals engaging in the large scale production of vegetables who had been granted pioneer status - enterprises, large ones, like the one in St. Philip. I want to know what is the Government's views on these matters; unless you give some sort of impetus, you are not going to get the areas devoted to this diversification programme, All or most of the capital the risk capital that you would have here will be used in the tourist area and in industrial development where incentives are really granted. People are not going into new fields of activity when if they make a profit, they feel they have taken on additional risks, and it must be subject to taxation, while certain other areas of the economy are being given certain Incentives.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, Item 59 - there is an amount of $6,800 for the Agricultural Society and this is for meeting the cost of prizes for the Agricultural and Industrial Exhibitions. We do not want to lay any stress on the fact that those prlzes were not encouraging up to December, 1969, but our worry comes from the fact that the Ministry of Agriculture itself cannot be said to be doing enough to make the agricultural side of the Exhibit ion what it really ought to be. You will find, Sir, that what should be exhibited, agriculturally, at the Agricultural Exhibition must have its earlier encouragement from the Extension services of the Ministry. But I would like to say this; the Minister, no doubt, has a duty - I repeat, has a duty - in trying to justify the situation as it obtains at present in his Extension Service department; but he will have to admit, however, that there is very little that his Department can really do, due to the fact that it is not properly staffed and equipped for such - to deal with the many peasants.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. Chairman reported progress to Mr. Speaker who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended for 1 1/2 hours.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. Speaker suspended the sitting accordingly.

7.00 p.m.

On resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER:
When the sitting was suspended, the House was in Committee of Supply, and to that it now reverts.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
When the sitting was suspended, the hon. junior member for St. Peter was addressing the Chair.

Mr. HINDS:
I was saying, Mr. Chairman, that the Extension Department of the Ministry of Agriculture is not sufficiently staffed to cope with the demands of the peasant farmers, and as a result we find that the products or the produce and the provisions it displays at our Agricultural and Industrial Exhibitions are not what one would expect, say, up to last year - 1969. Through the absence of the assistance formerly rendered by Peasant Agricultural Instructors, you will find that there is not that keen rivalry that was exhibited in years past amongst the peasant farmers themselves. We would certainly like to hear from the hon. member what are the plans of his Ministry to foster a competitive spirit so as to urge the farmer to take a greater and a keener interest in producing commodities, whether for Exhibition purposes or to assist in our own food production campaign.

Mr. Chairman, let us for a single moment go to Item 69. Here there is a provision for $11, 333 and the Note tells us that this is to employ labour at Headquarters, Lancaster, and the general upkeep of grounds other than public gardens. Now, it is high time that we are told exactly what goes on at Lancaster. For instance, I understand that there is a Rum Bond there, but is that enough? There must be some machinery there. Attempts were made in previous years to process the grinding of cassava, and plans were being made for the grinding of corn to assist in our animal production campaign. There was also a scheme for baking pottery there. What has gone wrong with Lancaster? Have all of these things been fruitfully produced? Has the machinery gone to ruin? Has an offer been received by Government for the sale of the machinery? Has the offer been rejected?

Mr. Chairman, having a factory like Lancaster, it should form a nucleus.... (Asides.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Is the hon. junior member for St. Peter still addressing the Chair?

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, the Minister is addressing the Chair; I am on my feet.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I am not hearing the Minister at all; I am listening to the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

Mr. HINDS:
If you are not hearing the Minister, am I not then to understand that you are only hearing the hon. junior member for St. Peter? (Asides.) Mr. Chairman, having the factory at Lancaster, you have the nucleus for taking some of the children from schools, especially now that we have the Polytechnics, there; and if the making of pottery has been encouraged to any considerable extent we could train our children in what is known as semantics. The hon. Minister will want to know what that word means.

You will remember that at the Pelican site a factory was in operation for some time. The Russell people operated that factory for some time and the Government lost money in it. If the Government can lose money on that type of business, it could certainly spend money at Lancaster in order to train our young people in semantics.

Now, at Item 63 there is an amount of $1,000, and this is an annual grant payable to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The Minister might say that if the R.S.P.C.A. feels that it is entitled to more money for the expansion of its work and it deserves more favourable consideration from Government, then the best thing would be for the Chairman or the President of the R.S.P.C.A. to make an application to the Government for increasing the grant. Whether that is so or not, we have to take into consideration the fact that the R.S.P.C.A. is today performing and is being called upon to perform work that it was not called upon to perform five or seven years ago. There must be a whipping-up of interest in people who keep animals, whether it is a dog, sheep, goat, cat and so on.

Now, at the R.S.P.C.A. 's office, the Veterinary Officer is performing work that deserves much mo re than the $1,000 granted by the Government. I am sure that the R.S.P.C.A. would do much more work if more money were made available to it. As we go along the country districts, we find that some of the people whom we are trying to encourage, whether by way of the 4-H Club Movement or in the keeping of the Black Belly Sheep, are keeping these animals tethered in the gullies or on the hillsides and they leave them there for a whole day without returning to give them a drink of water. 8.40 p.m.

But what they do not know is that, if the animals were tied under a tree in the cool with nothing to eat, they would be healthier and stronger than if they are left for the sun to melt their fat. (Asides.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

May I request hon. members, especially those who are not addressing the Chair, to observe the Rules?

Mr. HINDS:

The only thing I would like you to do is to call the name of the Minister. The Minister says that tying sheep or goats in the sun has nothing to do with this, but at the same time the Government is providing under Item 93 an amount of $9, 105 to encourage people in the production of the same animals that I am now discussing. One Minister says this is not building roads; so it is nothing to do with this. You will find that if you give people a million Black Belly sheep and they are not trained- or their only interest is to tie them out and leave them on the pasture, as people say, for the sun to take possession of them, then you are wasting the $9,000 - odd of the taxpayers' money. I am giving the Minister a little instruction in animal husbandry that if these people were to take better care of these animals, the $9,000 that Government intends to spend here would in a short period of time begin to show that it can treble itself; but if you give people Just wildly without giving any instruction as to the care of the animals, the money is being wasted. What we are saying is that the RSPCA would be glad to have a staff to go around instructing people into what I have just been saying about the care of these animals, and if that were done, it would certainly draw much more heavily on their limited resources, and Government would see the necessity for improving the $1,000 grant to the RSPCA. The RSPCA is called upon to take in dogs and cats that are sick, and for those with some breed they try to find homes for them; but you will find that the RSPCA does not have enough money to keep a check on those placed in homes to see if they are being cared for to the extent that they deserve. I have a lot of animals, Mr. Chairman, and that is why I am interested in them. The treatment that I would give to some of the animals I am sure some of the Ministers who were trying to heckle do not deserve.

At Item 64 there is an amount of $10,000 to meet contingencies, and the note reads "Provides for

major breakdowns or replacement of vehicles of the Ministry's transport system, tractors and equipment used at the various sections of the Ministry, and for unforeseen expenditure required for the maintenance of the efficiency of the Ministry". Now I would certainly like to hear the Minister tell us about the repairs to the Ministry's vehicles. What is the method used in having these vehicles repaired? Is it that you repair them in your own workshop, or does the Ministry send its vehicles out to have them repaired? Where do you send them if you send them out, and does the Ministry carry the stock of spares that it carried in former years? If you are giving your vehicles out for repaid, there is no necessity for Government to carry a stock of spares. Let us say that you give some of those vehicles for repair. Do you have your own mechanics check on what you are billed for from time to time? What we do know is that the bill for repairs is often sent-not on the day the vehicle is returned to the Ministry; it is sent many months after, and there is a reason for sending the bill many months after. One reason amongst others is that nobody is really concerned with the fact that the vehicle was repaired nine or ten months ago by a particular garage. Every garage proprietor must be a man of integrity; but it does not mean, after a .Job has been delivered back to the Ministry, that it might not be delivered to a private individual, nor does it mean that the Ministry might not be billed for spare parts to be put on the vehicle which might never have gone near the vehicle. You may find that a workman who carries on his own business on Sundays when he is not employed by the proprietor of this garage might seize an opportunity to get a carburettor to fit his job, and he requisitions for it to put on the Ministry's vehicle. The Ministry ten or twelve months later will be presented with a bill for a carburettor that has gone into somebody's truck in St. Joseph. We would like the Ministry to insist on garages submitting their bills as early as possible after the job is finished - if not with the job - so that you can have your own mechanics carry out some sort of check. 8.50 pan.

I am sure the Minister will bear me out that a considerable saving would be effected if my suggestions were put into effect.

Mr. Chairman, let us-take a glance at Item 67; there is an amount of $500 appropriated under this Head for compensation for deficiencies in the yield of crops from trials carried out at various plantations. Undoubtedly, the Minister would have at his disposal the number of trials carried out at the various plantations, say, during the past year, because it could not be, as people say, any big I thing, any big problem. The amount of money is only $500; so it would mean that the plantations are few, or that the trials in themselves were negligible, were fewer still, because if this is to compensate plantation owners - that is, that when a trial on an onion crop, for instance, is carried out and the crop fails, you do not want the plantation owner to feel that he has lost all through adhering to the suggestions of Government in carrying out this particular experiment - you will find that from $500 we must come to the conclusion that the Ministry of Agriculture is really out to make sport. It would have to be a fun-making Department, when they are bent on crop diversification, to be spending there $500 amongst the number of plantations we have throughout the island for compensation when their crops fail.

It has also been drawn to my attention that in the year 1968-69 actual expenditure was $25. We have

got to look at this in two ways. Is it that all the trials you carried out, except one, failed, and to compensate the plantation did not call for more than $25, or is it a case where the whole scheme of having these trials was never put into operation with any true meaning, and that what was done - the half-hearted approach to the whole problem - only necessitated the spending of $25 for the year 1968-69? I would certainly like the Minister to enlighten us on these points.

At Item 73 you have $58, 718 to spend, and this is the running expenses for six District Agricultural Stations, and the amount has been increased to meet expenses in connection with the expansion of pig breeding and as a result of the proposed establishment of the Pork Processing Plant. Let us look at the pork processing end of it. The hon. junior member for St. George put the case of those peasants who found it difficult to get young pigs from the Agricultural Stations; that is quite true, and it has been going on for the longest time. But what we are particularly concerned with on this side is this: is the Ministry satisfied that it is importing the right type of pig for Barbados? I very well remember that the late Dr. Stoute had been preaching here for some time that the type of pig that was being imported into the island grew too large, and the peasants who grew them, the pig breeders, found it extremely difficult to dispose of them to the butchers. I have had that experience myself when I kept pigs, that butchers have come to my place and said they thought I had called them to look at a pig but it was something like a horse. Is that the type of pig that is still being imported to be distributed to our people? That is the type that Dr. 'Stoute always commented on, because he pointed out that if you had a breeding sow she is going to consume much more and her litter tends to be fewer in number because she is too large, and if she produces 10, 12 or 13, in her turning around she tends to destroy them; whereas if you had a smaller type of pig, the litter can still be 13, but the chances of rearing the full litter are better.

I am to wonder what Information the Minister might have on the type of pig that is being distributed now, and we hope that it is not the type that grows so large; but on the other hand, when the Pork Processing Plant is expected to come into operation, I do not know if the Plant is going to be interested in the large type of pig because In this large type of pig, in any case too much fat is accumulated, and that is where the butchers and others entail losses. 9.00 p.m.

At these six Agricultural Stations we are having both Black Belly sheep, Black Belly rams and we will have our goats. We will have billy-goats. I am telling the Minister that we will have billy-goats. You know, Sir, that if you have 'billy' and you have goat", that would suit some people nicely for a name, on that side. What we , are saying is this, that at these Agricultural Stations where you have these animals with a view to improving the strain or the breed of the surrounding areas, you will find that those goats, the animals, are often not properly kept. In other words, attendants are employed; but the keeping of the animals, the care that a sheep or goat that is mating deserves, is much more than going and putting a bucket under it and securing the bucket so that it cannot throw away the feed. I am asking the Minister to see to it that in selecting your people to work on these Agricultural Stations, people who are going to attend to these animals - I do not think I am putting the Ministry to any difficult task to see to it and try to find out if the people that are going to work caring these animals are people themselves who have a

love for animals. That is very, very important indeed.

Now, you will be surprised to know, Sir, that some of the less physically-fit animals are the ones that are kept at these Agricultural Stations for mating purposes. In the first place, service is cheap, much cheaper than the private keeper or entrepreneur.

Sir, what you will find is that demands are made on these animals with greater frequency because the service is cheap. I do not want to deny anybody the service that the Agricultural Station is offering; but what we need is an officer who will be prepared to see to it that a ram or buck is allowed to mate so many times a day or a week as his condition merits. That is about the best way I can put it.

I have gone to Bullens Agricultural Station; I have taken a goat there; but when I saw what was brought out from the stables to mate my goat, I said 'Not on my goat'; that is true. I refused to have the service from the Farm because I found from the condition of the animal that it was not properly cared and also that it had been over-worked. (Aside; Mr. CORBIN: What do you mean by over-work? Mr. HINDS; That he was 'rushing the brush')

That is not, Mr. Chairman, the type of service we would like to see the Agricultural Stations offering to the public. It might be difficult to have a large stable of animals for the purpose , but the Agricultural Officer himself should take an interest in the demand that is being made upon his Station and try to see, wherever possible, that his mating strength can be brought up to the full.

On Item 78 we have these grasslands requiring $12, 257 for the purchase of fertilizers in respect of pastures at Seawell and Paragon. What grass do we grow at Seawell now? Is it the Pangola grass? Are we going to have these grasslands at Seawell any more, to merit $12, 257 being spent on them this year? But the most important point is this - the baling of the grass and making of hay. Undoubtedly we bale grass; we make the hay; but what account is kept of the hay after it is baled? Is hay sold from the Livestock Station?

Let us, Mr. Chairman, for a moment turn to Markets - Item 95, Item 96 and it must encompass Item 97, 'Cleaning, light and water'. Mr. Chairman, if one were to go to the Public Market at Cheapside and see there the conditions under which the butchers are expected to carry out their business at this present moment The condition of the stalls is enough to make people vomit. The Market is stink; it is filthy, it is dirty and all that goes with it. The roof is leaking; the lighting does not exist. (Aside: Mr. ERNEST

MOTTLEY It is like the House of Assembly.)

Many of the lights in the Public Market have not been burning for nine months in a year, and those butchers are called upon to pay their rates. All the stalls are blood-spattered. The wood on which they chop the meat - it is just filthy. I am saying here and now that the amount of cleaning - $4, 850 and Lighting - $4,060 is a huge joke. I am saying here and now that if you set about to clean the Market, giving it the cleaning it deserves, over $4,000 would have to be spent on the Cheapside Market alone to put it in a sanitary condition.

9.10 p.m.

It is filthy, it is dirty, and everything that is bad you can find the re, The roof is leaking and that is not good enough. I am hoping that the Minister will go there and see conditions for himself. One has-to look at things as a whole at times.

Now, the Cleaners of the Markets have been complaining for months that they could not get their uniforms. Mr. Chairman, is an unsatisfied worker a good worker to have around you? If they cannot get their uniforms and rubber boots, are you going to expect these workers to put on boots where dirty water can seep in and ruin their health? That is one of the reasons why you do not see the gutters properly cleaned nowadays. If you do not equip the people properly, how do you expect them to do the work efficiently?

Last year the Cleaners suffered badly when this system of takeover and transfer started. The Government should try, wherever possible, to deploy these Cleaners in such a manner that a Cleaner does not have to leave St. Michael or My Lords Hill and Journey to Speightstown to clean the Speightstown Market. People from St. Peter should be found to do that type of job. A man from St. Michael should be found to clean the St. Michael Market. It is not fair for a man to have to pay bus fare to go to Speightstown and work. If he is using a bicycle, then he must reserve some of the energy to push his bicycle home. Very often you take a man from Eagle Hall Market or Cheapside Market and transfer him without giving him proper notice. You should give a man at least two weeks' notice when he is going to be transferred.

With regard to Item 102 - Refrigerating Plant, undoubtedly the Minister is going to tell us exactly what is the capacity of this Plant and what is its full production. What is it doing? If it is not now producing to its fullest capacity, what is responsible for that? As soon as I hear the Minister's reply on those points, Mr. Chairman, you will have to hear and bear with me for a very considerable time. This Refrigerating

Plant uses ammonia. Who is responsible for the purchasing of the ammonia?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. The hon. member is contravening the Rules of the House. I did not print the Rules. At page 57, paragraph 10,

"On the question "That the sum of $ for Head stand part", the debate shall be confined to the policy of the service for which the money is to be provided and shall not deal with the details of expenditure, but may refer to the details of revenue or funds for which that service is responsible."

He is talking about money and so on. (An HON. MEMBER:

Sit down!)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

There is only one person in this Chamber who has the authority at this time to ask an hon. member to sit.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I was saying that an hon. member can ask the Minister questions, but he must not go into details. The hon. member is becoming tedious and is repeating himself constantly.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Point made. Hon. members who are not addressing the Chair shall not...(Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY Shall not do what?) Let the hon. member continue.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, it is a good thing that we have passed the Item dealing with Billy Goats. Now, the Refrigerating Plant uses ammonia, and this is what the Note tells us here....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is contravening the Rules, and I want you to rule. He cannot continue in this manner.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I have already noted the point made by the hon. member. There are two hon. members on their feet. (asides.) Let the hon. junior member for St. Peter proceed.

Mr. HINDS; Mr. Chairman, the ammonia that the Refrigerating Plant uses is a re venue-earner. That is why I am asking the Minister to tell us if the Refrigerating Plant is producing to its capacity and, if not, why not? 9.20 p.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, you cannot sit there and allow the hon. member to deal in details.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

On a point of order, this is really a point of order, because I believe it is a breach of the Rules of the House to question one of your Rulings, and the hon. junior member for St. Thomas is persisting in questioning your Ruling. If you rule that the hon. member is in order, the hon. junior member for St. Thomas cannot get up all the time questioning your Ruling.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

On a point of order, I am not questioning your Ruling. I read what was set out in the Rules. I did not write them. If the hon. member does not understand what is going on in here, why doesn't he sit down and learn? This is ten years of learning.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

If I remain in this House for ten years and still remain as stupid as he is, I would resign my seat.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I am asking the hon. member to withdraw the remark that I am stupid. He cannot say so in he re. Let him wait until he gets outside.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I do not take it to be unparliamentary. Let the hon. member proceed.

Mr. HINDS:
At Item 104 there is an amount of $2,000 for travelling.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Members not addressing the Chair must not interrupt unless on a point of order or point of elucidation, and should be on their feet when they do so.

Mr. HINDS:
Under this Item there is an amount to cover the cost of visits for inspection of Markets. I am saying that whoever is receiving the travelling allowance for carrying out the inspection of Markets is to my mind obtaining money by false pretenses; or if the officer is doing his job and is drawing the condition of these Markets to the appropriate authorities, then it must be that somebody else is really not taking the reports made by the officer seriously; hence the conditions which I have complained about. I would like to see the situation remedied. I would' like to know if the Minister can tell us how many visits are made and what kind of inspections have been carried out during the past year when we have the conditions that I have put before this Committee. I wonder if something can be done to improve the situation in future when we come to spend this $2,000.

At Item 106 there is an amount of $3,000 which includes provision to pay for the audit of Co-operative Society Accounts, printing and stationery and extension work, including the holding of seminars. Now I believe that these Co-operative Societies now include Friendly Societies and that an attempt was made at some time to have the mall incorporated into a body such as this. What we would like to know, Mr. Chairman, is whether these accounts are really and truly being audited, because provision is made here for the audit of these accounts. The reason why we would like to know that the accounts are audited is to make sure that the poor people whose contributions have gone into the building-up of these Societies are not robbed, and that they get out of these Societies a reasonable and satisfactory portion of what they put into them from year to year. We know that in years past a check-up on many of these Societies that we had here left much to be desired. The accounts of some of them had not been audited for years. As a matter of fact, I think I am right in saying that with one society which had been functioning for 47 years, when the Secretary and President were asked to produce the accounts for audit, they just felt that they had never done it for all these years, and that calling on them then was trying to place an imposition on them with some sort of spite. We do not want to see that type of situation obtaining, and we would be glad to know if the Minister is in a position to advise us whether this work is being done to the

satisfaction of the people who are members of this Association.

At Item 108 we see an amount of $2,000 to meet the cost of maintenance of equipment for servicing and other recurrent costs. I do not want to question the Minister on that because I see here at Item 109 that there is a much better opportunity for me to speak. Item 109 is to meet the cost of recovery of fishing boats which have drifted and for the repatriation of crews, and the money is partly recoverable. Now we still have fishing boats drifting from time to time, and it is high time that the Government see that some steps are taken to instruct the operators of these fishing boats to be more careful and in having their engines examined more often, because when a boat goes adrift, you often learn that the men were fishing off a particular point, but when they were ready to make for home the engine would not start. 9.30 p.m.

It might have been that it was some very small fault which might have been rectified if that boat engine had been examined according to schedule. Government might insist on these boat owners having their engines inspected at least once a month, or something like that. Some, as you know, are not inspected for a whole fishing season, because when the going is good the men have to try to make the most of it, so to speak, and they just come in this evening and try to push off tomorrow; they stock up with fuel and go out to sea, but not at all times ensuring that their own lives do not come into danger when the boats go adrift. We would like to see compulsory inspection of these boats in the future.

At Item 112 we have a sum of money, $3, 710, to continue the agricultural census. We would like to be told what progress has been made so far, what benefits have been derived, to what extent Government has been able to plan as a result of the information gleaned in the agricultural census that has gone ahead so far. This is not the type of exercise that the hon. junior member for St. Thomas seems to believe other members are engaging in; he feels that they need not query this and enquire into that, because the difficulty is that a number of people read but they do not understand what they read. They read the Rules, perhaps, and when they reach the part of the Rules that suits them they stop reading there and do not carry on; so when an hon. member tries to have a Minister in Committee enlighten an hon. member on items which are raised, that is what you find.

At Item 91 there is a Veterinary Laboratory. This amount is partly recoverable. This Laboratory - I believe it is at the Pine where Dr. Proverbs is; is that so? (Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: Yes) What we are concerned with is, not that the amount to be appropriated here is partly recoverable, but we feel that Government should be recovering much more than they are recovering now. We feel that some doctors, for whom the Laboratory is used, are called upon to pay too much, some too little, and this is something that has been going on for years, and it is about time that it ought to be stopped. We must appreciate the fact that the Vet knows what services are being rendered, and perhaps it is within his province, and his province alone, to make charges; but we believe that if the views of hon. members on this side of the

House are conveyed to the Vet, we will see a difference in the not too distant future.

1 believe, Mr. Chairman, that I have said enough on this Head, except that I want to go for a moment here to Item 93-1 made reference to it in passing -where the amount is for preserving and improving the Black Belly sheep. We have got to be very careful, because the amount is very small, to my mind, if it is really to have any impact on the improvement of this type of sheep. The amount voted is pretty small, and we would like to see that Government step up on the campaign, since we have come to realise the value of this Black Belly sheep.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Chairman, I shall endeavour to supply the information that has been sought by hon. members on the other side, and I shall do so once. I will deal with my notes as they come to hand. On the question of the Standing Cane Fire Boardf there is a note in the Estimates which to some extent explains this vote; this Board is a Board set up for the very object on which the hon. senior member for St. Joseph was seeking information. As a matter of fact, it is a Board to receive advice; it is a Board to receive suggestions as to how we can combat this incidence of cane fires in Barbados. There is no one, I think, who can put a finger on what really causes these cane fires. There are very many surmises; there are very many good guesses; but I do not think anybody can say who is doing the burning, and for what reason there is this burning, and so the Government is very, very interested. We know that when canes are burnt there is less revenue to accrue from sugar the next year. We also know that there is some damage to the soil; the soil is parched, and the younger canes will suffer. The soil is eroded, and so we think every Barbadian who knows what sugar means to the Island has a right to be interested in the control, if possible, of cane fires. 9.40 p.m.

As far as broadcasting is concerned, some years ago when I was an officer in the Barbados Workers' Union I went around the country, I went on services of Messrs. Rediffusion and tried to explain to the people that fire was a good agent for providing man with his meals, but at the same time, we did not want it to be the sort of agent that meant destruction of a man's food - sugar is food; sugar is money. I appreciate the zeal which hon. members display when they talked about the objectives of this Cane Fire Board; but the Board is there to receive information. The Board is not manned by people who know all the answers. A member of the Cane Fire Board ipso facto would not know all the answers; he can receive suggestions and he can offer his own ideas. This Cane Fire Board operates to receive more and more information, instruction, valuable suggestions as to how we can put our heads together and knock out this pest that we seem to be living with, and a bit too long.

Every year cane fires seem to be on the increase and not even going on the radio or T.V. is going to mean control of cane fires. There is a vantage point at District "C" where spotters are kept -three men, $30 per week for 26 weeks a year - and they spot fires and are supposed to report every fire that they

spot to the Barbados Fire Service. We are all anxious to get these fires stopped; but you cannot say that the Cane Fire Board is a Board that is useless. I do not think that any of you would want it abolished. As long as it is there, it is willing to receive any suggestions from any member of the Barbados public. If all members were members of the Board, I do not think ipso facto the incidence of cane fires might be reduced, at least not in a hurry. If only the cause of the cane fires was known and not guessed, because I have heard to many reasons deduced, and I do not know if one of them is the correct one. It is very, very easy to think that you have all the answers until the thing becomes your business.

The money provided is for a fire-watching-spotting service. When fires are spotted, reports are made to the Fire Service whose duty it is to attend and attempt to put out the fires.

The point raised by the hon. junior member for St. James, the threat that cane fires pose to the homes of peasants - we all realise that. But I say this, that it is obvious to every member of the House that some people do site their houses just too close to cane fields.

Mr. HINDS:

Which was first, the canes or the house?

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

That is no argument. There is not an hon. member on that side who could begin to hope to refute that, unless he is blind and I do not see any blind member on that side, at least not yet. The watching service operates from District "C" Police Station which is the point of vantage, and provision is made for it to operate for 26 weeks or thereabouts in every year. They work on a shift basis. This Cane Fire Board has representation from the Ministry of Agriculture, from the Ministry of Education, from the Police Department, from the Fire Service, from the Sugar Producers' Association or Federation and from the Barbados Workers' Union - that is the composition of the Board and I have already told you its objectives.

Coming on to the Agricultural Society. The hon. junior member for St. Peter raised this point. He was bemoaning what he described as a poor representation at the last Agricultural Exhibition by the Minister of Education itself, but it depends from the point of view he regards it. The kind of exhibits that he would find there as being representative of the A.D.C. plantations are of educational value to encourage farmers to grow and rear similar vegetables or roots. The Ministry of Education does not regard the A.D.C. exhibits as just pure demonstration. There are not there..... (Noise) Mr. Chairman, just ask the Marshal to ask the gentleman permission to let you be heard, Sir.

As far as is known, the idea of awarding prizes at the Annual Agricultural & Industrial Exhibition is to provide recognition of the standard reached in a particular field rather than to provide monetary compensation for exhibiting an item. 9.50 p.m.

We aim at standards. Already it seems to me that the Committee is quite satisfied.

The question that the sum of $1, 374, 522 under the Head 33 - Ministry of Agriculture, Science and Technology - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 34 - METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE

Head 34 - Me teorological Office was called.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $211, 848 under Head 34 -Meteorological Office - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Give me one minute, Mr. Chairman, I cannot see over here because of the bad lighting, and it is unfair for the Opposition to come here and have to work under such conditions.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I will see that the lighting is remedied.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I hope it will be done, by tomorrow night. The hon. Junior member for St. James can scarcely see over here, and that is why I went over there to read.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The lighting over here is the same as over there. He is much younger than I am, and I can see. What is wrong with him?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, there is a saying that where ignorance is bliss it is folly to be wise. If the Minister will pay attention, he will see that the bulb on this side of the House has blown. He is always willing to get up and curse somebody....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I am objecting to the hon. member using the remarks that I am always ready to get up and curse somebody.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I will withdraw that remark.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Let us get on with the business. The question is that the sum of.....

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, are you serious? Are you putting the question while I am on my feet? In fairness to the hon. junior member for St. Thomas I withdrew the words. I will say that he does not always get up to curse people, but he sits down sometimes and curses them.

The question that the sum of $211, 848 under Head 34 - Meteorological Office - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 35 - MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS

Head 35 - Ministry of Communications and Works was called.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $6, 428, 884 under Head 35 - Ministry of Communications and Works - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. SMITH:
Mr. Chairman, Item 43, Overtime. Sir, I was asking the Hon. Minister for quite a long time to consider the Inspectors of Highways and Transport or Communications and Works. They change the titles so often that I cannot keep up with them. At the Department of Communications and Works you have Inspectors being called upon any hour in the night, on Bank Holidays, and on Sundays and they do not receive any overtime allowance while other people are enjoying it.

I can remember some mornings ago I was going up Bay Street around four o'clock and I saw an Inspector at an accident. Not so long ago we had the Jackie Opel accident, and Inspectors had to be up there. I was going to St. Martins about eleven o'clock. one night and I met Inspectors at Chimborazo up there. These men have to be at the call of the Police and they do not get one cent overtime. All over the Estimates you can see other people getting overtime. This matter has gone as far as the Ministry or the Permanent Secretaries. I understand that the Permenent Secretary has said that these men have been employed under certain conditions. The Prime Minister went into the matter himself and was surprised to find that these men were not considered. I am not a member of the Government, but I know that when the Prime Minister was in the country he asked the people about the matter. He was surprised to know that the men were not receiving overtime.

The Ministers are always making excuses for their Permanent Secretaries and Secretaries, and when I

find them making these excuses I will burn them up. I will say here and now that some Permanent Secretaries are running the Ministries. The Ministers will not allow their Permanent Secretaries to understand: "You do your part as a Permanent Secretary, and let me do mine as a Minister." 10.00 p.m.

I have to give an account of my stewardship to every elector in St. Joseph, not to a Minister or a Permanent Secretary. They cannot put me up or take me down. These men are not pigs or cows, and it is not fair that when they are entertaining their friends, they get a call and have to leave instantly to go to these accidents and are not paid overtime for it. Doctors who are to save lives do not always go to calls. They unhang the receiver after a certain time in the night and if you can ring until you fall you will receive a 'busy tone'. I cannot blame them because if they put in a heavy day's work, they want to rest afterwards. I am an undertaker and I do not understand being called out after hours, regardless of whether it is a berry or plum. These men have to go out in rain all hours of the night, and you cannot get a Minister or officer who would try in any way to see that they get some overtime allowance like anybody else in the Service. Why is it? If they would take the time from me, they would strike. You cannot compel a man to work all day and at night for the same money. These men would go and join the Barbados Workers' Union and drive some fear into somebody, because it is not fair to have them driving all over the country seeing to the people's interest and are not being paid for it.

Mr. Chairman, I hope the Minister will make a note of these things and see what can be done. If they are taken on to work under those circumstances, have them changed. If it were right 15 or 20 years ago, it is not right now and you should have it changed at once. Even the enemies of these men and those against whom they have to give evidence in a Law Court would say that it is not fair to call on them to work all hours of the night for the same pay. I have a Resolution on the Order Paper asking Government to consider it; so do not let me waste any more time in debating it. Give me the assurance that these men will be considered. There are other people in offices drawing overtime, and if the rain falls they are not getting wet. If a man is outside waiting to knock them down, they remain in office and draw overtime, These other officers drive all over the country at great risk, because there is a possibility that by giving evidence in the Law Court against A, he might get so mad against them that knowing they have to come out, he may wickedly go and do something wrong to get them out at night and do them harm. They are exposed to all kinds of danger and yet they have to work for the same money. When they get two or three calls at night, they still have to report for work at the same time the next day. I do not think this Government would be so hard against working people. If there is a law governing this, bring down an amendment, and I am sure the Minister would not have any trouble having it passed through the House to pay these people overtime. If the Ministers' hands are tied, there are ways and means of untying them in here. "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's". I hope I will not have to get on the floor of the House after tonight and beg the Government of the people to do something for these people; otherwise it would not be democracy at all. Democracy means 'for the people', not 'for some and not other'! These men are doing a good job and protecting the public, the Ministers, the Prime Minister and all of us, because you can get some of these road hogs come along and knock you off the road, and if you did not have these people to come and measure up and go into the Court and point out to the Judge or the Magistrate who is wrong, then the innocent would get the bad end of the stick. I am asking the Minister to look into the matter and let us have a Resolution down here

by next Tuesday. If an amendment is needed, let me see the amendment by next Saturday or some other time. You should not always go by the advice of some people.

Now that I am on this question of Permanent Secretaries, there are some who are very nice and others who are as cruel as the grave. There is a Kiaki King - I am not calling the name yet - who has the audacity to tell people that they are no longer tied to the politicians' jackets, and not to let him hear them going to a politician because if they do they will pay for it. A Permanent Secretary did this. Who in France is he? Even the Prime Minister could not be so rude as to tell people that. (Mr. St. JOHN: He must really be making sport.) He is making trouble. When I made my point, I heard that he was a good man and we cannot replace him. He feels he is good, he cannot be replaced, and there are a lot who do not care anything about us. We look as if we have leprosy. I did not go to College, Mr. Chairman; but the people have given me the power, and I will break the neck of any Permanent Secretary whom I hear getting on with this foolishness. If we as politicians were not doing a good job, what would become of the people? We eat one another and backbite, and because of this they do not care anything about us; but if we close our ranks and come together for the benefit of the people, I would not care one damn tiling about them.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I take it the hon. member is still speaking on Item 43.

Mr. SMITH:

Yes, Sir, and I know you like to hear this talk, because you and I did not go to College and that is why they do not care anything about us. We did not go to Jesus College; so we look like nothing to these Permanent Secretaries and even to some politicians; but as long as I am here you have to pay me that respect until the people of St. Joseph tell me to go, and when they do that, I will go without any regrets or tears. Let the Minister make a note of this and see that these people get paid. 10.10 p.m.

I believe in paying people; even in my little piece of penny-half-penny business, I like to pay my people. I am going to tell you this. If I were a Minister of Government I would never lose my seat, and if I were the Leader of a Government I would never lose my Government, because I am not going to look up; I am going to look down; it is from down there the votes are coming. Anything can happen with the fellow up there; he does not care which Government is in power, and so I would never lose. If I were even a way side-pulpit Minister, let alone a Government Minister, I would not lose. Keep your ears to the ground and "render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's".

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I would like to start off first by putting the hon. member's mind at ease on one point. I have heard this too often, not only on the floor of this House, but in this community generally. People always worry about who went to a University; I did not go to any University either, but you still have to find one in the entire West Indies who is a better Minister than I am. There is a point I want to make on the floor of this House; about two thousand years ago - I have said this in a debate not so long ago - a non-descript woman had a son; she did not even have clothes to put this baby in. This baby was Christ. He is the greatest of us all, and I do not have any record of Jesus Christ going to school; also I do not have any record of Plato, Aristotle, or any of the great philosophers ever going to school; so let us forget this idea that because somebody went to a University, they knew more about something than anybody else. Any person who went to a University might know more about a particular subject, but I do not care which University anyone of them went to, I would like to see them put down a piece of machinery better than I can do it. (Mr. HINDS A sewing machine?) Any sort - sewing, bicycle, anything. I just want to put people's minds at ease. One day a pimp - a man who has never contributed anything to this society - told me that I am doing a good job, but what a pity I was a seaman! I am proud to be a seaman; I had to remind this same man that Nelson was a seaman - and not only Nelson; Ho Chi Min was also a cook on a ship. So let us leave out this kind of idea that as soon as a fellow is not born in a big house or he did not attend Jesus College, he has no sense.

The hon. member who has just spoken has more common sense - I take back my word - more real sense, because common sense is not as common as people think- than a lot of the University students. You have never seen us with long beards, unkempt on the street, nor trying to stop people from doing their work. What I would like to put the hon. member's mind at ease about is that he should not worry about who went to a University, I remember there was a man called Mickey Jet who, when he was at the age of 19, his father left him something like $19 million and when he reached the age of 21 he had $24 million. Mickey Jet went to prison for being a pimp; so all the money he had did not make any difference. People like the hon. member and myself who are really making a contribution to this society should forget this idea about a Permanent Secretary who went to this or to that University. When the hon. member said that Permanent Secretaries are running Minis -tries, this might be true - I do not know; I have- only had one Ministry and no Permanent Secretary runs mine; that might be the reason why you heard so many things about my Ministry. (Asides) I get love in my home and I will get love in Heaven when I go up there; I do not care who likes me or who does not like me.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

All this I do not see under Head 35.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, we are dealing with money and you will have to allow a little deviation. I am not worried about this. You get good Permanent Secretaries and you get bad Permanent Secretaries; you might find a fellow who feels he is the Lord Chief Pope and he wants to dictate, but this is not going to happen with me as long as I am a Minister. I can say this, that I have a first-class Permanent Secretary,

and we get along well together;

I intend to defend him whenever I hear anybody say anything that is derogatory about him. We live in a snob-class society; even your own people try to run other people down because they did not go to a University, or because they did not live in a big house; and as the hon. member has said - and I said it on the floor of this House - we cannot command respect because we do not respect ourselves. (Mr. HINDS: Who is the snob you are talking about? Go on to Item

2 now.) Are you in a hurry now? You were talking for quite some time before.

The hon. member made two points, and, Mr. Chairman, I think he should have spoken under Item 25, but i that does not matter. First, I must say this to the hon. member. The Inspectors at Highways and Transport, their having to come out at all times is a condition of service; they know this, and the salaries were geared to this sort of thing. I agree with him, and I have raised this already, because I feel it is hard to bring out a man at this time. Sometimes a man might just have started to do some business and he has to leave his unfinished business to come out to see some old car that never should have been on the road, in the first place, getting into an accident; I agree with what the hon. member has said, but what I want the hon. member to understand is that I am only a Minister and these are things fixed by law, I came and found them as they are, but I will try.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I can hardly hear the hon. member who is addressing the Chair.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I can hardly hear myself; apparently I am interrupting the hon. members on the other side, but I will promise the hon. member to look into this in conjunction with the Chief Personnel Officer and the Chief Establishments Officer because this is a condition of service, Because I am a Minister I Just cannot change things like that, but I will give it some consideration. There is nothing I can do because I am a Minister, but this is something fixed by law and it has been a condition of service. He has been talking about it for some time now, but he has a personal interest in it. (Mr. SMITH These are men I am talking for, not women; you had better watch your mouth.) I do not mean this the way he thinks I mean it. 10.20 p.m.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Chairman, I do not know if I hear the Hon. Minister right. He says that I have a personal interest. I am wondering if he really means that. In what way, in men? If there were Ladies Examiners and Inspectors up there, then he would be going up my street; he could say that; but personal interest in men?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, yes, I said so. Does he want to make me believe that he does not have a personal interest in men? I have one. Men are people; men are human beings; when you are starting to talk, you say people (men).

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Do you have a personal interest in men?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Of course, I represent men as well as women.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Oh! I see.

Mr. SMITH:

I see that he really does not know the meaning of 'personal interest' - and he says that I should be talking on 25; he is blind wrong. Item 25 is Vehicle Examiners and is fixed by law and knowing what for a Chairman of Committees I have, I would not be so foolish as to raise it under that Item. I am talking about overtime because these men are asking for their overtime and you say that the Hon. Minister says it is a condition of service. I already said that if it is something that is statutory or law, bring in an amendment. These conditions are bad; let us get them good. I hate to hear this - a Minister saying that he has to see the Personnel Officer, to do what? All he has to say is that it is the wish of the House that they should be paid overtime and to send in the necessary amendment.

If I were a Minister, would I go to the Personnel Officer to ask him something? I am not asking him; I am telling him what to do. That is why they wouldn't care about these Ministers. I would only ring him tomorrow morning I would not even want him in my office -and say: 'It is the wish of the House - these conditions axe bad; send up the necessary minutes and White Paper or Black Paper to my office and let me okay it and let me get it before the Cabinet.' That is how I would do it. I am the boss in my Ministry

and I would not even let the Prime Minister come and tell me what to do. When it gets to Cabinet, do as you like with it, and when you turn it down in Cabinet I will come out and shout for blue murder.

Mr. St. JOHN:
You want a one-man Government.

Mr. SMITH:
I don't want any one-man Government. If you care to call it a one-man Government, I want a one-man Government for the people. No Government is stronger than the people; it is the people that count. If you want to know how strong the Government is - at election time - you see every Minister hat in hand begging 'Give me one, give me piece.' Don't care how much Government you are, don't care how much Minister, don't care how much Prime Minister, you have to beg these people. Don't think that everybody can get in here and sit down in these chairs; they can sit down in them after the House adjourns - you have to do a lot of begging. They will have to come here after we leave; and you tell me that you have to see the Personnel Officer! If the Personnel Officer hears the Minister saying so, he has gone up a cog. Don't let me hear you with this anymore. I am in your corner; we didn't go to any Secondary School. If you went to sea, I went on a lorry. Let us who did not go anywhere work together and let the brainsmen work together; we will win. Let me hear this thing is coming down to the House next Tuesday or Tuesday week; otherwise I will tell them to strike and I will march up Bay Street - I know how to march and I will get everybody in town to follow me and I will know how to make strife, too. If you are right, you are right; if you are wrong, you are wrong. Let these people get their little berry; they deserve it. They are working for it; they are not begging for it.

Now Item 54, Mr. Chairman, Lighting of Streets and Public Places.

Mr. St. JOHN:
We are here for the whole night, Sir.

Mr. SMITH:
Now, Sir, Lighting of Streets. The people in Bridgetown thought it was their democratic right to have lights; they used to say that the country people had to come into town to see moonlight on a pole, but thank God it is all over the country now, up to a point..... (Asides Thank the D.L. P.) You are now touching the fringe. There are places in the country -I was asking this long, long ago.

10.30 p.m.

There are some districts where the electric pole stops, and a few yards away people are in darkness. In some cases it will take about three poles more to give the people light. It is the Government's duty to see to it that these people are given light. Three more poles would not kill the Company. If three poles cost $36 each, then the amount would only be $108. If the Company put in the poles they will get benefits from other people. You cannot expect to make a dollar on every pole, but it is for the Government to see to it that the people in that area get electricity. In places like Braggs Bottom the area is very dark, and it would need about two poles with lights on them.

Mr. Chairman, the people who are prepared to take the service are like myself and the Minister -poor. They are not able to pay for the installation of the poles, and the Company will not give them light because they are unable to pay for the poles. It should be the Minister's duty now to see that these poles are provided. If it is going to cost them $40 or $100 to have the poles installed, then you should pay half of the money and allow the Company to credit the people with the other half. In the same way as you would back a note at the Bank for me, the Government could guarantee payment for the poles to enable the people to get light. It is not fair for my neighbour to have his light, refrigerator, hot-plate, and so on, and leave me deprived of those things because I am unable to pay for a pole.

Mr. Chairman, these are the things that will permit a Government to remain in the Government. A Government should always bend over backwards in order to help poor people. Some members in this Chamber do not know that some of these people had to work for 6 or 8 a day with a man or woman with a long cow-skin driving them to work. If the rain fell, the employers would take out a penny. Those are the people I am asking you to help. Even if this causes the Government to lose their seats - and that cannot happen because the prayers of the people will be heard - it would be for a good cause.

Sir, we have a very dark are a in Joes River. The Company have planted poles there, but if you do not start early the Company will take them up again. The Company is asking for a road. You do not have to give them a special road and Barber-Green it; all you have to do is to shape the road so that the Company's vehicles can travel over it. If you do not work fast, the Company will take up the poles. One part of the land belongs to Joes River Estate, and they have sent a letter to the Ministry giving them the green light. The other part belongs to the Soil Conservation Department. I am not threatening you, but I would not like to see those poles taken up. If those poles are taken up just for the lack of a road, then I will be talking in a different manner at the next elections and somebody will lose something. Do not let the Company take up those poles. If those poles are taken up, then I will cut loose. I may lose my seat, but I am going to make a lot of people lose theirs, too. It is now merely a question of a road and the running of wires.

If the Government put the road the Company will run the wires, and the people in the area will be able to get their refrigerators, hot plates, and so on, in the same way as myself, the Prime Minister and others. The people can get everything they want because the Companies are telling you that they will not take service charges for the next six months. You can go and take your refrigerator and other electrical appliances and pay later. Do you mean to tell me that the representatives of the people are blocking this opportunity? Mr. Chairman, Joes River Plantation is on one side and the Soil Conservation Land is on the other. I have succeeded in getting the Company to put down the poles; so let me be successful in getting the road. If I do not get the road, somebody will get nothing.

With regard to Item 58 - Life Saving Apparatus at Beaches, the Note says: "For the provision and maintenance of life-saving apparatus at Beaches." Now, Cattlewash can be very dangerous at times, and it has taken a few lives. If you are thinking in terms of life-saving devices, then you should make sure that Cattlewash gets the same type of service given at Grave send. 10.40 p.m.

Sir, you have the East Coast Road which is very costly, and tourists like to go there and have a bath; but, like everything else, let them see that someone is there waiting to protect them, should the occasion arise. Do not let us think in terms of money this time, because it would not cost much to put a Life Guard and equipment at Cattlewash. Let the Minister make notes of these things because I am not going to ask the impossible. I will be very fair to the Minister and to everybody else.

Item 79 - Parish Roads. This is a very sore question again; it is more sore than Lammings. I can remember the Minister telling me yesterday that I was only waiting until we got to Communications. Do you know he is a real prophet? I heard people calling him "Prophet" before, but I thought he was a false one. I want the Minister to listen carefully, and if I appear to be hard, he should not think I am hard on him because he may find himself in my position of having to appeal to the Government or a Minister to get something done for his constituents. I am not asking for these roads for myself; I am asking for them for the people of Barbados, especially the ones in St. Joseph. These roads are not for the parish alone; they are for everybody.

Mr. Chairman, Fruitful Hill is a road that was out of commission around the same time that Coggins Bridge went out. I had to bark like a dog in here to get Coggins Bridge, which is in St. Andrew, repaired, and I succeeded, and I cannot succeed in getting Fruitful Hill, which is in St. Joseph, done. Fruitful Hill is a road that leads from Melvins Hill and takes you into Cane Garden, which is an agricultural area with all canes. You would be surprised to know that people have to head their canes practically half a mile further than if they had got this road. You would not know, Sir, but the price for canes is very small. You have to pay people $3 or $4 per day for heading the canes which are about $11 or $12 a ton, and you cannot burden them with too many canes in a bundle. If you get so mad as to put more than 50 pounds, they are going to loose them themselves and take out what they feel they can head. The lorry

charges about $3 or $4 to take them to the factory. I am not talking about fertiliser and weeding for the whole year and everything. I am only talking about the reaping expenses, and if they are not careful everything would go in reaping. I want you to take it seriously. These people cannot get a road. I know that you have the money to do it; but if you say you do not, stop spending any more at the Gully House corner and go and relieve the people at Fruitful Hill because we can still pass the Gully House corner. You are doing a good job at the Gully House corner, but something needs to be done for the people at Fruitful Hill. I do not know how the Permanent Secretary got involved in this, but you had a road there before I was born, and now you are awaiting a Soil Conservation Officer to come and tell you foolishness. No Soil Conservation Officer can tell me anything when it comes to roads. If you put down a road and it is washed away, you can put it down again; so do not tell me it is not economical to do it, when it comes to spending money on the people to help them. You must forget the cost because the money will come. You can tax my rum and cigarettes and everything, and bring in money to do something for the people. You say that you are going to spend $88 million, but with a lot of revotes you are not going anywhere near there. You cannot spend $60 million out of the $88 million. You have such a big programme here that you cannot get through with it by 31st March, 1971. I know that if you were able to do that, the Government would be yours forever. I want to see the roads done, and water and lights installed, and then you can come and push me out next year. If you can do all this and you want my seat, I will let you take it, because it is not a seat I want; I want the people helped.

Mr. Chairman, I took the Prime Minister and other officials down to Frizers about three months ago. There was an opening of Barclays Park and I got them to go and look at this road. 10.50 p.m.

The Prime Minister, in my presence, turned to one of the officials - I am not calling Ms name - and said: "Have this road done". Do you know that up to now this road has not been done? These officers will make me think that I have a mock man for a Prime Minister; they will make me feel I have a puppet for a Prime Minister, because he gave the order in front of myself and the owner of Frizers Plantation. The owner will not blame me and call me a puppet; he will have to call the Prime Minister a puppet. I understand this Soil Conservation expert said that it is not economical to do this road; how did the Soil Conservation people get into this? There are certain places in St. Andrew and in St. Joseph and no Soil Conservation expert can hold them together. I know they might throw away every cent the Government has, and as soon as the rain sets up it is gone; so do not let any expert come and fool us to tell us that it is uneconomical to put a road here, and this is a road which was there before I was born. If we get some extra heavy rainfalls and it slipped out, put it back just as the old Highway Commissioners used to do it. As soon as a road slipped, they would wait until the dry season and they would go and pack it up and it will last there for another five or six years. The people have their canes and it is costing them more to have their canes reaped and it is not fair to them.

This is their Government; some people may hate it, but it is still the Government regardless of the consequences, and you have to live under it, and it is the Government's duty to show that they are taking an interest in the people's welfare. The road at Frizers or at Fruitful Hill would not take l,000,000 to try

and make it at least passable so that a brry can pass during the crop season, because you would not want it all through the year. But it is not right to the people; they have to get in and out when they are going to Market and to Church, weddings and funerals; give them the amenities of life and do not spend all the money in places that can be left out for the moment. Whatever the Government is doing as far as roads are concerned is necessary, but there are some more necessary than the other, I have a Resolution asking the Government to consider these roads, and the Church Village Road.

I do not know since you have disestablished the Church what will happen, but the roadway into St. Ann's Church is in a terrible state; the people have to get into the Church, and it is as rough and as bad as anything. If the Church has been disestablished - I do not think it has been disestablished financially because we are going to vote $23,000 for the Church - that road leading in to St. Ann's Church should be done because the people want to get into the Church, and I hope that the Minister will make a note of it and let his officers go and see and give me an estimate on it, because regardless of the disestablishment, they are not taking down the Church. We are not going to agree to take it down; that is a service; so let us have the road; we have the money. If we did not have the money it would be a different thing, because when you have this lot of revotes you are going to spend it. You cannot spend $88 million this time; it is impossible at the moment. So, Mr. Minister, make a note of the St. Ann's road, Fruitful Hill Road and Frizers Road. Ask your Parliamentary Secretary; he can tell you more about it than I can because he went and looked and he made figures.

I do not want to hold up the House - you might say I am delaying things - but I am still the shadow Minister for Communications. They have not taken it away from me yet; I have not heard of another appointment being made.

Item 119 - Police Stations; the Note says "for renovations and improvements at District "E". Crab Hill, Worthing and Castle Grant Police Stations". I want to know if you are putting another station at Castle Grant; that could be an error, but it says "Castle Grant Police Station". If you are going to put the station at Castle Grant you will have to tell me that; but I understand that the station will be built at Lammings, along with the school, the housing area, the playing field, the post office, and a bank. All of these things are to be at Lammings; Lammings will be a town. (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: That is why they made you resign from the Labour Party.) So long as they give me these things I will have to resign, so long as it is for the people. I understand that the station, school, houses, bank, playing field, post office - if I get all these things, the next election I

am a giant. I hope you make the note and you will be able to tell me if it is a mistake, or if you are going to put it at Castle Grant. I do not mind; it is all in the parish, and you have the land there; but I understand that it will be at Lammings, and you will have to do something with the station up there, because the building is only a "make-shift". The hon. junior member for the City will be able to bear me

out, but I understand it is very dark in the Court and it is not so pleasant, even for the Police. It was a dwelling house; so you could not expect that with so many partitions you would have the best accommodation there. It is time that Lammings should be developed and the roads cut, and the people moved on; it was there too long. I feel that you are fooling me now, let alone the people; it is time that the people should be moved on to it be cause if we were to get a heavy rainfall in these areas, the people will have to run out by night, and it is time to start and cut the roads on it. Give us before the elections, and when you convince me and the people of this country that you mean business, everything will be all right; but do not make the promises, because to make the promises and do not carry them out you will get more enemies than if you did not make any promises at all; since you have made the promises, carry them out and leave the rest to the people. As long as I am alive, I will help put you in trouble because this mouth of mine is not lazy. I do not care who brings it, so long as the Lord sends it. Anybody can appreciate it, but I want it and must have it.

For the present I will not say any more under this Head; there are other Heads, and I am appealing to the Minister to make the necessary notes and do the necessary things for the people of St. Joseph and the island as a whole.

Mr. HOPPIN:

Mr. Chairman, at Item 54 -Lighting of Streets and Public Places - it is undesirable, if you just drive down by the Deep Water Harbour, to see how dark the streets are there; not only in town, but I will say in the rural areas, especially in St. George, this is so. Salters' Road, where so many accidents have occurred, since it was Barber-Green road, Bourne's Village and Market Hill - these are areas in which we would like to get some street lighting. 11.000 p.m.

I understood from the Minister sometime ago that provision had been made to have these places lit. I hope that from the amount of money in the Estimates, the parish which I represent would get some of the street lights similar to what we have seen along the Airport road. The lighting programme in the country areas wants improving, arid I am emphasizing here that everything should be done to help those people in the country areas, especially Salters, Bourne's Village and all the areas that are suffering for light.

Now, also, Mr. Chairman, Item 74 - Traffic signs; traffic lanes, bus stops and pedestrian crossings. There are certain places in the country where there could be more bus stops, especially for the people coming from town with heavy luggage on their heads; some of them have to walk long distances with the luggage on their heads, and I feel that more bus stops could be placed in these areas to alleviate these people of their heavy burdens.

Item 66 - Badges and Licence Plates. This item is for supplying bicycle number plates. I do feel that number plates, not only for bicycles but for motorcars as well, should be under the Ministry of Communications & Works and there should be a standard number plate. Nowadays we can see many cars with MA, MB, MC and it is hard to decipher the MB from M4 because of the manner in which some of the people are painting them. I believe, if we had a standard number plate, this would be easy to be seen and understood. It would also help the policemen in determining if licences have been paid, because every year the same numbers would be used but on a different background, and policemen would not have to stop people to find out if licences have been paid. But in the make-shift system we now have, some people paint the number plates themselves - the M one size and the numbers another - and these may be the hit-and-run type, and it is difficult to read the numbers. If we use a standard number plate, which I am suggesting that the Government should consider, for licensing all the numbers could be made one size and would therefore be legible. I do hope that the Minister would consider the licensing plates of which I have made mention here.

Item 101, Mr. Chairman, is for continuation of a programme of construction of bus stops, lay-bys and landings. There are certain bus stops placed along the road - when the buses stop and the people get off, they have to stand in the gutter. More landings are needed to give the people a firm footing on which to stand. More landings are needed in St. George; more landings should be erected to make it convenient for people to catch the bus. These landings are of great use. I know of a passenger alighting from a bus and, in stepping down, stepped on a stone and fell.

The problem is also the parish roads. Now that the Central Government has taken over from the Local Government Councils, they are all under one Head. In St. George we have many parish roads, and I know that the Ministry has looked into them - I have brought them to the Minister's notice. There is a tidy sum here and I am hoping that some of the parish roads in St. George will be repaired because they are in a very bad state, and we hope to have them done in this coming year.

As I have just heard from the last speaker, this is an ambitious programme that the Ministry of Communications & Works has for this year, and I will be glad to see these tenantry roads, parish roads, through the Island improved for the benefit of the community.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I beg to second that,

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative. Mr. CHAIRMAN reported progress to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

11.10 p.m.

SENATE AND HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

(MEMBERS' REMUNERATION

AND ALLOWANCES) BILL

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, the Other Place met today and in the course of their deliberations they considered the Bill which was passed in this House last week - the Senate and House of Assembly (Members' Remuneration and Allowances) Bill, 1970. Because the Bill was not certified as a Money Bill, the Other Place took the opportunity to return the Bill to the House with an amendment. In addition to that, between the passage of the Bill in this House and the return of the Bill to the Other Place, opportunity has been taken to make some adjustments in respect of the duty allowances which would be payable to Members of the House in the Bill.

The amendments which I am suggesting to the House that we should put in are now being circulated to members. I shall very briefly go through the proposed amendments as follows:

Clause 1 stands. Clause 2 stands.

The first amendment comes in Clause 2 (2), and the amended Clause will read:

" Every member of the Senate except a Minister and Parliamentary Secretary shall be entitled to

receive a duty allowance of $1,800 per annum".

Clause 3 (1) (a) should read as follows:

"The Speaker shall be entitled during his tenure of that office to receive salary at the rate of $9,600 per annum, and a duty allowance of $3,000 per annum."

In Clause 3 (l) (b) substitute the figures "$3,000" for the figures "$1,800" appearing in the fourth line.

In Clause 3 (l) (c) substitute the figures "$3,000" for the figures "$1,800" appearing in the fifth line.

In Clause 3 (l) (d) delete the comma and all the words appearing after the words "per annum" in the third line and substitute therefor the words "and a duty allowance for $3,000 per annum."

In Clause 3 (l)(f) substitute the words "3,000" for the words "$1,800" appearing in the last line.

Clause 4 which has been recommended by the Other Place should read as follows:

Exemption from Incom. Tax Act 1968-51

"Notwithstanding the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1968, the duty allowance paid to any person under this Act shall not be Included in calculating the assessable income of any such person for the purpose of that Act.'

There will be a new Clause 5 which will read as follows!

"Salaries and Allowances pay-able out of Consolidated Fund.

5. All salaries and allowances payable under this Act shall be charged on and paid out of the Consolidated Fund -

(a) in equal monthly instalments, in the case of salaries; and

(b) at such intervals as the Minister responsible for finance may determine in the case of allowances.

Calculation of arrears of salary and allowances.

6. In calculating the amount of salary or allowance payable under this Act to any member of the House of Assembly in respect of the period between 1st April, 1969 and the publication of this Act in the Official Gazette, account shall be taken of any sums paid as salary or allowances (however called) to that member during that period under the House of Assembly (Remuneration of Members) Act, 1949".

The other Clauses will be consequentially renumbered.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the amendments of the Senate be now read a first time.

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

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

On the motions of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, the amendments of the Senate were read a second time and agreed to.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be further amended as I have outlined.

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

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

IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply to resume consideration of the Estimates.

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

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

11.20 p.m.

Mr. CRAIG:
Mr. Chairman, you will remember that I was on my feet when the Leader of the House asked me to give way, Now I am not going to attempt to make any lengthy speech on this Head, but there are one or

two observations which I have made and I think it would be quite fair for me to make a comment or two. After hearing my former colleague with his half-and-half speech, half-Government and half-himself, tempered with humour and with logic, one can consider that, after having a very good dinner at Culloderi Farm, a speech of that nature was really ideal. I am quite sure that my former colleague would appreciate what I have said. As I told him not so long ago in an aside, I am quite willing to join his Party which comprises himself, his son and Eric Sealey; and if he needs any more members, he can rest assured that he has my wholehearted support.

On Item 54 - Lighting of Streets and Public Places - the Minister has warned me on more than one occasion not to speak about street lighting, because he made it quite clear that he did a very good job in certain parts of St. James. We are all grateful for this, and I am sure that the people of St. James are more entitled to this than any other constituency when he gave them a public bath in 1966 and when they gave him in return a very good heckling. He has done a reasonable job at Holders Hill and at Hoytes Village. However, on the question of Highway I, this is like shouting "Lammings". From 1966 I have been asking Government on several occasions, apart from the fish market at Fitts Village which apparently the Government has no intention of doing, to give Highway I the lighting which is so necessary to so important a highway; but I observe that you have only allocated an additional $70,000 to meet the expanded programme and installation of new type of lamps on main highways. I should like the Minister in his reply to say which highways he is dealing with, and whether $200,000 is going to service this programme. I can see that quite a number of areas are going to be left out, but I am hoping the Minister will not ignore Highway I as he has done from 1966 until now.

Under Item 58 - Life Saving Apparatus at Beaches - I see that you are spending the same $200 that you spent last year, which proves conclusively that there is no intention by Government to give any more support to the Life Guards and the beaches as a whole. Only yesterday I drew to the attention of the Government that they repeatedly boast of a great tourist industry, but what they should pay attention to is the amount of dope the tourists are bringing to the country. If you have an increased population that is taking more advantage of the beaches than they did years ago, I cannot see how $200 can be an adequate figure to put here. There has been an outcry in here all the time about the maintenance of the beaches and an improved Life Guard service, but the problem is that after the Life Guards have been trained by Mr. Stephen Mascoll and Mr. Best, they leave the Job - which is a skilled one - and go into other jobs in which they are properly paid. They have not got good apparatus; they are not well-paid; and many of them are ill-treated by many of the tourists along the beaches. I will speak about that when I deal with tourism. I should like to hear from the Minister why he has not increased the vote, if there is no Intention by Government to do anything about the life saving equipment to improve it, whether there is no more modern equipment and whether Government is prepared to allow the service to remain as it has been for the past two or three years.

There is something else which puzzles me under Item 69 - Hire of Plant. This is rather vague, as far as I am concerned. All the note says is "To meet the cost of Labour and fuel in connection with hire of

plant. Includes provision for refunds. Recoverable. Revenue, Head 8 (23) (iii)." The amount has been increased from $4,000 in last year's Estimates by $1, 280 and I think the note should be more explanatory.

Item 74 - Traffic Signs, is for continuation of a programme of new signs and for change of existing signs to comply with the International standards. Now this is the biggest joke in the world. 11.30 p.m.

If you look again, you can see the same old signs that I am accustomed to seeing for years; I have been abroad to one or two countries, and one of the most important things, when you have this heavy amount of traffic, is to make sure that you have proper signs indicating where to go and when to stop. Mr. Chairman, I would like to draw this to the attention of the Minister, and I sincerely hope that this would be done in conjunction with the Ministry of Home Affairs. I cannot understand for what reason you have a traffic sign at a major stop; 10 yards before you reach the point to stop you have a sign, and overhanging the sign you have the canes growing; that serves no useful purpose at all. I believe that if you have to acquire a few feet of land where you can make these signs more clear to people you should do it. At nearly every junction you have this problem; the signs are poorly painted. I do not blame the Minister for this, because I know he is one of the people who is always challenging the casual workers in particular, when they come to work at nine, leaving at eleven, coming back at two and leaving at half past three. I know he always challenges them on that, and I am going to support him on this too. I believe they should be given task work and then they will do a better job, because all you have to do is to look at the Mitchell Construction Co. or the International Construction people and see all of these people, where they are doing task work, how they carry out their jobs in a very short time; but whenever there is Government involved, you can find casual workers taking five and six months to complete a sidewalk at least five or six feet long. I have seen this on more than one occasion. I would like to draw to the Minister's attention that they have $28,000, an increase of $11,000 more than last year, and that there should be a real increase in better indications along the road in the interest of all the vehicular traffic and the pedestrians, I am not dealing with tourists; they are not important as far as I am concerned.

The hon. , junior member for St. George made mention, on Item 54, of the lighting of streets and public places. Since the 8th July, 1969 I gave notice of a Question asking the Minister about the street lights along President Kennedy Drive and I heard something about devaluation, and then I heard there were some lights in America, and that you could not get them. I would like to know if these lights are in Barbados, if you hope to get them, and, if you cannot get that type of light, if you are not prepared to light up President Kennedy Drive, because it is not only a hazard for motorists, but it also encourages a lot of funny things along that road. The Minister is very well aware of that.

Guard Walls - Item 80. The note says: "Repair and maintenance, labour costs under Item 40" and the amount is $5,500. Some time ago you started knocking many of these guard walls down which were

creating a hazard to motorists and giving the motorists a better opportunity to see further across, and to take care of pedestrians. I have also observed that this part of this exercise has suddenly disappeared, and I cannot understand why in Enterprise where Mr. Travor Gale owns a house, where there is a very dangerous bend - Atlantic Shores is now a built-up area; you have Baling Park; you have a development there by the Lighthouse, and there is very heavy traffic there all day. At least every hour during the day you can find a heavy duty truck or a bus coming around that corner, and motorists find themselves in a lot of trouble there. I cannot understand for what reason Government would not set out to acquire that piece of land so as to widen that corner; even here at the corner of King Street in the City there is an old house, another dangerous corner, and there are many others which one can think about. I use this for the purpose of trying to find out from the Minister if they have abandoned that exercise of widening these corners.

Item 86 - Bridges and Culverts. There is no Increase in this vote again. It is again $15,000, and I have had repeated complaints from my constituents that whenever there is heavy rainfall there is a big flow of water, and many of these very poor people who are not in a position to have places to put their fowls and their goats and their sheep lose all. Many of these casual workers pay no attention to cleaning these culverts, and I have had to go to the Ministry on several occasions and ask the Supervisor in charge to have these things done. I would like to see the Ministry carry out a very serious exercise and bring these Supervisors to their feet; it is not the people who are actually cleaning the street; it is the Supervisors themselves who encourage this. On many occasions you can find many of them sitting down playing dominoes; they are supposed to check in men at 7 o'clock and they come at 11 o'clock asking if the men came today; this is the regular practice. The Minister does not have to fear about challenging them; if he is going to lose his seat to the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, only God can make him lose it. I believe he is going to lose it too.

Car Parks and Bus Stands. I notice that the Government, along with the Lions Club, have been putting up a number of bus shelters; but if there is one place which is in dire need of a bus shelter, it is down by the Deep Water Harbour, right opposite the fish market. There is a bus stop there, and I have seen people running over into the fish market to shelter from the rain, and on afternoons you have school children there; this is a very busy road. 11.40 p.m.

We are asking the Minister if it is possible that a bus shed can be placed there - it would not cost the Government any lot of money; it is no more than what Sam Ashby and that crowd carried away - for the people, fish-sellers, many of them from St. Pete rand St. James, and the children from St. Andrew and St. Thomas, who take the bus there. I would be very happy to see something of this nature. Don't worry about the Sam Ashby and Peter Morgan thing. I will be in here when that comes about; so you can stand by for a baptism. I have news for them.

Hotel Training School, Mr. Chairman. This is the biggest joke in the whole world. I am not going to say very much on it now; I will deal with it under Tourism. Item 109 - to provide toilets, urinal and wash basin. Is there an increase in the number? Or do you have any there at all? Orwere the ones before inadequate? I think that it should read 'to provide additional toilets, urinal and wash basin.' Looking at the Note, one could only conclude that you did not have any toilets at all at the Training School. Her Majesty's Prisons, I missed that.

Item 118, Mr. Chairman, - "to provide extensions to carpenter's shop and shed; to build garage for new lorry." Mr. Chairman, I was not here when you were dealing with Prisons. I would like to know if these are lorries that you are building a garage for, for the purpose of taking these prisoners from Glendairy to some place where they have to do work. I have very strong views on certain criminals. I can appreciate the fact that the first-timers may likely be reformed - I am not going to vote one single penny for the prisoners. I am sorry I was not here because I cannot understand how you can have men working and harvesting the crops getting $30 or $40 a week; out of crop $13.44 minimum wage; the maximum they can make is $20; the average annual income per year is $900 for an agricultural worker: but you have thugs walking about at night breaking and entering, raping. When a criminal comes into a house, he comes also to defend himself. And you can hear them up there arguing - 'I don't want my egg so hard.' They can come for me any night, I have a licensed revolver; when they come I am going to shoot them down or they get me. I trust the jury, not the lawyers.

We are here at 11.45 p.m. When you get in your car to go home, you might see a car along the road; you stop to lend assistance and the man pulls out a knife and asks you to hand over money. Do you want to reform them? You should beat them with cat wire every morning and throw salt water on them. I passed by the Drill Hall and saw prisoners working in boots and socks - some of the prisoners are saying that they do not want turtleshell glasses, they want to look 'mod' - a prisoner complaining about his steak is not soft enough and a man like Softie being provided with bacon, ham and eggs. No wonder they do something, immediately they are out, to get back in prison. And I have heard one of them boast already: 'Craig, I don't care about you, man; I got somebody to watch me when the night comes; you don't have anybody.'

You are asking for money out of my pocket to build a shed to put a lorry in to make sure that the prisoners would not have to walk and go and cut soft stones. They do not do that now; they have soft jobs.

I was at the Springer Memorial School one day when Eric St. John was putting on a wing there. I was the most amazed man - 5 or 6 of them under a tree cooling out, 10 o'clock in the morning and they recognised me; they said 'Skipper, what is the B.L.P. doing? Wunnah believe wunnah going win?' At Government House under a tree cooling out - 5 or 6 of them - and the Warder outside smoking! The

Warder cannot tell them anything because they had a man called Redhead - I think it was under the B.L.P. that the Public Service Commission appointed him - this is one of the unfortunate things in life - who came down here and created this unpleasantness up there. I would like to be in Billy Donovan's position for two weeks; I know I would not have too long to live...Sparrow's song is correct. Beat them bad and they are bound to change their minds. (Aside: Mr. St. JOHN Barbaric ideas).

Barbaric ideas? The Chief Justice just gave some of them 14 or 15 years; he gave somebody forty-something years and that crime faded out. They were throwing acid on people; Sir Allan Collymore gave them 20 years; the acid-throwing stopped.

You hear a prisoner telling you: 'My pants is not short enough'; they will soon want air-conditioning, Sir.

Item 123, Mr. Chairman: $1,500 voted to the Holetown Police Station to provide for treatment for termite control to main, survey and link blocks.

Is this Rentokil coming in to treat these places for $1,500 or is this for only one place to be treated? The Statistical Department, then Holetown Police Station, Post Office and Beach Facility, St. James, etc. This is a new vote of $1,500; what is the purpose of this? Is Freddie Green going to spray or are you going to have the Rentokil and spend money one time and finish, or come here every year for $l,500? Call in Rentokil now; treat them now and you would not have to spend this money over a period of time.

Mr. Chairman, Codrington College - this is another waste of money - $120, Each year the Es-timates have $120 for cleaning the lake. I have been to Codrington on several occasions; I have never yet seen the lake clean. You are either wasting the $120 or you should increase the vote. The lake serves no useful purpose there and might be one of the things that caused some of the students at Codrington College to rebel.

I hope the Minister has made a note or two. I said I had no speech to make until I came to the prisoners when I felt very warm. I hope the Minister will say something on one or two points which I raised.

11.50 p.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, the senior member for St. James started to wax warm in dealing with Item 118, H.M. Prisons. If the Debates of the House could have been printed as quickly as we would have liked, I would have sworn that he had read everything that I had said. He went further than I did in castigating them. I want him to understand what he has said has not fallen on deaf ears, because I feel the same way as he feels about this matter.

With regard to the question of termite control, this estimate was submitted by Rentokil. These people do not work monthly; they do their business and I understand that when they have completed the job the place will be free of termites for six months.

An hon. member mentioned something about Car Parks and Bus Stands. Nearly all members spoke about Car Parks and Bus Stands, as well as the Fish Market. The reason why the shelter has not yet been placed there is that we have cleared the site for the Post Office. The Post Office should have occupied the entire area. After we decided against putting the Post Office there we have not placed anything on the site. Of course, we could put up a temporary shed there if the Town Planner does not think it is obnoxious.

With regard to Guard Walls, I did not know that the place to which the hon. member refer was owned by Mr. Gale. This would be a question of highway improvement. The small amount of money provided here will be used for repairing any damage done by one of our lorries to a guard wall and that would scarcely amount of $5,500. I agree that there is a delta at that corner and it is dangerous. The hon. member has to remember, whether he likes it or not, that in my Ministry we are doing a good job of highway improvement, and a complete transformation has taken place recently. A lot of people are not as civic-minded as we would like. (Mr. CRAIG: Push down the wall.) It is all well and good to say "Push down the wall", but he would be the first person to come in this Chamber with a Resolution saying that this wicked, diabolical, spiteful Government had pushed down the poor man's wall.

Mr. CRAIG:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I would be doing no more than the present Government did in 1961 with Singh's house.

Mr. CHAIRMAN; No point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Singh contravened the law and he had to suffer the consequences. I am sorry the house was pushed away. The hon. member knows what the money is for. The hon. member compared the workers at Mitchell Construction Company with the people who work with the Government. The same hon. member and members on that side, and the community know the general trend of things in so far as workers are concerned. When I was a Parliamentary Secretary I tried to get people to work. It would shock the House to know the amount of money that I have saved the taxpayers in this country. When I became a Parliamentary Secretary I discovered things that were going on in this Government. The Public Works Department was a little Republic; Highways and Transport was a Republic; the Minister could not say anything to those workers, and I was Public Enemy No. 1. It is only because I am who I am that I did not turn back.

Mr. Chairman, one day I was travelling on Highway No. 7. I saw some men standing on the road about 7.15 that morning. I went to Foundation School, and when I passed back the men were still standing the same place. I stopped and asked them what they were doing. The foreman became belligerent; I reported him and asked that he be suspended. The Truth newspaper said that I caused the poorman to be suspended and that I should be carrying a badge on my chest like a breastplate on a coffin. He wanted the man to kill me. That is the kind of thing you get in this society. The man had better sense than the Truth newspaper. Why is it that the people at Mitchell, the Telephone Company, the Ju-C Company and so on work differently from the people who work with the Government? When some people come to work they think that they are doing the Government a favour. Whenever I have to speak to a man for his re calcitrant manner I hear all sorts of things. I am told that they will not vote for me again. You get the politicians criticising you in here, and yet they say that the people will not work.

Mr. Chairman, I remember the senior member for Christ Church came in here and talked about the workers on the road. He complained to me about the way people were working. He spoke to me about a road we were repairing near his land. (Asides.) He told me that the people were not working properly. I told him that he was a representative of the peohle and he could come in here and speak his mind. He came here and beat all around the bush like a mouse nibbling at a piece of cake.

As long as I am running the Ministry of Communications and Works, the workers must work and give an honest day's work for an honest day's pay. I am going to make sure that they are given an honest day's pay, and they must give me an honest day's work. 12.00

What the hon. senior member for St. James said is quite true. People who work at Highways and Transport, especially those who work on the roads, want to go to work at 8 o'clock, stop around 10 o'clock, turn back on afterl2o'clockandby 2 o'clock they are finished; but we are getting this because we

do not have enough civic-minded people in the community. People will not say anything because they fear what might happen, and when I try to do something, I am run down by members of the House. You cannot approbate and reprobate at the same time. If you lay off one of these people because he is not giving the Government and the taxpayers a full day's work, the first thing he does is to run to the Truth, because the man's mind is so warped that he thinks that by running to the Truth and saying something about me, he is doing something; but I do not worry about these things because I do not go in for pornography. If he were working for Mitchell Construction and he arrived late for work, he would be fired; but you will get this situation in this society so long as politicians go on acting in the parasitical way in which we all act, and we will create a society in which we will have to pay people and beg them to work too. Only the other day I was very embarrassed at the Airport when two Americans were passing through to catch a plane. There was a worker sitting in a chair, drunk to the world and fast asleep, and one American used this remark to his colleague: "My, my; I wish I could get one of those jobs where I can be paid to sleep!" When they get back home and start to talk about any kind of aid for these Islands, that man is going to impress the Senate that we do not want money. If we want to build a nation, then all of us should put our shoulders to the wheel and work. I work everyday. No file stays on my desk more than twenty-four hours. Any time you call me on a Sunday morning and I have not gone to the country, you will find me in my office.

Now the hon. senior member for St. James asked about the hire of Plant. This means a bulldozer, spraying roller, tractor or anything like that.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

From the way the Note reads to Item 107, I wonder if you intend dropping any more garbage at Emmerton. The Note says "To provide alternative route for scavenger trucks to dumping pad at Emmerton Lane Drain." What do you mean by this?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

The explanation to this is that now that Motor Services have put their garage in that area, the trucks cannot now pass to clean the drain, and a new road will have to be built in the back bf Mr. Bannister.

The hon. senior member for St. James enquired about street lighting. I know this is his baby, but I have told the hon. member on the floor of this House on several occasions that the reason why Highway I has not got the proper lights yet is be cause we cannot make the lights here. We are importing these lights. The one salvation we have is that you cannot say it is the Government's fault because the Electric Company imports these lights and is putting them up and we are paying for them. I am as eager to have this done as the hon. member. The position with the Deep Water Harbour has been a headache for all of us. We do not want to run down anybody for this, but the last Government was taken for a ride with the Deep Water Harbour. A lot of the junction boxes were made of wood which have been eaten by wood

ants, and I am surprised that somebody has not been electrocuted already. The next stupid thing they did was to put in these sodium lights. Those lights are for fog.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

That is not the reason why sodium lights were used. The hon. member is correct in saying that the junction boxes were made of wood and that the Government was taken for a ride, and I think the people should have been made to fix them; but the sodium lamps are for the purpose of ships coming in at night. If you have very bright lights, it would make it difficult for ships coming into the Harbour at night.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I have travelled all over the world; why don't they have them in New York?

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

This was the reason given to the Electrical Engineer.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I do not care what reason was given.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Two hon. members are on their feet.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

I do not think any of us know more of this than the Minister of Trade.

(Asides.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

While a member is speaking, all other members shall be silent. 12.10 a.m.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
I can tell you why it was done. I bet you do not see them take them out.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
I am going to take them out; do not tell me you will bet me they will not take them out. If this was so, why do the lighthouses not use sodium lamps? Do you think you are talking to a village idiot?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
On a point of order, Sir, it is always said that the answers to such questions can bring a quarrel; the member must not ask anybody if they think he is an idiot.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
No point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
The lamps cost a lot of money, and the problem is getting fittings for them, which is another expensive item. If they had put up mercury filled lamps they would be replaced.

Under Item 109, the hon. senior member for St. James questioned the Note which states that this amount of money is required to provide toilets, a urinal and a wash basin; if you put it in the way the hon. member suggested, it would mean that you would have to provide more toilets and urinals, but it is principally to provide more toilets and a urinal. The junior member for St. George and the senior member for St. James spoke about traffic signs. I think I have said on the floor of the House already; in my opinion, one would have to be driving extremely slow to see them as well as one should, but the problem we are faced with here as against the other countries is that if we were to put up too big a sign, it will block the whole area, because we do not have enough room; and if you put it off the road, it will not be seen because our roads are so small that at nearly every junction there is some sort of embankment, and this is one of the reasons why we have to settle for these small traffic signs. I do agree with the hon. member about the canes, and I do remember also that Senator Walcott has been trying for quite some time to get the estate owners not to plant the canes so close to the road. But a recent thing I have been noticing that most of them are doing is to cut the canes around the road first. Personally I feel that they should be restricted from planting them so near to the road.

The senior member for St. Joseph mentioned poles at Joes River. There is another thing I forgot to mention when I was talking about lights, and the hon. senior member for St. James also mentioned the amount of money to be voted. We do not want to have the Estimates inflated unnecessarily; we can only put in the amount of money that we feel can be absorbed by the Electric Company, because we do not have the amount of physical resources. It is not that we do not have the financial resources; it is the physical resources we require. As the hon. member said just now, a lot of Supervisors want going home; I believe that some of them should not come at all, but since they are Civil Servants and a fellow can get $35 a week for holding a broom, he is not going into a cane-field to work.

I think there is another pertinent point I would like to make before I sit down. The hon. member mentioned Cattlewash. This is my personal view. People should be restricted from bathing at Cattle-wash; a man goes at Graves End or at Rockley and drowns, and you find the corpse, maybe, a few hours after; but when a man drowns at Cattlewash you probably never see him again, which means that something is wrong there. I feel that the time has come when we should take the bull by the horns and stop people from bathing there.

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Chairman reported progress and asked for leave to sit again, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended for fifteen minutes.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division. 12.22 a.m.

On resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER:
Prior to the suspension the House was in Committee of Supply. To that it now reverts.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair, and the House resumed Committee of Supply, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I only have two queries to make under Item 53 which deals with provision for additional telephones and charges due to anticipated re-arrangement of Government Offices. I believe that representation has been made from time to time by the Attorney General's department for the installation of a telephone in the Law Library or the precincts of the Law Courts. The members of the Attorney General's Chambers, the D.P.P.'s Department from time to time during the Assizes would require the use of a telephone; it is now embarrassing to them because they have to leave the Courts and go into the Regis -try or the Crown Solicitor's Office to be at the mercy of some other person. We are not asking for this for the Bar Association; we are asking for it on behalf of the legal officers in the Attorney General's Department.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL; I think it was agreed among the Bar Association that they did not want the telephone in the library but adjacent thereto; we agreed to have an extension.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Solong as it is within the precincts of the Supreme Court.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Yes, an extension is alright.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Item 117 - Culloden Farm; $16,200 "to provide conduits and wiring of grounds to supply and install an electric pump." Perhaps the Minister would give us some information as to what is involved.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

The answer to that, Mr. Chairman, is that they had two fan mills at Culloden Farm - one in front of the Service Commissions building, and one in the Prime Minister's garden. The fan mills have become obsolete and it is planned to put a submersible pump in the well and use an electrical pump to pump water for the gardens. There are no millwrights now to repair fan mills.

Mr. HINDS:

Let us hear about 'conduit and wiring of grounds.'

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

The Tourist Board uses the Prime Minister's residence every month for parties. If you have a party you will have these lights; instead of having poles, you have them on the ground like garden lights.

Mr. HINDS:

And the poor people in St. Peter want lighting.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

But the amount of lights you use up there you cannot use in St. Peter.

Mr. HINDS:

That is the amount we need in St. Peter, $16,200. Mr. Chairman, now, Item 30 - Superintendent of Works. You are employing four. What is wrong? Are they casual workers? Why is it not statutory? Is it not that this sum of money is in the wrong column? What is really happening?

I now turn, Mr. Chairman, to Item 43 - Overtime. I have heard the Minister himself speaking of the difficulties he is experiencing with a certain category of workers. What is responsible for this overtime of $80,000? Where is it really spent? At Item 54 - Street Lighting, I believe the Minister will give us an idea of what he intends doing in the parish of St. Peter. Undoubtedly you will give us an idea of your plans for St. Peter. What the hon. senior member for St. James said with reference to Highway I is also applicable to me in the sense that Highway I runs right through St. Peter. That is, as far as Highway I is concerned, we have 1 (a), 1 (b), 1 (c). I want to hear what are his plans for street lighting. I do not want to hold up proceedings by listing the various places in the parish that require attention. I am sure you

have a plan for this.

I have heard the Minister saying that our roads are narrow. I am sure the Minister is going to give us a comprehensive plan for road building in Barbados.

Mr. Chairman, Item 55, It is true, Sir, that this is only for keeping the Public Buildings clock in repair., Really and truly, Sir, the Public Buildings clock should be illuminated at night. The hon. senior member for St. George is not in Bridgetown at night. I would like to see that some consideration be given to this, everynight, unless something has gone wrong. 12.50 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, at Item 78 there is an amount of $62, 485, and this is to maintain approximately 204 miles of road at an average of $1,021 per mile. Item 79 is to maintain approximately 594 miles of road at an average of $1,077 par mile. Now, the Minister will have before him where this mileage will take place, and he will give us some idea of what is responsible for the difference in the cost per mile. What is responsible for this big difference in cost? Undoubtedly the Minister will be glad to give us that Information.

Item 86 deals with Bridges and Culverts. I would like the Minister to tell us who becomes the owner of a culvert after it has been constructed on a man's land. A culvert borders my land at St. James and I should like to know whose property it is. On the north of my land there is a culvert, and there is another one on the south. There is a culvert at Prospect, St. James, which goes across land owned by Mr. K. C. Browne, and I should like to know who owns the culvert.

One must admit, in the first instance, that the culvert was built with a view to relieving a difficulty. Water used to settle, and mosquitoes caused a problem down there. A culvert was built on Mr. Browne's land to lead the water into the sea. When the rain falls, the water from St. Thomas and other places runs into the culvert and goes into the sea. Now, a neighbour of Mr. Browne allowed the water from a wash basin to run into the culvert and into the sea. Mr. Browne went to the lady and forbade her from allowing the water from her wash basin to go into the culvert. Is Mr. Browne within his rights to do that? It is a very serious matter indeed. Is he taking advantage of this lady? Now, the taxpayers' money paid for the construction of that culvert. Mr. Browne should not be able to forbid anyone from allowing water to go into the culvert. The neighbour has recently sunk a well near to the culvert to lead off her water. This is a question which needs investigation.

I see that the Minister has only provided $15,000 for Bridges and Culverts, and it makes me feel that he has no plans for doing much work in this respect. He is only going to repair bridges and culverts. At the end of both of the culverts near my home you have some gabions. I do not know whether the Ministry of Communications and Works has not yet learnt that gabions are not for Sea Defence. The manufacturers ought to have told the Minister so. The gabions were placed at the point where the water dropped before it went into the sea, and the situation is that at these two points portions of the gabions have been washed away. The area is almost covered with sand and it is dangerous to walk along there. The Director attempted to do something about the matter.

Mr. Chairman, after the culvert was built on Mr. Browne's land, we found that it had created a different sort of tide. The gabions were then placed at the mouth of the culvert with a view to reducing the force of the tide on certain occasions, but the gabions are no longer there and what remains of them is causing injury to people walking along the beach. I think it is time that something be done about this matter.

Mr. Chairman, I am not going to deal with Bus Stops, because I feel that what the junior member for St. George has said about his parish is applicable to some parts of St. Peter. It is time for a general survey of the entire situation in relation to these Bus Stops. 1.00 a.m.

A question has already been asked on Item 107; so we do not have to worry about that any further. Similarly on Item 119. I will not keep back the Committee any longer on this Head. I am sure the Minister will give brief answers that these points deserve, and see if we can pass the Head.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, Item 43 covers Overtime formerly included under various Items, but now centralized. Formerly when men worked overtime, they had to be paid from a particular sheet, but we now have it centralized and they can be paid from one sheet, and there is no necessity for them to have to wait to receive their overtime.

Mr. HINDS:

Are you satisfied that the overtime is necessary?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Yes. We cannot get away from it.

Mr. HINDS:

Is it not a case where the people are idling on the job and then putting in overtime because it is time-and-a-half? We appreciate the fact that when you are casting concrete it might be better to continue working for an hour or two overtime to complete the job.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I grant you what you are saying is true, but the cantonniers in the road do not particularly get overtime. If you have a gang working building a road and you have to cast concrete and 4 o'clock comes, you have to go ahead and finish it, but I do not believe this happens too often. I do not believe that people waste time deliberately because when they are doing task work they make a lot more money than when they are working by the job. Wherever it is practicable we do task work, but the man doing task work can easily be laid off, while you cannot lay off a cantonnier when he is established. It is easier to get rid of a Permanent Secretary than to get rid of one of the cantonniers. This is one of the occupational hazards.

Mr. HINDS:

Tell us about Item 30.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

These are four temporary posts. The hon. member will appreciate that these are Draft Estimates, but when they are passed he will get the real thing. I myself had to ask for information on that Item. On the question of street lighting, this will be from Black Rock to Speights-town.

Mr. HINDS:

What about the people in Ashton Hall, Benn Hill, Lonesome Hill, Indian Ground and so on?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

We are carrying out a survey.

Mr. HINDS:

The people at Indian Ground petitioned you to do the road by H. I. Gill. What are you doing about

them? Are you doing something to help the poor people?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

One of the things that has our lighting programme held up is getting the lights. You will notice the new type of light we have been putting up, but the man who is making these lamps for us is trying to be difficult. I will not go any further than that.

Mr. HINDS:

Can nobody offer him competition?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

This is the problem. Making a street lamp is not like a road; you have to know what you are doing. We are getting a good lamp, but we have to import it. As soon as we get them we will try to install as many as possible, but installing a lamp is different from sewing a button on a shirt. We have to wait on the Electric Company to do this and they do not have the physical staff for carrying out these things. They are trying to help us as much as possible.

Mr. HINDS:

Have they got a training programme? On a point of order, this is a community project running into thousands of dollars because they are contracting with you to supply you with the lamps. What is the point if they landed a thousand lamps tomorrow and you have to wait for them to put them in two by two because they do not have any staff? You should try and find out if they have a training programme so that in another two or three years they would have enough staff, because the old staff would be retiring and you have to initiate a training programme at some stage to keep the Department up to full strength.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

No point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

You will remember that I shared out some certificates at the Electric Company after they sponsored a programme for electricians in the country. This was a programme for private electricians, but the Electrical Department is faced with the same problem. You may get a man who can wire, but finding a good electrician is something different. These are the things we have to try and remedy. When the

Electric Company gets the lamps they would be able to start installing some. (Mr. HINDS How soon do you expect some of these lamps?) In the near future. I think we should get them by next month.

Mr. HINDS:

Do you expect to reach Speights-town by June, and are you going to do something about lighting of the Speightstown bridge?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

There are two hon. members on their feet, and at the same time it is very difficult for the Reporter to write correctly. 1.10a.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

There is another point the hon. member must not overlook; when you get near Sandy Lane Hotel, it will necessitate erecting poles because there are no poles along that stretch. (Mr. HINDS This is the time to put up the poles, not when the lights come.) But the hon. member, surely, Mr. Chairman, will have to understand that despite the fact that the Electric Company is a utility service, I still cannot give the Electric Company a directive. I can ask that something be done; I cannot give a directive. I can give the Waterworks people a directive or my Ministry a directive; I cannot give the Telephone Company or the Electric Company a directive; it has to be a sort of a request; so we have to co-operate with the people. (Mr. HINDS Do you want me to get them to put up the poles for you? I bet you within a matter of hours I can get those poles put up for you by the Electric Company.)

Item 78. We are trying to do all over the island, but one must be realistic; St. Michael is the biggest taxpaying parish we have in the island, it has the biggest population, and we have to do more roads in St. Michael than we can do outside; but this does not mean we are not going to do roads in the other parishes. (Mr. HINDS: But when?) As soon as you let it pass. (Mr. HINDS Pass it, as man.)

The question that the sum of $6, 428, 884 be appropriated under Head 35. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 36 - WATERWORKS

Head 36 - Waterworks - was called.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, there are a few amendments to be made under this Head. Under Item 50 - Furniture and Equipment, substitute the figure "14, 3.60" for the figure "26, 360" and make consequential amendments. Delete the word "pumps" appearing in the note thereto. I beg to move that the sum of $2, 540, 696 be appropriated under this Head.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

Mr. CRAIG:

Mr. Chairman, I have never experienced such a water shortage as I have been experiencing in the Christ Church area within the past few months. In the Coverley district, between the hours of seven in the morning and three in the afternoon you can hardly get any water at all. What I cannot understand is this. For a very long time I heard the Minister say they were digging more wells or putting down a reservoir in that area; I do not know what they have done or what plans they have for it. What I can tell you is this, that for the past three months the Waterworks Department has been digging trenches and laying larger mains along that area. It is a nuisance, though it is a necessity. What I cannot understand is for what reason the Government, up to this very day, has never set out to have a comprehensive plan whereby the Waterworks, the Gas and Electric people can come together and project a budget and arrange their business for laying pipes, mains and cables so that it can be one exercise, rather than having them dig up the road one after the other as they do now. I can appreciate that if you have a burst main or if there is any fault - I would not say with the Telephone Company, because they are always having faults since they have this new complex. I do not know if the Minister would be able to throw any light on this type of thing which I would term as a comprehensive plan - if Government and these other private enterprises can get together and work out something so as to avoid the problem of having the roads dug up every month.

The road at. Oistins is a mess. The biggest joke in the whole world I could ever think of is to see three men in Oistins directing traffic; I cannot understand how in this day and age you can find one man - a big strong man - with a piece of flag in his hand at one end of the road calling the traffic, and another man at the other end doing the same thing. Are you paying them the same amount of money as you are paying the others for digging up the road? The Mitchell Construction Co. uses lights so as to have more productivity in the labour force. Another thing which worries me is to see that in this day and age men are still so dumb; they will be working in the road and, right by the spot they are working, you can see a sign "DANGER - MEN WORKING" when this sign should be about thirty or forty yards up the street.

I would like to hear what views the Minister has on a plan where Government and these enterprises can get together for the purpose of carrying out a master plan; see if you can get some lights like some of these private enterprises and put some of these strong men to do some hard work. 1.20 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:

Waterworks - Mr. Chairman, Sir, Item 45. Can the Minister tell us what, apart from a breakdown at the supply source of the reservoir or a breakdown in your mains - apart from these things what causes an interrupted or intermittent supply of water in any area? I would like the Minister to answer that.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I will answer the last question first. This is simple. Years ago people had to go to the pipe and wait long hours to get a bucket of water, and that had to serve a whole household. Since then everybody can put in a pipe, get a hose attached to the pipe - I will come to an incident which happened last week Friday. I went to St. Philip to examine a request for a road. When I got through the cart road there was a length of hose about 100 ft. long running into a ground which has absolutely nothing in it. I took up the hose and showed Mr. Lowe and Mr. Griffith who were with me and the Assistant Secretary. Is not this a burning shame? The ground was saturated; so the hose must have been running all the time. (Aside Mr. CRAIG Diversification of lands.)

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

If we go on like this, this country is going to run out of water. When I spoke about it they quarrelled and said that I should not see everything. This interruption of water may be one of three things - low water in the reservoir, broken mains or more water being used than is necessary. Some people have water toilets installed, hoses left in the ground etc. I have seen a woman sheltering from the rain and watering. I saw this on Monday morning - a man supposed to be watering a coconut tree - he was watering the ground; he looked at me and went and dropped the hose at the root of the coconut tree.

This is the kind of thing I have to put up with. When you see that you do not get water in the mains, it is one of the three things, I mentioned; either a low reservoir, the wasting of water by far too many people or broken mains. We have another problem. Since the standard of living has gone up, people have put in toilet facilities (Mr. HINDS: It has gone above the heads of the people.) The toilet tanks hold two gallons of water, and if there are children flushing the toilets there is a greater waste of water. I want the hon. member to speak to any people he sees wasting water. The water that is being wasted today will be needed tomorrow. 1.30 a.m.

Mr. Chairman, the senior member for St. James asked about planning. Wherever this is practicable we will do it. It is extremely difficult to plan properly in a matter such as this. You cannot put the telephone cables, the gas mains and the water mains in the same trench. If you observe what is taking place at Maxwell, you will find that the water is on the left; the telephone cables are right of centre; I do not know where the natural gas is, but you cannot put all of them together. Let us say that we had electric cables on top of a water main and the water main burst; somebody would get electrocuted before he could reach the water main. We must be realistic. If you have something underground, you cannot tell when it will be damaged. The Electric Company will know that they are losing current, but they will not be able to find the spot easily. They will have to dig until they find the spot, and that is where we get the trouble.

With regard to the Christ Church area, we are trying to have the place refilled as quickly as possible wherever it is possible to do that. With regard to the Mitchell Company, I had to stop them from digging up so much road at one time. Of course, they were finding employment for workers, but we could not allow them to inconvenience the general community.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. You told me on the floor of this House that you did not know that the Mitchell people were causing this problem.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I never said that.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, we are having water delivered by motor lorry, and I would like to know what is causing this to happen in St. Peter at a time when the crop is not being harvested. Now, how can you justify, at Item 44, paying $700 to a Debt Collector as commission for collecting arrears of water rates, when you have the remedy in your hands? You can turn off the water in a matter of minutes. The Minister ought to know that if the water is turned off the people will go and pay the water bill. You do not have to pay any Debt Collector $700 to collect arrears of water rates. Some people may have fallen down on their instalments after you had installed the water and something may have prevented them from meeting their obligations to the Waterworks Department. I believe that a case may be made out for handing that person over to a Debt Collector.

Mr. Chairman, if I installed water in my home it would mean that I am in need of the services. If the water is not there, then I will have to do everything that is humanly possible to have it turned on again.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I have known cases where we turned off the water and the people turned it on again. You cannot expect a Chief Engineer or an Accountant to go into Court with somebody to collect water rates. If the Debt Collector does not get the money, he has the time to spend in Court. (Mr. HINDS Is this a retainer that you are paying him?) This may not be for the arrears of water rates; it may be a question of not paying for a burst line. He gets a commission, and that is a normal thing for a Debt Collector.

Mr. HINDS:

How do you arrive at that amount? How do you know that you would have to pay him $700?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

There is the question of plumbing services. If you want water Installed in your home, you can pay the Waterworks Department 3/4 or 2/3 of the money, and then you pay the balance during the first quarter. If the Waterworks Department discovers that you did not use all of the material, then you may be refunded the necessary amount. The Waterworks Department has a vote from which it can pay you the money instead of waiting until somebody comes here with a Resolution to get money to pay anybody.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, at Item 46, you have $20,000 to cover the cost of repairs and so on. When are you going to move the Headquarters from up there?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

We are constructing things up there.

Mr. HINDS:

Is it necessary to spend $20,000 this year?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I am not sure that we will spend all of it.

The question that the sum of $2, 540, 696 under Waterworks - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 37 - LIGHTHOUSES Head - 37 - Lighthouses - was called.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $64, 760 under Head 37 - Lighthouses - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

I beg to second that. 1.40 a.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

We are going to automate the lighthouses and pension the Lighthouse Keepers. Although they have not all reached the retiring age, the only post commensurate with theirs is in the Post Office, but we do not want to bring these men into the Post Office because we think the work would be a bit too strenuous, and not having worked at the Post Office before, we thought it best to give them a gratuity and pension.

Mr. HINDS:

Have they all been told this or are you going to wait until you pension them to tell them?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I am not sure, but I believe they have been told, because this is something that has been hanging fire for a long time. (Mr. HINDS When is it going to come into effect?) As soon as we get the Head passed and we can get the equipment down.

Mr. HINDS:

How long will this equipment take before it arrives? Where are you bringing it from.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
It is coming from England.

Mr. HINDS:
What is it going to cost? You must have been in touch with the Crown Agents to get the estimates.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
I think it is somewhere in the vicinity of $25,000. (Mr. HINDS I suppose you have that in the Capital Estimates.) I believe so.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, these Lighthouse Keepers are people who are performing a work of some credit. A decision has been taken in Cabinet to pension them off. I wonder if you have taken into consideration the number of years in respect of each Keeper. Has each Keeper put in ten years? The Minister should be in a position to tell us if the last Keeper to have joined the ranks has put in ten years. What is going to be his position? On what basis are-you planning to pension them off? They have not reached retiring age as such, and if a Keeper requires three or four years to bring him to the retiring point, are you going to give him that three or four years so that he would get a full pension?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
Surely the hon. member should know that this is a matter for Establishments and not for me. The law has been laid down. If you have an officer who is going out before his age limit, something is worked out as to how he should be paid and he is paid accordingly; but from what I see, I think they will come off handsomely. If you look at Abstract "C" in the Annexed Estimates on page 162, you will see $22, 460 for Lighthouses. This money is recoverable from light dues, as you will see on page 161.

The question that the sum of $64, 760 under Head 37 - Lighthouses - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 38 - ELECTRICAL INSPECTION Head 38 - Electrical Inspection - was called.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $50, 760 under Head 38 - Electrical Inspection - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg to second that.

Mr. ST. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, I want to know the Hon. Minister's views on this Department. Is it contemplated that a reorganisation will take place? I heard that nearly everybody in this Department is acting or is on retirement. What is wrong that you cannot attract permanent people to this Department? Secondly, I would be delighted to see a copy of the Electricity Regulations in Barbados. We must pay serious attention to this Department in this financial year. There is a large vote here for $10,000 for temporary staff, and the note says "For casual assistance which is required by the large and increasing volume of Departmental duties in accordance with the Electricity Act, 1936, Electric Light and Power Order (Confirmation) Act 1907, Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1940 and Regulations made under the Act." I have been trying to get a copy of the Regulations under the Electricity Act very lately, and I do not think there are any that have been made. We cannot trace any, but I think it is quite clear that there is a practice in Barbados for people, after a house has been inspected, to add to it. They instal air conditioning without re-inspection, and I think special attention should be paid to this Department this year.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I do not think I could agree with the hon. member more. He asked a good question when he asked about the problem of acting appointments. Electricity, unlike most other fields, seems to be one of the hardest fields, and it is always difficult to get a good electrician, because as I said earlier, electricity is one of the things you cannot risk to make a mistake with. You might make a mistake with an engine and put in the plugs wrong or cross the wires; you might mistime the engine and it would back-fire; but with electricity, if you hold the wrong wire, that is the end of you. We have been faced with this problem ever since I will tell you what I believe is the reason why we cannot get good people. 1.50 a.m.

You are not going to attract any good Electrical Engineer here for this sort of money; an Electrical Engineer is a man who has to do a lot of studying, and he never stops studying. Unlike a doctor - you know, a doctor can say that the operation was successful but the patient died - but if an electrician does anything wrong, the evidence is there and the whole world will know. We have been faced with this problem, and as a matter of fact we have advertised for an Electrical Engineer; the present Electrical Engineer is on a contract with us and you cannot get good qualified people to come to take up these posts. We have been trying without success. Another thing is that apparently the moment a youngster

gets through with a few 'O' Level or 'A' Level subjects, he starts to talk about law, medicine, engineering or banking, but it is always hard to get good electricians; that is the problem we are faced, with, and I also know that we have to have a proper set of rules for electricians, because a man goes to wire a house and does not test the house before he calls in the Electrical Inspector. When the Electrical Inspector comes in and finds a fault, this chap will not go back because he might find it inconvenient and he will not go back to rectify his fault; then the person is held up for months. We plan to issue licences to qualified electricians. We will inspect a house and if there is a complaint against any work a man has done he will have to rectify this fault because some of the people are poor, and when he goes to wire another house, we will not pass that until he rectifies the first one. I fully share the views of the hon. member, and I will look myself and see if I find anything on this, but I do not believe there is; I have never seen it.

The question that the sum of $50, 760 be appropriated under Head 38 was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave to lay the Statement which the Prime Minister promised on the Registration of Electors.

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported progress and asked for leave to sit again, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the Statement on the Registration of Electors. I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until 3 o'clock this afternoon; I beg to say that we must finish the Appropriation Bill today, so that I am serving notice that when we meet here this afternoon we meet to finish the Appropriation Bill in its entirety.

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

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

2.00 a.m.

On resumption:-

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Before we go into Committee Mr. Deputy Speaker, I would like the House to deal with the Resolution, of which notice was given on Tuesday, in respect of salary and emoluments of the Personal Assistant to the Prime Minister.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:
When this sitting was suspended this morning, the House was in Committee of Supply; but the hon. Leader of the House is asking permission of the House to deal with a special Resolution, and if there is no objection leave will be granted.

There being no objection leave is granted.

RESOLUTION re SALARY AND EMOLUMENTS

OF THE PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO

THE PRIME MINISTER

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
This Resolution was circulated. I think hon. members have seen it. I beg to move that this Resolution be approved.

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

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:
When the sitting was suspended, the House was into Committee of Supply; to that it now reverts.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee of Supply, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION - (1) GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Head 39 - Ministry of Education - (1) Genera" Administration was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I think we have to change some figures on page 95. If hon. members look at Item 30 - the figure has to be changed from $720 to $780. The sub-total is $5, 184 instead of $5, 124. On the next page the grand total will be $257, 114 instead of $257,054.

Also, on page 96, you will notice, towards the end of the page, after Item 39 there is no figure for the Item 40. Put in the figure of 40 in that column.

I beg to move that the sum of $257, 114 under Head 39 (1) Ministry of Education, General Administration, stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, let us turn to Item 29 - Cleaners. I am wondering if the Minister is in a position to tell us if the Cleaners employed in this Department have all been given salary increases?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
The answer is "yes". We have dealt with these recently and fixed new salaries. I do not know if there would be any complaints. I know their salaries have been adjusted.

Mr. HINDS:
Item 36 - Teacher Training. There is an amount of $81,600 and the Note says ' Provision for local courses and expenses of overseas training. Increase due to increase in the cost of air passages and the necessity to organize courses in specialised subjects. Also includes provision as contribution to the curriculum and teacher training fund for U.N.I.C.E.F. project'.

Now, as for the air passages: undoubtedly the Minister will have something to tell us about these increased air passages since we have heard from the Prime Minister so much, not to allay our fears, rather to heighten them. As for Teachers Training, Sir, there is need, Mr. Chairman, for seeing that in institutions like Erdiston Training College, practical agriculture and religious education are given the attention that they had been receiving in early years. As for practical agriculture, Sir, it is known that since the resignation of the late C.S. Moe, the teaching of Agricultural Science has deteriorated and the students find absolutely no interest in the little that is shown them.

This cannot be allowed to pass by lightly in view of the early shout from the mouth of Government when we are seeking to diversify our agricultural policy. I think that it is time that we do something to increase and improve the situation in this particular respect.

Now, Mr. Chairman, Teacher Training overseas. It is about time, Sir, that we look and see that this involves $81,600. It is time that we begin to look to regional institutions to see what can be done with a view to effecting savings and to reducing these high air passages. Paying air passages means that the distance you have gone further afield to pursue studies entails expenditure which might be reduced if a careful survey is given to what we can get at home.

We have, Mr. Chairman, three institutions engaging in Teacher Training within the region. There are two Departments at the U.W.I. concerned with Teacher Training - the Department of Education sited at Mona where a Diploma course in theory and practice is offered to graduates, and there is also a course offered by the Institute of Education. 3.10 p.m.

I think this is functioning at all three of the Campuses - at Mona, St. Augustine and Cave Hill -and the Institute is offering a similar course for non-graduates leading up to a Certificate. This Certificate I am told, is recognised in Great Britain. If we were to examine all of this and relate it to our own Technical Institute where we ought to set about to develop this, wherever possible, to assist in future training, we would find that a considerable saving could be effected and that our teachers would suffer in no respect whatsoever in spite of the fact that one can say that one had the benefit of an education in China, India, or wherever the course was offered.

Mr. Chairman, courses are offered in specialised subjects; but because a course has been offered, it does not mean that the necessity does not arise for us to examine the pros and cons and to look at the economic aspect of things to see where we can save money and keep it within the region, wherever possible.

Mr. Chairman, let us go to Item 40- International Education Year - $4, 135. Now this is to meet the cost of expenses in connection with the observance of International Education Year. I believe that I am right in saying that there is supposed to be a conference to be held somewhere, and it will necessitate one sending delegates overseas. One very important thing is that no good can come to Barbados if we are sending politicians to a conference of this sort. I am very serious when I say so. It should not be coloured by politics. It would be better if we were to select an Education Officer or Officers who would have, perhaps, five or more years in the Service so that, when they return, they will be able to put into effect some of what they have gathered at the conference.

If we were to send politicians, one knows what is likely to happen. When we look around the corner and see that a politician can be here today and somewhere else tomorrow, we have to be very careful in

matters of this sort, if we want to appear to be getting some sort of benefit from the conference. This is an occasion where educationalists should take advantage of the opportunity of attending a conference of this sort. I think that these few observations on this Head would be enough to cover, at least, the fears of the Leader of the House.

Mr. ST. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, Item 37 -Examinations. I wonder whether the Leader of the House is able to bring us up-to-date in respect of the proposals for the Common Examination Council of the Caribbean. I understand that from last year it is a fact that students of schools have been taking the examinations at Cambridge and this is only an interim matter. I should be most grateful for some information in this matter.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, while a reply is being got for the senior member for Christ Church on the question of the proposals for a Caribbean Examination Council, I can deal with one or two of the matters raised by the hon. junior member for St. Peter. On the question of putting Agricultural Science back on the curriculum of Teacher Training, the Ministry is now considering the possibility of re-introducing this in the curriculum at Erdiston. I think the hon. member will agree that this is as good an answer as any. The difficulty, I believe, is that while it is always possible to get people to go and teach it, you do not always get people who like doing it. Sometimes people have other specialities and prefer to concentrate on those specialities rather than this one. Now, the late Mr. Moe did valid service in this respect, not only at Erdiston, but even when he was Head of various schools. The School Gardening Competitions always brought his school out on top. The Ministry has not lost sight of its value, and it proposes to reintroduce it.

On the question of the observance of International Education Year, of course, the Ministry is participating in this, as all other countries all over the world are doing. I will bear in mind the hon. member's point that politicians ought not to be heavily involved in it. The only trouble is that in education, as in any other matter, you need politicians to put the policy of their Governments as well as to come into Parliament and submit themselves to a searching examination on the policy of their Ministries. While they may or may not feel induced to attend particular conferences, they, nevertheless, have to be in the forefront in the planning of educational policy.

On the question of Air Passages, these are passages for teachers who are awarded Commonwealth Bursaries. The hon. member asked about Air Rates. These new Air fares have been enforced from the 1st August, 1969, and they have been agreed to by the Air Transport Board; therefore, all countries - at least in the Caribbean, including our own - are paying them.

3.20 p.m.

On the Caribbean Examinations Council, this has not yet come to full fruition, and-briefly-at the Heads of Government Conference in 1964, the four - as they are now - independent Commonwealth Caribbean territories decided to set up a Caribbean Examinations Council whose business it would be to be an external examining body to replace the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, either singly or jointly, and therefore to prepare a form of external examination for the Secondary Schools in the area. Some of the details were worked out as early as 1965, and negotiations have been held with the University of Cambridge with a view to getting an expert to advise on the mechanics of doing this thing. Very shortly a West Indies Examination Council will be set up, and , when the next Heads of Government Conference meets proposals from the various Ministries of the territories are to be put before the Conference for their approval. I believe there will also have to be more consultations with the experts of Cambridge, Oxford and London Universities; but, to cut a long story short, it seems as if by 1973 the first examinations would be written. It is not anticipated that it can be done before then.

Mr. ST. JOHN:

If the hon. member would give way, when he mentions the Universities of London, Oxford and Cambridge, is it the intention that the Examinations Council will also embrace the type of examination now being done by the L.C.C. and the Associated Examinations Board in technical subjects?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The answer is "yes", but they would not be able to do all this immediately. What I think they plan is to start in 1973 with the subjects which it would be easy to examine - in most of the Arts subjects and a few of the Science subjects - and to go on from there gradually to put on examinations in technical and other subjects until the full range is done. In other words, when they start in 1973, it will probably take five or six years before the full range of subjects is done.

I remember in 1964 when these discussions first came out, it was thought even then that a Caribbean Examinations Council could at that time have started to examine in such subjects as English, History and Foreign Languages. Some Governments, however, felt at the time that there was no point in having a piece-meal approach to this thing, and they wanted, particularly the Governments of Jamaica and Guyana,

a full range of subjects to be done from the beginning. When further examination was made of the problem, it was decided that it could not be done quite that way from the beginning because all the schools in all the territories were working on different curricula, and writing different examinations at

different stages of preparation; so everybody decided to go a little bit more carefully and examine this thing in depth, call in the experts from Oxford, Cambridge and London, have a look at the West African Examinations Council - because they had a good flourishing one for some years - have a look at the East African one, have a look at the Hong Kong, Malaya and Singapore ones because this group had been doing it for eight or nine years, and then decide what we were going to do. All this has been done and proposals are being got ready to put before Governments in a month's time, but the experts say that they will be ready to start in 1973.

Allied, of course, to this problem is also the very important problem of writing textbooks suiting our conditions, background and our own history and outlook. The University of the West Indies, as hon. members know, has already travelled some distance in this respect, and we have had Barbadian teachers who have taken part in preparing textbooks for the Primary Schools of the region. Miss Sylvia Watts, the Headteacher of the St. Leonards Girls', has for three years been engaged with this work as well as other teachers from other parts of the region, and some of the textbooks are already in use in various countries in the region. The proposal is to expand this to have textbooks for Secondary Schools to prepare children for the syllabuses which the Caribbean Examinations Council, when it starts to work in 1973, will require for use.

The question that the sum of $257, 114 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (1) General Administration -as amended, stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (2) PRIMARY, ADULT AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Head 39 - Ministry of Education (2) Primary, Adult and Special Education - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, under this Head I think we should start by making some corrections. First on page 97, if you go down to the extreme left column under the figure 1969-70 you will see the figure "1078". This is to be changed to "1022". That should give a total of 1578. If you go over the other page, the explanatory Note to Item 3 should read "to provide for teachers to maintain appropriate pupil teacher ratio".

The next Note is No. 12 where it says: "to meet the cost of repairs to Primary Schools". We must now add "Includes provision for repairing Church property formerly used by the Ministry of Education".

I beg to move that the sum of $3, 190, 139 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (2) Primary, Adult and Special Education - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that. 3.30 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, I shall take Items 3 and 4 together - Supernumerary Teachers and Acting Staff. I see there has been a varying Note here to Item 3 and it now reads "to provide for teachers to maintain appropriate pupil teacher ratio"; but, Mr. Chairman, our view on this matter is that we feel that the time has come when Government should take a long-term view of the problem and see where it is possible to eliminate the need for teachers acting as supernumeraries for more than a year. In the first place, we feel that persons employed to act as supernumeraries ought to be qualified in any case, and if they have been acting for a year we feel that they should be given some sort of compensation and encouraged to go on studying for their Certificate B or whatever is necessary to make them better qualified to serve in their various capacities.

Item 4 is to provide substitutes for teachers on leave. The same thing applies there, but for some strange reasoning on the part of the Ministry a dissatisfaction is allowed to grow amongst these people who are employed as supernumeraries and acting as teachers for those on leave, in that they find it extremely difficult to receive prompt payment for their services; that is, a person works for some time, and sometimes more than two months elapse, and it is when you get onto the third month you may get a voucher for the first month. It tends to get people disgusted, and many a young person who had entered on the first round of the education ladder as a supernumerary, if things had been different in this respect might have remained on to help bring the strength of the service more up-to-date, and I am to wonder what explanation the Minister can give for this delay.

Another thing that happens is - it happened throughout last year when a Headteacher of a school first knew that a particular person was assigned to his school when the person turned up with a letter that was seven, eight or nine days postdated and the Head-teacher had only that letter to guide him. We feel that if a person is to be assigned to a particular school, the assignment must come from the Ministry; and at the same time that a letter is sent to the appointee, I cannot for the life of me see how it is humanly

possible to neglect to advise the Headteacher of the school that you have assigned a person to join his school from a particular date. This in itself, when a teacher turns up with a letter and the Headteacher has not been told in advance, shows that the Department has not acted in the interest of the person who has been sent to that school because you cannot expect the Headteacher to accept it kindly, and that is a situation which I feel should be adjusted, and, in the same manner, the question of paying these people promptly; because if you know that a person is assigned to a school from a particular date in place of some other person who is on leave you have to provide payment for the person. If the substantive holder of the post had not gone on leave, payment would have to be made at the same time as other teachers are receiving their pay, and we want something done about it as speedily as possible.

Item 6 - Casual Staff. This sum is to provide for janitors, and it includes provision for vacation pay and to pay substitutes when staff is on sick leave. I want to hear from the Minister if janitors have been given a salary increase, and if so, if it has been made retroactive from 1st April, 1969, because I am telling the Committee that I am advised that some of these janitors at schools have not been given any salary increase, and I would certainly like the Minister to tell us what the true position is regarding this situation, and, if they have not been given a salary increase, what is responsible for it. Here you find that provision is being made to pay these people during the school vacation, and are you going to tell me that you are making provision such as this and at the same time not seeing that the people are given a salary increase when there is a general salaries revision throughout the General Service? If we can turn now to Item 8 - Apparatus and Material, I understand the practice is to require teachers to use cardboard and waste in making teaching aids. I feel I could give the Ministry a little assistance in this respect. When teachers are compelled to burn the midnight oil cutting up these pieces of card and other waste to make these teaching aids, it is not a pleasant thing and teachers do not like it; they are very dissatisfied about it. What I feel is that it should express itself in a particular number of teachers in schools, and where this is found, that is the type of teacher to be encouraged; but not for teachers to have it as an imposition, something placed upon them, and that is where we are finding a considerable amount of dissatisfaction.

In the United States of America, children and teachers are encouraged in preparing their own teaching aids, but you will find in almost every case that the teachers seek to use all the waste materials that are available to them, and that the waste material in itself bears a considerable relation to the day-today home life of the pupils themselves. That is what the teachers do in the United States of America, so that you will find that it is a pretty meaningful exercise on the part of those teachers and pupils. You will recall that there was a Miss Millicent Weston who was a Science Teacher at Queen's College, and she was appointed District Inspector some years ago. 3.40 p.m.

She went around visiting various schools and tried to encourage teachers to use clean - I lay emphasis on 'clean' - discarded cardboard and other household articles and waste, but in every case Miss Weston insisted on clean materials being used. My information is that some of our teachers are expected to prepare some of these teaching aids- from materials which are not always as clean as one would wish. Let us ask ourselves what we are getting out of it in the long run. The atmosphere which prevails in the

schools, the standards that are obtaining in these schools with respect to those card board teaching aid preparations... all that is done is that they are used to adorn the walls of the school building on the days when the Inspector is expected to pay a visit. The children are not getting any real benefit from them.

On the other hand, Mr. Chairman, you will find that so much time is devoted to this wastefulness that you are finding that our children are leaving these schools not being able to read and write the English Language as in days past. You will agree with me, Mr. Chairman, that it is shocking to see the product that is turned out from the Primary Schools today. In truth and in fact, they are not fitted to take their places in the very environment in which they live, after having spent an average of 5 to 6 years in these Primary Schools. You will find that so much time is wasted employing unproductive methods that the children - not only the children - the community as a whole stands to suffer in very great measure, and the price we have got to pay in the long run would be most shattering as a result of this time-waste in our Primary Schools, the scandalous robbery that is being perpetrated upon our own defenceless children.

You will agree, Mr. Chairman, that parents send their children to school not merely because they want them kept during the hours they are at work, but each and every individual in this Island has come to appreciate the value of an education, and our educational system as practised here in Barbados in years past has stood the test of time. I can say, Sir, that what we call in earlier days our elementary system of education, compares more than favourably with what is Secondary Education today, which is only glossed over with the addition of foreign languages to the curriculum. You know, Mr. Chairman, that a boy in Sixth or Seventh standard in the elementary schools in the days past was a giant at Arithmetic. He could speak the English Language reasonably fluently; he was taught his English Proper; he could conjugate verbs; he knew where he was. Not so of late. Something is radically wrong, and it is the Government's duty to see to it that parents are not being deceived in sending their children to school to be taught something, and they are being taught little or nothing. Government should do something to change the system altogether.

Let us look at this system of record cards. The system of keeping record cards was Introduced in our schools, I think, Sir, sometime in the year 1950. Any layman knows, Mr. Chairman, that those record cards were intended to help children when the time comes to transfer them from the primary to the secondary stage of education, and also for giving guidance in Primary as well as Secondary schools; and what we find in 1950 immediately after they were introduced, was that the teachers in the Secondary Schools hid behind what we call academic freedom and objected to the use of them. But in using them, the teacher has the advantage of assessing the child's intelligence. It assisted in making known the child's demands, and it also enabled one to know something of the child's personality.

These record cards would normally cover the child's fifth to sixth year period in a school so that when the time for transfer comes there could be little difficulty, if any, in assessing the child's inclinations

during those years. It would also assist the teacher, as soon as the child has passed the eleven plus examination, in determining the child's promise in its truest sense. You will find, Sir, that so much has been said against the use of these record cards that very few schools - and it is something to be wondered at - how is it that the Ministry of Education could permit such a system where only a few schools are making the fullest use of these record cards? 3.50 p.m.

It is our view that the keeping of record cards is something very important in the life of each and every child who enters a school. We hope that something will be done to see that record cards are kept and used to the fullest extent in all schools where children are taught, and this should extend to the Independent Secondary Schools. Since they are being assisted from Government funds, it should be imperative that they keep these records as well.

It was on the 27th February that the Common Entrance Examination Part I was sat, and quite a number of our children took the examination. Believe me, Sir, there is already considerable emotional disturbance in both children and parents who are waiting to hear there suits of this examination. Something has to be done, Mr. Chairman, and what we are saying is that if you can provide the use of record cards so that parents themselves can know of the attainment of their children before they take the Common Entrance Examination for as long as it lasts, that in itself could serve to allay some of the nervousness that now affect both parents and child as far as the examination itself is concerned. We want to see that these record cards are put to the fullest use in our schools for the benefit of the school and child.

Mr. Chairman, with regard to Practical Education, we are suffering a considerable disadvantage in this respect in that since the present Government started shouting "Grammar School Education", there has been a decided turning-away from such things as Needlecraft, Handicraft and, even in some cases, Domestic Science. I can say that it is something that we would like to have recorded, for the simple reason that you will find today in any type of agricultural work, however well paid it might be, there is still some sort of a stigma attached to it. Some of us may know that; others may know that, but they do not care to say. We must agree that we have to do something to remove this feeling of agricultural persons being degraded. We have to work real hard at this. One of the best approaches to this problem is to upgrade our Senior Department Schools.

In my own constituency in St. Peter we have Black Bess School which has just won a considerable number of prizes. It was a record winner and it has been doing this for a number of years. If we were to upgrade a school like Black Bess, Speightstown Boys' School, Speightstown Girls' School, Boscobelle Boys' School and others scattered about the Island were immediately upgraded, properly staffed and a considerable emphasis placed on the teaching of Agricultural Science, that would be a great deal of help. Since the Sun Farm Industries were established, horticulture has been given a fillip. If our children were

taught horticulture, we would find many young men and women, instead of liming on the streets, proud of liming in their own gardens because they would be doing something to promote a livelihood for themselves. All of these things have been neglected and we feel it is high time that the Government should do something of this sort.

In the same way as we have our Comprehensive Schools, our children should be assisted in them. When we look at the children who go to our Comprehensive Schools and Senior Department Schools, we can understand what is happening. In the latest Report, the Ministry of Education made no mention of our 46 Senior Department Schools. It only shows us the interest which the Ministry is paying in our 46 Senior Department Schools. When we look at the children attending the Comprehensive Schools, we are satisfied that two-thirds of the children who form the population of our Comprehensive Schools in this Island - or a fair percentage of them - would shine if they were encouraged to study Agricultural Science. You are merely concerned with the Grammar School type of Education. 4.00 p.m.

The cry and shout is for Grammar School education, and everybody wants this type of education, whether or not they have the flair for benefitting from it. Now at a place like St. Leonards' School, there is valuable human material. There is an "A" Stream, and the child who can get into the "A" Stream at Richmond is really and truly not the child that was helped. Less than one-third of the children at these Comprehensive Schools are to be found in the "A" Stream, but you will find that it is the policy of the Ministry that these children are to be pushed for the Grammar School, and this is being done at the expense of the other two-thirds who need to be taken on an excursion by their teachers to some of our factories and to our Industrial Arts Wings to see what is going on there. There you will find that you could relieve yourself of the number that is striving after this type of Grammar School education and have them benefit considerably, as they grow in years from the teaching they could get if they were studying agriculture, horticulture or any Industrial Art that might be taught. We will find that half the use is not made of the instructions that are given in these Industrial Arts Wings, and I would like the Minister to be able to advise us what is the true position as regards staffing of these Industrial Arts Wings because we feel that enough consideration is not given there. The hours are too short and the courses are of too short a duration, and the people who have shown an inclination to benefit from them cannot benefit to the extent which they should. Things should see such a drive in this particular respect that, when the Arts

Wings are closed to the schools population at some hour in the afternoon, they should be opened until possibly 9 o'clock at night for others who could go there and benefit from instruction. We appreciate that we will be told that it is a question of staffing, but we have seen that staffing really means nothing to the present Government, be cause they think nothing of closing the Arts Wings at Cole ridge-Parry or at Foundation School however temporarily. One has seen the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic and the Community College open their doors at the expense of these Arts Wings. This is not fair, and I feel Government should look into matters of this sort and see what could be done. As I said, we do not want this emphasis being placed on the "A" Streams at these Comprehensive Schools as it is now paid at the

expense of the other two-thirds and more who cannot get into the "A" Stream.

At Item 12 there is an amount of $168,000 to meet the cost of repairs to Primary Schools which includes Church property which our Ministry has been using. I wonder, Mr. Chairman, if any portion of this $168,000 is to be spent on the schools which the Minister of Education has gone around and told the world are now overcrowded, because this is money to be used in carrying out repairs. We are distressed somewhat to find the Minister giving the world to believe that every act of commission - that is, where you find some damage to School property, a broken glass window or something of the sort - is vandalism. It is really not fair to the nation. Our people are not people who would deliberately set out to destroy School property. I am not saying there would not be an isolated case of some ignorant or angry parent believing that he is venting some feeling on a teacher by causing some damage to School buildings because there is no adequate playing field at the school for the children, and when they begin to play, the ball or whatever they are using must come into contact with the building and damage is likely to take place. If we do not take steps immediately to repair such damage as may be caused, the situation must worsen. What we want to say is that we have Building Officers in the Ministry of Education itself and it is no function of the Minister to be going around looking to see how many windows want repairing. He could be better employed if he knew what to do. Again if the Education Officers were doing what they are paid to do, no Minister would have to go to a school and tell the world that it is overcrowded. The Minister could sit in his office and look at his files as prepared by his Education Officers and tell anybody from his desk whether a school built to accommodate 600 children is now carrying 1,200 children and therefore considered to be overcrowded, or whether a school built to accommodate 200 is now carrying 350 and in one case nearly 450. It is no function of a Minister to be walking around schools looking to see whether they are overcrowded. What I can say is that the Head-teachers particularly at our Co-ed schools, are finding increasing difficulty due to the absence of adequate lavatory accommodation in some of these schools where girls who reach the age of puberty are causing problems.

4.10 p.m.

They are causing the children that are under them who have to make use of the same accommodation to be seeing things and asking questions and creating sex problems in our schools today. We do not suggest for a single moment that it is an easy thing to overcome in its truest sense, but we find in some cases the accommodation for the teachers themselves is sadly lacking; so when you see the situation as it now presents itself, with these young girls causing their younger sisters and brothers and the like to be asking questions even of their teachers, it is embarrassing, and to provide the necessary accommodation is something that Government has got to face up to. You must have accommodation for children of a particular form separate and distinct from that for the senior forms.

Mr. Chairman, under Item 16 there is an amount here of $118, 473 to provide for the operation of the Evening Institute Programme. I think the best that can be said of the Evening Institute Programme

comes out of the mouth of the Ministry of Education itself in its Report for the year 1962-63 which tells you in no uncertain terms of the wonderful expansion, the wonderful benefits that have been derived, the vast preparation that has been made where this Evening Institute Programme is concerned; so let us ask the Leader of the House why is it that there is no provision made for a Principal for the Evening Institute. Here we find ourselves spending $118, 473 in the execution of a programme for the Evening Institute and would not give consideration to the appointment of a Principal for this Institute. When last did the Institute have a Principal? If it does not now have one, why not? The programme of the Institute must be carried out; how are you approaching this problem without having a Head to administer the affairs of the Institute and its programme? Why was the post abolished? What was the reason for it? We remember the attempt of Dr. Bruce Hamilton - I do not remember his successor, but I remember he was shifted to the Technical Institute. We believe that since Government sees the necessity for spending this sum of money on furthering the programmes of this Institute, we can now say that abolishing the post was a very retrograde step. There can be no denying that, and we feel that a Principal to head this Institute should be appointed as soon as possible. It is not good enough to have a Civil Servant who is supposed to have done a day's work, worked hard, given of his best during the course of a day, to go then to look after the administrative affairs of an Evening Institute that is going to spend $118,000 and over in the furtherance of its programmes. Here we see Government giving the appearance that it is willing to do some good for the people, but at the same time Government is falling down in that it is not planning overall; it is only touching the hem of the garment, so to speak, and this is not good enough. We feel that the programme of the Evening Institute is what we call Further Education. It is what the educationists call Further Education; the present Minister of Education calls it 'Tertiary', and that is a term which the educationists from Great Britian and elsewhere have always tried to avoid. But when you find an Education Minister who tries to be different in everything from everybody else, you will see the employment of such terms. For us it is all Further Education, and if Further Education is to be carried out we have got to see that reconsideration is given to the Evening Institute to give it its right place in our educational system and to have a Principal appointed to head the Institute.

We can go just one step further to Adult Education, Item 17. Here again we have an Adult Education programme spending $129, 570, and this money includes fees for part-time Technical Supervisors and Lecturers. 4.20 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, do you know what is the meaning of Adult Education? It really means, Sir, and includes all forms of education for persons who have completed full time attendance at school; that is what it really means. From 1949, Sir, the then Department of Education began using it in that sense, but something more must be done to let our people benefit from the provision that has been made. The Technical Wings - full use ought to be made of them in our Adult Education programme because if you were to put the sum of $118, 473 and $129, 570 together, you must come to the conclusion, Mr. Chairman, that this is a sum of money which ought not and must not be seen to be frittered away. We have the existing facilities to bring out the full value of this money that is being spent; are we making use of the existing facilities?

On the other hand, it would appear as if we are trying to create a situation which in itself would give people to believe that no facilities existed prior to the coming into being of the present Government, and that is not so. It is unfair. I remember the Hon. Leader of the House telling this Committee that the 1960-63 Report of the Ministry of Education has something wrong with it. I heard him in this House telling this Committee so because it had apparently played up this Government liking the amenities which the former Government had provided, and we feel you cannot escape at all times and for all times facing up to facts. Our Adult Education programme, our Evening Institute programme could all be dove-tailed and then there is no reason why we cannot see a real healthy result from the money that is being appropriated here.

Mr. Chairman, if we turn for a single moment to Item 19, our Extra-Mural classes - $6,000. We are now particularly satisfied that a genuine effort is being made with our Extra-Mural Department and the programme of that Department. We have had some Tutors in the past who were educated people, but they lacked much that was necessary for the prosecution of the programmes of the Extra-Mural Department of this Island.

We have had, Mr. Chairman, one very effeminate Tutor at this Institute, the Extra-Mural Department; he was so obsessed with what ought not to concern the Extra-Mural Department that he drove away every person who would come to the assistance of the Extra-Mural Department and help it in its programme. If we were to look now at the work being done, I feel that Government could do more.

I would like to see, Mr. Chairman, that a bigger grant, some sort of assistance, is given to the Extra-Mural Department. A mere $6,000 today is not enough because I have seen that the present Tutor is taking every step possible to let the public know what the Extra-Mural Department stands for. In other words, he is not prepared to light the candle and put it under a bushel; he is putting it on the house-tops so that people can avail themselves of what the Department has got to offer.

You will find that classes are being promoted, and the subjects chosen for the Lecturers are nearer to the hearts of the people. I would like to know that Government takes consideration of the fact that the work of the Extra-Mural Department is now up to a standard - or appears so - and that it merits a little more support than the $6,000 here appropriated for it.

Now, Mr. Chairman, Item 22 - Musical Instrument. This is a small amount in its truest sense. It is an amount of $3,000 given to schools as grants. They have got to raise 60% of the funds necessary for purchasing pianos, tape-recorders and other musical instruments. We do not object to this at all. We

would like to see that our schools are giving or providing what we call graded and systematic courses in music throughout the schools - that is what we want to see and then I would urge upon the Government to lavish the support, to give it more readily. If you are having a graded and systematic course in musicianship you would find, Mr. Chairman, that school bands would be the normal climax, and much of the latent talent which is knocking around us can be brought out. I wonder, Mr. Chairman, how many of our boys, our young people, can 'sol-fa', how many of them can take up music and read it, as our old elementary boys who went to Fifth and Sixth standard have filled the air with sweet sounds. But no encouragement was given, and the result is that even that which they have learnt in those days is going into dis-use. 4.30 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, we would like to see something done to encourage our children to follow up music more vigorously and to do something to fill their idle hours more advantageously. In the absence of gainful employment or recreation, we know what can be the consequences. We have seen what can happen in our midst today. I should like to hear what information the Leader of the House has regarding boys found in Secondary Schools almost as dope addicts. What does the Minister know about Lodge School? Quite a number of boys at Lodge School have been found taking dope. Does the Minister know anything about Harrison College having a nest of boys there and a similar situation existing at Foundation Boys'? Can the Minister give us any Information regarding things of that sort? I am not going to ask him yet if he knows that the Headmaster at Harrison College has tendered his resignation. One of his reasons for so doing is that he cannot exist on $1,050 a month; he is a single man with neither chick nor child!

I think that I have covered enough under this Head, except that at Item 17 I want to know that in the Adult Education Programme a fuller and better use is made of what is called practical work rooms attached to some of our schools.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member has ranged far and wide under this Head, and I believe he will forgive me, if I may not pursue all of his points under this Head, if I tell him that I hope to overtake some of these while we are dealing with other Heads.

In respect of Items 3 and 4, the Ministry is at the moment looking to the Teaching Establishment and they expect shortly to send the appropriate Civil Establishment Order to Parliament. On this point the hon. member made a very important point about the delay in payments. The position is that the Ministry does not like this to happen any more than anybody else. I will give you some idea why it would not happen any more - at least, according to them. The Ministry, as the hon. member knows, has been recently re-organised internally, and they have subdivided the work into various areas so that one aspect of education will be handled by one section of the Ministry, and not, as hitherto has been the case, by

several people working in several sections. They have overcome all of those problems and they are confidently looking forward to a cessation of those delays of payment. The Accounts Section will deal only with accounts, and will not be involved in anything outside of that.

On the question of substitutes. the Establishment limitation prevents the Ministry from appointing substitutes even if they were acting continuously for more than one year and are qualified. At the same time, all of those people have their pension rights guaranteed and safeguarded and, of course, all of their acting service is going towards their pensions. Of course, they also get increments every year so long as they qualify for it. Most of the acting teachers and substitutes do not have the minimum four "A" Levels.....

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Are you now talking about four "A" Levels when your own Ministry has reduced it to nothing?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member is going to remind me of what Mr. Pusinelli said we ought to have. Just as there is many a slipup between pronouncement of policy and the execution thereof, until that new policy is fully implemented the Ministry still have to maintain their present standard until they change things. What the Ministry have been doing for several years is to have Summer Induction Courses for teachers who have two or more "O" Levels. In the old days - nomenclature changes very often, but these would be referred to as Relief Teachers when they were taken on.

The hon. member also asked about sudden notices of appointments. When the Head Teacher informs the Ministry of teachers' absence or their illness, the Ministry supplies a teacher from a list.

4.40 p.m.

Now this frequently re suits in such a teacher who has to go to fill the vacancy taking a letter of temporary appointment with him or with her to the Head-teacher. I do not exactly know why there should be a hiatus between the reporting of the vacancy and the presenting by the substitute of himself or herself for the acting appointment. However, they are trying to speed up this, and it is better we think, that it should be done by letter being taken rather than perhaps a word-of-mouth procedure, or perhaps even by ringing up on the telephone. I have myself known of complaints of the lack of communication between the Ministry and schools. You got the odd instance wherein somebody brings a letter and says he has been told to report to you this morning, and the Headteacher says they did not tell him anything

about it. The proper solution, of course, would be, I think, for a sort of simultaneous cross - communication. When the Headteacher informs the Ministry that there is a vacancy at the school, it should be possible, I believe, for the Ministry to say to her or to him that as from next month we will be sending one of these three persons.

Mr. HINDS:

I can assist the Minister in one respect. Some Headteachers do not know that a vacancy exists at their own school until a teacher turns up saying he has been sent to the school.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This may be true, but when this happens they are more fortunate than even I myself. I frequently never know of things until the hon. member tells me and we are in the same House.

On the point about teaching aids, the Ministry has had complaints about the time spent in preparing these aids. Teachers are expected to prepare their own aids often with the help and guidance of the Audio-Visual Aids Department. When children assist in making these aids, they learn something about the subject and they understand and appreciate the value of improvisation so that they do not solely depend on others, and their ingenuity and their own creative aptitudes are thereby stimulated.

The hon. member made a point about the teaching of English, and I pause to tell him here that he will find very many supporters of his point of view, and I am not quite sure if I myself might not be one of them. Mr. Chairman, the really distressing thing about an educational system is that too many people are really involved in it. If you can do away with the children, half of the problems would be solved. If, better still, we can do away with the teachers, it would be nearer perfection. If you go a little further and did not have people like myself and the hon. member who have strong views on these matters, we would have no worry at all; but unfortunately teachers, pupils, parents, politicians, the whole community are involved in the educational system and in its constant evaluation, and if as many people as are taught in addition all say what should be taught and how it should be taught, we are going to have just as many theories on education; but there is one point they have all agreed on and it is that something is wrong with our educational system, and I do not mean the Barbadian system.

Mr. Chairman, everybody is complaining that in the last twenty years, particularly after the Second World War, there has been a deterioration of certain vital aspects of educational practice and in the Arts as well. I do not pretend to know why this should be so. I have some very strong old-fashioned ideas. Certainly I still feel despite all evidence to the contrary - and I say this and hold it to be true and valid in the teeth of all the opposition that can be marshalled against it - that you cannot properly learn a

language unless you are taught the basic structure of it. it seems to me that it can well be that because you no longer indulge in teaching grammar, we have these problems about the mastery of English. It is a pathetic thing. Everybody notices it and comments on it, and you cannot find anybody under the age of 30 who can express himself or herself succinctly and well. Only the other day I was talking to a University Lecturer, himself an examiner, and he was appalled at the work which was turned out in a degree examination with almost entirely woeful lack of powers of communication. These were people in their middle twenties, some of them good enough to get First-Class Honours in their particular subjects, and all of them good enough to get a degree; but none of them could communicate properly, and this University Lecturer was saying that if the assessment of their work rested on how they had been able to spell and express themselves, he would have failed them completely. He made a facetious comment about one particular paper which he was marking, and the comment was that this person spells badly but his hand-writing disguises it. If you are going to get this kind of problem even at University level among people who are admitted geniuses, it must certainly be worse and more prominently demonstrated in your Secondary and Primary Schools.

Before I really knew something of this problem, I used to say that teachers were at fault, but that is not the whole solution. When you reflect that in our country - and this must be true of every West Indian territory - our children have to learn two basic languages simultaneously and be dabbling with both every day, the language in the home and the language which they tend to teach in the schools - when you reflect further that there is sometimes a wide disparity between the structures of the two languages, I think you can develop a wide area of sympathy for people who have to learn in either or in both. I do not know what the solution is. It seems to me, however, that whichever language we are going to be most fluent in, whether it is the dialect language or what is known as basic or standard English, its structure would have to be learned very thoroughly or else we would not be able to express ourselves in either. These, I think, are matters for continual research, and all countries and all Ministries of Education within countries have to keep it under continual review. Nobody knows the solution to the problem. All we know is that there are some consequential results of the problem which ate very terribly needed. There is no doubt at all about it that a lot of the failures in the General Certificate of Education Examination are traceable to the very tenuous command of English which most pupils have, and if you cannot express yourself in your own language, you are not likely to be able to answer questions which call for imaginative treatment or for descriptive treatment in other subject areas. 4.50 p.m.

In the whole West Indian context we have to rely, not only on our own resources to solve this problem; we have to rely on the University of the West Indies and the Research Education Institutions in the' wider world to assist us in finding some sort of solution to this admittedly chaotic dangerous situation.

Record Cards. The points which have been made have been noted and there is a study being undertaken in the Planning and Research Section of the Ministry on this matter, and this study is expected to show what method is likely to be the best for the future.

On the Common Entrance Examination I was hoping the hon. member would leave this off until a more convenient time during the year when we would be able to discuss it, as I do not think that either of us could do justice to this very knotty problem here. I would only like to say this, that the Ministry is not at the moment in a position to announce what test or what sort of preparation for secondary education will replace the present Common Entrance system, but they are looking into it and they are hoping to come up with something soon.

On the question of practical education, again we have noted the points made by the hon. junior member about Practical Needlework and Domestic Science, but there is just one point that I myself would like to interject here if I may, and that is that I think the hon. member may have been guilty of a misconception of the whole purpose of the inclusion of Industrial Arts in school curricula. When in a Grammar School you add to the list of subjects to be taught Woodwork and Metal Work, the purpose of putting on those two subjects is not to turn out at that stage even budding carpenters or budding tin-smiths; woodwork and metal work at that level is designed to give a good all-round general education and give the pupils some idea of what it is like to work with their hands, but not necessarily even to start them at the beginning of a particular skill. If a Secondary School decides that as soon as a pupil got into Third Form he should do gardening, as used to be the case at Queen's College in Guyana, and the Fourth Form pupil should make brushes or do leather work or something like that - and I was astonished some 20 years ago when I earnestly believed that Queen's College, British Guiana, as it then was, was an advanced Secondary School and I was told that they were not doing this to make the pupils choose these trades but to give them a general all-round education. This, I understand, is the purposed of Industrial Arts as a curricular subject at that level; of course, if you are doing Wood- work or Metal Work or whatever else it is at the Technical Institute or at the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic, you are really getting down to serious business then; but at the lower level it is not designed to develop a particular bent or aptitude, but only to assist in giving a broad spectrum to the curriculum. I just wanted to mention this, because the criticism that it is not being used sufficiently would be a valid criticism if you want more children at that level to know more about these things, but it would not be a valid criticism if by asking them to do more you are asking for an upgrading of the particular subject, because it does not mean, as I said, to inculcate a skill, but merely to give a lot of children in a particular age-group a broader activity in the school curriculum.

I would like, if I may, to leave off the comments on the Grammar Schools until we get a little lower down, if the hon. member does not mind.

Item 6 - Casual Staff. The Ministry has examined this matter and they are giving consideration for an increase in wages for these workers now. I believe the hon. member asked about janitors, but they have not yet received their increases. (Mr. HINDS: Why not?) The reason is that in a big Public Service like

this one somebody has got to be at the end. I would like to say something, but it might be recorded. If I may speak without having this taken down, it might be that there are other people in the service of the Crown who have not yet received theirs and I think he would sympathise with them, so that I am quite sure that at the time these other folk that we are not speaking about receive theirs, it would be before the hon. member would have reason to rejoice; so it is he and I who would be last, not the janitors; they will get theirs. This is about all, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. HINDS:

Item 14, Mr. Chairman, $10,000 to provide games equipment for Primary Schools with suitable playing fields. Exactly what does Government mean by this? Here is a case where the Government has been in power since 1961 and the hon. Leader of the House had a good opportunity of doing something about a situation such as this. I am concerning myself with these suitable playing fields; there are some schools without any playing fields at all, the Minister will admit, and I would like to know what is being done about this.

5.00 p.m.

When a Headteacher knows that $10,000 has been appropriated to give games assistance to only those schools with suitable playing fields, and at the same time every Headteacher, I feel, has been making a request to Government to do something about the situation at his own school -how far has the Government progressed? Does the Government have any plans to see that all schools, wherever placed and wherever possible, must be equipped not only with playing fields, but suitable playing fields? Surely when a request is made by a Headteacher for something to be done about the protruding rocks around the schools, as in the case of Boscobelle Boys School - there is only a small people with three and four Advanced Level Certificates, be cause nobody with three or four Advanced Level Certificates would ever allow himself to become a supernumerary teacher. You are left, therefore, with those people who cannot qualify for any other part of the Civil Service, and become supernumerary teachers. I say they are birds of passage because invariably they realise that if they want to get on in life, they must receive other qualifications. They must try and get two or three other subjects at Ordinary Level or try and get Advanced Level in order to move on. You will find, therefore, that these people are not concerned so much with teaching the school children but with educating themselves to move out of that category of teachers as placed in the Primary Schools of this country. To that extent they are not there because they are dedicated. They are not there as a contrast to people who perhaps go to University and return and are interested in teaching even if they do not remain for a while. As I look around I can see people who taught me at school for at least ten years of their lives. A person like that cannot be described as a bird of passage.

Mr. Chairman, in the Elementary Schools today, those teachers at the bottom are not prepared to suffer the hardships which the Primary School teachers do. He is only there for until such time as he can get a better job, and as soon as he gets two or three more "O" Level subjects he gets into the Civil Service and

moves on, and not being a dedicated person or someone skilled in teaching, it seems that the child whom this person is supposed to be teaching is the person who will suffer. That is why I say that at that early stage the correct impact should be made on the child if it is to be educated properly in our society.

I know, Sir, that the Government has a Teacher-Training service, but I think the whole process of teachers and Teacher-Training should be reconsidered. It is not satisfactory in this day and age to allow people to go and teach first and then have some Teacher-Training and come back, because untold harm may have been done during that period the teacher was not trained. It is like being a policeman. You do not go into the Force and then go to train at the Training School. You must have your basic training before you are sent out to do certain duties and before you can become a full-fledged policeman. I should, therefore, like to see Government change its whole attitude to the question of training teachers where no person should be allowed to be set loose or teach in any school in this country unless he has undergone the requisite training.

5.30 p.m.

You do not allow people to go and teach first and then send them for training afterwards; you should not be appointed to the teaching service in this country until such time as you have undergone a period of training because again it boils down to the simple question that it is the impact that is made on the child's mind that would decide whether that child is going to become a good student or not. As I said earlier, it is the poor standard of the teaching service; it is the poor facilities in this day and age. I know the argument will be put forward that a lot of people are educated under the present system, and, therefore, if the child will be successful in life he will be successful in spite of what system he is educated under, but I do not believe we can afford to adopt this attitude in this day and age. This may be a sound conservative attitude, but I do not believe it is the sort of attitude that we can adopt; because the present system was good for our forefathers, it does not necessarily mean that it is good for us today. It might have been good for those who have succeeded, but I am quite certain there were a number of our forefathers who did not succeed because of the present system of education in this country. Anybody who looks at the educational system in this country must come to the conclusion that our education is still designed for the 19th century.

As I said before, it is the policy of the Government, as I see it, to mortgage the educational future of a child with an attempt at 11 years, through the 11-plus examination, to redeem it - and in 70 out of 100 cases the redemption is not successful - and then sell the child out with a second or third rate education, educated by people who themselves had second rate education and therefore are condemned to live in this society as second class citizens.

There is one other point I wish to make, and it is on the question of English. I was interested to hear

the Leader of the House say that he was hoping the University of the West Indies would do something about this. I had the privilege of listening to Professor Roy Marshall last week, and he was complaining that within the University, among many of the University students, there is a lot of illiteracy and they cannot read properly or cannot express themselves in writing. I think the problem must be with our system of education.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, the Leader of the House, in replying to some points I had raised with respect to the Comprehensive Schools, particularly where the children ought to be given an opportunity to develop themselves latent talents rather than shout for a Grammar School education, said that I did not seem to understand - he indicated that - the full use of these Industrial Arts, so that children were not really given an opportunity to graduate therefrom, but it was only to give them an all-round education. I accept what the Minister said; but I want the Minister to turn to the Report of the Ministry of Education for the period 1st September, 1967 to 31st August, 1968 on page 20 and read paragraph 3 where it states "In all schools provision was made to cater to the varying abilities and aptitudes of students by allowing specialization in arts, craft, science or technical subjects after a certain stage in general education has been achieved." Let the Minister explain if, when you are specialising, you are still getting this general outlook.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

If the hon. member would remember, I selected one aspect of his point and dealt with that, and I told him that on secondary education when we are properly on that Head I will say something more about it.

Mr. St. JOHN:

I would like some information on the new St. Bartholomew's School, and in particular I would like to know when it is going to be opened, and whether it was taken into account in its design the fact that it was physically situated near to the runway, and when the new runway extension takes place it would appear that this school is going to be situated in an area which will be subject to a lot of noise. The view has been expressed that it was crazy to build the school there in the first place; so I want to know whether any special features were incorporated in the design, bearing in mind the noise factor which will inevitably resuit from the situation.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, this matter has been investigated, quite recently, and my understanding is that in view of the prevailing circumstances, what exists at present, the allegation that the noise factor will be very dangerous to the students is not a valid one, in that in the entire area you are subject to that noise from the Jets, and the fact that you are having a proper school a few hundred yards removed does not really mean that this noise factor will be the danger as suggested. The Minister has given the assurance that the

matter will be investigated and that the fears will be allayed, and that it is not based on fact. Whether the school is where it is at present, or whether it was not, the position is identical.

Mr. St. JOHN:

I am very glad to hear that because my information came from the Department of Civil Aviation. 5.40 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

As I understand the hon. member, I believe he is referring to the design of the building. (Aside No.)

Mr. St. JOHN:

Windows - whether double panelled or whether any special windows were incorporated to shut out the noise.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I heard some discussion on this recently in Government, and the assurance was given that although there will be noise, it would not be to the degree that it might disturb or ruin the building in any way or physically disturb the children.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

The Minister has just said that there will be extension to the service. How close would the Jets be to the school?

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

You have between 35 and 38 planes a day, nothing to do with Jumbo Jets. You can work out and see the number of flights and how many hours will be lost. It is going to be difficult for children in this respect, Sir. Experts informed me that with the Jumbo planes you will have to remove the school from there. What the junior member asked I had intended to ask. How near will be this school to the strip when we have the extension of the, runway? What about the small children there? I am sure you agree that this noise will not be conducive to their learning.

If the Government has other expert evidence, all well and good; otherwise, I have been informed by an

expert who knows about it.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Is the school completed now? I passed there not long ago....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I understand that it is scheduled to be opened during next term.

Mr. St. JOHN:
I did not see any roadway. I hope you will not open it without a roadway. It would be most economical to put in the roadway. It is off the beaten track; there is a cart track, but no road at all and part of Parish Land drains there.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
In connection with the extension and the Jumbo Jets. Are the hon. members knowledgeable as to where the extension will come? (Aside We are asking you now.)

Mr. St. JOHN:
According to what the Prime Minister said in here the extension is 1,500 feet to the West taking up the existing road between part of Pilgrim Road and down to Paragon in that direction - to the West, not East -which is nearer towards the schools.

Mr. SMITH:
Mr. Chairman, the Minister just now read out roadways that are being planned for these schools, but I did not hear anything about St. Anns Junior. I wonder if the Minister will consider at the same time fixing the roadway into St. Anns Junior School. It is in a very bad state of repair, and the Ministry of Health will bear me out on this, that for 2 or 3 years ago a site for a playing field was selected north of St. Joseph West. I hope the Minister will take it up as soon as he possibly can; (Everybody went and selected the site.) - the playing field and the road to St. Ann's Junior School.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I beg to move that the sun of $3, 190, 139 under Head 39(2) - Ministry of Education, Primary, Adult

and Special Education, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

On the motion of Hon. J. (7. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Chairman reported progress and asked for leave to sit again, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

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

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

5.50 p.m.

On resumption:-

Mr. SPEAKER:

When the sitting was suspended.. Mr. HINDS Mr. Speaker, there is no yuorum. Mr. SPEAKER Mr. Clerk, let the bell be rung. The bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.

Mr. SPEAKER:
When the sitting was suspended the House was in Committee of Supply, and to that it now reverts.

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

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (3) SECONDARY EDUCATION

Head 39 - Ministry of Education (3) Secondary Education - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I think we have to make some changes in this Head. If you will look at Item 23, page 99, we will have to change the figure under the 'Other Expenditure' column from $350,200" to "$417,400". When we go to the opposite page, the Note to Item 3 should read "to provide for teachers to maintain appropriate pupil teacher ratio". Take out the words "substitutes and" and put in the words "for teachers".

At Note 5, you will delete the words " To provide for 7 Stenographers and 7 Clerical Officers", and put in "Provision for Clerks/Typists for the Comprehensive Schools.

Now, lower down the page at Note 18, the word "up" should be inserted after the word "building".

Those are all the amendments.

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $4, 373, 691 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (3) Secondary Education - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, at Item 4 - Acting Staff - the Note states "To provide substitutes for teachers on leave." I want to know what provision is made to cover a situation where a vacancy occurs. This Item makes provision for a teacher who is on leave, but what provision is made for a teacher who resigns and creates a vacancy? As in the case of the Headmaster at Harrison College, a vacancy will be created. I wonder whether you will have a Deputy Headmaster to act for him or not. There will be a vacancy on the staff until the headship is filled. I see no provision made under this Head for such a situation. The Minister has indicated that he will look into the matter. I do not think that he can move in anything under this Head at this late hour, but he can give serious consideration to it.

I see that you are providing Clerk/Typists for the 7 Comprehensive Schools. You have amended your Note because you do not intend to appoint 7 Clerks which is a much batter idea, but what consideration is being given to the other Schools? I feel that the numbers at the Comprehensive Schools and the requests for certificates and so on will necessitate the appointment of a Clerk/Typist at these Schools. Nobody will object to that, and I am sure the Minister is awars of the fact that there are numerous other schools among the 126 who would need clerical assistance. There are, as you know, requests made to Headteachers to prepare testimonials for people who leave schools.

Mr. Chairman, I know that, in the case of the Speightstown Girls' School, where the Headteacher does not reside in the parish, it is extremely difficult for people to get in contact with her. I know that she tries to accommodate the various requests as best she can. If a Clerical Assistant were provided for her, certain documents could be prepared and presented to her for her signature/When the Head-teacher is away from the district, the officer could attend to certain business. Perhaps you could provide a Clerk/Typist to work among the 6 Schools in the North and give him a travelling allowance.

At Item 6 you are providing for 5 gardeners, 11 groundsmen and 7 watchmen. Mr. Chairman, you have 10 Grammar Schools that have Governing Bodies to look after their watchmen, and we feel that the 7 Watchmen who are to be employed are for the 7 Comprehensive Schools. Is that the position?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Yes.

Mr. HINDS:
I wonder whether the Minister has given any consideration to St. Leonard's School where there have been incidents during the school hours which more than merit the presence of a watchman during the day. Perhaps you may call him a Security Guard and provide him with a uniform. I know chat these schools are not sufficiently well enclosed, and I am sure that teachers have complained about this matter.

6.20 p.m.

You may find people going across the grounds and going to make use of the lavatory accommodation that is provided for the children, and it can be a very embarrassing situation, when a child wants to enter the lavatory, to find that some unknown overgrown man is using the facilities. We do not know to any degree of certainty what were the intentions of any man found on the premises, but our feeling is that these uninvited guests have no right on the school premises at all, and in the case of St. Leonard's, it is not good. I feel that consideration should be given to appointing, if not one, two Security Guards for that School. I am sure that had the Springer Memorial School had a similar situation there, it would warrant the appointment of a Security Guard. These girl children need some sort of protection. You will find that young men who have no respect or regard for law and order just ride their bicycles on to the premises to see their girl-friends, and although some, of the children might be willing to try and avoid these people, they find themselves unable to do so, and that is where we feel that the presence of a Security Guard would help to protect these children and keep these wolves in sheep's clothing from entering the school premises during school hours. I feel you should give very active consideration to having Security Guards at these Comprehensive Schools.

On Item 16, you are spending $18,500 to provide materials and equipment for Industrial Arts Wings at Comprehensive Schools. What is the true position with regards to staffing of these Industrial Arts Wings at these Comprehensive Schools? Have there been any vacancies during the past year? Have you found that students were waiting to be instructed and no Instructor turned up? On how many occasions have you had situations like that? There has been a case, Mr. Chairman, where senior students have tried to fill the breach during the absence of the Instructor proper, and on the arrival of the Instructor, instead of his apologising for lateness and trying to give credit to the child who was brave enough to try to make use of the time allotted to that instruction, the child was brushed aside and made to feel he was trying to assume too much. I would like to know if you have had any vacancies, what was the cause of the delays, and how many hours of instruction have been lost to these pupils and the cause for the loss of time.

Now you are spending, under Item 19, for Prizes at Prize Giving, $700. Since you are only providing $700, how many schools are you providing for? Is it a case where you are providing for the ten Grammar Schools, seven Independent Secondary Schools, and since you have your....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

If the hon. member would give way, I believe that that particular item refers only to the Comprehensive Schools. If he looks further he will see that the Grammar Schools have an appropriation at Items 20, 21 and 23. All other items above Item 20 relate to the Comprehensive Schools.

Mr. HINDS:

I take it that you are spending $100 per year on each school. At a place like St. Leonard's School which has about 1,500 children, are you spending $100 for a school year? Then you have the Princess Margaret School, West St. Joseph, and the Springer Memorial, among otters. Do you think you are doing justice to a good cause by. offering a mere $100? We appreciate the fact that at St. Leonard's with 1,500 children you would not be competing at the end- of a single school year, but nevertheless you feel you are giving something when in truth and in fact you are giving nothing when you look at the size of these schools.

Let us look, Mr. Chairman, at Item 23 -Approved Independent Schools. It is time for Government to revise its policy in respect of these Approved Independent Schools.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

If the hon. member would give- way, I just rise merely, because he is on this point to remind him that when the White Paper on this was issued in 1965, there was a recommendation in the White Paper that the policy should be reviewed in five years, and it is so going to be reviewed this year.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I have heard the Leader of the House. I am not accepting what he is saying because the same Leader of the House had promised the new Education Act since 1962. This is 1970.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

You cannot get an Education Act as you would get to hear what is happening in the Hospital, you know. Nobody would tell you what to put in an Education Act; you have to think it out.

6.30 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:

The present method has been to produce an Education Act without the advice of the Crown Law Officers; that is the trouble with the present Education Act that has been produced behind the backs of these officers. What they have drafted and put before the Minister he has pushed that aside, and the draft that has been circularised shows the penmanship of a layman, of a novice. Your Crown Law Officers are not ashamed to let people know that their hands have absolutely nothing to do with what has been circulated; they are protecting their own good names, and I give them credit for it, from this amount of mess that you have in the Ministry of Education. However, the Minister says that the policy of Government is going to be reviewed; let us look at what was really the policy and what is the policy up to the time that the review begins, and if one were to look at it, you would have to relate the policy with regard to these Approved Independent Schools to the policy of Government in its own schools, and you will find that Bursaries or Exhibitions are given to the pupils of these Approved Schools, and the Minister ought to be in a position to tell us if each exhibitioner receives the same amount of money, that is, $25 per term, irrespective of the school to which the child goes.

Hon. J. G. TUDOR:

Of course, because money is paid to the schools in respect of each person.

Mr. HINDS; Can the Minister tell us if at Presentation College there are ten bursars so that the school is paid $250, and if at the Modern High School there are ten bursars and that that school is also paid $250? (Hon J. C. TUDOR: Yes.) Mr. Chairman, I am asking the Minister to seek advice before he replies. Another thing, what is the method of payment? In other words, do you give grants in respect of teachers' salaries? Do you give these schools $X for teachers' salaries, $X for bursars or exhibitioners, or does the school just receive these exhibitioners? Does a school get its approval because at the time of inspection or at the time of its application for approval it is staffed with qualified teachers, or a reas6nable number of qualified teachers, and on that basis these Approved Schools are given $X for one teacher to two hundred children or something like that (Hon. J. C. TUDOR That is the ratio.). What we would like to be advised on is this; are you going to give 800 exhibitions in any one year?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

It may be any number; the point is that we provide for 2,400 all at the same time. If in any one year there are 300 school leavers and there are vacancies in the several schools for 300 exhibitioners and there are pupils qualified to have them, then we make up the number up to the total of 2,400 by 300 new people. It is a continuous revolving exercise.

Mr. HINDS; Can the Minister give me just this little bit of information? How much money of this $417,400 has to be spent on bursaries, how much on teachers' salaries and how much on subventions? What we want to be told, however, is how you arrive at the number. If you are giving 800 exhibitions to these Independent Schools, how do you arrive at the number for the Modern High School, and the number for St. Winifred's or for any other school for that matter amongst these Approved Schools? I would really like to know how this figure is arrived at; it means a lot to us.

We have got to turn back a little here to Item 16, Industrial Arts. The Minister has some information to give me on this. We understand that instruction terminates as soon as a child reaches the Third Form; does it make sense, or is it not a case of a Government cutting across its own policy, as is shown here on page 20 of the Report of the Ministry of Education for the period 1st September, 1967 to the 31st August, 1968, when it says that in these Comprehensive Schools only those pupils who show definite academic promise are entered for overseas examinations. In common with pupils of the all-age schools they all wrote the 1968 Barbados School Leaving Examination organised and supervised by the Ministry of Education. In the following paragraph it states: "In all schools provision was made to cater to the varying abilities and aptitudes of students by allowing specialization in arts, craft, science or technical subjects after a certain stage in general education has been achieved." When does this specialization come into being when you are stopping your instruction when the child reaches Third Form? Could this be true? What is the situation in the Grammar Schools? When do you stop your Industrial Arts training? 6.40 p.m.

It is When the child reaches Third Form that you can really see his varying abilities and aptitudes. Undoubtedly this shows that there is a break-down; your system is disintegrating somewhere. There is no policy at all on Secondary Education. Your new Education Act puts you in a worse position. The fact that the Headmaster of Harrison's College cannot make ends meet, raises a very serious problem in this community. However one may look at it, the Headmaster at Harrison College could not be a fool at any stage, and when the Headmaster of Harrison College says something, it has weight. If in his position, with a salary of $1,500 a month, he is single without children, and he cannot get ends to meet, it is raising a serious problem which one of us will have to try to unravel. I would like to hear what the Minister has to say on the matters raised and see if we can assist him in passing this Head as quickly as possible.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I believe the last speaker said that the Government had no educational policy. I say that they do have an educational policy as regards Secondary Schools. It has two things - free secondary education and school meals; that is their educational policy, Sir. That is the totality of their educational policy for Secondary Schools and Comprehensive Schools - school meals. Is that a good educational policy, sir? What is needed is a complete re-thinking on the approach to education in this country. The approach that we have now does not suit the needs of Barbados in the 70's. But it is clear that the present

educational policy of the Government for secondary education is not the only answer to the problems of Barbados, and the mere fact that the Government has to provide bursaries, as under Item 23, is indicative of the fact that the Government's educational policy on free secondary education is a total failure.

I would like the Minister, when he is going to reply, to tell the House the number of children in Government Secondary Schools receiving free secondary education, the number of persons who in the Secondary Schools are receiving bursaries and the number of children in the Private Schools, not only the Approved, who have to pay for their education,

I expect you, Sir, in all seriousness to tell the House what are those figures. I am confident that those figures will disclose the total failure of the Government in attempting to institute a system of free secondary education in this country.

Now, Sir, one other thing before I pass on to Approved Schools. I think the time has come when all distinction existing between the Secondary Schools must be removed. I believe that all of us who went to Harrison College or Lodge School because of our set-up consider ourselves better educated than those who went to Foundation or Combermere. This was so and still is today because the Government is insisting in maintaining the distinction between Harrison College and Lodge School and the other schools. Every effort should be made to remove this distinction. Whether you receive education at Lodge School, Harrison College or Combermere, or Foundation, the public should accept you as being properly educated.

Let us be realistic. Under our present standards today in Barbados, if a boy goes for a job from the Alleyne or Parry-Coleridge School and has the same qualifications as a Harrison College boy, because of the present snob values in our society the Harrison College or Lodge School boy would get a job anywhere in Bridgetown before the boy at Coleridge-Parry School or the Alleyne School. Why is Government allowing this distinction to remain and is doing nothing about it? Therefore, it must be part and parcel of the educational policy of the Government to remove this distinction between Secondary Schools.

You have created, Mr. Chairman, because of the distinction among Secondary Schools, a tremendous gap between your Secondary Schools and your Comprehensive Schools. For example, when I was in London I met a young lady who was coming to teach in Barbados. She was offered a job in one of the Secondary Schools and in one of the Comprehensive Schools; because of the terms of the contract she had to accept the contract with the Secondary School because they offered her a job at the Comprehensive School but they were going to give her leave without pay. The salary of the Secondary

School was the some as the Comprehensive School, but included leave passages. 6.50 p.m.

If you maintain this sort of distinction you are not going to attract teachers of a proper type. Even if you attract teachers from overseas on contract, you are not going to attract proper teachers at the Comprehensive Schools.

Mr. Chairman, let us move on to Item 23, Approved Schools. I think that the presence of these schools in Barbados today shows the complete failure of the Government to produce an effective educational policy. I think that this is done because the reason for the Government approving these Secondary Schools is due to the inability of the Government to build schools and to produce teachers to cope with the demands of society today. If the Government were keeping pace with the demands of society today, there would never be any need for the Private Secondary Schools, because your Comprehensive Schools and Secondary Schools would fulfil the function of secondary education in this country. Because of the failure of the Government to keep pace with the development of our country, today you have these schools in existence.

Sir, I say that the time has come when the Government must take a very serious look at these independent schools, because it is not right in this day and age to allow people to make money and profiteer out of the educational system. When you look at the bulk of these schools you will find that they are not catering to the educational needs of the young people; they are catering merely to the pockets of the owners of the schools. I make no apology for saying that, because I believe that your Private Secondary Schools are not catering to the educational requirements of society, but they are catering purely and simply to meet the financial requirements of the owners of these schools.

I do not know the basis on which certain schools were approved, and I should hope that when the Minister rises he will give them. I was not a member of this House in 1965; I did not have the benefit of seeing the White Paper, but I would certainly like the Minister in his reply to state the basis on which schools are approved. I would also like him to state, when schools are approved, whether any checks are made to see the standard of the schools after they have been approved, and, if checks are made, how often are they made. How often are these investigations made to see that the schools are maintaining a high standard of education? We cannot just sit here and pass money, because it is a good idea to give 1300 students education. That is not the sole criterion. If that were so, you would have to spend a lot of money on it. It must be of paramount importance to ascertain whether the schools to whom you are paying this money are maintaining a certain standard in order to ensure that the students who are supposed to be getting the benefit of an education are indeed receiving the benefit of that education.

Sir, on the Question of teachers' salaries, I would like to find out from the Minister whether payment is based on one teacher for every 200 children, or one qualified teacher for every 200 students. I regret very much that, because of the failure of the Government to pursue a vigorous educational policy in Barbados, you have a need for these private Secondary Schools. (Interruption) I hope the Minister of Health will appreciate that, even I with my big voice, will have to stop addressing the House when a small aeroplane like that one is passing over.

Mr. Chairman, I hope that the Government will carry out investigations even as regards the schools that are not approved. I know that the Minister may say that he cannot carry out investigation regarding the schools that are not approved, but what about the other Private Secondary Schools that are not approved? Is there any Governmental control over those schools? Is there no control over the Public Health requirements of those schools? Are they required to provide a certain number of water toilets per hundred children? I should really like to obtain this information from the Government, because it is very important that people are prevented from profiteering out of education in this country, and that is what most of the private schools in this country are doing. I am not saying that some private schools are not making a contribution to the general education of this country. I certainly think the records of certain private schools will stand out. Every little man in this country can open up a school and put up a sign stating "So-and-So High School".

Mr. Chairman, we must be realistic. There are a number of people in this society who have not had the benefit of education, and those of you who represent agricultural districts will know what I am talking about. The parent of a child from an agricultural district thinks that when he sees the words "So-and-So High School" that the school itself will provide a proper education for his child, but little does he know that it will provide the worst education for his child in this country; yet, we have a Government that is sitting idly by and allowing these people to rob poor people in this country. 7 p.m.

Any check at the private Secondary Schools would show that the bulk of children who go there are from the lower classes of society whose parents can ill afford to pay the high fees that are required to be paid, and that is why I said earlier that the failure of the Government has led to the existence of the of the private Secondary Schools in this country and their growth during the 1960's. I am not going to blame you for the coming into being of the private Secondary Schools, because some were in existence when you came into power, but I blame you for their growth during the 1960's. They have grown and developed more rapidly that the Government Secondary Schools, and this is because the Democratic Labour Party said that you do not have to pay school fees any more, without first ensuring that the people who should benefit from free secondary education were the ones who were in fact going to benefit; but the people who are benefiting or the people who fail to benefit from a system of free secondary education are the people who should have benefitted from it, and I defy.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
If the hon. member would give way, I should just like him to repeat that last part.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
The people who fail to benefit from the free secondary education and those who should benefit from it are the children in the agricultural districts like St. Lucy, St. Andrew, St. Thomas and St. Peter. I have watched this for years because I live at Eagle Hall and I happen to go to work at the period of time when the school buses are coming down and I see for myself where the Rocklyn school buses are coming from. I know the uniform of Queen's College, Modern High School, Lynch's Secondary School and Seventh Day Adventist, and the majority of children travelling on these buses wear the uniform of private Secondary Schools. Sir, I know that in 1962 when a Question was asked in the House there were 6,000 children in the Government Secondary Schools and 12,000 in the private Secondary Schools, and I have no doubt that the ratio is even greater today than in 1962. The Minister will know, as you do, Mr. Chairman, that the majority of people who go to private Secondary Schools come from the homes of agricultural workers, domestics and artisans who can ill afford to pay $50, $60 and $70 a term. There has been a failure by Government to build sufficient Comprehensive Schools and to expand and extend the existing ones. I would like to ask the Government how many schools have they built of the standard of Harrison College, Combermere, Lodge, Queen's College and Foundation during the years they were in office. You might call them Grammar Schools, but they are not up to the standard of the schools I have mentioned. Those are all the questions I have to pose to the Minister.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, the big thing about education is that you can have different views upon it, and I personally have discovered that the more you get to understand about it, the more reticent it tends to make you become. Years ago when I did not know as much as I do about it as I do now, I used to pontificate as the hon. member just said. Now that I know a little bit more, I am a bit more reticent. Do you know what I have discovered?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
On a point of order, I hope the Minister will pass on his experience to the now Minister of Education so that he will stop pontificating.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
No point of order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I think it is a maxim which some young lawyers might well win by, that the more you get to know about a thing, the less inclined you are to lay down the law about it. Nor would I be drawn on this occasion into an argument with the hon. member about the merits of the Democratic Labour Party's educational policy. I will concede that if after 17 years of Barbados Labour Party and ten years of us and things are so bad, then there is no hope at all for the people of Barbados, because at least one or another of the two particular Parties ought to have managed to do something with Barbadian human nature. Of course, his argument is not in that region at all; it is in another region altogether.

Now the hon. member raised several points about our Secondary School policy. He said we have none and in particular....

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

On a point of order, I did not say so at all. I said you have one, which is free secondary education.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I am obliged to the hon. member for reminding me that we have one. Only yesterday or two days ago my memory was refreshed by a little news item in the newspaper that was not in respect of free secondary education - this was in some other aspect of our p3licy - when it said that I had got on the floor of the House and asked the then Minister about School Meals, and when we get to that Head it will be rather different from the Head that once was crowned with thorns. 7.10 p.m.

Anyhow, the position is this. It simply is not true that in our policy of free secondary education the people who benefit from it should not benefit.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

On a point of order, I never said that; what I said was that those who should benefit are not benefitting, which is an entirely different thing.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This is problematic; the hon. member ought to know - and if he does not know this, if he were not brought up in those days, the hon. senior member for Bridgetown could certainly tell him because the hon. senior member for Bridgetown has had personal experience, when he was in another place, of the type of child who is benefitting from this policy. He had called me in my capacity as Minister of Education on three ocassions I could recall to let me see for myself the type of children that were getting

into Harrison College, Queen's College, Combermere School and Lodge. If you say that among that number in the Government Schools fewer come from the country districts than from the metropolitan area, this could well be true because more people live in the country than live in Bridgetown; so on statistics alone you would expect this. You cannot have it both ways. If the children from St. Lucy, St. Peter and St. James - those who qualify - go to Coleridge-Parry and Alexandra, and if the boys from St. John go to the Lodge School and those from Christ Church and some parts of St. Philip, as indeed from any other part of the island, can go to any of the Foundation Schools or to the Alleyne, it means that whatever that number is is a wide cross-section of , the geographical area that is Barbados. I do not think you can base any argument on where the children come from; that really does not matter; what matters is that of the number that qualify for the Grammar School places every year, or that are admitted, the overwhelming majority are from the Primary Schools of this island; this is a fact. (Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY This is bound to be so.) If it has to be so because they have more children, why are you going to use the other argument that more children attend the independent schools? Our solution is a practical one (Mr. HINDS None?) Do you mean to tell me that a representative of a political Party that said that even the little that they think we are doing could not be done - and that little is more than a little in my opinion - none of the things that we have done could be done, according to them. I must tell you this, Mr. Chairman, there will be a little awkwardness at this part of the argument between the hon. junior member for St. Peter and myself because I did not have the eloquence to praise the Democratic Labour Party for certain aspects of its policy in 1962 as the hon. member had.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, all the Minister is saying is that I am a person who gives to Caesar the things that are Caesar's.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Before the Minister gets back up, I think I should point out some figures to him. You will admit that every year you only put into the Government Secondary Schools 700 pupils out of 11,000, 5,000 of which are doing it for the last time?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Yes, bat suppose school fees were still going on, how many of these that are admitted would be able to be admitted if you still had to pay?

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, let the Minister review his present policy, and, if you had it that each person entering a Secondary School were paying $8.50, if it would not be better for the people now who are trying to educate their children. You are going into one house in a village and taking out a child giving it free education, and that same child has three or four other children coming from the same house paying

$50, $60 and all sorts of dollars, as is happening over here at the Ursuline Convent and these schools catering to the overseas students with boarding accommodation. They are willfully obstructing the progress of our children in this island because the Government is giving a $25 Exhibition, but the schools are jacking up the fees so that a child in Third Form has to receive a letter stating that it will have to pay $125 in addition to the $25 that the Government is paying, and they are charging the children from overseas $600 a month for boarding and lodging. What is the Government doing about it? If you review your policy and let each child in a Secondary School pay $8.50, you will have to find places enough to house all the children that will be able to go to school and see what will happen; your free secondary education nonsense would go to smithereens.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I wonder if the Minister would be so kind as to give me the figures I asked for.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member would not really appreciate this, but I am paying him a compliment; he has clarified in the last four or five minutes what could be a genuine cleavage of outlook. If you say that the Labour Party wishes to re-introduce fee paying, we have a genuine battle ground; this is the kind of issue to take to the people. (Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY This is not an issue.) Of course this is an issue. That is the Labour Party's policy.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, what I tried to point out to the Minister is that when one looks at the present policy of Government in its attempt to introduce what they call free secondary education with so many thousands having to pay such high fees uncontrolled by Government that the private Secondary Schools are being allowed to rape and rob and not to teach these children anything, and the Government is doing nothing about it, but it is contenting itself by saying that they are giving free secondary education to a handful, it would be better if everybody was paying $8.50. 7.20 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I have not misquoted the hon. member, The hon. member said it would be better if everybody had teen paying; I take it, therefore, when he says this, he means that his Party thinks that that would be the better policy. It is a policy we do not accept because we have our own.

Mr. St. JOHN:

You have none.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

We have a different one. I say this is the kind of politics I understand where the Party lines are so clearly drawn that when you appeal to the people on an issue, people know what one side stands for and what the other stands for. You wish to re-introduce fee paying and we do not.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

You are giving free secondary education where normally a boy would have paid $8.00 - the fees might have been raised to $12 or $16. You say "Don't pay this $8.50; we send you into the school free, but pay $40 a term for books"!

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

No.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

And you take a boy from Kensington New Road and send him to the Alleyne School, not paying his bus fare nor anything. He is bright; he came out of the Elementary School; he normally would have got an Exhibition - those Exhibitions were provided for long ago - but you take him and send him down to the Alleyne School, or you take a boy from Church Village and send him to the Lodge School. You don't pay his bus fares; he is a bright boy; he gets into the school; what have you done? They have some very sympathetic people in the Education Department; when you approach them on this matter they will see the difficulty. But I am at a loss to understand how the people who are responsible - they must see the addresses - how can they take them from one place like this and send them to another school?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The hon. senior memberfor Bridgetown, would you solve this problem which we can admit is a problem, with the re-introduction of fee-paying?

(Interruption) Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I would like to answer that.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I was not addressing it to you. (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY I know.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I have repeatedly warned hon. members that.....

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, what the Minister fails to realise is this, that his free secondary education is being paid for in very great measurs by the taxes of the people who have got to look otherwise, groan under the strain and then have to turn and find money to educate their children in these private schools.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
This is just like in the old days; you used to get into Harrison College and pay $24 and the masses used to pay taxes to subsidise their education.

Mr. HINDS:
What you have done is this. You have relieved all the people who are willing to pay $24; they have no responsibility now.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Do you mean that because a man can afford a watchman he is not entitled to Police protection?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Let us get the figures now, then.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Oh, no, we don't do it that way. That is what politics is all about. Let us deal with teachers first, shall we? Recently, the Ministry has appointed one of its officers to evaluate the assistance given to the schools and he has put in a Report and this is now being studied.

Meanwhile, this is the policy. First, in respect of the assistants to teachers. Schools are given grants in respect of teachers, in the proportion of one teacher to 200 pupils. Grants are made in accordance with

the salary which the teacher, whose name was submitted by the school, would have received in the Government Service provided that the maximum of the qualifying teachers scale.... (OPPOSITION: We understand that) Schools are granted up to $1,000 as assistance for the teaching of Domestic Science and other approved special courses. Approval to schools is given on several factors-staff qualification school premises, arrangement of curriculum and so on.

Mr. HINDS:

Lavatory accommodation as compared with the Government's.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I beg your pardon.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would advise all hon. members who want to address the Chair to get on their feet and do so.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The breakdown of this provision is as follows 2,400 exhibitions, $180,000; salaries to 35 teachers, $218,400; subventions for special courses, $13,000; subventions for teacher training; $5,000; stationery, $500, contingencies $500. 7.30 p.m.

The allocation of bursaries to schools is based on the results of the Common Entrance Examination and the wishes of the parents and, of course, the availability of places.

There are 13, 584 pupils in Secondary Schools of which 8,200 are in Comprehensive Schools. (Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Government?) Yes, Government Schools. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL You are wasting a lot of time.) (Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY What?) (Hon. N. W. BOXILL What the hell can you do about it!)

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, you must have heard the Minister say that we are wasting time and what the hell we can do about it.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, if I were to stoop so low as to sit down and behave as he has behaved, what would you tell me?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Two hon. members are on their feet. I have repeatedly asked hon. members not to address the Chair sitting.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
Say what you mean, and do not keep your eyes over here every time.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I would have to call the names of all hon. members tonight.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
There are three hon. members on their feet. I am asking all three to sit. Disobedience of the Chair will be ruled on.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I am on my feet, and you cannot put the question. The Minister has one more question to answer and he should answer it. I would like to have one more figure from the Minister before we go. I would like to know the number of children in private Secondary Schools. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR When we come back.) I want it now. (Asides)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I will ask the hon. junior member for St. Thomas not to address the Chair sitting.

I will draw to the attention of hon. members, who happen to disregard the authority of the Chair, Rule 36(2), and I am asking the hon. junior member for the City to sit for the second time.

The question is that.....

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, before you put the question.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I have repeatedly asked the hon. junior member for the City to take his seat. I am again asking him to take his seat, and I will apply Rule 36(2). The question is....

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, are you ruling that I cannot address the Chair?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I am not hearing the hon. member on this occasion. A motion is before the House.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, am I not allowed to speak on that motion? (Hon. J. C. TUDOR I have asked to report progress.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Hon. members in this Chamber must understand that this Chamber has not yet become a fish market! I am unhappy to see the behaviour of hon. members. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL There is nothing before the House.)

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

There are two hon. members on their feet, and I am asking both of them to sit. If the hon. junior member for St. Thomas wants to speak he should rise and address the Chair on a point of order.

Now, I have accepted the motion from the hon. junior member for St. Lucy. According to our Standing Orders it is a dilatory motion, and any hon. member who wants to address the Chair must confine himself to that motion. That motion is, "That I do now report progress."

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, is the hon. junior member for Bridgetown entitled to speak on the motion now?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

So long as he confines himself to the motion. If the hon. junior member for the City wants to speak on that motion, he can do so.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, all I wanted to establish from you is the right to be able to speak. I have nothing more to say.

The question that Mr. CHAIRMAN do now report progress and ask (or leave to sit again was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. CHAIR-MAN reported to Mr. SPEAKER who

resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

7.40 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER:
Certain hon. members must appear to have some considerable misunderstanding. The sitting has not yet been suspended.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

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

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

On Resumption.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I observe that there is no quorum and ask that the Bell be rung.

The Bell was rung and a quorum was obtained. COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER:

When the sitting was suspended the House was in Committee of Supply. To that it now reverts.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee of Supply, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, we had left off at the point at which I was supplying the hon. senior member for Christ Church with figures and certain statistics. The number in the Approved Independent Schools is about 6,500. We have no firm statistics from the other Independent Schools, but I would hazard that the total number would be between 15,000 and 18,000.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, we have from the Minister that there are 5, 334 in the Government Secondary Schools, and 8,200 in the Comprehensive Schools. What are the numbers in the Approved Schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

About 6,500.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, the Minister is now-saying that his Comprehensive School is now a Secondary School. What about the 46 Senior Department Schools? What is the position with them? I want to know from the Minister whether a vacancy was advertised for the Headmastership of the St. Leonard's Comprehensive School and nobody applied. Now the Minister ought to have on hand what the staffing situation is in the Government Secondary Schools. The Minister should be able to tell us how many are acting at Harrison College and how many are permanently appointed. We know you have some on contract. The same thing applies to Combermere School, Foundation Boys' and Girls' and the Coleridge-Parry School. Surely when you are talking about schools and school buildings, it is high time that something could be done to upgrade places like Cole ridge-Parry, Alexandra and the Alleyne School so that Masters and Mistresses would not feel they are letting themselves down when they are attached to the staffs of these schools. The Minister will also state what is the position at St. Michael's Girls' School where we have some acting appointments, and at Queens College.

As regards grants to Approved Schools, do you make your payment to the schools or to the teachers? (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: To the schools.) So it is of no concern to the Government if those teachers are paid

during the vacation period or not.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

It would be of concern, but not within our power to adjudicate. At the request of the schools themselves we pay the money to them.

Mr. HINDS:

I wonder if you had any requests from teachers that you should pay directly to them. If the Minister can say with such boldness that it is at the request of the schools that the money is paid to them, should the Minister not be in a position to know if they had any requests from teachers that they would prefer the money to be paid to them? How can the Minister say they cannot adjudicate? They are paying the piper; can't they call the tune?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

By agreement with these school the subventions are paid to the schools. The Ministry has no contract with individual teachers working at these schools.

Mr. HINDS:

I wonder if the Ministry has had complaints that the teachers have not been receiving their money. When the Government makes the grants to the schools for the payment of teachers on the ratio to one to 200 pupils, are there not provisions laid down for the disbursement of these sums of money? That is, must they not comply with particular conditions?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This is checked. It is one qualified teacher for every 200 pupils between the ages of ten and seventeen; so periodic checks are made about this, and if a school sends in and says it is applying for a third teacher, an investigation is made to see if the pupil teacher ratio justified it.

Mr. HINDS:

What I am asking is if there are no provisions laid down by which they are expected to disburse the money, and if they do not comply, whether then the Government has the right to withdraw or cease to make these grants.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

When this policy was worked out in 1965, the organisation known as BISSA represented at the time that they preferred the subventions to come directly to the schools rather than to individual teachers. I remember an argument used was that it would tend to undermine discipline if teachers felt they had a sort of channel of communication open between themselves and the Ministry. So on that basis....

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, does the Ministry not remain open on Wednesday evenings to receive complaints and therefore open the type of channel that the Minister is now trying to object to?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I do not really think so because, as I understand it, the purpose of these Wednesday evening exercises is, though not exclusively, for parents to come and discuss problems with the Minister and Ministry officials.

Mr. HINDS:

Do you not have some parents who are teachers? And when they exercise the right as a parent, are they debarred from exercising this right as a teacher in laying a complaint?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I was careful to say, 'though not exclusively so'. Mr. Chairman, the alternative scheme of grants to schools rather than to the teacher has always been used. There was a complaint of non-payment of salary to a teacher in respect of a grant. That case has been settled. The Ministry is not aware of any others.

Mr. HINDS:

Where did the complaints come from?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I am afraid I cannot assist the hon. member. The Headship of St. Leonard's was advertised and no graduate applied. In view of the salary the Ministry felt that there was not sufficient publicity given to the post; so it was re-advertised. The applications are now being processed. 8.50 p.m.

Vacancies at the Grammar Schools. This is a matter, of course, for the Governing Bodies and the Ministry does not have the information available at the moment. One of the problems at the Grammar Schools is that, particularly, Barbadian graduates do not always apply in sufficient numbers, and with the attempt to upgrade the staffs to graduate level the Governing Bodies are anxious not to tie off these with non-griaduates. Would the hon. member repeat the question on dope?

Mr. HINDS:

I asked you about what information you had about dope being peddled at Harrison College, Lodge School and at Boys' Foundation; please add Mapps and Presentation Colleges. There axe numerous other points I had raised, Mr. Chairman; do I understand the Minister to say that he does not have the information as to the number of acting appointments at these various schools on account of some situation arising between the Governing Bodies and....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

No, this is information which, of course is always at the disposal of Governing Bodies, and the Ministry does not have it unless something has been drawn to its attention.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I have the information and I can tell you how many are on the staffs, how many were acting and how long they were acting. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL Why did you ask, then?) Mr. Chairman, it is my duty to investigate and, when I am sure of my information, to question the Minister to see if he can disprove anything that I have to say, or to see whether he is doing his work or not, and this is information when you are coming to Estimates time.... (Asides)....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I have repeatedly in this sitting asked hon. members not addressing the Chair....

Mr. HINDS:

Not 'hon. members'; the particular Minister. It is not 'hon. members.'

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I have asked hon. members not addressing the Chair to be silent.

Mr. HINDS:
Do you mean you do not have any power now?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
The Ministry has had unofficial reports about dope, and these reports are now being investigated.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, I am asking the Minister how long they received each report; what is the date of the receipt of each report?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I am not in a position to tell the hon. member this.

Mr. HINDS:
How long did you start the investigations? Let us know how far you have got, because the reason why we are within our rights to ask how far is that we have got the information and we do not want to say anything on this side that might prejudice your investigations.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
The hon. member does not wish to talk about it, but he wishes me to say more than I know about it.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, would the Minister let us know exactly where he got these reports from? Which schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I am afraid I cannot assist the hon. member.

Mr. HINDS:

Does the Minister know or does he not know? What must we take that to mean, that he is out of wind? The Minister ought to know, if reports have been received, from which schools they come; which schools is he investigating? Are you investigating all the schools widely? Let us look at it in this light; how serious can the Minister be treating a matter of receiving reports that dope is being peddled in the schools, investigations are being carried out, but the Minister does not know from which schools the reports came, he does not know at which schools investigations are being carried out? I wonder if the Minister feels that he is fair to himself, let alone the Opposition, in a matter of this sort! Is the Minister treating the matter of dope in schools as something to be treated lightly? The Minister admits receiving reports; what is he doing about it? Who is carrying out the investigations? How are you investigating? Departmentally? Or have you called in the Police with their Narcotics Squad? Let us hear what you are doing about it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member in the course of his discussions on this Head had asked several questions of a wide-ranging variety. On each of the questions he has asked, with the exception of this one, I have been able to satisfy him even above and beyond what he required. On this one I categorically refuse to say anything more.

Mr. CRAIG:

Sir, this is not something which can be taken lightly, and the Leader of the House is really....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Could the hon. member assist me with which Item he is speaking on?

Mr. CRAIG:

The same Item which the hon. junior member for St. Peter and the Leader of the House have been discussing. You are in the Chair and you have to ask your Official Reporter which Item I am speaking on.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I want to know the Item that the hon. member who is now addressing the Chair is speaking on.

Mr. CRAIG:

You are in the Chair, Mr. Chairman; we are dealing with Head 39.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
What Item?

Mr. CRAIG:
Item 3. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL Supernumerary Teachers?) I am dealing with schools, the conduct of the teachers at the schools, Item 3.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Item 3 deals with Supernumerary Teachers.

Mr. CRAIG:
The teachers would not watch the children with the dope then, if that is how you want it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I must follow carefully whatever Items hon. members speak on, and for me to follow them.....

Mr. CRAIG:
If I were you I would substitute-the word "conveniently" for the word "carefully" because that is what you can do very well - accommodate some persons in here conveniently; but there are no Popes in here as far as I am concerned. Let us have a good evening. The hon. member is trying to get out of the Minister who says that he is no longer going to engage in this part of the debate. I am saying he cannot treat this matter as lightly as the Minister himself appears to be treating it; this is a very, very serious situation when you can have dope reaching into the schools of this country and the Minister replies to the hon. junior member for St. Peter that he has received reports, the Ministry has received reports that there is dope in some of the schools. All that we are asking in the interest of the public and in the interest of all our children is what schools these reports came from. Let us hear the names of the schools. 9.00 p.m.

You have received reports that you have dope in schools; in all the schools, secretarial, nursery, kindergarten? This is not a light matter; this is a very serious affair and somebody is asking "what Head

I am speaking under! Were you sleeping?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I was not in the Chamber when remarks were allegedly supposed to be made, but I am disturbed to hear from the Leader of the House, the Deputy Prime Minister of Barbados, that there have been reports made to the Ministry of Education in this country that dope has been found in schools. I would like to be corrected if I am wrong. It is an extremely serious situation. It is not a Parly matter. As one member has just pointed out, he has four children at school. There are numbers of the public who would like to know about this, and I will do all in my power to make this a public issue. I hope that the Press will take up this matter and then we will see whether it is a secret or whether the Ministry will come out and deny it. This is something fundamental. How are parents going to feel when they are sending their children to a school which is riddled with dope? This is not a question of Party politics; it is something fundamental to the 20,000 children in Grammar Schools and to their parents. I ask the Minister to think how he would feel as a member of the public if a person of the calibre - that is not an allegation from the Opposition; that is a statement by the Leader of the House, once the Minister of Education, Deputy Prime Minister in a debate deeling with education - if that statement is published in the newspaper, how do you expect the people of this country to feel? Do you think it is sufficient merely to say that dope was found in schools without mentioning the school? We are not asking you to disclose the name of the person, but we are asking for the name of the school at which the dope was found. We are asking what sort of investigations are being carried out and how long ago. This is very fundamental. How long was this dope found - this year, last year? We want to know whether investigations have been carried out departmentally or whether the Police have been called in. This is an offence under the Dangerous Drugs Regulations, and this is not a matter to be taken lightly. Has the finding of dope been passed to the Director of Public Prosecutions for him to take action? Not only as members of the House, but as citizens of this country - some of us have children at school - we are genuinely interested in the school population of the island. We would like a complete statement from the Minister on this matter.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The hon. member has appealed to me to use my better judgment. I must be accredited with the knowledge of what my better judgment is. If I say I am not going to say anything more on this, this should be the end of it. If you say that the matter is important, I take your point so clearly that I give you the minimum answer.

Mr. HINDS:

We understand that the Minister does not want to say anything more about this dope-peddling in schools. From the report that you have received, are teachers involved or any of the pupils? Do the reports come from Grammar Schools, Comprehensive Schools or from Primary Schools? (Aside Mr. CORBIN That is being investigated)

Mr. CRAIG:
The Minister is using his better sense and judgment. How many reports were made to the Ministry?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, hon. members opposite remind me of a Victorian undertaker at the approach of a bitter winter causing double pneumonia and over-flowing graveyards. I cannot say anything more.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Will the Minister say whether the matter is under investigation?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I said so.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Will you give the House a full statement?

- Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
You cannot press me to do this.

Mr. St. JOHN:
After your investigations, will a report be submitted to the House? 9.10 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I appeal to the hon. member now, as a lawyer, not to press me on it. Need I say more to you?

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, is the Minister willing to admit that there is a vacuum on that side of the Table? The Minister does not know anything about the matter.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Is not the hon. member guilty of cruelty to animals, if he knows that is true? If he knows that I know nothing about the matter... (Mr. HINDS Answer the other questions.) They have already been answered.

Mr. HINDS:

I asked you about the staff in the Industrial Wings and in the Comprehensive Schools.

If you cannot remember the questions, I will give-them to you now.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member has been answered on the question of vacanies at Grammar Schools; the Headship at St. Leonard's; and the question of the payment of grants to independent schools.

The hon. junior member for Bridgetown has been given the figures for the Secondary Schools.

With regard to the Industrial Arts Wings, what I have here will answer one aspect of the question. There is some information on the absence of some of these teachers, and there is one instance of one of these teachers being allegedly insulted by other members of staff at a particular school. The difficulty here is that the Industrial Arts Teachers are Ministry of Education staff and are not attached to the Grammar School staff and, of course, when they teach at the Grammar Schools they are not appointed to the staff. There are, therefore, some difficulties arising, and the Ministry is trying to do something about this.

Mr. St. JOHN:

The other question is terminating teaching of Industrial Arts around the Third Form when the children are then beginning to become interested in the subjects. In other words, it is not a full course, so that if children are interested in pursuing it they can do so throughout their Secondary School life.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, it appears as though not all of them stop in the Third Form. Some of the children who

have an aptitude for these subjects take the Associated Board Examination at "O" Level.

Mr. HINDS:
From your Secondary Schools, Comprehensive Schools, or where?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
At both.

Mr. HINDS:
Which schools so far have taken that Examination?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
In my time I have known it to be taken at Combermere School.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Are no these children who take the Associated Board Examination children who come from the Technical Institute? Those are the children who leave Combermere, Harrison College, Lodge and so on, go the Technical Institute for a certain period of time, and then take the Examination; but we are talking of whether there is any continuation of education in the Industrial Arts - Woodwork and Metal Work and so on which should be taught in the Industrial Art Wings.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Pupils both at the Combermere School and the Technical Institute take the A.B.E. at "O" Level. There is no information on the Comprehensive Schools, but I think the answer to that is "No". It is confined to Grammar Schools and the Technical Institute.

Mr. HINDS; Mr. Chairman, will the Minister look at his Report from 1st September, 1967, to 31st August, 1968, at page 65 and explain what is shown here under "A" Level?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I do not have a copy.

Mr. HINDS; You can have mine. I am giving you and you cannot understand it!

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
No.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, we have got to adopt an entirely different attitude to that which we have adopted during the past months in dealing with this matter. I am leaving all the questions that he has not answered until I come back tonight. I wonder if the Minister can help us. At Item 9, Apparatus and Materials, $44, 905, the Note says that this is "to provide books, stationery, domestic requisites, scheme books, testing materials, record cards including provision for loud-speakers for school broadcasts and repairs to pianos and equipment. Formerly included under Head 39 (5)". How does Government propose using the books that are to be purchased with this money? Will they be available to the students to take home to prepare their work for the following day, or will they be available to children only during school hours and they have to leave them on the premises? 9.20 p.m.

With respect to stationery, does the Minister know of the dissatisfaction amongst Headteachers as regards the supply of stationery to them? Isn't a certain amount of stationery and other supplies made available to the Ministry from Canada or other sources for distribution to the schools? Is it still a case where Headreachers are asked to send into the Ministry to collect the requirements, or has the Ministry found it possible to carry out distribution by sending around the various amounts to the respective schools? Does the Minister remember the case of a Headmistress who was seen overladen with some of these supplies and had to be rendered assistance? The Headteachers get no travelling allowance for this kind of work. What can the Minister say on these matters?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
The books the hon. member asked about under Item 9 are for the children to use in Primary Schools, and if the occasion arises with homework to be done in these books, the teacher will exercise whatever discretion is necessary for the books to be taken off the premises.

With respect to the distribution of books, the Ministry has now been able to send around the books to the schools. I take it this is in respect of the books which come from Canada.

Mr. CRAIG:

Mr. Chairman, I must apologise if a question of this nature was posed from this side of the House earlier in the evening, but from the time this Government came into power this country was promised a new Education Act, and we have heard nothing about it since. I wonder if the Minister remembers that it the time he gave the assurance that it would have been ready within a few months.

Mr. CHAIRMAN; I would like to remind the hon. member that this question has already been asked on the floor of the House this afternoon, and I would like to remind him also that Standing Order No. 36 says that a member shall not be repetitious of his own argument or the argument already used by another hon. member.

Mr. CRAIG:

That is why I apologised to the House when I said I did not know if a question of this nature was asked earlier, and therefore you must forgive me. I was not here and therefore I am asking the Minister if he could give the House any assurance as to when to expect the new Education Act.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

You may expect it soon. May I say this once and for all. The educational system which we operate now is governed largely by the Education Act of 1890 with its several amendments. An Education Act is different from almost any other kind of legislation in that whereas you can produce the most important kind of legislation at the drop of a hat, an Education Act, as it were, has to give not only what you are doing at the moment, but also what you hope to do in the future; therefore you have to think and re-think on your problems. I used to think that you could get one ready in six months, but I know better now. However there is a Draft Bill which, so far as I know, has been circulated to all the teaching bodies and other people, and they have been asked on the 28th April to consider it and send back their comments to the Ministry, and when these comments are received and examined, the Bill will be laid before the House with a White Paper. This is as much as I know, but this is nothing to make a fuss about. It took six months of fighting and six centuries of diplomacy to bring about the independence of Czechoslovakia. What is an Education Act compared with that?

The question that the sum of $4, 373, 691 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (3) Secondary Education - as amended, stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (4) SCHOOL MEALS DEPARTMENT

Head 39 - Ministry of Education (4) School Meals Department - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, we have a slight change to make here. If hon. members would look on the page opposite page 101 at note 3 where it says "Provision for Seven (7) Watchmen, one (1) Driver and two (2) Male labourers. Pension for driver....." the word "and" should be substituted for the word "Pension"

I beg to move that the sum of $2,086, 613 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (4) School Meals Department - stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. Chairman, I think it was at the conclusion of the debate at the sitting on Tuesday night that the hon. member disclosed to the Committee some information which he had with respect to an incident of food poisoning at several schools in the country. On Tuesday morning last about 10.15 a.m. a report was received in the Ministry of Education to the effect that a number of pupils and staff of the St. John the Baptist Mixed School had bean complaining of abdominal pains and diarrhoea, There were no complaints of vomiting, and immediate checks were made with a number of the other schools served by the Westbury School Centre, These cases were fairly widely spread in three schools while three other schools were affected so a lesser extent. 9.30 p.m.

The details are: St. John Baptist Mixed, 250 cases; Sharon Mixed 250 cases; Grace Hill Primary 24 cases; Buxton Boys' 20 cases; St. Thomas' Mixed 7 cases; Holy Innocents' Mixed 200 cases. Fourteen schools were served by that Centre. The Chief Medical Officer was notified of these complaints at about 10.45 a.m. and in accordance with his instructions the Supervisor of the Centre was requested to make available samples of the food, both cooked and uncooked, which was served and this consisted of ground beef, mashed potatoes, split peas, cheese. The Headteachers of the schools served by the Westbury Centre were also instructed to withhold the serving of cooked meals until further notice. No further cases have been reported since, and attendance reports from the school affected indicate that the majority of pupils and staff who reported ill on that day have since returned to school. The Chief Medical Officer has advised that the serving of meals may be resumed as from yesterday's date while investigations continue to determine the source of the trouble.

I may add to this, Mr. Chairman, that I have since been informed that the authorities are satisfied that it was neither in the preparation nor in the cooking nor in the handling of the food that the trouble occurred, but it occurred outside of the Centre in the meat grinder which apparently carried the bacteria. I have no more to say on that.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Will the hon. member say whether it was reported to him that the meat war? actually on the floor, and that they found that there was a dead rat in the minced meat? (Asides)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I do not want to hear eight members talking at one time.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

I am not eight members; I am speaking to the Minister. I think the Minister is correct in saying that it was not in the preparation of the meals at the school. This is true; but would the Minister say if it was reported that the meat was all down on the floor and that a dead rat was minced in it?

Mr. CRAIG:

Would the Minister be able to state during the investigations if it has been revealed that a dead rat was found in the meat which was prepared, for the schools the some day?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR; The last thing I said was that we are satisfied that it was neither in the preparation, the cooking or the handling of the food, but the trouble occurred outside of the Centre - I said this with the meat grinder.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

You are the people who gave out the meat to be cooked; if you do not say it, I will say it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Everybody knows that the people in the Ministry of Education or in the School Meals Service are not to blame.

Mr. CRAIG:
Would the Minister be able to say who were the people responsible for preparing the meat?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I do not understand the attitude of the Leader of the House; as far as he is concerned, everything is Party politics. He gets up and says that everybody knows they are not to blame. Nobody is accusing him of doing it deliberately, but what we are saying is that if you give out a contract to somebody to supply meat, and you do not make any proper checks at all, you are just as guilty as if you had done it deliberately because you are careless in the manner in which you give out contracts. It is not sufficient merely to get up and say that it was not in the kitchen. We are not blaming anybody in the kitchen, but certainly it is the responsibility and the duty of the Government to see that if they are going to give out contracts to people to supply meat to the School Meals Service, they give people who satisfy certain Public Health requirements, and that it is not sufficient merely to say you give out a tender. Checks must be made from time to time to see that the Public Health requirements are being fulfilled. You are dealing with taxpayers' children, and I would like to say that if you were dealing with meat for yourself, you would expect certain minimum requirements. If you were buying meat for yourself, you would expect certain minimum requirements, and we are asking you to deal with the school children of this country in the same way and be kind enough to apply the same standards to them. Do not come into the House of Assembly feeling smug by saying it was not in the kitchen and they are not responsible for it. 9.40 p.m.

You are responsible because you give contracts to people who are irresponsible (Aside: Without advertisement) I would like to know at what stage....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
The Reporters are not so happy with the treatment being meted out to them with two hon. members speaking at the same time.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
I would like to find out from the Minister on what day was the advertisement made for the tenders for supplying meat for the.

School Meals system, I would like to know the names of the persons supplying meat, and I am not

asking in whose shop meat was on the ground with the rat in it. I recall reading in the newspaper some years ago, when the Leader of the House was in Opposition that he was at pains to point out, Sir, that A person in the Hospital was bitten to death by a rat. The Minister has said he is satisfied that the fault was not in the preparation of the food. I would like the Minister to state plainly if the Chief Medical Officer has discovered the reason why the food was contaminated. I am not suggesting it was a rat; I am asking a straight-forward question. Has the Minister of Health found out the reason for the contamination of the food?

You are satisfied it was not in the preparation or handling within the Government. Have you found out the reason? If so, what steps have been taken to cancel the contract of the person who supplied the contaminated food?

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

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
I would never disrespect the Chair by sitting. Get up, Burton Hinds, and talk!

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, I am not one to press the hon. Minister at this point. I should approach this matter as a statesman should, and as such I should first enquire from the Minister if he would go back to his Ministry and find out if the first report to reach his Ministry was not from Turner's Hall School. (Aside Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY True) And if he finds this out, I will then ask the Minister if it is true, when the report was received from Turner's Hall School, that a teacher was affected; no action was taken on that report. If that is not true, can the Minister say what action was taken then? In respect of the St. John the Baptist School, the Minister tells us that there were 250 cases reported. I am willing to accept 250 in respect of St. John the Baptist School, but not the figures in respect of the other schools; I know differently. In the case of St. John the Baptist School, will the Minister tell us how many teachers were affected? After that we can make our own deductions, if he really knows. The Headmaster, on that particular day, whilst the gathering was there to do justice to the occasion, was shuffling backwards and forwards between the lavatory and the platform.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
He had dead rats.

Mr. HINDS:

The Minister is telling us that investigations have been carried out. Now, we must ask the Minister - will the Minister tell us who carried out the investigations, whether the Ministry of Education by itself or the Public Health Department or the Chief Medical Officer or his nominee, so to speak. The Minister should be in a position to tell us what these Officers found, if they went to the place where the meat was minced - minced meat and rat - if they carried out investigations at the place where the meat was minced. Did they carry out investigations where the meat is stored? Have they been able to find out if this meat was brought to the place for mincing, and the covering of the meat had shown signs of mildew?

If the Minister has been following, my next question would be to ask him if he can tell us where this meat is stored. It is not merely giving out the contract and ending there; you have to protect the lives of all those thousands of children under your charge. If the Minister's investigations have disclosed that there are no proper facilities (the people who have the contract) but that their method of having their units defrosted is by throwing buckets of water on their meat, so that the temperature of the meat is suddenly lowered.... I carry out my investigations and I am giving members the benefit of it, but I want to see if the Minister's investigations can measure up to what has been expected of him in a matter of this sort. 9.50 p.m.

What we can tell the Minister is that investigations were carried out on his behalf at the place where the meat was minced, but that the investigations stopped there. The trouble is not there. I do not want to put the Minister in any sort of difficulty in a matter of this sort. I am asking the Minister to give me a breakdown in respect of St. John the Baptist School: teachers and pupils. I do not want to ask him for a breakdown in respect of Sharon School. I would ask the Minister to ask his advisers to look at their figures again and see whether at Sharon School the figures should be 260, or if the figures the Ministry of Education received were 301 children in respect of Sharon School. I am asking the Minister if the information received at the Ministry was not 301 persons, including teachers, at Sharon.

At Grace Hill it is not true to say that only 24 persons were affected there. That is less than half the amount of people who were affected. Have your Officers search their files to see whether it was not a question of 68 cases at Grace Hill!

With regard to St. Thomas' Mixed School, why should there be any attempt by anybody to mislead the Minister? The Minister gave a figure of 7. I believe the 7 relate to the staff, and that confused him with the number of pupils affected. He must tell us about the pupils at St. Thomas' Mixed School. At Holy Innocents he gave us a figure of 200, but he must add 12 more pupils to that number. What we are concerned with is that here is a case where these schools have been fed from the Westbury Centre.

Mr. Chairman, I want to make a long jump from the Westbury Centre, and ask the Minister if the Ministry has ever been advised as to the closing of the Gun Hill Centre. I am willing to let the Minister get his information. I am not trying to pressure him into anything, but I am just giving him the information I have. If the advice was received, on what was it based? What is wrong there? We want to hear from the Minister not only about the food samples that were offered up, but whether the Ministry has taken any steps to see that the meat in its decomposed state is not minced- and fed-to other children who have not yet been affected.

We are satisfied, Mr. Chairman, that the Ministry's staff who prepared the food had nothing to do with this particular matter. On this occasion their hands are clean. Is the Minister willing to admit that he has been advised that a dead rat had been minced with some of this meat? If that is so, what steps have been taken in the matter? We know that another supplier of meat was asked to rush a supply of meat to the Centre yesterday and mutton was supplied. Since the situation is such that well over 1,000 persons, including teachers and children are involved, we want to hear from the Minister what steps he has taken in this matter. He will have to add the number of children and teachers affected at Turner's Hall School, because he has not yet given us those figures.

Mr. HOLDER:

Mr. Chairman, listening to this debate, I daresay you will not ask me on what Head I am speaking. This is the first time I have heard about this matter. Personally, I would like the Minister, when he is replying, to give us all the information he possibly can. I have heard the names of several schools called, and I would like to know whether this contaminated food that affected teachers and pupils took place on the same day.

I heard something about a dead rat, but I want to know how many pounds of meat were minced to be used. I would also like to know what care is taken of the meat after it has been minced. 10.00 p.m.

From the information I have heard, everything in the kitchen seems to have been perfectly all right, and therefore the trouble started from the outside. My reason for asking you to get the number of pounds of meat that passed through that mincer is that if the person in charge saw a dead rat, he should immediately have stopped and thrown away the meat. I personally feel that the meat itself was rotten. We all live in homes, and whether we have a servant or not, we have some kind of idea that we have to be very careful. When it comes to the mincer I wonder whether it is taken down every morning, or the day after it is used, and all the parts thrown in a large kettle and boiled. These children might have gone to a doctor who would tell them that they were suffering from colitis, where every minute you would

have to go to the lavatory. From what I have heard the Minister say, everything inside was perfect, and I would like to know if he is a position to tell me how the meat goes there, and whether it is put in the deep freeze. The hon. junior member for St. Peter has given some figures from the schools. Suppose a boy had a big appetite and had two shares! You would have had a couple of deaths. I hope the Minister is in a position to answer these questions.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I think this is one of the most important discussions which I certainly have ever heard in this House. It is important because it deals with a matter which can so easily cause our tempers to flare and cause us to strike caucuses on either side, totally irrelevant to the issue under discussion. I concede to the other side that it is possible to be genuinely and thoroughly indignant about a matter like this, and have every Justification for blowing one's top, because there can be no excuse for this incident, and the only good thing about it is that it has had no serious or any more serious effects than have already been reported; but, apart from that, it is really the most sordid and squalid incident I have ever heard about. Before I go further, may I say that very frequently when the hon. Junior member for St. Peter is making statements in the House, I myself do not know the facts upon which he bases his statements; and if the truth must be told, I think I would certainly say that I do not always trouble to check behind him or even to worry to find out if what he says is true. I just hear it and let it go, but not with this one. In the statement which he has just made, I have to tell the Committee that I myself made an independent check, but information was given to me which tallies exactly with what he disclosed to the House. I would like to say this, however. Really, I cannot conceive how a business firm - I do not want to call people's names because I am giving my personal view about this, and if the Ministry of Education does not know how to deal with this they do not know how to deal with anything - could be so run that a dead animal of whatever type, a dead animal of an infectious or contagious nature, could crawl into or come into contact with things which are preserved for sale and exposed for sale after subsequent processing. I do not know what kind of excuse any vendor or market could have for this kind of thing.

I would go further and say, speaking personally now as a citizen of this country, that this kind of person ought to be visited with the most severe penalties and really ought to be hounded out of business. However, if I cannot say much more than this, it is not because I am hedging or faltering on the issue. I have understood from the Ministry of Education that, first of all, such reports as they were able to give me when I asked for them, they could not check. I asked for them - the hon. member for St. Peter would like this because this would probably be an indication of how he operates - in the dead of the night, and I really have reason to believe that I was so insistent that they really could not check their figures, and since this was given to me early on the 19th, I believe that if I had checked today they would have revised these figures. I would, however, like to say in respect of St. John the Baptist School that all the teachers were affected. I myself had privately heard this afternoon in respect of the other school that the figure was nearer 200 than 300. In respect of Sharon Mixed, I had heard this. I do not think there was a change of the figure for Grace Hill Primary, and I had not rechecked the figure for St. Thomas Mixed. With these qualifications, however, I think the Ministry acted promptly when I asked them to supply me with, at least for that time, an interim report. I have been informed that the Ministry has stopped - this

must be, presumably, for the time being - ordering minced meat from this supplier. I hops they would go further and stop ordering meat completely. That is how I feel about it because if this kind of mistake can be made once, there is no guarantee that it cannot be made again. However, I am hoping we can leave it to that Ministry to know how to act in this matter.

10.10 p.m.

The other thing I wanted to tell the Committee was that the brunt of the investigations in a matter like this would not fall so much on the Ministry of Education but on the Ministry of Health; even the Ministry of Education itself would not be able to give information of more than a certain up-to-dateness because that up-to-date information would be with the Ministry of Health; and until the Ministry of Health passes over the pathological report to the Ministry of Education they will not be able to answer as frankly and as fully as they would like. However, they know from the Ministry of Health that the embargo placed on the serving of meals for that day has been lifted and they can continue to serve, provided, of course, they take certain precautions.

Gun Hill. It is true that the Ministry of Health has advised us to clean Gun Hill or close it down; it had been cleaned and, therefore, they do not propose to close it. There is nothing that I deliberately left out; I cannot say anything more.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY Only one thing I would like to say, and that is that you have given a frank and candid explanation of what has happened, and you have agreed with the hon. junior member for St. Peter; but we must be assured that this does not happen again. I think the hon. Minister of Trade would know more about this because of his experience in fishing and keeping refrigerated fish and so on. The position is this; they are buying from one person and another person is mincing. Your trouble is when you try to freeze meat - this is where the Ministry of Education should work with the Ministry of Health and their Public Health Food Inspectors to go into these places all the time. If this has been done, this would never happen because every Meat and Food Inspector knows that you cannot remove frozen food and use a certain amount of water to thaw it out; when you have thrown water to thaw it out, and you only use a certain amount of it and put it back in the refrigerator and it gets mildewed, this is where you poison everybody. You must have a number of Food and Meat Inspectors to visit wherever you are getting your meat day after day, whenever the meat is being in the process of being prepared; I am happy to know that nothing went wrong in the kitchens; I am surprised to hear that no Meat and Food Inspector had been asked to go where the meat was being minced and prepared to be sent to the kitchen. It is absolute slackness and a clumsy way of doing things. They are throwing water on it to get it ready for mincing for tomorrow morning and then they put it back in there; this would poison anybody. I hope they would not do the same thing tomorrow with the children, because, unless you have trained men from the Public Health Department, the Ministry of Education must get the Ministry of Health to go into this matter and the men should be on the spot every day when you are mincing meat.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, it is nice to hear the Minister get up and make the statement that he made in a vain attempt to absolve the Government and the Ministry of Education from any responsibility. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR I said what I believe.) The Leader of the House has asked what manner of man in this day and age would serve dead animals minced up with meat for any human being to eat. I am not concerned so much with what manner of man would do that; I think our concern should be what sort of Government would allow such a man to do that. It is that Government that would allow such a man to do it. Do you know why the Government must accept the full responsibility for this? Because the Government has refused to go to tender.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

On a point of order, I do not know this could be so, because the Prime Minister said every possible thing that his Government has to buy must go to tender. If he said so, it must be so. I hope the hon. junior member is wrong. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR Of course he is wrong.) Let me get back up after him and prove he is right.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

If I am wrong, I must assume that when I asked earlier about the dates on which the tender notice was advertised the Minister did not see fit to tell me the dates. That this sort of thing could happen does not surprise me, because it is part and parcel of the corrupt manner of Government in this country. When one listens to the Minister of Labour talking about the award of tenders in the Housing Authority, you realise how these things could happen, when you know how people get awards for the meat, based on political friendship; that is the sort of thing that could happen. You are not concerned with who can supply good meat, but you are only concerned with who can supply meat to you that you can pay and get a drawback. That is the corruption in the Government.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I really must object to that. If the hon. member had made a general statement I could perhaps let it pass; but this is a specific allegation he has made, and the allegation is against the Government that we buy meat from people in order to get drawbacks.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I withdraw the word "drawback". This is a situation that operates where people get contracts because of their political association or affiliation, and when money is received, some of the money will go back into the political Party to which they affiliate; that will always happen.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I am not objecting because it is offensive; I am objecting to this because the hon. member has merely said the original thing in a different way; by inference he is saying that members of this Government award contracts to people on the basis that, whenever the contracts are awarded, some sort of consideration goes back to. the political Party of which we are members, and we object to it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Objection upheld because Rule 26(7) states that no member shall impute improper motives to another member.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I will withdraw those remarks and I will say this; contracts are awarded to people who belong to the Democratic Labour Party, who pay money into the Democratic Labour Party as members. 10.20 p.m.

Whether they pay $1000 for their membership or $2 I do not know; but they pay money to the D.L.P. for membership, and they get contracts based on their affiliation. This is nothing more than what the Minister of Labour has got on the floor of this House and said. I know that one day the houses that are being built will fall down and the Minister will say he is not responsible. The Leader of the House says it is possible to generate indignation. Almost one thousand people could have died from the negligence of this Government in awarding contracts for the supply of meat to people without checking to see what sort of facilities they provide. I do not accept the belief that the Government can remove the responsibility from themselves by throwing it on the supplier of the meat because the fact remains that the Government is as guilty as the supplier for using a supplier whom they ought to have known was irresponsible. The Government should make checks. I wonder how the Government would feel if fifty of these people had died of ptomaine poisoning. They would say that they are not responsible for that. I have no doubt that a lot of these children could have died, and then the Minister will say it is possible to be indignant. It is the attitude of the Government towards giving out Government contracts. They think that contracts should be given to affiliates of their Party and not given to people who, because of their business, could do a proper job of supplying proper meat.

One other point. The Leader of the House will say that the Ministry should know what to do and that the Ministry had stopped ordering minced meat. Am I to understand that the Government will continue to order meat from this same gentleman, but not minced meat? (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I don't know.) This is what the Leader of the House said. How do you mean that you don't know? This is the sort of attitude; these things will happen; with something as important as this, are you going to tell the House that you do not know if they have stopped ordering meat from this man? The Ministry of Education should have

cancelled the contract there and then. It is not a question of stopping ordering minced meat and ordering something else.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

There is no need at all for the hon. member to shout at me. The hon. member and the Leader of the Opposition are the only two that I have this problem with. The only difference between these two members is that one is old and the other is young. I am not a fool nor a genius; I can understand things even if I don't agree with them.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I have noticed that since I came to this House there is a tendency for Ministers to say, when anything happens, Sir, "I don't know"; in other words, "I don't know and I couldn't care". This is the attitude (Aside; No.) Can you safely tonight go home and sleep and know that on Monday this same man will supply food to be cooked for school children in this country, knowing that you belong to a Ministry, a Government that will continue to order meat from a man that supplies dead animals and dead rats to school children?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The hon. member is overstating what little case he has, because he has heard me say if the Ministry does not know how to deal with this, they would scarcely know how to deal with anything at all.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

How do you mean that the Ministry does not know? You should be able to say that the Ministry has cancelled all contracts with this meat dealer. This is the only way in which we in this House will be satisfied, and any parent of those children. Do you believe that the parent of any child will feel satisfied that that child is going to school on Monday or Tuesday and will eat food supplied by that same man? Let me put it to you in a simple manner. If you bought something from somebody that ptomained you, would you honestly go back and buy something from him for yourself to eat? Why don't you do the same thing for the poor school children? Why don't you cancel it? Get up and say that you have cancelled the contract! Because of Party affiliations and the attitude of the Government, you don't really care what happens to the school children. (Aside I care more.) So long as they don't get poisoned with minced meat again coming from the same man, you are alright.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, the speech which the hon. junior member for the City is making now at this point and has been making, say, the last six minutes, based on the assumptions on which they are based, would not

have been made by the hon. junior member for St. Peter - not that part of the speech, because the hon. junior member for St. Peter would not make that particular accusation.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, I don't know what accusation the Leader of the House means I am quite prepared to give way if he tells me what accusation he means.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

It is alright.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I know that you don't know what accusation you mean.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. senior member for the City cannot....

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLRY:

Mr. Chairman, it is really, really sad to see that in the course of less than an hour in this Chamber we could have the two admissions we had made. One is that you find dope in the schools in this country, and the other one is that somebody served a dead rat for school children to eat. That shows the general attitude of the Government to the school children of this country. Sir, we must be frank, When you listen to the first statement made by the Minister, Sir, to the effect that the Government in the preparation of the food was not responsible, one cannot help but get the feeling that so far as the Minister and the Government are concerned, so long as it didn't happen at Westbury School or the place where it was prepared, they couldn't care less. That is my feeling, because if you really cared about the whole preparation of the meat, then you would have come to this House and made a statement setting out the true facts of the case. It was only after you sat down and the members of the Opposition asked if it was a fact that a dead rat was found in the meat, that you admitted it. 10.30 p.m.

If this side had said nothing about the matter, then the Committee would not have known anything about the dead rat in the meat. On that question you were prepared to hide and condone the attitude of the people. I have always heard that half truths are worse than lies. If we had not mentioned it, this House would not have know that a dead rat was served to school children. (Asides.) I do not consider this a joke. If it were one of my children and a Minister was responsible for serving a dead rat to him,

perhaps, I would have been charged with murder or something else.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, he can stretch this as far as he wants. Has anything emerged from this debate which would show that a Minister has been responsible for serving a dead rat?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, this is the only Government in the world that does not accept responsibility for anything. When you attack the Civil Servants, they say that you should not attack Civil Servants. The Minister is responsible because Government will not make proper contracts for the food; you do not have proper health contracts and so on. If the Government were genuinely concerned about this matter, I would have expected them to give us all of the facts in connection with this matter. Up to now the Leader of the House has not said as a fact that the Medical Officer of Health has carried out investigations and found a rat minced with the meat. You cannot protect people like this. All the Minister has said is that everything the hon. junior member for St. Peter says is true. The Minister is not prepared to say like anybody else that the people were served a dead rat. His admission lies in the fact that what the hon. junior member for St. Peter says is true.

Mr. Chairman, the reason why I consider this a very important matter is that the Government are always saying that they are giving children school meals. During the last bye-election the Government rushed in with school meals in Bridgetown in order to catch votes. That is why I am concerned about this. You are placing a very high premium on school meals.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

If the hon. Junior member for the City is referring to another hon. member, I would like him to erase the word "You".

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I was saying, Mr. Chairman, that if there was a genuine concern on the part of the Government the Minister would have come here with a full, frank statement to the effect that on a particular day this "so-and-so" food was served, and he should have stated the reason for the contamination of the food and that an investigation was carried out by the Medical Officer of Health. I repeat that he should have stated the reason for the contamination and what steps the Government propose to take to ensure that such contamination did not occur again. Even after the Minister got to his feet on many occasions he has not yet said what steps the Government will take to ensure that this will not occur again. The Minister has not mentioned anything about that, and he cannot expect us to believe that the Government are

genuinely concerned about this matter. The Minister's concern is that he does not get too much opposition in this matter. Your statement was to the effect that the kind of man that will do this should be visited with the most severe penalty.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I have not made that statement.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I am sorry, Sir. The hon. Leader of the House said that the person who did this should be visited by the most severe penalty and be hounded down. I should like to know what steps have been taken by the Government to see that this man's contract for supplying meat is cancelled. I do not believe in not calling names. I think it is wrong for the Government to get in here and protect this man, whoever he is. Tomorrow is Saturday and several members of the public may go into the same place and buy some of the same dead rat. The public should be warned against this man. You can rest assured that it is not only the schools that are buying meat from this man. Are you going to warn the public against this man? Are you prepared to protect this man? Are you not going to call his name? Has the man been prosecuted? Has the matter been reported to the Director of Public Prosecutions? (Asides) You do not know, and you do not care.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
It is true that I do not know, but it is not true that I do not care.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
I am referring to the Minister, Sir. I would like to find out, through either the Leader of the House or the Minister of Health, whether the licence granted to this man - I assume he had a licence to handle and import food - has been revoked until such time as he has cleaned up his place. This is the only way in which we can get the true attitude of the Government. It is not merely by coming here and giving us lovely speeches and talking about being indignant. Tell us whether the man will be prosecuted, and then we will know whether the Government is genuinely concerned. 10.40 p.m.

Mr. CORBIN:
Mr. Chairman, after listening to all this talk about a dead rat and contaminated food which these school children had to eat, it shocked me. But what I want hon. members to know is that this Government will not join with anyone to buy meat that is not good to feed to school children. I am sure that the Government will try in all ways to protect the children and people of Barbados, but hon. members who have come here and made such statements against the Government have failed to produce

one witness or evidence. If I were in the position of the Leader of the House tonight, I would have stopped this argument ever since by telling hon. members that the Government is investigating the matter, and that wherever we find the evil we would try to eradicate it by putting pressure on the person selling the bad stuff. If what the Opposition has said is true, I would send that particular person to prison. (Asides)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Hon. members not addressing the Chair.

Mr. CORBIN:

I will not rest until something is done about this matter. I am only waiting to see whether it is true, because I know the Government will do everything in its power to see that something is done. I am going to call on the Prime Minister and the Minister of Education to have this matter thoroughly investigated and let the public see what is right and what is wrong.

Mr. HOLDER:

Mr. Chairman, since I last spoke the Leader of the House made some replies to questions, but I listened rather carefully and he has not answered my questions. The first time I heard about this incident is tonight, and he has evaded my question. I had my reason for asking the questions I posed. I would not have come here to frame anything to make a statement. I know a young boy who is learning the trade and I went to his home to get him to do something, and he had a book reading because he had a case the day before with a mincer and a mouse got into it. I am going to ask again if this meat had to go through a masticating process in a mincer, how is it that people knew the rat was in it? Do you mean that somebody put in the rat? If it passed through the mincer, nobody could see it. That is the point I am driving home to bring out the point that the meat was rotten from the beginning. If a person wa at home making a sponge cake and you switched on the machine, you would have to put in a thing like that because it would be masticated. I think you should get the person who said he saw the rat, because that person would have had to put it in the meat, I would also say that if after the mastication the meat is not properly put up and rats could get at it, that would also be dangerous for human consumption.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, a very funny situation presents itself to us here tonight in that even at this stage I want to tell the Minister that the Government has been tricked in this matter since the Medical Officer, who went to Roebuck Street to investigate, carried out his investigations there and reported on what he found; but he was not told that the meat is not stored at Roebuck Street. Government had a duty, beyond that which they have discharged. We know they discharged it to the point of having a Medical Officer go there, but it is Government's duty even now to send a Food and Meat Inspector to the source where this meat is stored and get its mildew. If Government sent these Inspectors there, they will have tons of

it to dump, and then we can have the assurance that a recurrence would be quite unlikely. In the absence of this it is going to happen again. 10.50 p.m.

It is definitely going to happen because these people who go in for big business think themselves brighter and more clever than the members of the Government; so the Officer went out to investigate and he investigated where the mincer is kept, and it is there where he was able to see the traces of the rat being ground up in this mincer. But, Mr. Chair-man, let us look a little beyond this. Teachers and children have eaten meat which contained a dead rat; what are the after-effects? It is all right to treat the children and the teachers and check the diarrhoea or whatever was their immediate complaint, but what are the after-effects if people are fed on dead rat? What will be their condition tomorrow or the day after? This is a serious matter and all of these people could not have been treated at Enmore. Quite a number of private doctors who themselves are indignant about the whole thing - and I would like to see some kind of action taken - a lot of the doctors are ready to go into Court and give the Court the benefit of their opinions on matters of this sort. What is the position with those teachers and with the parents of those children who have had to go to the expense of having their children treated by private doctors? Is Government prepared to make a refund of doctors' fees to these people? What is the Government going to do about it? We are not saying that the Government sold the food knowing that it was unfit for human consumption, but what we are saying is that the Government must accept full responsibility for sellingfood which contained minced meat and a dead rat that was also minced up with that meat. This is not a matter to be treated lightly at all; look at the numbers involved in this.

I do not want to attach more blame to the Government than should be attached, but I still want to say that if the first report coming in from Turners Hall had been acted upon, the situation might not have spread as far as it was allowed to go. Some action must be taken against the person who received that first report from Turners Hall and could have poisoned the whole school population by failing to report to the proper authorities. Every school child would have been affected that is served from the Westbury Centre and it would have happened because the first report to the Ministry that somebody was affected was not dealt with in the manner in which it should have been. That is neglect of duty on the part of someone, and we do not want to feel ourselves as being a party to a situation such as this. I remember in the case of Mr. Jones from the St. John the Baptist School - it was the day of his party, and I am to say. it is a day he will never forget. It is serious; but we have a responsibility to those children and to their parents that if we are going to offer school meals, we should see that at all times we offer to the customer food of the standard and quality demanded by that customer. Did the Government do this on that occasion? Nobody can attempt to suggest that the Government did it, but it is a case where everything appeared to have been going easy and cheesy, and in the greatest of things, when Government was in the afternoon of its glory, this thing dropped upon them. I am sorry that the situation arose because human beings are involved, but remember that we are on the opposite side of the fence. We are in Opposition, but because we are in Opposition we are not happy to see this situation presenting itself. We are glad tonight that the extent of the injury caused, as far as we do know up to the present, has not been worse; had it been, what would have been the state of Barbados if over 1,000 persons had died as a result of all this, or a sizeable portion of that 1,000 - odd person had died as a result? Suppose a quarter of the people had died; Mr. Chairman, what do you think would have been our position if over

250 children had died in one day in Barbados resulting from food poisoning? We want to be assured by Government that there need be no recurrence; we want the Government to admit they received the report that a rat was found in the minced meat supplied to the West-bury Centre on this particular day. Any Government must be concerned, and I understand the Leader of the House to say that they have stopped ordering minced meat from this particular supplier. Mr. Chairman, we feel that saying so is not good enough because if you have been found guilty of such an offence, what Government should have done was to place a temporary ban on meat supplies from this source until Government can decide fully how best this matter should be treated. The Ministry is still awaiting the pathological report, and we would like to know that Government accepts its full responsibility to this House by promising to make a Statement on the floor of this House. It concerns us; it was first brought to Government's attention officially through this House. 11.00 p.m.

It was first brought to the Minister's attention rather than the Government, and I feel that the Minister owes it to this House to tell us finally what has been brought to light. In the course of these investigations what action does the Government propose taking? All of this is not merely for the benefit of hon. members, but we have a responsibility to those children; we have a responsibility to those schools that have been effected, and to all the schools which may be serving school meals in the future. Really and truly, if this was preached about in the highways and hedges as it has been in here, what would become of the School Meals Programme? We are sorry, but not all of us are shocked because we tell ourselves that part of the cause must be seen to rest at the feet of Government not insisting upon its Public Health Officers in carrying out regular inspections at not only the premises of the supplier of this meat but of all meat suppliers in this country.

I think it was only this morning, Mr. Chairman, , that I was drawing to the attention of this hon. House the state of affairs as exist in the public markets in this Island; so the Government has to begin setting its own house in order. We say that the Food and Meat Inspectors apparently are not functioning to the extent to which they should, and we are saying that this is not good enough. We have the spectacle before us, this night, Mr. Chairman, that Government's own undertaking has almost been the cause of death - and remember, Sir, as to the final re suits from this kind of food poisoning with dead mi, nobody can say today with any degree of certainty to what extent is the injury to those persons who have been affected so far.

Mr. Chairman, I want to go on with this Head to see if we can get the passing of it, and as we have it here, School Meals is now a separate Head by itself.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Proposals are now being worked out to make this a separate Department of Government and the form in which the Estimates appear now reflects that desire.

Mr. HINDS:

I see that. I see somewhat what are the intentions of Government as regards the School Meals programme.

But, let us look at the whole scheme. The first thing that presents itself to us is this. There is nothing here which gives us to understand that this Department is going to have a true Departmental Head. No Departmental Head is shown here in these Estimates.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

It is not, yet.

Mr. HINDS:

I understand from the Leader of the House that 'it is not something'; but what the Minister has got to realise in coming to this hon. House for money for School Meals as a separate Department, he must make provision for somebody to head the Department, firstly.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The point is well taken. When we decide what we are going to do and the form it is to take, a Civil Establishment Order will come down embodying the post to be created as well as the designation of the person to take charge. It would not be here now because we have not taken that policy step. It is not finalised.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I see; and what the Minister is telling me is what I am complaing about; the policy decision has not yet been finalised. Let the Minister believe that we are taking him seriously.

Let us lcok at the note to Item 1 "Provision for 2 Inspectors of Nutrition, 1 Executive Officer, 2 Assistant Accountants, one Senior Clerk and 2 Collectors". Now, the School Meals is a sort of revenue - earning Department; it brings us in an amount of - I would not worry to look for it. What kind of policy decision could have been taken to decide on having 2 Collectors to cover all these schools, and those to which it is intended to extend the School Meals service in the coming year? I do not know how they can

cover the whole island. How did you arrive at 2 Collectors? On what basis did you arrive that this amount of money coming from so many schools would necessitate 2 Collectors? Why is it not 3 or 4? How do you know that I couldn't do the work? How do you know that you will have 1 Executive Officer and 2 Assistant Accountants? Why didn't you decide to have 1 Accountant and 2 Assistants? Have you put this here to fool the Opposition? You are going to have 6 Clerical Officers, and you are going to end up by having 1 Stenographer. I wonder if it is the one Stenographer that we have to work day and night to cover this work. I see that you are going to set up a Department in which there will be some discontent. What are you going to do with 1 Stenographer? Does it not look stupid to you, Mr. Chairman? And the Minister tells us there is no policy decision yet as to who is going to head the Department, nor what he is going to call the Officer, nor anything of that kind! 11.10 p.m.

What kind of policy is this? Is the information contained in this Note any part of your policy decision? These are things that we must be told. I notice that you are having two Inspectors of Nutrition. You are having School Meals and you are also having a Nutrition Scheme. I want to charge this Government with rank dishonesty and with misleading the people in this country. Your School Meals programme is merely an extension of the School Meals Scheme started by the Barbados Labour Party. I do not think the Barbados Labour Parly is so silly as to lay claim to the expansion that you have instituted. The Nutrition Scheme is the School Meals programme, but you are making provision here for the School Meals programme and for the Nutrition Scheme. What are you really doing? It is time to stop attempting to fool the people in matters of this sort. What are the two School Meals Inspectors going to do? What are their qualifications? We have very good reasons for asking that because a lot of people are running about here with a lot of initials behind their names, but when put to the test they are qualified or being alongside of this dead-rat-in-meat-business that we have before u.3 tonight. Some of them have succeeded in doing worse than the dead rat and meat have done to the school children.

Mr. Chairman, you will find that this Government has a sloppy approach to this matter. It must be remembered that you will be spending $2,086, 613, and the Government does not have any policy decision as to who is going to head the Department; What nonsense are we hearing?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I do not know why the hon. member is flogging himself over this. If he looks at the Estimates, he will see that all of the expenditure we asked to provide under this Head is not ordinary expenditure. If he looks at last year's Estimates or the year before, he would see that all of this would be one Item under the Ministry of Education. We have broken it down not only to give members of the House on opportunity to clearly scrutinise the expenditure, but as an indication that we axe going further. When therefore, the Department is properly established in the sense of operating as a self-contained Department, a Civil Establishment Order will be introduced in this House setting out the various categories of Officers who are to be appointed to that Department to manage and work it. In next year's Estimates, all of these Officers will be shown in the Statutory Bill. We could not, therefore, anticipate Parliament by putting in 1 Director, 2 Deputy Directors and so on.

Mr. Chairman, the only criticism of the Government that would have been valid would be if we had made a Civil Establishment Order and had somehow disguised in the Estimates the fact that staff had been appointed, but no provision was made for them, or that we had put them in the Estimates but had not clearly set out from where we were going to pay them.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, that is the behaviour of the Minister and his Ministry. It is just like when they built schools and then they had to buy land to build roads to get into the schools. The Minister is saying that they could not have anticipated Parliament and brought down provision for these Officers. There are times when I hear the Minister speaking, and he knows as well as other people and I do that he is saying nothing.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, what he says about me does not worry me. What is of importance is the matter we are dis-cussing. Only today I said to the hon. junior number for St. Peter that, before we went into Committee, I would like the House to pass a Resolution authorising the salary to be paid to the Personal Assistant of the Prime Minister, because unless the House so passes the Resolution there is no authority to appropriate it. The hon. member knows this. In the same way that you cannot put here what the Establishment of the School Meals Department will be until the House has by an affirmative Re solution approved the Establishment Order - Is that not knowing what I am saying? Am I not saying anything?

Mr. HINDS:

I wonder how you went about the Community College.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

By a Bill.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I have listened to the Leader of the House, and I cannot understand what he is saying. What we are saying is that if the Minister felt that they could justify creating 13 posts, he would have included them here and come down with a Resolution. The Ministry or the Cabinet took a decision to set up this separate Department for School Meals long ago.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. We have not yet finalised that decision.

Mr. HINDS:
Are you asking for money before you know what you are going to do?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I have already pointed out to the hon. member that this Expenditure which he now sees under Head 39 (4), he would have seen last year as Just one Item under Head 39 (1), but because we are spending $2 million we have broken down this expenditure into separate Items. If it had been done the otherway, you would have asked us why we have not broken down the $2 million.

11.20 p.m.

When it is decided to form a School Meals Department and the kind of Officer who should head it is appointed, a Civil Establishment Order will be promulgated and the salary to be paid to the Officer or Officers will be designated in the Order according to the particular code and status of the Officer or Officers. When that is done, that expenditure as long as the House approves it, becomes Statutory Expenditure and will appear in addition to this in the Estimates next year.

Mr. HINDS:
Will the Minister tell me how he arrived at these two Inspectors of Nutrition, one Executive Officer, two Assistant Accountants, one Senior Clerk, two Collectors, six Clerical Officers and one Stenographer?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
These are people working in the Ministry of Education doing School Meals work. In other words, suppose when we were considering the Estimates last year you had asked for this information, I would have had to get the information and say that there are eleven or twelve Officers so engaged in School Meals and I would have had to call them to you; but we put it here so that you can see what the Establishment is likely to be.

Mr. HINDS:

I thank the Minister. Now Mr. Chairman, how is it that the Minister is telling us that all these officers are employed in the Public Service, and when you look on the other side you see Temporary Staff, Non-established Staff, Unestab-lished Staff, Casual Staff and Acting Staff? Do you mean they are employed in the Government Service and are not established? How did they get in there? Can the Minister justify all this?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I take it the hon. member is asking how the School Meals Staff is appointed. I have answered this several times. They are appointed by the Minister of Education upon the advice... let me put it this way, appointments are made by the Chief Personnel Officer.

Mr. HINDS:

You just said they are appointed by the Minister - which is the truth?

Mr. St. JOHN:

They are appointed by the Minister of Education who may have his small Committee, but we know the real Committee is in Roebuck Street and a passport is the first eligibility.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I do not believe you are seriously quarrelling with that.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Do you not believe that we are seriously quarrelling over the fact that you are taking public money and using it as a means of getting political support? The political morality of the Leader of the House is no different from the hon. senior member for St. Andrew. You do not have any kind of political morality at all, because you believe that public money must be used in furthering your political support.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

You know, Mr. Chairman, this is something on which two Parties can differ, but I will tell you something. If the other side were in power and this was their policy, it would certainly be all right with me.

Mr. HINDS:

The Minister tried to make out that the hon. senior member for Christ Church could not be serious in what he was saying just now. Does the Minister understand that I am serious.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I understand the burden of his argument that he would like to see these people on the Establishment at some time or other.

Mr. HINDS:

I will deal with the point I was making first. To prove that the Minister is appointing these people, he is known to have taken application forms to a residence at Mount Standfast, St. James, and handed them to a domestic employed there telling her to fill them in and get them into the hands of a certain gentleman who would bring them to him - I can see the gentleman but I do not want to call his name - and promising the domestic an appointment in the School Meals Service. The Minister of Education did this personally, and if he were standing before me, I would cut him down to pint size. This is the reason why we are faced with the situation as contained in the note to Item 1 and the ones that are acting under Item 5 - provision to pay substitutes for officers on leave. What kind of posts these officers on leave held? What we want to know is how long have these people been unestablished, casual and temporary. You are appointing two Nutrition Inspectors. What are the qualifications they hold? Have you advertised for the posts or are you hand-picking them too? You are making a permanent Head of School Meals and drafting all these people into it. You have not taken a policy decision as to what you are going to call the Head of the Department, but you know who will fold up the tail. 11.30 p.m.

You have here 146 School Meals Assistants; how were they appointed? Who are they? "Coloured" is a boss in this, going around giving people forms promising them jobs and telling them who are going to lose theirs if they do not drive out with whom. This has been brought to the Minister's attention. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: By you?) The Minister received communication on the telephone on a matter of this sort, and I challenge him now to deny it; this is serious business now. Does the Minister want to deny it?' (Hon. J. C. TUDOR; That is no challenge.)It is true. I am asking the Minister not to let me tell the Committee that I know that he was communicated with by telephone, (Hon. J. C. TUDOR That could not affect you.) It would not affect me but you have 180 servers; what experience have any of these people had before they were appointed? Who appointed them? What standards have you set for these people - apart from using the foul, lewd, nasty behaviour that goes on in Reed Street that somebody has to speak out and ask them why they do not behave themselves, and if they know that they are trying to raise children next door. How can the Minister defend the present Minister of Education taking his own uncle... (Hon. J. C. TUDOR I do not believe you.) He is not his uncle then, but these people refuse to take instructions from the Supervisors because the politicians appointed them, and the Supervisors who know their work are getting no end of difficulties because these people feel they can run and tell these

people something, calling all the Ministers by their first names, and they make it more difficult for the Supervisors who want to do their work.

You are having wastage at some of these Centres - I do not want to say that you have stealing as well; you know that. When it was reported to me I sat down and told the person that the best person who would listen and try to take action would be the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, and that is how I know that it was reported to you by telephone. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: What is the inference then, that I was in it?) I do not want you to feel nervous in future when the telephone rings; so I will say no more. I felt you were the person who would try to take some action without offending people; but, Mr. Chairman, they are going to make at Item 4 provision for 44 casual employees; where are you going to use these people? How did you arrive at these figures? You have not taken any policy decision as to what you are going to do in the School Meals programme; I feel the Minister will be ready now to tell me something on this. Are these people on the staff or not? What does being on the staff really mean? Can the Minister explain this? This is a case where the Democratic Labour Party has an army of 428 people and they cannot say what they are going to do about them; they are using funds voted by this House to declare war any time against the Opposition; so, Mr. Chairman, you will understand you are going into big business.

At Item 7 $3,000 is to be appropriated for stationery. Do you know how much stationery you are going to use which will cost $3,000? How did you arrive at the figure of $3,000? The Note states that this $3,000 is required to provide stationery for the office and the School Meals Centres; can the Minister tell us where they have decided to set up the School Meals Office?

At Item 8 you have an amount of $5, 572 for uniforms. Do you know how many people are going to wear uniforms? How many are domestic staff and how many are not domestic staff?

Item 12 - Fuel, $31, 525 is to pay for gas to be used at the Centres, and I am asking the Minister if the School Meals Centres use gas in preparing only School Meals or if they use the gas preparing meals or whatever you call it in any other institutions. I am not saying that this in done for any other persons, but for any other institutions. Try and find out what the position is so that you will be able to answer; I have the information already and I want it checked. 11.40 p.m.

I repeat I am not saying for individuals; I am asking for other institutions or departments of Government', whatever it may be.

We are voting here at Item 10, $999, 495, provision for feeding the pupils at the Primary Schools.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I am listening to the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

Mr. HINDS:
$999, 495.... He wants to report progress.

On the motion of HON. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by HON. C. E. TALMA, the Chairman reported progress and asked for leave to sit again. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended for fifteen minutes.

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

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

11.50 p.m.

On Resumption.

Mr. SPEAKER:
When the House was suspended this morning it was in Committee of Supply, and to that it now reverts.

DEBATE ON ESTIMATES

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee of Supply Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (4) SCHOOL MEALS DEPARTMENT

Head 39 - Ministry of Education (4) School Meals Department.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Some questions were asked about the staffing position at Item 2. With respect to the Non-established Staff, 6 Supervisors work at 6 Centres. There is a Supervisor at each of the 6 Centres, that is, Westbury, St. Christopher, St. Clements, Gun Hill, Reed Street and Summervale. There are 12 Senior School Meals Assistants; 2 at each Centre.

There are 146 School Meals Assistants; 30 at West-bury, 30 at Gun Hill, 30 at St. Philip, 20 at Reed Street, 18 at St. Christopher, and 18 at St. Clements. There are 15 Van Driveri; 3 each at Westbury, Gun Hill and St. Philip; 2 each at Reed Street, St. Christopher and St. Clements. There are 160 Servers at the receiving schools (Asides.) There are some vacancies because all of the Centres are not working at their maximum. With regard to Watchman, there is 1 at each Centre, and 1 at Headquarters where milk is stored from time to time.

Mr. Chairman, when the store room is built at the Harbour site, other arrangements will be made there. There is a Truck Driver mainly for the Nutrition Scheme. He has to take milk and biscuits around.

Mr. HINDS:

Is the Nutrition Scheme part of the School Meals programme?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Yes, The point is that you must have the Nutrition Scheme because you have not extended the School Meals Service over the whole island; so that the schools who do not participate in milk must still have the Milk and Biscuits Programme.

Mr. HINDS:

Is it one and the same Programme? Hon. J. C. TUDOR Yes.

Mr. HINDS:

Where have you made provision for this Nutrition Service?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

At Item 19. With regard to Casual workers, I am speaking in respect of 44. Twenty-one posts are vacant because the Centres are not yet working at full capacity. The present allocation is 2 at Headquarters, 8 at Westbury, 8 at Gun Hill, 8 at St. Philip, 6 at Reed Street, 6 at St.. Christopher, 6 at St. Clements, and the 2 at Headquarters have been taken on in connection with the World Food Programme stores.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The Minister said 2 at Headquarters, 8 at Westbury, 8 at Gun Hill, 8 at St. Philip, 6 at Reed Street, 6 at St. Christopher, 6 at St. Clements, and 2 at Headquarters. That will make 38. He says that there are 21 vacant posts, and he has accounted for 38. He is making the number 46.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The total allocation is 44. It is 3 by 6, 3 by 8, and 2.

Mr. HINDS:

There are 21 vacant posts and you have 38 active.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I explained that the 2 at Headquarters were taken on to look after the World Food Programme stores; I merely explained why we must have two at Headquarters. I called Headquarters twice in order to explain the position. 12.15 a.m.

Mr. HINDS; Does your note give us any information about the World Food Programme? (Hon. J. C, TUDOR:

No.) Why don't you tell us this? Why doesn't your note tell us that you are providing for your World Food Programme and it necessitates so much staff?

Hon. J. C, TUDOR; Of the total number only two are involved in that; the other 42 are distributed at the Centres; so the note could not tell you about the World Food Programme. Let us go over it again. There are two at Headquarters, 8 at West-bury, 8 at Gun Hill, 8 at St. Philip, 6 at Reed Street, 6 at Grace Hill and 6 at St. Clements. Now I said that of that 44, the two I have referred to at Headquarters are taken on in connection with World Food Programme. The casual staff are employed at the Centres to do the lifting of the food in the vans and taking out the empty containers and work of that kind.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Are these temporary officers paid during the school holidays?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Oh yes!

Mr. St. JOHN:

How temporary are they? Are you sure your answer is right? Will you tell me that you do not pay a Nutrition Officer and an Accountant during school holidays?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

They are paid. The term "temporary staff" is merely used to describe the staff which, though permanent staff, are not es -tablished posts.

Mr. St. JOHN:

They are employed permanently and draw money from the Crown and you have not established them. Under Item 5 you are making provision to pay substitutes for officers on leave. Are these officers on the temporary staff? (Hon. J. C. TUDOR Yes.) Doesn't the Minister see this is sheer hypocrisy and political immorality? How can you pay an officer who is on leave when you say they are not holding office? You say there are officers on leave which means they have an office. The Public Service Commission have a definition of what is a public officer, and it is this a public officer means an office of emolument in the Public Service. If you have provision in your Estimates and put in a note dealing with officers, it pre-supposes an office, and it also defines Public Service which is service with the Crown in a civil capacity in respect of the Government of Barbados. This is a Government Department; these people are in service with the Crown, and you are subverting the Constitution just for political purposes. This hypocrisy has got to stop. You cannot come here and put a note in the Estimates and ask this House to vote money for acting staff, and then say in the note "Provision to pay substitutes for officers on leave".

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Why doesn't the hon. member read the entire note and not a section of it?

Mr. St. JOHN; The hon. member should not get into this; this is too high for him,

Hon. C. B. TALMA; I am asking you to read the entire thing.

Mr. St. JOHN:

The position is quite clear, If you say you are asking us to vote money for staff employed in a civil capacity in Government and you say they are officers, it pre supposes that they have an office. Nobody can convince me otherwise. Has an opinion been given by the relevant person to the Government of this Island as to what is an officer in the Public Service? It is not to be given by the Attorney General because I think somewhere in the Constitution it is said that the Attorney General is not capable to give an opinion on this point about the Public Service Commission. It must be either the Solicitor-General or somebody nominated by him. I want to know if an opinion was given, because if this is so, it means you can create any Department anywhere, call the officers temporary staff and subvert the whole Constitution of this country. All the security of tenure of a Civil Servant, all the built-in protections that you put in to prevent political patronage can be done away with in this matter, and - I do not care whether it is done by this Department or not - it is wrong. We cannot vote for this and we will talk all night, because if you say you cannot have an office, then you cannot have an officer. May I ask another question? Item 6 is to pay overtime allowance for officers required to work after normal working hours. Are they the same temporary staff?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, this is just merely a pun on words. It has been explained precisely already that this is a temporary arrangement until this thing is set on a proper footing, and you will see that if you read the entire note and not try an old lawyer's trick. This is Parliament; so when you come here and read a portion of a note and omit the relevant part and then say it is too high for somebody, it is not too high for me. It may be too high for person over there where all sorts of political tricks are practised. This is really a comprehensive note which covers the case in point, and the question of what the Constitution states is by the way in the sense that the note is sufficiently comprehensive to cover the point in fact.

Mr. St. JOHN:

It may cover the point in fact, but not in law. We are being asked to vote money to pay overtime allowance for officers required to work after normal working hours. My question is quite simple. Are these officers the same people who are designated temporary staff?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I am really not prepared to argue on the significance of meaning or of words which bear some meaning in some context and other meanings in another. All I know is that I have explained already that the fact that we have set up the financial arrangements for the School Meals Service in this way meant that we wished the fullest knowledge of Parliament to be brought to bear upon it; otherwise it would have been set out as it had hitherto been set out, A single ides under a big Head, 12, 25 a.m.

I further said that it is proposed to set up a separate Department and that when the decision is finally made, a Civil Establishment Order will be brought inserting out the various categories of posts; I cannot say any more than this, and I cannot see what the fuss is all about.

Mr. St. JOHN:

If the Hon. Minister would give way, does the Hon. Minister subscribe to the view that the Constitution of Barbados provides that if a person is in the Public Service of this country he must be appointed in a particular manner? He knows that that is so and that the overtime there for officers working must relate to the temporary staff; do not try to evade that.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Perhaps the use of the word "officer" may be morecorrect, but all. I am saying is when the Department is established, then we will.....

Mr. St. JOHN:

This is the time that it should be done, and Parliament has absolutely no right to vote any money for people to be appointed in the manner described by the hon. member. We are not going to allow you to utilise any device whereby you can get around the Constitution; you have been doing it with the School Meals service for a long time, and we have been trying to point this out. It is obvious that there must have been some query by the Auditor General or some other financial officer, but what he should have done was to state that this is an office which is not properly established and that according to the Constitution the appropriation is illegal.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

If the hon. member is talking law, I will have to listen to him; but I do not necessarily have to accept what he says. Surely the question must turn around the several ways in which an office can be constituted in Barbados. Are not these offices to be constituted by the Public Service Commission?

Mr. St. JOHN:

If you are being employed and paid by the Crown, I ask again, has the Ministry of Education ever taken advice from the relevant officer on the legality of this method? Get an answer to that.

Hon. J. C, TUDOR:

I can answer the hon. member immediately on this, because in 1963 when we had to start the School Meals Service we asked whether they had to be Public Officers, and the opinion given was that it need not be so.

Mr. St. JOHN:

I do not believe that that was what the opinion was, because then they would have to be casual. But when you tell me you are employing people on the basis that they get paid whether they work or not, because during the holidays they do not work, therefore there is a degree of permancy; they are working whether they are performing a service or not. To show you how hypocritical this is, you have appointed an Executive Officer; how can you have an Executive Officer without an office? This must be the only Department in the Public Service with an Executive Officer who does not hold an office, If you say that you have casual staff for a specific project like the Airport which has a beginning and you can contemplate the ending - except you are contemplating the end of the School Meals Service, now that you found a rat in the food. You are not contemplating the end of the service, and as long as there is a service you know that you must have certain personnel of an administrative nature to run it; therefore it is sheer hypocrisy to say that they are temporary. They are not temporary at all; it is intellectually dishonest to say that they are temporary. It is part of your Manifesto and it is part of your programme; so how can you ask us to think about them in this way when you have constituted them in this manner?

Whose service are they in when holidays are on?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I have nothing more to say.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, if the Minister is saying he has nothing more to say in the face of what the hon. senior member for Christ Church has said, (Hon. J. C. TUDOR That is a point of view.) Not a point of law?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
If it is a point of law, how can I deal with it?

Mr. HINDS:
You have appended your signature here on this document.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
There are four hon. members speaking at the same time.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, the hon. senior member for Christ Church has made a very important point of law; I am a layman, but it is a very important point that has been raised. The Leader of the House has shown that he can give legal opinions. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR Did I say I could?) The Leader of the House has appended his signature here to a point of law; this is a legal opinion and a point of law. In fairness to these people who have been working now for roughly six years, what is the Minister's view as to the security of tenure of these people? Is it fair to them? Is it fair to keep these people for six years working in a manner that, the moment they disagree with a member of the Democratic Labour Party, out go they? Is it fair to these people? I heard the Minister say that these people are employed in the Public Service of this country; what was the method of employment? Do these people enjoy the same rights and privileges as the Established members of the Public Service? What is the position with these people? Are they paid during leave periods ? I would certainly like to hear the Leader of the House tell us what is the position with these people. Mr. Chairman, the matter of rat in the food is a serious one; let us dismiss this now and get down to this very serious constitutional matter.

12.35 a.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, of all places where the Constitution should be interpreted Parliament is the least. You can't interpret the Constitution here, I could not have an opinion on the Constitution unless it was A fairly personal one, nor could the hon. member have one. I don't believe that the hon. senior member for Christ Church, when he was speaking, was giving a legal opinion; he was speaking as a member of the House of Assembly.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, we are not concerning ourselves with the feeling of the Leader of the House at this stage; that does not count. We are concerned with the 400-odd people employed for a period of six years without having any sort of security of tenure.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Hon. members not addressing the Chair!

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, this is a very serious matter - very, very serious indeed because after all, who employs these people? Who has the right to dismiss them? If they are dismissed tomorrow, to whom must they turn? The hon. junior member for St. Andrew says it is a crash programme. Mr. Chairman, we are not making fun. We have here at Item 1 a list of officers, and I was minded to ask the Leader of the House Why have you decided to set up this Department, but have not decided what you are going to call the officer who is going to be Head of the Department. He retorted that a final policy decision has not been made in that respect. How is it that without final policy decision you have gone about creating all of this and find yourself employing 428-odd people over a period of 6 years?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This could not be a strong point. The hon. member is talking as if it was suddenly discovered that 480 people or whatever it is have been employed. The School Meals service started in 1963 as a pilot scheme; in 1965 and 1966, and, I believe, last year, it was extended and expanded. The time has come now when a proper evaluation can be made of it, and a decision has been taken to create a separate Department with all that that entails; but until Parliament gives its final sanction to that in the form in which Parliament should give it, we still have to run the service; we still have to pay people; therefore we have to appropriate money for it. What is all this 'brew hal hal?

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, people who have been employed in posts since 1963 clamouring for some consideration.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

All of them will be coming under the Casual Employees Pensions Act, anyhow.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, people who are employed in permanent posts, can you expect that they can be treated casually where their pension rights are concerned? They are employed permanently, but for pension rights they must be treated casually! What kind of double talk is this?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

You would want them not to be covered under any Pensions Act?

Mr. HINDS; Mr. Chairman, the Leader of the House cannot have it that way.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

What are you arguing, then?

Mr. HINDS:

We want the Leader of the House, Mr. Chairman, to be honest to himself, to Parliament and to those 428 people.

Hon- J. C. TUDOR:

We are talking politics now. I could not accept that you could be more concerned with them than I could be. Now, let us argue the merits of the case. I am saying now for the nth time that we are going to set up A Department. When it is decided how it is to be constituted, a Civil Establishment Order will come, and in that Civil Establishment Order there will be a full description and designation of all the posts comprising the service. What more can I say?

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, when the Leader of the House says when it is decided how it is to be constituted, does he mean personnel-wise?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

So when you are going to set up a Department don't you have to look at its administration, personnel, structure, everything? Don't you see that we have now understood that this thing has grown to the proportion which now justifies the creation of a Department with all that a Department requires and entails? I can't understand what the hon-member is making the fuss about.

Mr. HINDS:

The Leader of the House has just said, Mr. Chairman, that when you are going to set up a Department, you have got to look at its ad-ministration.....

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

On a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. senior member for St. Andrew has risen on a point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman, I rise in protest. I was in here until after 2 o'clock yesterday. I am not opposed to working 8. 10 hours a day, but it is unreasonable to ask any person, whether ladies, whether Reporters, Clerks or a member, it is unreasonable to ask any person to leave this Chamber at half-past two or at 2.15 last night and the same hour tomght. I just rise to say that I am leaving.

Mr. HINDS:

Tell the Leader of the House that. Let us go on with the Order of the Day. That is a matter for himself and the Leader of the House.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, the Leader of the House has just said that when you are going to set up a Department you have to look at its administration, its personnel and everything, in the Minister's own words. Now, Sir, can the Minister say that in deciding to set up this, they looked at everything to which he referred? It is because they didn't look and the Minister has repeatedly said that no final policy decision has been taken as to who is to head the Department. This is a very vital issue.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I have answered you six. times already.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, for the first time that I have heard the Minister admit that in setting up a Department you have got to look at the administrative end, the personnel end, and he went on to say 'and everything'. Can the Minister tell us if Cabinet or whoever decided to set up this Department for the School Meals programme have considered the importance of this Department? We appreciate that School Meals have come to stay; nobody is denying that; even the presence of the dead rat cannot make it go.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I would like to remind the hon. junior member for St. Peter that there are phrases that he has used in this particular debate about 20 times, and I consider it repetitious. 12.45 p.m.

1 would like to advise all hon. members that I am travelling closely behind the Standing Orders of this Chamber, and I am not to be told by any hon. member what is my duty.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, this is not a case of monkey holding musket'. (Asides)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Monkey is not holding musket here, and I am going to rule that 36 be invoked where the hon. junior member for St. Peter is concerned. Order No. 36 says

"36 (1) The Speaker or the Chairman, after having called the attention of the House or of the

Committee to the conduct of a Member who persists in irrelevance or tedious repetition either of his own arguments or of the arguments used by other Members in debate, may direct him to discontinue his speech".

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I am not going to give you a chance to release the hon. Leader of the House from his present position tonight. What we are concerning ourselves with is that the Minister has not yet told us the method of the recruitment of the 428 people. He has not answered that question. If a member has to repeat his questions, it is not tedious repetition. This is a very important matter we are discussing. What is the method of recruitment? What is the security for these 428 people? These are the questions we are asking on behalf of the people employed under the School Meals programme for over 6 years.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

That I have heard on over 20 occasions, and if the hon. member persists I will ask him to sit down.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I am sorry to interrupt hon. members. The hon. member wanted to know how the peopls were recruited. My understanding of the term "recruit" is that they have already been recruited on a Pilot Scheme which has been expandiiig over the years. They will soon be- put on a permanent basis and on the Establishment. In the interim their pension rights and security are protected under the Casual Employees Pensions Act, 1961. All of this hullabaloo in here is to prove-what? It is just to filibuster and waste time and energy. (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLRY You are talking about wasting people's time!)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

The hon. junior member for the City must not sit down and address the Chamber!

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I apologise to you, Sir, and I hope you will call on other hon. members to apologise, too.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I am going to sail away to Item 17 - Maintenance of Buildings. We have had it here tonight from the Leader of the House that the Ministry was advised to clean or close the Gun Hill Centre. What advice has he sought in this particular respect with reference to the other Centres? (Hon. J. C. TUDOR None.) If you are on that side of the House, you can do no wrong, but we on this side try to

steal away and not to make the Chairman look like a fool even if he might feel so.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Whether the Chairman feels like a fool or not, I must ask the hon. member now to withdraw that statement.

Mr. HINDS:
What statement?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Whether I feel like a fool or not.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, I did not say that you feel like a fool. I withdraw it. A hundred times I withdraw it.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I would like to draw hon. members' attention to Rule 60 (10)

"On the question "That the sum of $ for Head stand part", the debate shall be confined to the policy of the service for which the money is to be provided and shall not deal with the details of expenditure, but may refer to the details of revenue or funds for which that service is responsible".

That is what I am now ruling. I have been here the whole sitting listening to details. I have given quite a lot of latitude on this.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, if you are tired, then tell somebody else, but do not tell me. Let us get on with Item 17, Maintenance of School Meal Building. How much of this $8,000 does the Minister intend spending on Reed Street buildings? I ask about the Reed Street Centre for the simple reason that it was the last of the Centres to be opened. Does he now find it necessary, since he has carried out the kind of cleaning that

his advisers recommended in respect of Gun Hill, to spend more money on Reed Street? How much money will be spent on these two Centres? I do not want to bring in the Westbury Centre where, in my view, a considerable amount would have to be spent. The situation which has been created there has been very well discussed here tonight.

At Item 19, there is an amount of $244,000 for Nutrition. The Minister has admitted here that the School Meals Scheme and the Nutrition Scheme are one and the same. Since that is the case, how can the Minister make separate provision for each? 12.55 p.m.

Why did the Minister not come for a lumpsum and then leave it to hon. members how much of it he proposed spending on nutrition and how much on the School Meals programme?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Choiman, I rise really because I am fearing for my own sanity. I am asking the hon. member to give way for me to explain something. If you take up last year's Estimates, under General Administration or maybe under Schools, you will see a sum marked against the item called "School Meals Service" and you will also see a sum marked against the item called "Nutrition". Long before there was a School Meals service, there was provision for Nutrition in the Estimates presented to Parliament. I have explained before that in those schools where the meal is not served, you still have to serve some kind of nourishment, and the Milk and Biscuits scheme is still going on. How could you then say that instead of doing it this way you should put it all together and allow members to ask why it was lumped together? Do you mean to detain the Committee a little more?

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairma, at the time of last year's Estimates the Minister did not admit that it was one and the same scheme. He was telling us then that the School Meals scheme was the brain child of the Democratic Labour Party; it was the first plank in their platform; but it is only now that the Minister has been drilled into this position tonight that he admits it is one and the same scheme. If it is one and the same scheme, why are you making two sets of provisions in the same scheme? Surely the Minister must admit that he has been trapped into this situation and would like to get himself out of it. It is not our fault, and if he can give us the answer to the questions I asked on Item 19, we will see if we can accommodate him in passing the Head. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR I don't care whether you pass it.) If the Minister cares not whether we pass the Head, we are coming to a very unpleasant situation because all of us want to see the business go ahead. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR If you want to see it go ahead, would you ask all kinds of questions?)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Hon. members not speaking must observe the Standing Orders.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
On a point of order, I would like to draw your attention to the language of . the Leader of the House, ;

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, at Item 20, you are going to provide vans, scales, slicing-machinei etc. I am to enquire of the Minister if he has found any defects in the scales at present being used.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I had asked the Minister earlier about the supply of meat to the School Meals programme, and whether it was done by tender, and he never replied.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I cannot tell the hon. member accurately what month it was, but some time in April or May last year advertisements were put out for applications for these contracts, and awards were given for pork, beef and mutton to three different agencies.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, at Item 18 provision is made for the insurance of School Meals money. Does the Minister have any information that School Meals money was reported lost whilst intransit?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I do not know, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. HINDS:
I asked if the hon. member had any information. He does not know if he has any information. What is Parliament coming to that a Minister does not know what information he has? I had information.

The question that the sum of $2,086, 613 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (1) School Meals Department - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (5) AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS DEPARTMENT

Head 39 - Ministry of Education (5) Audio Visual Aids Department - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $103, 262 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (5) Audio Visual Aids Department -stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, at Item 22 there is an amount of $3,300, but there is no note. I believe the Minister would be glad for an opportunity to provide the necessary information.

Mr. St. JOHN:
I think the note to Item 20 is a printing error.

Mr. HINDS:
Now I believe I can go on until the Leader of the House is ready.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, if you change Note 23 into Item 22, I think it will fall into its place. You do not need a note to Item 23.

1.05 a.m.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, Item 22 - Schools Broadcasts. There is an amount of $3,300 provided, and these Schools Broadcasts have been going on for. some time now. I am sure that the Minister had promised the House that an attempt would have teen made to evaluate the benefit derived from the present conduct or the present method employed so that he would tell us where we stand at a moment such AS this. The time has come for us to hear what the Minister has learnt, and why I say 'what the Minister has learnt' is because the children are not learning anything from these Schools Broadcasts. I have told this hon. House that what is wrong with the present system of broadcasts amongst other things is that the broadcasts in themselves, when they are directed to one class room, they distract the attention of others from what the teachers are trying to teach them. The reason for that is that there is no provision to isolate the children who are receiving the broadcasts from the rest of the school, and as a result - let the Leader of the House deny this - many teachers do not turn on the sets to receive the broadcasts. If that is the situation, why are we continuing with the system to run it as we have been running it in the past? Can the Minister tell us now what steps have been taken to prevent those ills which have shown themselves so manifestly in the system over the years? We feel that if these broadcasts are to be directed to our schools, you would provide separate sound-proof rooms, or perhaps use the more expensive method of providing ear-phones for the children who are to receive them; but we are now proceeding with introducing educational television. The Government shows itself as not being particularly concerned with the benefits to be derived from these broadcasts; so, as if to make confusion more confounded, they are proceeding now to introduce something else, something now that will distract the attention of all the other children in these schools. Now, Mr. Chairman, is it fair to the people's children?

Let us for a single moment look at Item 20. The note states: "To provide for the operation of Educational Television. Includes provision for the rental of buildings and Professional Service fees for the use of C. B.C. -T.V. facilities and copy right fees.' I do not see here where one cent of this money is to be paid to the Telephone Company; could that be fair to as? There have been Government releases to the effect that the Barbados Telephone Company's services must be paid for by the taxpayers of this country, by the Government. Let the Minister tell us, Mr. Chairman, what progress has been made, what provision has been made at our schools, how many schools are equipped, and what provision is being made generally so that this television educational programme will be received at these schools without interfering with the normal working hours, the normal work programme of other sections of the schools. Let us hear what the Minister has to say. 1.15 a.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, let us deal first with the point about Schools Broadcasts. These are not being run by the Ministry of Education, as the hon. member knows, but by the Extra-Mural Department of the University of the West Indies - although, of course, the scheme has the full cooperation and blessing of the Ministry. The Ministry expects to take over the full responsibility for these next year. The teachers are not at present expected to participate, but they will in future when the Ministry does the programme

itself. About the ETV and the Teleplone Company, the reason for not including the Telephone Company is that the final agreement has not yet been entered upon; when this is done, any appropriation that has to be made will, of course, come before Parliament in the usual way. The schools to be served in the ETV pilot scheme are the 7 Comprehensive Schools, Bay Primary, the Community College, Erdiston and there will be a monitoring service in the Ministry itself. The sets are being installed now.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, we are faced with a situation where we are asked to vote money here; no part of that money is for the Telephone Company, is that right?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

No, because there is no appropriation here.

Mr. HINDS:

Now, no final agreement has been reached with the Telephone Company; in other words, nobody knows even up to this stage what bill the Telephone Company will be tendering. Exactly what is the Government trying to do? We do not know; they do not know. Mr. Chairman, if we vote for this sum of money, we are placing ourselves in a position to have to accept whatever the Telephone Company submits a bill for, and we would have to do this after the Leader of the House told us that there would be no charge by the Telephone Company. But you find the Minister of Education not answerable to this House, but he stays away and says it is going to cost $12,000 initially. In the face of a situation like this, who is speaking the truth? If must mean that some decision has been reached with the Telephone Company. How can the Minister of Education know it is going to cost $12,000 and would not let the Leader of the House know? Why have you not come to the House for money to pay the Telephone Company in the same way as you come for money? I did not want to ask about these copyright fees, but is the Leader of the House in possession of this information and about the $12,000 being charged by the Telephone Company?

Mr. St. JOHN:

What the hon. member is trying to find out, Sir, is that you have made an appropriation of $32, 920. Sometime ago the Leader of the House read a Statement with respect to educational television, and it was said quite clearly at the time that the building in Government Hill previously used by the Telephone Company would be converted into a studio for the ETV and a channel between there and the Pine studios would be established at CBC. Seeing this appropriation, we want to know what proportion of the appropriation relates to the service which will be provided by the Barbados Telephone Company.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I am not giving the hon. member that information because the Ministry of Education and the Telephone Company are still finalizing their arrangements. I really could not tell you; it is-not a question that I don't want to.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Therefore this is an estimate. There is included in the $32, 920 an estimate of what the Ministry thinks it could cost.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Yes.

Mr. HINDS:

If the Leader of the House says that included in this amount is an estimate of what the Ministry feels the Telephone Company will be charging, can the Minister tell us what that amount is? I do not think it is difficult, even in the face of his having to tell us there is no money for the Telephone Company. The Minister said that there is no portion of the money for the Telephone Company that we are appropriating today, but the Minister is now saying that included in this sum is an estimate of what the Minister feels the Telephone Company will be charging. Tell us what portion of this appropriated amount is for the Telephone Company.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

There is nothing inconsistent in what I have said. I am not going to tell you that X dollars are for the Telephone Comhany. I told you the Ministry is negotiating in such a way that they may not have to pay more than $1,000 per month for rental; that will be $12,000 a year. They are negotiating at the moment. I cannot say X dollars and tie the Ministry's hands in the negotiations they are having. If the hon. member wants a breakdown of this on the basis of what the Ministry hopes it will be able to negotiate, it is as follows-

Rent, not more than $12,000; fees for CBC, $2,000; video tapes, $9,200; films, $2,000; copyright fees, $720; production of films, $1,000; production of slides $1,000; production of teachers' manual, $4,000 props and accessories, $1,000.

Mr. HINDS:

The slides are very cheap.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
May be a sliding scale.

Mr. HINDS:
The Leader of the House has got to learn that this is not a matter of poking fun; it is serious business.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
If you cannot laugh sometimes, you are apt to kill somebody. 1.25 a.m.

Mr. HINDS:
What we are concerned with is to know the truth in this matter. The Minister has given us figures here and he cannot vouch for them. He says there may be a sliding scale.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
You said the slides cost very little. In a feeble half-past-one-in-the-morning joke, which I am ashamed of now, I..... (Asides)

The question that the sum of $103, 262 - under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (5) Audio Visual Aids Department - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (6() INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

Head 39 - Ministry of Education (6) Industrial Schools - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $73, 412 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (6) Industrial Schools - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I should have drawn to the attention of the Committee that on the opposite side of page 104 we should put-in the figure "18' in the Explanatory Note. This has been left out in printing; so we should insert the figure "18" before the sentence beginning with "Provision for fuel, etc."

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, at Item 21 -Vocational Training - there is an amount of $3, 536. I should like the Minister to tell us if these Instructors have been considered for salary increases. If not, why not? I should also like to ask him if he knows that there is some dissatisfaction amongst the Instructors over their present rates of pay. This includes fees for instruction in Shoemaking, Mattress-making, Tailoring, Domestic Science, Motor Mechanism and Handicraft, and the cost of materials. To what extent is this Handicraft limited? Is there any instruction given in Carpentry and Masonry as in the case of tile laying and woodwork? Can the Minister assist us in this respect? If these things are not on the curriculum of the School, then why not? There is a demand for tile layers in this Island today. You can make money through laying tiles. Why is plumbing not taught at the Schools? There is a demand for this type of work. We would like to hear what the Minister has to tell us about these things.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
The Instructors, Mr. Chairman, are part time, and the whole matter of part-time Instructors is now being looked at. The Ministry is going into the matter, and an increase in salaries will be forthcoming. There is instruction in Masonry, but there is no information available on Woodwork.

The question that the sum of $73, 412 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (6) Industrial Schools - stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (7)

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Head 39 - Ministry of Education (7) Public Library - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $132, 691 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (7) Public Library - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, Item 13 - Juvenile Library. What information does the Minister have about the Juvenile Library during the months of November and December, 1969?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I am afraid the Ministry cannot assist the Committee on this at the moment.

Mr. HINDS:
Has the Ministry tried to assist the Committee?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Yes, it has in the sense that it has been appealed to. The information is not available.

Mr. HINDS:
Will the Minister promise to investigate the matter?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Yes, I will do that.

Mr. HINDS:
Will you make a statement on it?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Do you want a Statement on this?

Mr. HINDS:
Yes.

The question that the sum of $132, 691 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (7) Public Library - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (8) SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS AND SUBVENTIONS

Head 3, 9 - Ministry of Education (8) Scholarships, Grants And Subventions -was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $2, 381, 841 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (8) Scholarships, Grants And Subventions - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. St. JOHN:
Mr. Chairman, this seems to be a Head under which Subventions for educational purposes are granted. Does the Government give a grant to the School for Mentally Retarded Children?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, that comes under Health.

The question that the sum of $2, 381, 841 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (8) Scholarships, Grants and Subventions - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (9) ERDISTON COLLEGE

Head 39 - Ministry of Education (9) Erdiston College - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $63,035 under Head 39 Ministry of Education (9) Erdiston College - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, Item 16 - Part Time Staff at Erdiston. Under this Item only $1, 650 is provided for Part-time Lecturers. What has gone wrong? Tell us how many you have in number; their periods of engagements and so on. This amount could not be right. 1.35 a.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
It would appear that this is only in respect of part-time staff for instruction in Music and Agriculture.

As we said today, there are proposals for upgrading Agriculture, and there are teachers seconded as Tutors to cover the increased number of students. The establishment is under review, but it would seem not to be a lot of people, because it seems exclusively for instruction in Music and Agriculture.

Mr. HINDS:

Can you tell us how many teachers are seconded to give instruction? In other words, at Erdiston you teach teachers, but you tell us here that teachers are seconded, not Lecturers.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Teachers are seconded to be Tutors.

Mr. HINDS:

How many are seconded and how many teachers are receiving instruction in Agriculture?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Four have been seconded, but it you want to know how many teachers are receiving instruction in Agriculture, this information is not now available.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, there can be little hope for the progress of the Ministry of Agriculture under the present leadership. Here we have an institution like Erdiston College where we train teachers to go back to their respective schools to promote the programme of the Ministry of Agriculture, and the Minister of Agriculture is now in his place not knowing and not concerning himself with what instruction is going on at Erdiston and how many people are receiving that instruction

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

On a point of order, the hon. member has said that I do not know nor do I concern myself with knowing.....

Mr. HINDS:

Leave out the concern.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I will include that. As regards the number of teachers who will be receiving instruction at Erdiston College in the coming academic year, that information I do not have at the moment. When it comes to the selection of teachers who are to be instructed in Agriculture, that is not the prime responsibility of my Ministry; that is a function of the Training College; so for the hon. member to say that the Minister of Agriculture is not interested is a statement that would come, and it is understood why it should come, from the hon. member who has made that statement, and I need not tell this Committee more than that. I am sure we all understand that, whether on this side or the other side.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, the Ministry of Agriculture claims to have an Extensions Service which must be concerned with what instruction is given.....

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

On a point of order, I am concerned and will remain concerned as to the giving of instruction relative to Agriculture whether it is being done in my Ministry or under the Ministry of Education. He will see for himself, if he is not blind, that this vote is not under the Head of Ministry of Agriculture, but under Education. As a matter of fact, quite recently I was speaking with a school teacher who, I know, is very interested in Agriculture and instruction being given to the pupils of a particular school somewhere in the parish of St. Lucy. I mentioned my visiting a certain school garden in Boscobelle and speaking to the Headmaster there, but I am not yet apprised of how many teachers, candidates or trainees are being offered the syllabus of Agriculture at Erdiston Training College. It can be understood why the hon. member on that side would want to tell this Committee that I am not interested.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, any Minister of Agriculture that is worth his weight in salt must be concerned with knowing that his Ministry can plan on being assisted with its Extensions Programme by X teachers that will be graduating from Erdiston College at the end of the one year.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

On a point of order, there need not be any heat generated on the subject unless there is a motive by somebody else.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I will not deal with the hon. member as he deserves. The people at Black Bess have begun to show him, and that is what is worrying him.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:
On a point of order, ...

Mr. HINDS:
On a point of what order? The Ministry of Agriculture must concern itself with what is going on.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:
On a point of order, the hon. member cannot rule the Committee. A man is always known by his features, and when he comes to mention in this Committee.....

Mr. HINDS:
The features have already been plucked when he stands up to teach people's children and allows his pants to drop down in their presence.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:
The hon. member's character is known all over Barbados.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. seniormember for St. Peter is on a point of order. 1.45 a.m.

Mr. HINDS:
If the hon. member receives money from St. Peter, St. Lucy.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
That is not the subject matter under discussion, and I am not entertaining that type of behaviour from either member.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:
On a point of order, I categorically deny.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I said that I am not entertaining any such discussion.

Mr. HINDS:
We are dealing with the matter, Mr. Chairman, of Erdiston Teachers' Training College and what it is doing for Agriculture. I asked the Leader of the House how many teachers as students were receiving instruction in Agriculture; my reason for asking that question is to see how Erdiston Teachers' Training College is making its contribution, or seeing how it can make its contribution to the Extension work of the Ministry of Agriculture. I want to know if there is any instruction given at Erdiston College since the death of Mr. Moe, if there are teachers who are interested in receiving this instruction and there is no one to give it but teachers themselves who do not know what to teach. There is no wonder the situation at Erdiston as far as teaching Agricultural Science is concerned is as chaotic as it is because you find that the teachers have now learnt, and quite rightly, that even in the Ministry of Agriculture there are people who ought to have an interest in seeing that the Agricultural Science staff at Erdiston is strengthened so that when these teachers return to their respective schools they can impart - and not impart by letting their underpants drop down as the hon. senior member has done.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
If the hon. member would give way, if the hon. member's contention can be taken seriously that Agriculture should be a compulsory subject at Erdiston, even in the days when it was taught it was not compulsory but optional, and the Ministry used to feel that a teacher should have a personal interest in this subject and be not forced to do something which he may not like. Mr. Chairman, this is not the kind of business the Committee should engage in; in the Middle Ages the hon. member could do well in advancing the state of the world.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, perhaps I might attempt at this stage to see how I can advance the state of this discussion by asking the Minister if the teaching of Religious Knowledge at Erdiston Teachers' Training College is compulsory or not.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

That is optional, also.

Mr. HINDS:

Does the Minister think that justice is being done to the teachers, to the nation, by placing subjects like Religious Knowledge and Agricultural Science in these days, in the 1970's, as optional subjects? Agricultural Science should not be optional in Barbados when at the same time you are telling us that you are going to introduce Agricultural Science on the curriculum of some of our Secondary Schools and our Comprehensive Schools. Again, I must ask what "brother two-mouth" is this; what kind of double standards are we having?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

The double standards belong to the hon. member; you are introducing Agricultural Science because you want to give young people a wider and better exposure to it and to see whether you can develop in them some interest. But we are not talking now about the school age population; you are talking now about the Teachers Training College where there are several subjects which are compulsory and just as many which are optional; in any Training College you will have this. The people whose business it is to arrange these things should know, and certainly I think, as far as Religious Knowledge is concerned, that that should be optional because here again the hon. member may agree with me because while it is true sometimes that errors have no rights against truth, as it would appear from this discussion, you cannot compel people to know the Truth; it is Biblical.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, this is Barbados, and we for the most part depend on Agriculture. This is not a case where you find the Minister telling us that some foreign language is optional at Erdiston; it is Agriculture - something that is related to the main industry of this country. So if we find, as we go along, this callous approach to things agricultural as a whole, who are we to blame but to lay every inch of it at the feet of the Government of this country? The approach is callous, casual; you teach Agricultural Science not because you feel the demands of the nation, the life of the nation, the nation's lifeblood depend in very great measure on the instruction that is given in our schools; no consideration of that at all. 1.55 a.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Do you seriously say that if you have, .. Suppose there are 100 people; you make this a compulsory subject; do you want 100 teachers, all of them doing Agriculture, when you are going to introduce it into schools at that level and the Community College? There would be no justification for that. The hon. Member would even have to say what subjects he would have to make optional.

Mr. HINDS:

Has the Minister or Ministry of Agriculture ever given any sort of consideration as to the needs of the agricultural industry in this island where personnel are concerned?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

No matter how much consideration they give, they still would not need to make every teacher do Agriculture as a compulsory subject; they would not need so many.

Mr. HINDS:

It need not be compulsory through the whole Erdiston Course; what is wrong is the attitude of the Government to the teaching of Agricultural Science on the whole.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

If the hon. member will give way on a point of order. Mr. Chairman, the hon. member has just referred to the interest that he thinks ought to be displayed by the Ministry of Agriculture in the teaching of Agricultural Science at Erdiston Training College. My responsibility is to see that the agricultural policy of the country is being carried. out through the Ministry of Agriculture. We do not teach Agricultural Science, nor do we have responsibility for the teaching of Agricultural Science. We have responsibility for the carrying out of the agricultural policy of Barbados. The hon. member is confusing the teaching with responsibility for the agricultural policy. Evennow there is activity between the Teachers' representatives and I have not been consulted. The Principal of Erdiston College has no relation with me as Minister of Agriculture. Mr. Chairman, I would like to make my position quite clear.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, the Minister of Agriculture tells us that he has never been consulted. From that there can be many deductions. But when we look at things broadly, the decision to appoint the present Minister as Minister of Agriculture shows us what is the Government's attitude to Agriculture.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

We are not dealing with Agriculture, ; we are dealing with the Ministry of Education.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, we are dealing with Part-time Lecturers at Erdiston Teachers Training College. That is

what we are dealing with, and these teachers are teaching who may not have Agricultural Science.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
It is Education.

Mr. HINDS:
So, what are you telling me? What we are concerning ourselves with is that you have Erdiston Training College conducting courses in Agricultural Science; you have a Ministry of Agriculture with a fixed policy on Agriculture; but there is no liaison between Erdiston Training College and the Ministry of Agriculture. How are we to know that at Erdiston Training College the instruction that they are given is not something opposite to the fixed policy of the Ministry of Agriculture in the land in which we live? I agree with the Minister of Agriculture that he has not been approached.

Mr. Chairman, Erdiston is staffed to give instruction in Agriculture, Religious Knowledge or any other subject that bears direct relation to the day-to-day running of this nation. We have seen, Mr. Chairman, throughout the years Mr. Moe has been employed there that enough teachers exhibited a sufficient interest as to justify the retention of Mr. Moe in that position. We have learned from the Leader of the House that since Mr. Moe, there are enough people there who have manifested a sufficient interest as to have other teachers instructing them. What more interest are we to expect to find? What more must we do if teachers in this island have got to be taught by other teachers? This is what the Minister said; it is true. The Minister would be doing this community well if more attention is paid to this matter - the teaching of Agriculture and Religious Knowledge at Erdiston College, because I am sure that people who are concerned with Erdiston, who are concerned with, its future, are not 100% happy that things like Religious Knowledge and Agriculture are optional subjects and not subjects which must be taught, as I have said, to a particular level during the course of the Teachers' Training at this Institution.

2.05 a.m.

Mr. Chairman, that is what we are concerned with.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
The question is that the sum of.....

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, the most you could do to an hon. member is to allow him to sit down. There is $17, 160 at Item 11 for the payment of Maids. Does the Ministry have any information that there is dissatisfaction amongst the Maids at Erdiston Teachers Training College to the extent that they threatened to go on strike not so long ago?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I am afraid not, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. HINDS:
Will the Minister try to have the matter investigated and let us know something about the results of his investigations? Is it asking too much? When they go on strike and a worse situation is created, the same Minister will run to this House and ask us to vote money to put things in order. We are asking the Minister to see what is necessary to be done in order to prevent those people from taking action to embarrass anybody at Erdiston.

The question that the sum of $63,035 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (9) Erdiston College - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirma. tive without division.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (10) SAMUEL JACKMAN PRESCOD POLYTECHNIC

Head 39 - Ministry of Education (10) - Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $222, 888 under Head 39- Ministry of Education (10) Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, at Item 12 there is provision for one Watchman, one General Worker and two Cleaners. Is there really one Watchman employed at the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Yes, there is.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, the Minister has said that there is one Watchman employed there, but before we close I am going to prove to the Minister whether he is right or wrong. He had better seek the advice of people who should know. He may have an unemployed one there. He has a General Worker and two Cleaner's. Is the General Worker also parforming the duties of a Watchman? Has he been asked to perform the duties of a Watchman at any time? If the Minister does not know, he must try and get the information. He should not let people mislead him.

At Item 13 there is provision for the remuneration for Part-time Instructors in the sum of $6,500. In employing this Part-time Staff, can the Minister tell us if he is drawing on the Permanent Staff and if, in doing so, any of the other Institutions are losing teaching hours as a result?

Item 14 also includes transportation for students under instruction. In the Scheme recently announced by the Prime Minister it was decided to subsidise bus fares. Will the students who attend the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic also benefit from the subsidised transportation scheme?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, the details of the scheme have not yet been worked out. This is a scheme that is due to come into force in the September term, and there is not much I can say about it now. This provision relates to persons now attending the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic.

Mr. HINDS:

We understand that this provision includes transportation for students under instruction. I am asking if the scheme for relieving our students from paying high rates of bus fares will also include the students attending the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, even before we thought of putting this scheme into force those students were being assisted. The scheme will come into force in September. There is provision for helping those students who are now attending the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic. They may not need to benefit from that because they will be getting their own subvention out of this, as I understand it.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I do not know if I am wrong, but I understand that this provision is made for transporting children when they are going on educational tours and so on.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I take it that the hon. member is asking if they will be treated in September or whenever it is as bona fide students. 2.10 p.m.

I would think the answer to that would be "yes" once they are travelling between the hours of 8 o'clock in the morning and a certain hour in the evening. The Committee could not even seise this point with any firmness at this time.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, two seconds ago the Minister said that no consideration had been given to this, but he now jumps up and says that he feels they would be included in September. How must we take the Minister?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I wonder if I might add this for the hon. member now. This is only one Watchman, but another Watchman, as a relief Watchman, is paid for three periods per week. A General Worker does not perform the duties of a Watchman.

In respect of Item 13 - Part-time Staff - the Ministry is not aware of a Part-time Teacher who is also paid on the permanent establishment in another Government Department. The hon. member asked whether part-time people at the Prescod Institute were themselves on the permanent establishment of other schools. The reply to that is that the Ministry is not aware of any part-time Teacher who is also

paid on the permanent establishment of another Department.

Mr. HINDS:
If you are not aware, you are not aware.

The question that the sum of $222, 888 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (10) Samuel Jaekman Prescod Polytechnic - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without din's ion.

HEAD 39 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION (11) HOUSECRAFT CENTRE

Head 39 - Ministry of Education (11) Housecraft Centre - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $19, 642 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (11) Housecraft Centre - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, under Item 10, what is the intention of the Ministry with respect to establishing Centres at areas where the demand warrants them? In determining the demand, the Ministry can assist itself and the people who would like to become students of the Housecraft Centre by taking a note of those people who apply but are often crowded out both at the Bridgetown Centre and elsewhere. In my own constituency, people who try to get in at All Saints are crowded out time and again. Government can see where these people come from from the application forms, and if there is a sufficient number from a particular area indicating an interest to benefit from the instructions given at these Centres, Government can re-enforce the number of applications by advertising and making it widely known that if there are further applications from the particular area, a Housecraft Centre could be established, bearing in mind the staffing and other related matters. I do not think, Mr. Chairman, that any great

difficulty could be encountered there, but I feel that considerable relief could be given to people who have applied time and time again. When an advertisement is placed in the daily newspaper, it does not reach the full number of people who would be interested, and very often when one person who has seen the advertisement communicates to a friend whom she knows would also be interested, you will find that you have reached the closing date and there is little that can be done. With the Hotel Industry being promoted to the extent to which it is and the requests from overseas employers for domestic servants, we have seen the Housecraft Centre fulfil a very worthy duty in this community, and we are of the opinion that if Government would set about to carry a Centre into what might appear to be remote areas at times, many more people would benefit, and the instruction they receive would serve many of them in great stead as time goes on. I do not want, Mr. Chairman, to hold up the passing of this Head any longer, but I feel that Government should stretch its hands and do something more, and the sooner the better.

The question that the sum of $19, 642 under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (11) Housecraft Centre - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

2.25 a.m.

HEAD 39 (12) - TECHNICAL INSTITUTE Head 39 (12) - Technical Institute was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $24, 398 be appropriated under Head 39 (12).

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

Mr. St. JOHN:
Am I to understand, Mr. Chairman, that this is the last year's appropriation for this body? It seems that all provision is being made for is for the Unestablished Staff and a Trainee Instructor; I see no appropriation here for any electricity, water, materials or anything. This really does need some explanation from the Government.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Until all the arrangements for the absorption of the Technical Institute have been made, the establishment of the Technical Institute will remain on paper. This is being phased out into the Samuel

Jaekman Prescod Polytechnic at one level, and into the Community College at the other. The provision being sought there is for Personal Emoluments since for all practical purposes the Polytechnic will have absorbed the functions of the Technical Institute. The 195 apprentices will be trained under the aegis of the Technical Institute.

Mr. St. JOHN:

The staff of the Technical Institute are now going to give this instruction at the Polytechnic.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Yes, this is so.

Mr. St. JOHN:

What about those courses which are not being given at the Samuel Jaekman Prescod Polytechnic - the courses that will not be done at the Secondary Schools? There is a time lag between when it will be phased out, and there are courses which are not being done at the Samuel Jaekman Prescod Polytechnic; have you discontinued these courses?

Mr. CRAIG:

I wonder if the Hon. Minister would be able to say what they are going to do with the buildings that now house the Technical Institute.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I am getting the reply prepared for the question asked by the hon. senior member for Christ Church. With respect to the question asked by the hon. senior member for St. James, the position is that preparations are being made in the Estimates - probably the Capital Estimates - to build a new St. Leonard's Girls' School. The buildings that are left there will provide more room for the boys. I am not in a position to say now whether all of the Technical Institute buildings, in addition to the Girls' School buildings will be given over to the boys entirely, but certainly part of the Technical Institute buildings will be at the disposal of the Boys' School to spread this out while the girls go on to another place. All the Other Charges under the Technical Institute are now under the Polytechnic Personal Emoluments and will be held until all the Establishment matters, including possible abolition of office terms, are sorted out. There is only one person as Principal of both institutions.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I would like the Minister to tell us how many members of the staff of the Technical Institute have been absorbed into the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR Would you repeat the question?) The Chairman will accuse me of being tediously repetitive, but if the Minister has asked that I repeat the question, perhaps Mr. Chairman will permit me to repeat it. 2.35 a.m.

I am asking, Mr. Chairman, how many members of the staff of the Technical Institute have been absorbed into the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic; how many of the students at the Institute have so far been absorbed into the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic. With the phasing out of the Evening Institute and the opening of the Samuel Jackman Pre-cod Polytechnic, to what extent have the Industrial Art Wings at the 10 Secondary Schools been affected? - I would lead a demonstration around this House if they come to ask me for one extra cent to pay Reporters money.

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

Mr. HINDS:
What I am enquiring is whether the phasing-out of the Technical Institute is going to bring about a dislocation in the studies of those students who would take Associate Examinations Board Examinations, those who have to take examinations in Engineering and Workshop Theory and Practice, and the City & Guilds of London Institute. What is the position of the Institute and its students in relation to the opening of the Polytechnic as far as those examinations are concerned?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, no staff of the Technical Institute has been absorbed except the one who is now Principal. In answer to the hon. senior member for St. James, it will be operating from three sites - the Harbour site, the Grazette Factory site and from Richmond at the Technical Institute. Students at the Technical Institute have not been absorbed into the system of the Polytechnic. The Art Wings continue to be served at Richmond; the Institute is not being phased out the training and examinations of the students will continue unbroken.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, the Leader of the House mentioned training at the Gra-zettes Garment Factory; would he be more specific?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I believe that the hon. member has heard that one of the Polytechnic courses is sewing, and this training is given at Grazettes. The girls who are taking this particular course under the aegis of the Polytechnic do it at Grazettes.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Is this a private company that you are working for?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

This is pure training.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

What is the Grazettes Garment Factory doing? When you come to deal with the garment industiy in this country I am particularly suspicious; is this a private company that they are being trained with?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

They are being trained at the factory, and not working for the factory.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Is it a private factory?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Yes, it is. The point is there are some concessions given by the U.S. Government.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

When you say that we train, could you be more specific? Are they making clothes in the factory for the manufacturers to sell? Don't say they are being trained; are they producing things which the manufacturers then turn around and sell?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I don't think so, Mr. Chairman. The point is that these are young people who are taking to machines for the first time. There is no question of their being put to work; they have to be taught to use the machines and it is a course of instruction. That is all that I can say.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
How long would this period of training last?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I would think it would be a six months course.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
What sort of machines are they being trained on?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Machines for sewing cloth, cutting and stitching.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Why is it nacessary to send people to be trained at Grazettes in a private factory when you have opened your own Polytechnic? 2.45 a.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, the Ministry of Education cannot provide as yet the physical facilities required for this in its own establishment.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, the Leader of the House said in answer to the hon. junior member for Bridgetown that there are machines given by the U.S.A. Government which are there, meaning the Grazettes factory. How did they get there?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairmen, the Ministry does not have the room for them where it is operating.

Mr. HINDS:
You have started before you were ready.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, we got the gifts too quickly; that is all.

Mr. HINDS:
After you had those things down there for over a year!

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Do you still want them to remain there now?

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, is it that these girls are trained at the Grazettes Factory because it is a Training Scheme for private enterprise and not training for Government or by Government as such?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, the Government itself does not run any garment enterprise; so even if they were trained at the Harbour site, they would still have to be trained for work outside of Government.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, since the Government has given such consideration to training in the garment industry, has Government taken into consideration the requirements of the printing industry in this Island? Is the Polytechnic or any Printing Established Company used in like manner for training in the Graphic Arts? If not, why not?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, we cannot do everything at the same time. We are very much interested in things like

barbering and tailoring. If anybody would give us some printing machines we would not refuse them, and we would try to arrange courses. If the hon. member would put us in touch with such a benefactor, we would be glad. We have to start somewhere, and some things get left out because in the luck of the draw something does not come out.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, is the Polytechnic catering to all the needs that have been requested? In other words, the Polytechnic advertised that they would conduct classes in X number of subjects. Have there been any requests by students to the Polytechnic to conduct classes that are not being conducted?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I am sure there must have been requests to put on new classes, but new classes

in whatever subjects would, of course, depend on the availability of staff and equipment. You teach what you have the equipment and staff to teach at a given moment.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I have asked to what extent the Industrial Arts Wings have been affected by the opening of the Polytechnic. I should like to have the Minister's reply to my question.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

The question is that the sum of..

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, is that fair to the minority group?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, it appears that three Industrial Arts Wing Teachers have gone to the Polytechnic. Of course, we have passed the Head to which the hon. member refers.

The question that the sum of $24, 398 - under Head 39 - Ministry of Education (12) Technical Institute -stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

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

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until two o'clock this afternoon. In so moving this motion, I am reminding the Committee that the matter upon which we are engaged is the Appropriation Bill. It would not be proper for the Committee or the House to sit even approaching midnight tonight. I certainly would not be here on Sunday. Having regard to this, I am sure hon. members will feel that any time between nine or half-past ten is a proper time to conclude our business on the Appropriation Bill. I am looking forward in the hope that this will guide hon. members.

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

The question that the sitting be now suspended until two o'clock today was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

2.55 a.m.

On resumption.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, there is no quorum.

Mr. SPEAKER:
I thank the Hon. Leader of the House for drawing that to my attention. Mr. Clerk, let the Bill be rung.

The Bell was rung and a quorum obtained.

Mr. SPEAKER:
When the sitting was suspended the House was in Committee of Supply and it now reverts thereto.

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY HEAD 40 - ECCLESIASTICAL Head 40 - Ecclesiastical - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $12, 575 under Head 40 - Ecclesiastical - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 41 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Head 41 - Ministry of Health and Community Development - was called,

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, in moving the passing of Head 41 -Ministry of Health and Community Development - in the sum of $5, 758, 709 to be appropriated under the Head of Other Expenditure, there are certain amendments which, at this stage, I should like to have incorporated and there are as follows

Page 120 - Item 69 - Insert word "Supervisor"

Page 128 - Substitute figure "225" for figure "223" appearing after Item "224".

Page 129 - Item 241 - Boys' Scout Association Substitute figure "2000" for "1200" and make consequential amendments.

Page 129 - Item 242 - Girls' Guides Association Substitute figure "2684" for "784" and "make consequential amendments.

Page 129 - Item 250 - Family Welfare League. Substitute figure "300" for "3000" and make consequential amendments.

Page 130 - Item 258 - Furniture and Equipment. Amend note by the addition of the words "and table" after the word "vehicle".

Page 130 - Item 265- Lorry. Add the word "Re-vote" after the word "lorry" in note thereto.

Page 130 - Item 267 - Furniture and Equipment. Amend note by addition of word "time clock" after , the word "inhalers" under "St. Michael".

These are all the amendments, Sir.

Mr. Chairman, unlike some of my colleagues, my method of approach to these problems is different. I refer to Head 41 which deals with over $5 million and nearly $6 million. Sir, I have been in here sufficiently long to know and to recognise the entitlement of the Opposition. By that I mean that in voting almost $6 million, I would feel, if I were in the Opposition, that I was entitled to some sort of clarification and further information on certain big matters. I would not be nibbling and haggling over petty things. I hope hon. members of the Opposition will, at least, regard my words as being not insulting, but as just being helpful and co-operative. 2.10 p.m.

I think it is my duty as a Minister of Government to provide the Opposition with certain additional information which probably would be known to me, my Permanent Secretary and other members of staff who would be more au fait with details than I am. I think it is their right and privilege to know these things, and if I do not tell them at an early stage, then a 15 or 20 hour debate could follow for which we would be blamed. I am dealing with big things and not haggling over petty matters. I will deal first with Item 168 - Environmental Sanitation. For the benefit of hon. members, including members of my Party, this project provides better toilet facilities for homes started in 1959 with the assistance of UNICEF. The initial target to install 10,000 units was achieved in 1965, and a second target to provide an additional 14,000 at a rate of 2,000 per annum is now in operation. Production figures for the years 1966-69 are as follows:- Slabs 1, 928 in 1966; 2, 832 in 1967; 2, 425 in 1968; 2, 136 in 1969. Risers 2,009 in 1966; 2, 664 in 1967; 2, 434 in 1968 and 2,099 in 1969. Installations 1, 518 in 1966; 2, 324 in 1967; 2,032 in 1968 and 1, 432 in 1969.

Mr. Chairman, funds are provided from the Labour Welfare Fund, and persons in humble situations may obtain grants from the National Assistance Board. Some of the equipment is now not in good shape and we are awaiting parts from abroad. I regret to say this has been going on for a few months.

Now under Item 145A - Nutrition Programme, following the signing of the Agreement with UNICEF, WHO and FAO in November, 1968, equipment and mate rials to the value of $US35,000 have been

arriving, and there was an official handing-over on the 11th March when the appropriate Ministers in the Ministries of Agriculture, Education and Health with their officials and Technical Officers were all present. In 1968-69 a number of persons were trained at the Caribbean Nutrition Institute, and a survey of nutrition was carried out in Barbados by the Institute. Plans have now been made for the launching of the Applied Nutrition Programme. In our Ministry we have a Nutrition Officer who is readily concerned with these matters, and we have Dr. Ramsay who has been the Chairman of sub-Committee sand, of course, the Chief Medical Officer who is Chairman of the entire thing, and the experts from the University of the West Indies who have been helping us quite a lot.

I next move to Item 259. Since the inception of the programme in 1964, the incidence of the mosquito has dropped from 6.2% on premises visited to , 67% in 1969. The following figures give some indication of progress. The years I am giving now are 1955, 1963, 1965, 1968 and 1969 together with the inspections. There were 43, 965 in 1955; 224, 236 in 1963; 257, 221 in 1965; 391, 181 in 1968; and 253, 870 in 1969. With regard to "positives" there were 2, 707 in 1955; 3, 128 in 1963; 2, 480 in 1965; 1, 106 in 1968 and 1, 689 in 1969, Now the index which gives the governing factor or the results is 6.2 in 1955; 1.39 in 1963; 0.85 in 1965; 0, 28 in 1968 and 0.67 in 1969, When the index is below 1% as it has been for many years since 1965, there is no transmission of yellow fever and next to none of dengue fever. 2.20 p.m.

Thus Barbados has been free of indigenous cases of dengue in the last two years when epidemics raged elsewhere in the Caribbean. However, we still aim to complete total eradication.

Mr. Chairman, the next Item I shall speak on to give further clarification is the Mobile Dental Clinic, Item 150. The number of sessions in 1968 was 334, and in 1969 the number of sessions was 195. The attendances at these clinics in 1968 were 10, 105, and in 1969 the number was 4, 249. Extractions in 1968 were 13, 575 and in 1969 the number was 6, 336. It will be seen, therefore, that less work was done, and the reason is that fewer dentists were available for the Mobile Dental Clinic; there was also a diversion of services to other places, and particularly at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Health Centres. The Mobile Unit, however, was used extensively by the Dental Hygienist for screening and educational purposes, but the whole School Dental Service is being re-examined, and the entire scheme will soon be organised.

Head 41, Item 252 - Child Care Board. The Board undertook in September, 1969 the management of twelve Day Nurseries and the oversight of five others which were operated by voluntary Committees; two of these have found themselves unable to continue, despite the fact that the cost of salaries of voluntary Nurseries was met by the Board, and the operation of these two Nurseries became the Board's responsibility. The attendance at the 14 Nurseries under the control of the Child Care Board amount roughly to 450 per day; an additional Nursery is under construction, almost complete, at the Farm

Housing Estate, and is being assisted by the British Overseas Mission who have helped us with $45 or $50 thousand, and it will soon go into operation. The Minister of Housing will deal with this later.

As far as the Children's Homes are concerned, there are three Children's Homes - the Nightengale Home, the St. John's Children's Home and the Farr's Children's Home. As far as the Farr's Children's Home is concerned, there are plans for the expansion of that Home because it is ideally situated, and with the acquisition of another acre of land, and to keep the canes far away from the Matron and the children, it may be a good thing to buy another acre of land or more to give them more room for activities and to extend the Home. We are examining that; but over and above that, there are other proposals for two more Homes, one At Glendale and the other one at Barrows, and there is something on that later today when we get through, probably tomorrow morning, around 5 o'clock. But we have to change a note in order to utilise funds to provide two more Homes for the children of Barbados, some of whom are now in the St. Michael District Hospital in Beckles Road. We want to get them out of there. Provided we receive the co-operation of members tomorrow morning, it may be possible to accomplish that. The money is there and we want to see that it does not lapse; we want to see that the $60,000 is taken out of the Treasury and the Homes are repaired. We have contracts for getting the work done, and I am appealing to the stalwarts on the other side.

Mr. HINDS:

Which $60,000 is the Minister referring to?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

This is an additional paper; the Clerk has copies; probably he has given some of the members and not all, but I have enough copies here to give to those who have not got. We are trying to provide two additional Homes for the children of Barbados, one in St. Thomas and the other one in St. Lucy, and provided we get the co-operation to get the Note changed, we will get the children in the St. Michael District Hospital removed, and some will go to St. Thomas and the others to St. Lucy until we get Jones' Land done. When we get Jones' Landdone, we will be able to get another one in St. Michael. It is not a question of politics; it is a question of the children. The provision of additional facilities for improved accommodation of the children at the St. Michael District Hospital will be expedited within the next few months. We have provision here right now; we have a paper here to change the Note whereby the children at this St. Michael District Hospital may be sent to new Homes within the next few weeks. 2.30 p.m.

The highest standard of nutrition in the Island is one of priority in our Ministry. I speak on the Sanitation and Cemeteries Board now, Item 251 - there is a sum of $1, 557, 974. I would not care to go into the ramifications of scavengers and strikes; all these things happen and are dealt with satisfactorily by myself and the Minister of Labour. Proposals are contained in the Draft Estimates for equipment and

staff for the Scavenging Department, to enable the Sanitation and Cemeteries Board to bring about considerable improvements in its sanitation services. At present 9 new collection units have been ordered and are expected very shortly, and the Board's Estimates provided for 2 traxcavators to assist in maintaining conditions of dumping grounds in the Northern and Southern areas. In the Estimates provision has been made for 8 conventional collection units and 3 compactor units. You cannot do the job unless you have the tools. You cannot keep a lot of broken-down trucks that are always in need of repair. All trucks have to be repaired, but there must be the proper type of equipment to carry out the job.

We are trying, Mr. Chairman, to build up units; the old ones are still useful but are not enough; we have to continue to repair while bringing in new ones. It may be possible in future to have 50 instead of 20, and (or Supervisors to take an interest in their Job.

We have 9 on order, then 8 and a traxcavator, and we are boosting the staff by seeing that young Supervisors are appointed, The members who are here -the Chairman of the Sanitation and Cemeteries Board, he is aware and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, an expert on constitutional matters.

Mr. SMITH:
This is one thing he does not know.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I am moving on, Mr. Chairman - the same Sanitation Board. The Board has given attention to the method of disposal of refuse which it will employ in future when the sanitary land-filled method has been abandoned. The time is fast approaching when the old quarries will no longer be used. As far as I am concerned, incinerators are the answer; and in spite of a lot of high-falutin schemes you hear about compost - you have manures - I am in favour of incineration.

Plans for a new cemetery. Westbury is running out, and a crematorium is being developed. During last year a Resolution was passed for the acquisition of land for the purpose. However, tests have revealed that this land which has been chosen for the site has been unsuitable for the digging of graves because of the hard-iron stones. An alternative site has been selected and negotiations are now in progress for the final acquisition of the alternative site. The first site was at Warrens near Arthur Seat and totally unsuitable. The present site of 17 acres of land near the Cigarette factory at Warrens is the land which is considered suitable by the Engineer of the Ministry of Communications & Works.

Mr. Chairman, Head 41 (9) 219

Mr. HINDS:
You seem to be in reverse gear.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Members not addressing the Chair should be silent.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Item 229 - Subventions. The Draft Estimates show that the Government's direct contribution to the work of the Family Planning Association - assistance has been received and approved by the U.N. for special publicity campaigns during 1970. There is no prospect of further assistance for the service in meeting the cost of a full-time Doctor for the Association's purposes during the same period. The Family Planning Association receives assistance from all Governments; it started in 1955 and was given assistance from the very inception by the then Government and now by this Government, and during my tenure of office as Minister of Health, I have been successful in getting assistance for them on two occasions. It is doing a good job and should be assisted. Their staff are also entitled to higher salaries.

Mr. Chairman, Item 210 Head 41 (7) - Handicraft Development. We have had smocking and nave done some work for overseas, but the time has come when some new design should take place down there in order to see that more young girls are employed and that we make a further step forward from the days of 1965 whan smocking was first introduced. 2.40 p.m.

A programme of designed development has recently been conducted for the improvement and quality of the product, and in addition to that we have had small machinery to add in productivity. All of that has been done with the assistance of Mr. Russell Wright who is an internationally famous industrial designer. He recently visited us and undertook a preliminary survey of the work of the Handicraft Centre. The International Labour Organisation Regional Representative has also been consulted, and requests have b3en made to the United Nations for technical assistance in financing the cost of experts in implementing the programme. We are making a forward move in the Handicraft Centre, and we are hoping to bring additional techniques for the benefit of our young men and women in order to provide more employment for them.

Mr. Chairman, Maternity Hospitals. I am speaking about Maternity Hospital Service, and I can say that no fewer than 3,007 babies were born at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital during 1969, and in the same period 589 babies were born at the Oistin District Maternity Hospital. The figures I give represent 70% of the estimated total births during 1969. Institutional delivery is a growing trend in this country, and in recognition of this fact a new Maternity Hospital has been established in St. Andrew, and another with a 30-odd bed capacity has been planned for St. Michael in the Lodge Hill area to accommodate mothers-to-be of St. George and those areas of St. Michael abutting Lodge Hill. I think it will be in St. Michael West.

I should like to make it clear that the Maternity Hospital at Belleplaine and other places are fully equipped to deal with normal deliveries, and it would be unnecessary for persons, who can reach these Maternity Hospitals, to go to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. All mothers-to-be will see a Doctor regularly during pregnancy, and Clinics for this purpose are run at the Maternity Hospitals, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Health Centres. In cases where there may be some difficulty, they will be referred to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for the continuation of ante-natal care.

With regard to the District Nursing Service, the re-organisation of the District Service formerly operated by the Local Government Councils provide a new opportunity for rationalising and co-ordinating the District Nursing Service which at present involved the staff of the Health Centres Out-Patients' Services and voluntary organisations such as the Child Health Committee, and the Registered Nurses Association.

With regard to Item 230, Barbados Arts Council, Mr. Chairman, numerous applications have been made over the years for having a Central Arts Council. I should like to tell the Committee that a new and comprehensive building to serve the needs and requirements of the Arts Council specifically and also to provide an Auditorium for Concerts, Speech Days and Lectures is under consideration and, more or less, approved, and this new building will be sited at Waterford adjoining the National Stadium where parking facilities are available. This is not final, but we are working along these lines.

Mr. Chairman, I do not want to tire hon. members, but I feel this way. When the Opposition rise, especially two or three prominent members over there, and they talk for two or three hours, then the Government should occupy an hour or so in replying to their remarks. We are not trying to give them a dose of their medicine, but at least they will understand what it feels like sitting and listening for hours. I will not be unreasonable because I have a reasonable discretion to exercise - (An Hon. MEMBER: He is high.) - whether I am high or low. I will deal with him later. I am not dealing with the "rat" Opposition; I am dealing with those people who are supposed to be intellectuals. I can cope with all of them. Anyway, I do not want to be redundant now. I know very well that when you haggle on little points that do not matter, the people outside do not thank you, and you will not get back in here any more quickly - they

will kick you out the same way.

Mr. Chairman, I am advising my hon. colleagues, who have just come in here, that they should not be unnecessarily vindictive or aggressive in dealing with certain matters. They are digging their own graves independently.

I now beg to move that the sum of $5, 758, 709 under Head 41 - Ministry of Health and Community Development - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Is there any change in the amount?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I was very interested to hear the remarks of the Minister of Health and Community Development about the Government's plans for building an Arts Centre. It is welcome to hear that the Government has reached the stage of considering the building of an Arts Council. However, I must say that I very much regret to hear that the Government proposes to build the Centre within the precincts of the Stadium at Waterford. I seriously suggest that the Government should reconsider this matter. 2.50 p.m.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
For the benefit of the Chair, would the hon. member state the Item on which he is speaking?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
item 230 - Barbados Arts Council. As I was saying, Sir, I would seriously ask Government to re-consider putting the Arts Council at the proposed site at Waterfords. I imagine that in addition to various exhibitions of art, concerts and other cultural activities, there might be some dramatic production or even a lecture taking place at the Centre at the same time that there might be an international football game or some international sport taking place at the Stadium; and if there is any great amount of noise

coming from there, it might be very well impossible for persons who may be listening to a lecture or witnessing a dramatic production, and this must of necessity have an effect either on the lecturer or the persons taking part in a production. For that reason and for other reasons I would seriously suggest to Government to reconsider the question of placing the Centre at Water-fords.

Mr. Chairman, I do not believe that the Stadium is going to be completed in one phase, and I think it is wrong at this stage to use the land there which, perhaps in five or six or even ten years, you may realise you need for expansion of the National Stadium. I know there may be some who may say that in Jamaica there is a Cultural Centre near the Stadium, but I think that the alternative site which I would seriously like to put forward for the Minister's consideration - and I believe the Arts Councils themselves along with the National Trust and other organisations such as the Lions Club also suggested this - is the portion of land which belongs to Government situated outside the Hospital. The entire surrounding area could be used to make a Botanical Garden or park, and at the same time you can incorporate in that park an Arts Centre which would be central and serve a two-fold purpose. One thing that I believe one realises when you go abroad and return to Barbados, whether it is Dominica, Trinidad or Jamaica, is the lack of facilities in the centre of Bridgetown. Queens Park, I regret to say, does not provide the sort of facilities that one would like to see a park of this nature provide. Perhaps the area is too small, and while I know for a fact that the Government owns the land outside the Hospital, I am not sure what is the position on the other side of the road between Queens Park and Halls Road. It may be useful, if that land is not yet owned by the Government, for Government to take in the entire portion running from Constitution Road right back to Wey-mouth which I believe they have just given to Harrison College. I do not mean that part of Weymouth which comprises part of Combermere, but that part on which clubs play cricket. I think it may cost some money, but I think it would be money well spent be-cause it would be of benefit to the entire community. One often hears people talk about national heritage and Independence, but the only way we in Barbados are going to appreciate the true meaning and significance of Independence is if we can develop for our-selves our national heritage and culture, and this must be made available not for one section of the community - not for the section which can afford to have cars - but for all those persons who would want to go there and have to rely on a bus service. That is why if you use that portion of Delamere Land, which is owned by the Government, the proximity between that and the Bus Stand is another argument why the Centre should be built there. I know you have problems with foundation on that site, but that is not anything we did not have with the Treasury Building, I would seriously like the Government to make a conscious effort of using that land for the purpose of providing a Botanical Garden or park so that residents of the City of Bridgetown and those who come from the country and may be waiting for a bus for two or three hours can have some place to go and relax. You have a Botanical Garden in Dominica and in Jamaica, and a Zoo in Trinidad, and we are lacking in Barbados of available gardens for people to go and enjoy themselves.

Mr. Chairman, I am not putting this forward as any Party issue because I think it is something which would benefit the community as a whole. The idea of an Arts Centre is good and is long overdue, and I would suggest to the Minister, before pushing his plans any further, to call in the various cultural organisations, because I think that with joint consultation we could work out something of which we can all be proud.

3.00 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, let us go to Item 57. There is provision there of $25,200, and the note reads "Provision for employment of temporary Public Health Inspectors." When one hears in the first instance from the mouth of the Minister of Government's would-be impressive Health plan, it brings us into a straight inquiry into the reasons for the spending of $25,200 for the services of temporary Public Health Inspectors. Undoubtedly the Minister must tell us how many Public Health Inspectors are employed on this temporary basis, and for how long they have been so employed; what are the reasons for their services being acquired on a temporary basis, and whether the persons employed are qualified people. I am sure that throughout the debate son the Estimates as a whole, the Minister, like all of us, would have come to grips at some point by learning that an officer cannot give of his best, or cannot be expected to give of his true best when he is acting or temporarily employed, or whatever it may be, and in the field of Public Health, particularly when, as you go along, the need for greater Public Health supervision is so evident, why is it that Government finds itself spending $25,200 on temporary Public Health staff? If it is a case where persons are employed in this capacity over a period of years or whatever it might be, surely the Minister could not feel content within himself to have people hanging on in such an important field as Public Health without knowing what security they have for the future; and if it is a case where these people are qualified people, we would like to hear from the Minister what are the reasons for retaining them on a temporary basis.

There is also Item 68, $1,800, for paying Part-Time Staff, and they are Seamstresses. It would be interesting to know how long they have been employed on this part-time bouis and how many are involved in this.

Item 67, for which there is no Note, but we see that it is an unestablished staff of six for the Maternity Hospital, and the amount involved is $10, 568, If we were to look throughout this entire Head, Mr. Chairman, we see that quite a number of people at every Institution that is appropriated are on the un-established staff; quite a number of them part-time, and others are called temporary, and I believe that the Minister would feel well disposed to tell us exactly what is responsible for this situation.

If we were to turn over and look at Items 87 and 88, our Sports Department, the persons employed at Item 87, the unestablished staff, surely the Minister will tell us that the Sports Department is here to stay. It has just begun about putting its teeth into some of the things that are really to be done, and while we do not want to discourage any effort on the part of the Sports Department, we are sure that the Minister will find it much more satisfactory in the long run if matters such as I am now drawing to his attention were attended to at as early a stage as possible. 3.10 p.m.

Now, Sir, District Hospitals under Item 120 -there are 39 Ward Maids. We believe that in employing 39 Ward Maids it would not be good policy employing them all in the same scale. Some must be senior to others and deserving more. We feel that they ought to be graded, and the sooner that this is attended to, you will find that there is no room for dissatisfaction among them.

Item 123. It seems as if we will spend the rest of the day dealing with the non-esiablished staff and the casual staff, part-time and temporary. In one case we have Item 25 - temporary staff and then substitutes. We know that in this particular Ministry there is a lot of dissatisfaction among the casual staff. Item 145 (a) - the Ministry gave us some of the information at their disposal - this in connection with the Nutrition programme. We learn from the Minister that training is given at the Caribbean Nutrition Institute, but we find that in the Ministry of Health proper, we are having too much confusion by these so-called Nutrition experts. Some of them seem to know just too much, and the strange thing is that p3O-ple who do not hold the qualifications of some of the experts can render better service in every respect to the Departments concerned.

At Item 146, Sir, we have our Medical Aid Scheme, I would like the Minister to tell us something about this item and to what extent. We are satisfied, Mr. Chairman, that there is an objectionable test applied in some of these cases, and our feeling is that it should not be so in view of the fact that taxpayers' money in the sum of $16,500 is put in. We have got to bear in mind, Sir, that one never knows what will befall one or the other when it comes to the question of illness, and when medical aid is to be sought we are asking that the mere production of a certificate or recommendation of a registered medical practitioner should be the only requirement apart from the financial position of the individual. We appreciate that it is medical aid, and we do not want to find ourselves giving people who can look after themselves financially.

We still feel, Mr. Chairman, that the scheme could be administered in a much better manner than it is at present and it is our duty to draw it to the attention of the Minister, to let him see what can be done in this connection.

At Item 147, Sir, we have a Quarantine Station, and it would be well to hear from the Minister exactly what is being done about this $500 voted year after year. At Item 148 in the Training Scheme you are spending $7,500 to provide demonstration materials, apparatus, specimens and similar equipment for health and other personnel. It is not, Mr. Chairman, always best to find ourselves in a position of just copying what other people overseas are doing unless we are satisfied that we can benefit to some considerable extent from the money that we are spending. I would like the Minister to look into this

item, the expenditure of $7,500 for the purchasing of demonstration materials and specimens etc. and see that the best interests are being served. 3.20 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, the General Nursing Council comes under Item 149. The Minister would certainly be in a position to tell us who attends these lectures for which fees are paid, and he should have in his possession the results from the examinations taken.

Item 150 relates to Special Services. Can the Minister tell us what is done for patients requiring dental treatment? I do not think I heard anything about these Cataract cases. I am sure there has been a long waiting list, and there is still a long waiting list where people with Cataract problems are just sent home to remain there six to nine months before they can be actually treated. I should like the Minister to look into this matter and see what can be done to speed up the calling up of people on the waiting list. Some of them have been on the waiting list from November 1968, and they have been attending the Hospital up to 1969. I should like to know if the Minister is aware of that situation.

I wonder what information the Minister has as to the incidence of deafness in children. How many children have been treated for deafness during the past three years? There are many reasons behind deafness in children. You will find it in adults who live under conditions like what the hon. senior member for St. Andrew told this House about not many weeks ago. He referred to houses where you can find people lying in bed, if they have beds, and being able to count the stars through the holes in the roofs of houses. That sort of thing hits at the roots of the social and economic set-up, and it beckons at Government to seek to arrest the situation and not to play politics with everything, and particularly matters of health where people stand to suffer and become a burden on others, whereas if their conditions were improved as early as the trouble is drawn to the attention of the Government and Government has the ability to attend to them, then we can save ourselves a lot of trouble.

Mr. Chairman, I wonder whether the Minister will tell us how many children have been discovered suffering from deafness and supplied with hearing aids. We believe that there are also other Sp-cial Services which have not been enumerated in the Note but which the Minister would have in his files, and we would like to be enlightened as to those, I am referring to Item 150.

Mr. Chairman, let us turn from Maternity Hospitals to Item 172 - Clothing and Bedding. This is a provision for the Hospital and Out-patients section, and the increase is due to a rise in prices. I wonder if the Minister has any information that there is not the amount of sterilisation that ought to be carried out in the process, and as a result you find matters referred to Doctors who say that they cannot deal with them.

We have at Item 177 the sum of $18,000 for daily feeding of patients, based on the sum of $1.50 per day per patient at the Maternity Hospitals. We appreciate the fact that in any Institution where you have a large number of patients it would be much cheaper percentage wise to cater for them, but the population at our Maternity Hospitals, I am sure, is not such that we can feel ourselves doing justice by making an allocation based on $1.50 per day per patient. 3.30 p.m.

After all, Sir, the cost of living is rising for those who run the Institutions as well as for private individuals, and we feel that, however good the Nutrition experts may be at costing and portioning, I think we have under-estimated in having an estimate for feeding patients at Maternity Hospitals at $1.50 per day. I do not see how we can feel we are doing what is right, bearing in mind that the Hospitals were constructed to accommodate 30 patients at one time, and we might be batting on a sticky wicket to cater for them at an estimated $1.50 per day.

Now the Minister gave us some information on Item 168 - Environmental Sanitation. I am sure the Minister is well aware of the situation in all the country districts and even in the parish of St. Michael. There is a long waiting list -and it has been going on from year to year. There are people whose requirements cannot be met for one reason or other, and while we have here the number of slabs turned out between 1966 and 1969, we still feel that considering the expertise that we have had from UNESCO, the programme is not progressing as rapidly as we would like to see it progress. We do not know if there is a shortage of labour. There could hardly be a shortage of material. Anybody who is conscious of the fact that we still have these pitholds and scratches less than two feet deep in open land will tell himself that we are indeed very lucky that we do not haw typhoid, fever in epidemic proportions.

I remember a few months ago the Director of Medical Services was quoted as saying that there had been some outbreaks of typhoid, but that they had not been reported to his Department. I wonder if the Minister knows the cases to which I refer. Since typhoid is one of those cases which must be reported, what action was taken and what was really responsible for people not discharging their duties in, that instance? People ought to be made aware of what it means to have' outbreaks of typhoid and not having it reported to the proper authorities; but if the Doctors who should know the law do not comply with it, what do we expect of the poor nondescript? I would welcome hearing from the Minister if there is any stepping-up of the programme,

Under Item 167 there is an amount of $450 for milk sampling. We are well aware of the fact that we have seen from the action of Government that they would be dictators if given the opportunity, because we have a situation here where our people are no longer free to choose what milk they are to drink, but

Government is dictating to them that they must consume what is produced by the Pine Hill Dairy. I am sure that the Minister's ears could not have escaped hearing by day and night the disgust of the very people whom this Government directs must consume this Pine Hill Dairy milk. We find that the Pine Hill Dairy cannot and has not been able up to this day to prove itself as the producer of a milk that is fit for human consumption in every sense of that word. So we must ask how many samples have been taken during the past year or during the past two years of the milk that is produced and sold to members of the general public. We have here a mere $450. We are aware of the fact that peasant farmers and dairy keepers, while some have extended their herd, many of them who kept one or two cows in the past and sold milk to their neighbours and others, no longer have that freedom. They are required to keep their animals under such conditions that their milk must be sold to the Pine Hill Dairy, irrespective of whether or not the Pine Hill Dairy is capable of taking in all the milk that is produced in our dairy farms. Now the interesting point would be, if samples had been taken of milk produced at the Pine Hill Dairy, what were the findings of the Government Analyst. 3.40 p.m.

If samples have been taken from the small dairy keeper, the "one-or-two-cows" peasant, what were the findings of the Government Analyst? What action was taken if the Pine Hill Dairy was found at fault, what action was taken against the Pine Hill Dairy on every occasion, and what action was taken against all the others put together on any one occasion? We are certain that if Government had really and truly taken to heart the milk requirements of the people of this island, if Government had even been fooled, as we know they have been fooled in this Pine Hill Dairy setup, we would not be finding ourselves today appropriating a mere $450 for milk 'sampling. This is $450 for milk sampling throughout the entire island; that is it. It is strange, Mr. Chairman, that the Public Health Inspector used to position himself with a witness in certain anas during early morning hours to hound down the smallest of the dairy keepers, but you will find that the Pine Hill Dairy can send all over this island, can stock up every supermarket in this island with the equivalent to the dead rat we were talking about in here last night and no action is taken against the Pine Hill Dairy. We need more sampling of the milk that is produced by the Pine Hill Dairy; too often you find people buying a tin of milk labelled "Manufactured by the Pine Hill Dairy" and it is of no use, unfit for human consumption; but then you cannot find that the Pine Hill Dairy had been hounded down and action taken against it, because if it had been for each offence that the Pine Hill Dairy committed when it offered milk to the buying public that was not of the quality and standard demanded by the purchaser, I am sure that the Pine Hill Dairy would have gone out of business today; they just could not stand it, and the island would have been in a better position.

We have not had in one hundred years a dozen cases of persons dying, or perhaps suffering in any material way from drinking milk that was not pasteurized as is being done or said to be done by the Pine Hill Dairy, but we are saying that whoever is now producing the milk and offering it for sale to the public, we would like to see much more than $450 spent on taking samples and having tests by the Government Analyst, and this is for the protection of the milk drinking community.

We have a programme here, Health Education; we are spending $3,000 on this Item and it is to

provide equipment for Reference Library and display at the Annual Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition. Mr. Chairman, we happen to be living on this part of the globe where nature provides us with health requirements second to none, and we are fortunate in that respect; but nevertheless, we cannot rule out that there is a considerable lack of knowledge in matters relating to health and health problems. Yet you find a Government that is setting about to condition the lives, through the health phase, of the people, and is content to spend a mere $3,000 for health education by providing equipment for Reference Libraries, and that is what we are concerning ourselves with, because it is not very much that can really be done or that is done on the days of the Annual Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition.

Here is a case where we feel that Government ought to show itself willing to do more, not only to provide the equipment for the Reference Libraries, but that it should set out a programme of carrying the health gospel to the people, not merely providing in the libraries where nobody might ever find themselves making use of what is provided there. Perhaps you may go to one of these Reference Libraries and find that some of the equipment is lying there begging someone to pass along and touch it; but it is Government's duty not to allow the nation to suffer from any lack of knowledge where health and health education are concerned.

3.50 p.m.

We are urging the Minister to see to it that this, sum of $3,000 is spent on this occasion. It was also voted in 1969/70, We have got to ask ourselves a simple question. Is this one aspect of our educational system that is showing no progress? Has the cost of this not gone up like the cost of other things? If not, why not?

Now, Sir, Incidentals - Item 164. This concerns provision for the renting and cleaning of sub-Centres, the care of the gardens and grounds at the Health Centres, Mr. Chairman, I am sure the Minister will agree with me that the condition, let us say, of the Speightstown Health Centre is really and truly nothing that is inviting, I want to say however, that as for its cleanliness, it is a way ahead of some of the others that I have paid a visit to. Yet for all of this, we must say that the gardens and grounds around these Health Centres ought to be kept in a manner so inviting as to make people who come to these Centres, on arriving, to begin to forget the real reason for their coming to the Health Centres. In other words, we should have our gardens as something to behold; the grounds should be well kept wherever they are. That is one of the reasons why we are spending money on the upkeep of the gardens. A few flowers are planted at some of them; the stems and the stalks cry out for lack of care. We believe that a gardener is provided here and there, but let us ask the Minister who ever looks to see if the gardener is doing what he is paid to do. So, Sir, you will find that money is provided for the upkeep of the grounds and gardens, but at the same time it is wasted.

Now, Sir, our Sports Department - Sports Equipment Item 193. There is provision of $2,000 for the upkeep of Blenheim pavilion and grounds and maintenance of equipment at the Centre. It would be more appropriate at Item 194 where there is provision of a sum of $1,300 for equipment required for continuation of the Sports Programme in the country at 21 playing fields. If we were to tell ourselves, Mr. Chairman, that we have 21 playing fields, for which we should provide adequate equipment - everyone in this Island feels that recreation of some sort should be provided for at least 500 of the population surrounding the playing fields; for Grazettes you must provide for a minimum of 5,000. If we are providing 5,000 for some,500 for some, hardly less for the others, you will find, Mr. Chairman, with the sum provided here for 21 playing fields, $1,300, you are not doing anything whatsoever to encourage people in any sort of activity on these playing fields. You are doing absolutely nothing to provide recreational facilities, and we must feel that Government is considered as being not serious in promoting sport and encouraging our people in health, pursuits, because the provision is strikingly inadequate. What is provided here, Mr. Chairman, $1,300 - some playing fields - I playing field, the Grazettes playing field requires more than that being spent now if the young people in that area are to feel any impact. What are we doing - 21 playing fields and spending $1,300 on them? What kind of equipment are we going to provide? 4.00 p.m.

You can hardly provide one swing chair or one hammock at one playing field. They require much more than this. Look at where these playing fields are situated - for instance, Bagatelle, St. Thomas, where there is a hive of activity, I should certainly like to hear the Minister say what is Government's intention. And how it intends to spend $1,300 for equipment to help people in these areas to continue any Sports Programme in this country. It is a real joke.

With regard to Item 195 - Special Events - this $15,000 includes grants to sports organisations requesting assistance in financing tours. Such assistance may not normally exceed 50% of the total cost of any such project and is subject to prior Cabinet approval. Mr. Chairman, we have a nucleus of organised sport in this country in many of our Service Clubs and other organisations. The system is that, in special events such as overseas tours, the organisations provide 50% and the Government will match that, if the Government is satisfied that the organisation or the club that is participating really deserves being assisted and the sport is not on any racial or one-sided basis. The Cabinet will approve it under those conditions.

Mr. Chairman, some people will say that $15,000 is more than the organisations would have got twenty or thirty years ago. That may be true, but it does not necessarily mean that, in a place like Barbados where Barbados has seen the need for promoting as much activities as possible in order to remove from the street corners the waifs and strays and convert them into healthy beings, more should not be done. It must be borne in mind that these organisations are doing a lot to put Barbados on the map of sport, and we are only setting aside $15,000 to help them.

Mr. Chairman, I feel that the Minister should know that there are some clubs around us and they would like to ask the Government tomorrow for $15,000 each to enable them to participate in some particular field of sport in which they know that, even if they do not win medals, the members participating would gather experience that would help them. The Government with its Sports Department can do a lot more, and we are saying that the Government is not doing enough in this respect.

Firstly, we have the situation in schools. The Leader of the House said last night that many schools were built without any foresight or thought of the future. Now, it is not for us to be merely associated with a situation that exists, but we should do something to make it better. This is Government's opportunity to assess the situation. Look at the school population, and you will see that when these children return from school they have nowhere to go to find recreation. Mr. Chairman, all of this goes right back to the one-sided economic set-up in a country such as this where you find all the wealth in the hands of half-dozen people and thousands are hungry by night. We cannot fool ourselves that the situation in Barbados is rosy in any respect.

Mr. Chairman, we may try to present a good face with a broad smile, but look at the children and see how they have been neglected. Many a child returns home from school to partake of what its parents have been able to provide, but from that time until the child closes its eyes, there is nowhere fit and proper for it to assemble and rival other children keenly in any form of healthy short. 4.10 p.m.

Now Government's duty is clear in that as much as possible ought to be done to assist organisations which seek to provide sporting encouragement for the young people. We want to see Government do more. We are not satisfied that all those who ought to be helped are being looked after, and Government can show that it is at grips with the situation by looking broadly over the whole matter of sport in this Island and seeing what can be done to bring benefit to our children from any assistance that may be given to any sporting organisation, because it pays dividends in the long run.

At Item 208 we have our Ambulances and Vans service and rental of conveyance, $11,200. Is the Ambulance service equipped to cater to the demands that are made on the service? I think I am right in saying, Mr. Chairman, that it is the intention of Government that these should be placed at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, but operated through the Fire Services. The Minister can put me right if I am wrong. Now we expressed on that occasion that we did not like the idea of having the Fire Service, a Department which cannot get over all its own problems, having the Ambulance service placed on them to burden them further. Mr. Chairman, have we got enough Ambulances to cover the Island? Central Government is operating the service now and it is not like in the past when we had so many vans for the Northern District, a number for the Southern District and the Central District and the Bridgetown City

Council operating its own. We have had cases where Doctors have had patients at their offices, and the Doctors put through the calls to the Institutions where the nearest van was supposed to be housed, and as a result of some of the complaints of Doctors I tabled Questions in this House trying to find out how the service was operated, and if it was operating in truth and in fact sufficiently well as to meet the demands that were being placed upon it. The people who have need of the Ambulance services are still suffering. You will find that if a Doctor or someone with a telephone summons the Ambulance service, some time is saved; but in cases where those requiring the services of the Ambulance happen to be out of reach of the telephone, they cannot get the service. This whole thing brings into play a consideration involving the placing of district telephones, because if you have your Ambulace service operating through the Fire Services, the Hospital or whatever Department, unless there can be communication between the idle van and those that are in need of the services of the Ambulance, we are not doing anything. If we are going to provide an Ambulance service, we have got to link therewith the setting up of telephone booths throughout the country districts so as to assist these people who now have to remain at home and suffer and perhaps die. It is much wider than may appear on the surface. You may provide your Ambulance sevice, but the communications end of it is sadly lacking, and we must urge that something in this respect must be done to help people in those remote areas as in the case of St. Peter, my own constituency, where at Indian Ground you have an Ambulance service, and it is extremely difficult for anybody there, however sick, to make use of the Ambulance service, because there is little or no communication between Indian Ground and the Ambulance Headquarters, This is true also of parishes like St. George and St. Andrew We must see that we do not make a mockery of health and our health problems, and this is one which needs the Ministry of Communications the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education working together if we are to do something or appear to do something to help our people to benefit from what Government is trying to offer in this Ambulance service. 4.20 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, Inmate Labour - Item 210. The amount of money provided there is $4,900, and we have got to ask the Minister how the $4,900 was arrived at because your District Hospitals are not institutions like the Mental Hospital or even the Queen Elizabeth Hospital with a large population; it is a case where at some of these District Hospitals at times you are going to find four, or maybe five, sometimes a dozen, but I would certainly like to hear the Minister explain who is going to do this work, what type of inmate at his District Hospital is going to do this work, and how $4,900 was arrived at to pay for this.

At Item 209 I am concerned merely with your Rediffusion and television sets; at which of the District Hospitals have you got Rediffusion and at which do you have television sets? I hope the Minister is going to reply by saying that television sets are at all and Rediffusion sets are at all.

At Item 215 provision is being made to spend a mere $3,700 for entertainment for inmates and Christmas festivities at Christ Church, St. Philip, St. Thomas and St. Lucy District Hospitals. Why has not provision been made for the District Hospital at St. Andrew? I am sure the Minister would like to amend his note at this hour to include St. Andrew. (Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: There is no District

Hospital in St. Andrew.) Ask him what they have. (Hon. A. DaC EDWARDS A Maternity Hospital.) All right.

We come now to District Medical Services, and at Item 216 there is an amount of $234,000 for medical supplies and it includes provision for medical, dental and surgical supplies and dressings for in-patients and out-patients' services. It also includes dietary supplements; what are these dietary supplements? I nave a particular interest in this, and I would certainly like to hear the Minister, when he rises to make his reply, tell us what these are. I believe that the Minister would favour my giving him in opportunity now to reply to those points I have raised up to the present, and after he does that, if necessary we can go on a little further; he must have some of the answers by now.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Chairman, Item 134A - Telephone Allowances. The Note states "Provision for the payment of telephone allowances to fourteen District Medical Officers". These fourteen District Medical Officers have their part to play as well as the Welfare Officers in the country districts. 4.30 p.m.

At present since they have changed up the system, the Welfare Officer is what we used to call in the old days the Public Assistance Officer. Those officers, a majority of them, do not have any telephone, and it is very difficult for the officer to get through his message even to the Medical Officer to call him for any sick patient that comes under his supervision by way of public assistance. In other words, when one is ill, it has to be reported to the Welfare Officer and he has to come and investigate to ascertain whether the person qualifies for his service or is in a position to pay for the service. This officer will have to find the nearest telephone, and in most cases they are in private homes; but as you know, Sir, the telephones in the country are very far apart. You may only get about 3 or 4 in the entire parish because it is very costly to have these telephones installed by the poorer type of person, especially if no lines have been run, and all this time the sick person will be suffering.

Every Public Health Officer's home should be equipped with a telephone. I am a member of the National Assistance Board; if anything should go wrong with any person, I should be in a position to telephone and let the Public Assistance Officer know and he will be able to carry on from there, and not only members of the Public Assistance Board and National Assistance Board, but any person can call out the officer. It is not so in the country. It would mean that the person will have to walk to the officer's residence and in more cases than one they may not find him at home. He may be at the office, the place where he goes for information and you cannot get him at the office because there is no telephone near to call him. So you can see what is likely to happen. In other words, the person may die.

I would like the Minister, Mr. Chairman, to take note of this and see to it that these officers who do not have a telephone have telephones installed in their residences.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Whilst I certainly agree with what the hon. senior member for St. Joseph is saying, at this stage I would remind him that this subject of telephones for District Medical Officers and their emoluments could be better placed when he is dealing with the Welfare Department and under National Assistance. We have a Head 42 - Welfare Department.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Chairman, really and truly I would not really. The telephone allowance for District Medical Officers; I am talking about Welfare Officers. We will have to get on to the Medical Officer and call him up and send him to the person that is sick. Am I out of order? Telephone allowance, it is not really allowances. You could not get it under Welfare Officers because there are none, and if you are talking about National Assistance, under National Assistance I barely see National Assistance and no notes at all. I was only here for five minutes, and the other member who spent 8 hours; you said nothing to him. Can a person talk for 8 hours and be in order and one talk for an hour and be out of order? I am too ugly to look into your face; I look like a bull-cow. Now that I am talking for poor people, you as Chairman of the National Assistance Board should be glad to hear these points being raised, and, even if I was wrong, to keep your mouth shut. Let somebody else draw it to your attention. If you start me up this afternoon..... (Mr. CORBIN You wouldn't finish before morning.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I do not think that the hon. member can say that I want to take his rights away; I am only telling the hon. member that it would be more appropriate under National Assistance Board.

Mr. SMITH:

Tell me where.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

If the hon. member will look at page 132, there is National Assistance.

Mr. SMITH:

National Assistance; what item, Sir?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Item 19.

Mr. SMITH:
Item 19 - Casual staff?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I would allow you to deal with anything under that item. It would be much more appropriate. I am not trying to take away the hon. member's right.

Mr. SMITH:
But you are misleading me now. How can I talk about telephones under casual staff? And the note reads "to pay wages of 18 part-time cleaners at Community Centres; key scale category 1" -and not a telephone. I wonder who is wrong in this case, if it is I or the Chairman. 4.40 p.m.

It is time, because the Chairman was here long enough that he could say anything. If he were to take up the Chair and throw it at me, I would not say anything. He was here long enough that he could have slept out his senses. Anyway, I will speak on telephones, and when he rules me out of order, everybody will know where he stands.

Mr. Chairman, this telephone allowance is fora Medical Officer. The Welfare Officer is just as important as the Medical Officer. No Medical Officer can remain at home and save the life of a person, who falls down in the rood, unless someone telephones him. If a person is not qualified for the assistance of the Medical Officer and the money is not forthcoming nothing will be done; but as soon as the Welfare Officer calls on the Medical Officer, whether the man is qualified or not, he will have to go to him. A telephone for the Welfare Officer is a necessity, and I ask the Minister to make a note of it.

Mr. Chairman, the Matron at the St. Thomas District Hospital is having a little trouble. Now, the Welfare Officer from St. Joseph was dealing with a case from St. Joseph. The Matron called up my home and asked me to get in touch with the Welfare Officer to tell him about that particular case. I had to get in my car and take the message to the Welfare Officer. Suppose it was a case from Foster Hall

bordering on St. John where the Matron would not know anybody in that area, how could she get on to the Welfare Officer? The Medical Officer has his telephone, and he is using it for public and private purposes. In this particular case, the Welfare Officer is more entitled to a telephone from the point of view of the poor people. This is one case, I believe, the Head of the Government should deal with. This is one case where the National Assistance Board wants more power. The Board should have been able to have this matter fixed. Unfortunately, the Board has no power in this matter. Even with the limited power that I have, the Chairman does not want me to speak on this matter.

Mr. Chairman, you are misleading me. Do not interfere with me when I am right. I am not going to embarrass you at all. This is not the time for straying; this is the time for sleeping; we have had too many sleepless nights already. The Welfare Officer should have a telephone at the expense of the tax-payers in order to help the people. People can take sick at any time of the night alongside the road. Mr. Chairman, I believe that you have had an experience about what I am saying, because I do not think the people are afraid to come to your home to get a telephone message. During the night and the day they come to my home to get a telephone message to call a Doctor. Perhaps the question of putting up telephone booths could be considered, because at Foster Hall bordering on St. John, Cane Garden, St. Andrew, Fruitful Hill, St. Joseph, and in Chalky Mount, you do not have telephones so that the people can telephone a Doctor.

Mr. Chairman, I sit here and I see that members will go from Item to Item, and only when you remember that they are not mentioning the Items will you say anything. I mention my Items and you are trying to put me wrong, I had better not mention any Items. Now, with regard to Druggists, there is a very serious state of affairs taking place in St. Joseph. We had a Dispenser up there before I was born, and he has given first-class service to the public. We had one of the best Doctors in the Island up there, and people travelled from all over the Island to see Dr. Johnson. When he gave a prescription the people kept straight to the Dispenser and got the medicine. I believe the Minister lives too far away, and that is why the electorate should elect someone from their own parish so that they can mate him miserable, but when he lives out of the district they cannot get in touch with him easily.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I will not allow that remark to escape me. I live in my constituency and you live in yours.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Chairman, it seems to me as though the Minister misunderstood me. He should know that I was playing a tune for him, too. He should have allowed another hon. member to say that who does not live in his constituency. I am saying that it is better for the electorate to elect someone from their district, because he will be able to know whatever is going on in the parish.

Mr. Chairman, I was saying that, although I am a member of the National Assistance Board, I did not know that the Dispenser at St. Joseph had to go to St. Andrew and St. Thomas on week days, and when he is away from there the Dispensary is closed and the people cannot get their prescriptions made up. Sometimes the Doctor wants medicine for a particular purpose and he cannot get it because the Dispenser is not nearby.

Mr. Chairman, I am told that the Dispensary is closed something like three days in every week. You cannot leave any person there to prescribe medicine when the Dispenser is away and he has to close the Dispensary. Why should he have to travel to St. Thomas and St. Andrew to dispense medicine? When I am criticising anything I like to give the solution at the same time. I believe this gentleman has to go to these two parishes to mix medicine. You have an ambulance; so the medicine the people want at the Hospitals could be prepared by him and the ambulance could collect it. They could phone him and order what they want, and he would not have to leave the Dispensary. 4.50 p.m.

You have to pay his travelling expenses and I believe that while you are paying his travelling expenses to go to St. Andrew, the Dispensary is closed; so you are losing all around. You are losing sales and you are losing the services of the people by his going to St. Andrew just to prescribe a gill or half a pint of medicine. The Matron or whoever is there could telephone the Dispenser at St. Joseph and ask him to fix so much and let the van collect it. In other words, the Matrons from St. Andrew and St. Thomas could call and the van driver would know to collect the parcels from the Dispensary and allow the Dispenser to remain there. It is only a waste of time and money to close the Dispensary and let the Dispenser drive all over the place. I do not suppose he has to do anything, because he may go one place on Wednesdays and another place on Thursdays, and rather than find out where they want him, he just closes the Dispensary and drives around the place. I do not mind him becoming a tourist, but the people in St. Joseph who have to use that Dispensary would be suffering. People going to the bay-houses at Bathsheba stop there and get their necessary supplies; so when the Dispensary is closed you lose business. I hope the Minister will make a note of this. This does not involve money; this involves commonsense and careful thinking.

While I am on the Dispensary, let me mention this. There is a maid at the St. Thomas District Hospital who lives in St. Joseph, and she has to work two days at the old Infirmary at St. Joseph and go to St. Thomas for two or three days. What is the reason for taking the woman from St. Joseph where she has to take a bus to Bridgetown and then a bus from Bridgetown to St. Thomas three days in a week? If you do not have enough work for the woman to do every day, you are responsible for it because you abandoned the St. Joseph Infirmary for your own reason. If she gets away with a day or two not working, you will have to close your eyes to that, but do not inconvenience her by making her go from St. Joseph to St. Thomas and back. I feel that advantage is being taken of this woman. The Minister does not know anything about these things and that is why I am bringing them to his notice. The woman's name is

Morris, and the Minister can ask why they are sending Morris all over the parish like that, and if they cannot give a reasonable reply, tell them to let her stay in St. Joseph and get somebody to do the work at St. Thomas. The Government abandoned these places to save money, but they are spending the same money.

On Item 228 - Statutory Boards Service Commission, Now we have a National Assistance Board which can be very important. This is a Board that can save the Government if it functions properly, and Government will be there for keeps because this relates to the upkeep of poor people. You are seeing to the old people both in and out of the Institutions, and if you can fix-it-right with these people, the people will fix-it-right with you; but this Board does not have any power. Some of the big "Muck-a-Mucks" in these offices have already said and are still saying that the Board has no power and tell the people in charge of these places not to take any notice of us when we come. Is that fair to us? We are supposed to be the bosses. We have been appointed by the Government, and yet it appears to me that you have a Minister within a Minister in these Ministries, because orders that are being thrown out to some of the Assistant Secretaries by the Permanent Secretary are more than the Minister would do. They know we do not have any power and it is a fact, but they should not try to spoil others by making them look at us when we arrive as if we have leprosy.

I have a Resolution asking for all the power possible so that I can deal with these big shots, if they do not throw me off the Board. If they throw me off the Board, they cannot throw me from in here, and they would have to know their places and respect us. I fought to get members of this House to be part and parcel of these Boards because I know what can happen. I hate putting Civil Servants in charge of these things when it comes to poorpeople. There are some who are very nice and realise that they were poor and came from poor families, and they are always ready and willing to listen to the poor and help them. Others do not do it. I can call the names of some that will do it, and I can call the names of some that, I believe, were bora from an animal and just do not care about anybody but themselves. 5.00 p.m.

I know there are some who care about nobody but themselves, so you cannot take the chance of putting these people to attend to these poor hungry people; some of these people, the more hungry they are, the more fretful they get, and when they answer a question they may be a little short, but it does not mean that they are bad; it is that they are hungry. They may have been sitting there for the last three or four hours without anything to eat and so they may try to eat the officer; when you get that type of person you must have people who would realise that they are hungry or they may be suffering from a complaint. I would not take the chance of putting a Civil Servant to do that because the people stand to suffer even now.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

On a point of order, the hon. member has been hinting and fencing all around; I would like him to

come to the point. Do not be fencing around like that; come straight to the point.

Mr. SMITH:
Mr. Chairman, that is not a point of order; let the hon. member sit down. I do not have to hedge for anything; if he is vexed, that is his business.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
On a point of order.

Mr. SMITH:
I am not giving way, I will not sit down; let him sit down, I am not hedging; what do I have to hedge about? I am talking.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. junior member for Christ Church has risen on a point of order; I will have to hear the point of order.

Mr. SMITH:
Do not wait till he talks his tripe then to say it is not a point of order; pull him up at once.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
The National Assistance Board as presently constituted is an advisory Board and serves in that capacity; it is even different from the Sanitation and Cemeteries Board which has no powers in reality. The National Assistance Board is more advisory and they look into the various problems; so the hon. member is saying that a certain Civil Servant who is an inside Minister, I want him...

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Point made.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

The point is not made, Sir; who is the inside Minister? There is only one Minister in the Ministry of Health.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Point made; let the hon. senior member for St. Joseph proceed.

Mr. SMITH:
Mr. Chairman, I am not going to trouble the Minister any more because I will start now and break china ware; but I will be decent with, him because he knows what I am saying is true. He and I will still be good friends, and so I am going to keep quiet; but when he says I am hedging, I would be glad if he would withdraw that word because he.....

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
On a point of order, probably 'dog-dancing' would be a better expression.

Mr. SMITHS They are going to dog-dance it out of me before I am finished; you will make it worse; I believe the Minister wants me now to loose the dog. Anyhow, I will have him to the hon. junior member for St. Peter; I hope he will get up and say when he is dog-dancing and when he is hedging. I do not have any luck; just now it was the Chairman and now it is the Minister; my breadfruits are very low. The Minister has the authority now to sack me; next week he can write and tell me I am off the Board. I know right from wrong; I do not need any lawyer to advise me. I was making the point that it is a Statutory Board, and I wanted the Minister to understand that if he really wants this to work and work well, it is not sufficient just to say that we are in a advisory capacity. That is not good enough; we do a lot there and we make recommendations as well. I doubt that the Minister knows anything about these recommendations.

Hon. C E. TALMA:
On a point of order, the recommendations of all the various Boards in the entire Government are submitted within two weeks normally and are sent to Cabinet, and the recommendations are examined. I have sent your recommendations for your remuneration, I hope $50, to the Ministry of Finance; is that what you are worried about?

Mr. SMITH:
What is the matter with the Minister? What is the meaning of that? What is the Minister getting on

with? Did I ask him for remuneration?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to withdraw that, but the recommendations deal with two points in particular; first and foremost, the remuneration of the Chairman and of the Deputy Chairman - at least some of them feel that they should be paid on the same scale as the Chairman of the Sanitation Board, but the recommendation is that the remuneration should be increased, and that is before the Ministry of Finance at present. The second one is about the services of the Secretary who has to work overtime and that he should be compensated; so when he suggests I do not know what the recommendations are, I am trying to get all the regulations that should soon be passed by Cabinet and the amendments made. 5.10 p.m.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Chairman, you allowed him to ramble all over the place. Was that in order? He said the two main things we sent out - we had clerks working day and night on recommendations for the St. Michael's District Hospital. It has not gone there yet, because he said the two main things - he is talking about an extra $50. About how long ago has the memorandum gone up?

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

December.

Mr. SMITH:

And the Minister says two weeks after It has been done, it catches his eyes.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I referred to the Cabinet Paper and I said the two recommendations on National Assistance Board have been in our Ministry for some time. You should visit all the various District Hospitals under your portfolio, and nobody can tell me that I must not familiarize myself with the Board. I am the Minister, and I am willing to go to all the places; unless you go to all you will not know what is happening. You must be av fait with these places and their young people. I am not suggesting that the hon. member wants $15 or $5,000.1 am suggesting that the main recommendations included in the Cabinet Paper dealt with remuneration. There are a lot of things to be done. This thing has to be brought up to a proper standard and provided we get the sum, we will bring it up to a proper standard.

Mr. SMITH:

As soon as everything is working properly. As far as you say, the conditions in the country are alright; Dispensaries, closing three times a week, is that alright? I am raising these points for the benefit of the Ministers. Election is not too far off. I could keep my mouth shut, and when I start, then somebody would not get 'none'. I thought I would be your friend when I told you these things. You are making this Committee feel that I am talking about money - from $15 to $40. If that was said, I was not at that meeting. I go to serve the people and the money can stay back. If you give me, I will take it; but I am not asking for it. If I am appointed on a Board I will go because it is the people that I want to serve. It is not a question of money getting me there, and you really have some BLP money hogs which caused the Councils to collapse -bloody money hogs - and everybody confusing the Prime Minister that he wants to be Chairman next year. Keep me out of it. He lives next door to the Almshouse, and would not get any money for it. If a recommendation is made moving from $15 to $20 or $30, I know nothing about it. You say that the most important recommendations are for money; and now you say on the Cabinet Paper, that it has not got to you yet. This was over a year ago, and that is why Dr. Dacre at the Mental Hospital had to leave. I am sure that it went up - and has not touched the Minister's desk yet, but he is going to say that everything is alright. Dr. Dacre is in charge of an Institution, and as such has to say how things ought to be done. Not even the workmen would notice him.

Hon. C. E. TALMa:

Dr. Dacre is a very highly qualified and efficient psychiatrist and has been offered three very high-salaried posts in Canada and the United Kingdom. He is destined to go very far. Barbados cannot hold such people indefinitely. We could have held him by giving him increased emoluments, but the whole structure of the Service would have been destroyed. Dr. Dacre has submitted that he has been offered one of the highest posts. He is getting three times more money than he would get here. Barbados has not got the ability to pay a man of his calibre in his, field. If he goes abroad, our loss, is his gain. May be, one of these days he may come back to advise us technically. I have a personal memorandum from him and mentioned it at Cabinet. I am on the inside.

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Chairman, Dr. Dacre talked with the Minister and I talked with Dr. Dacre. It was not the wish of Dr. Dacre's to leave here. He and his wife like Barbados. It is not a case of money, but of protection at the Mental Hospital. I am wondering why the Minister is trying to patch up things. The doctor showed me a window - he needs protection night and day; you are dealing with mad people. The wall also needed to be made higher to prevent the mad people from jumping over. 5.20 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, it is not a question of money. He had offers before these last offers. As you know, Sir, you will have to please your wife. She will not feel happy there. Not so long ago you heard that two inmates of the Mental Hospital got away and it was due to lack of protection for the windows. There are people down there that you cannot let out. If they get out, do you think they will go to places to sing a song or preach a sermon? The Doctor left because he was fed up. Very few people do not like Barbados. There are some girls who do not want one cent, if you can give them proper service. It is those people

who cannot give the girls proper service who will have to pay. I will not go further with this matter. I will wait on the Minister and see what he is going to do about the points I have raised. The Minister spoke about money. I do not want money; he can take the money and throw it through the window. I have always said that, if I had a guarantee that whenever I wanted anything for the poor people the Government would give it, I would leave in here. Promise me that whenever I want something for the poor people of this country you will give it, and I will leave here now. I am not going to do so unless I get that assurance; so they will have to lift me from in here on a stretcher.

The other morning I woke up and heard that a man was in the gutter. He fell down; he got soaked, and he was lying in the gutter for a long time. There was no telephone up there, and people passed by and left the man in the gutter. The people up there are suffering. Whoever changed the system of the Local Government will pay for it. You took the business out of the hands of the Vestry and put it into the hands of money sharks. I am not one of them.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

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

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

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

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

5.30 p.m.

On Resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER:
When the sitting was suspended the House was in Committee of Supply, and thereunto it now reverts.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee of Supply, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

Mr. HOPPIN:
Mr. Chairman, under Item 219 which is for supplies for Maternity Unit, St. George, the building which is being used as a Maternity Unit was - and still is - the best building of the Infirmary, and I would like to see some extensions done and, if possible, the building turned into a District Hospital or Maternity Hospital because it is centrally located. This would obviate the people of St. George - and even of St. John - having to go to Christ Church, because many of them complain of the distance and they do not have transport of their own. If some extensions were done here, then it would serve the same purpose as the one in Christ Church and would be helpful to people in St. John, St. George itself and certain parts of St. Michael which are near. I hope the Government will look into this matter and keep the place going, because most of the inmates have been removed and the old buildings could be pushed down, and one could build a suitable place which would make the people in the area happy. I hope the Minister will take this up with the Cabinet and have this Maternity Unit at St. George extended.

Under Item 222 - Dental Treatment - the sum of $500 is being provided to meet the cost of extractions in districts where no Dental Officer is retained. We know that during the Local Government days, during certain times on Sundays, the Officers would go to those people who were unable to pay the fees that

dentists charged. I cannot say if these Officers are retained since the abolition of Local Government, or who they are and for what parishes. I would like to know from the Minister whether such dental work is done in the various parishes, and, if possible, who are the Officers.

There seems to be a typographical error where the Item "223" appears twice. I think the second one should be "225". Anyhow, in the Note to Item 225 there appears "land at St. George" at the end. I would like to know where this land is at St. George. and for what purpose it is used. People hear things: and when they come to their representatives and they are not capable of answering them, they wonder if they have made the correct selection, and I would like some clarification on this rental for the Medical Services at St. George where this place is situated.

Under Item 230 - Barbados Arts Council - the Minister was very good to say that it is proposed to have an auditorium at Waterfords. Not so long ago I tabled a Question in here asking for the erection of an auditorium, and as far as I can remember, the reply given to me was that it would be in the next Development Plan. I understand that it is included in the Development Plan, and I am very glad that Government has realised the necessity.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

On a point of order, I am sorry to interrupt the hon. member, but I think he had asked about another Community Centre for St. George. The reply was that it would be in the next Development Plan since we felt that St. George was fairly well served while the other parishes did not have any at all.

Mr. HOPPIN:

I thank the Minister; but as you know, St. George is a large parish, and under the new voting system we all would expect that each member should ask for something for his constituents, and we are preparing ourselves to meet such a situation.

Under Item 252 - Child Care Board - I can say that this Board is doing a wonderful job in the Island. I happen to be on the Parochial Board for St. George and I know that because of the existence of this Child Care Board many people have benefitted, and I am glad to see that Government has seen it possible to put in such a tidy sum, because there are people who only think of getting the children.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Mr. Marshal, could you please have the corridor cleared?

Mr. HOPPIN:

As I was saying, Mr. Chairman, the Child Care Board has some Nurses who make visits in the district to people who are reluctant with regard to the health of themselves and their children, and it is surprising to know that the Child Care Board has been able to reduce malnutrition among children as well as parents because of these periodical visits and cut down on the mortality rate in children. Although we are voting $57,000 under Item 229 for Family Planning and we are advising people to make use of the Family Planning Association, there are still people in the rural areas who ignore this advice. The Child Care Board through its President -Dr. Reader's wife - and other officers is doing a very good job by going into the rural areas and getting in contact with the people, and I am very proud to see that Government has seen fit to put in such a sum to help the youth. They are getting medicine at reduced rates, and we hope that people will make good use of this service. The Government has done a good job in getting people of the calibre of Dr. Reader's wife and others to work on Boards like these to help these young children.

With those few remarks, I hope the Minister will be able to give some information about the Maternity Unit at St. George and the question of dental treatment.

5.55 p.m.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, inasmuch as the senior member for St. Joseph, when he spoke, referred to the case of Dr. Dacre and his leaving Barbados, which brought a number of replies from the Minister, I am not prepared to say what reason Dr. Dacre had for leaving Barbados. What I will say is that it is clear ho was dissatisfied with the conditions under which he had to operate at the Mental Hospital. Maybe he left because he got a better job, but I know for a fact that he was dissatisfied with the conditions under which he had to work at the Mental Hospital. I say this because one of the things when I spoke to him was in connection with medical legal matters, and he would always say that one of the chief things wrong there was the fact that there was no adequate provision made at that Institution for keeping the criminally insane. I think it is one point which I would like the Minister to give serious consideration to, because in one case I had in Court -and the Doctor was quite frank with me - he said "I hope the jury does not bring him back guilty but insane, because I do not have any place at the Mental Hospital to keep such a person."

I say this because there are a lot of persons who are found guilty but insane, and it is a little difficult to decide whether to send them to the Mental Hospital or to Glendairy. The Doctor went on to say that that particular individual was likely to kill a person again, and he said that the place for him was the Prison, but the Prison does not cater for the criminally insane. I would like the Government to consider making

proper and adequate provision for those persons who are convicted and found to be criminally insane. When you are dealing with those who are criminally insane you are concerned, not so much with the particular individual, but you must be more concerned with protecting the public from that individual and to ensure that he is not given the opportunity to do the harm that he may have done in the past. I would seriously like the Government to consider making suitable and adequate provision for those people who are convicted and who must be detained at Her Majesty's pleasure during the period of time they are criminally insane.

Again, he said that there was no maximum security where he could keep any person who was a psycopath.

I go on to Item 189 dealing with probation. Some time ago the Government appointed a Committee to look into the legislation and to investigate the position of the child in this country and make recommendations. I believe this Committee was appointed as far back as 1955 or 1956 - if not further back -when Mr. Carol Fields was appointed Chairman, and I believe the Committee did present a Report; but I doubt whether that Report has been made public, and secondly, I know as a fact that no new legislation has been introduced as a result of that Report. I would like to find out from the Minister what steps, or whether the Minister proposes at all to lay that Report in the House and to implement the recommendations in that Report to provide adequate legislation in this country affecting children and young persons. It is very, very important that the young people of this country be protected; I think all members will agree with me on that score. But what I would like from the Minister is some statement about the Committee's Report, and whether anything is being done with a view to implementing those recommendations of the Committee.

I pass on to the Sports Department, and I think it is very aptly named, because it is a complete joke. One would have expected that the function of a Sports Department would be to encourage games - whether cricket, football, basketball - not only in the metro-politan parishes, but, in the circumstances of Barbados, special attention should be paid to the rural districts, and by 'special attention' I certainly do not mean sending a Cricket Coach around to the schools. What is lacking is organised sports in the rural districts in this island; as I have said more than once in this House, the only games that can really be claimed to be played island-wide are cricket -I would say football because I believe Lodge and Coleridge-Parry play football too - but to the masses in this country, how many football games do you see of a high standard taking place at Belleplaine Social Centre? 6.05 p.m.

How many water polo matches, swimming meetings, hockey games or basketball games? I believe that football is played at Trents. This ought to be the job of the Sports Department, not to make sport, as they are doing now, but to encourage young people to take part in sport. I do not know if the Sports Council still operates. There is need for complete rethinking of the Government's attitude to sport. The

Minister tells you how many playing fields they are building and leaves it at that. This is an archaic approach. What about facilities being provided-expert coaching, encouragement, Sir, not being limited to the Government Secondary Schools but to all the people in this country, those who because of their station in life are not fortunate enough to receive secondary education? It is this person to whom the Sports Department should cater. Sport is of extreme importance, if one were to analyse the contribution of cricket as an avenue of social ability in this country. One has only to look at those players who came up from the ranks of the Barbados Cricket League to see the position they have reached today in our society. But for cricket, they would not have been able to reach these positions today. And to this extent cricket has become an avenue of social ability in this country. Those gifted in cricket may be gifted in other things. The attitude of the Sports Department does not permit people to develop their talents. One only has to look at the contribution by the Barbados Cricket League. The same way you have organised at the moment cricket for boys under 14 in Government Comprehensive Schools, what about football? The stigma attached to certain games in this country has to be removed. The hon. Minister is telling me that the Government is providing hard courts. Can the average young man afford to pay to play at the Government hard courts? I mentioned Belieplaine; what about Ellerton? Why not basketball and lawn tennis facilities there for these people? Don't let lawn tennis be a game to them at the Savannah Club or at Harrison College or Lodge School alone; bring it to the masses of this country. This the Sports Department has failed to do.

It is full time to introduce lawn tennis, hockey and even basketball. The Government does absolutely nothing to assist basketball in this country. The Government said they were not going to appoint a specialised coach. This is not fair. All the coaches now in the Government Departments are specialised coaches. You cannot generally get coaches in this day and age. You have coaches in cricket, football, netball, Sir, and the Government does not deem it fit to appoint a coach for basketball! It is only at the community level that you can see the strength of any game in this country. Those who follow up football will know that what I say is true. The football teams come out of closely-knit communities, whether it is New South Wales, or Beverly Hills from New Orleans, or Black Spurs.

If the Government would go into the rural communities and try to organise them, to give them the facilities, I have every confidence that the sports in this country will develop. You cannot expect to play football or hockey or basketball on bad grounds. Therefore you cannot really expect to develop your talents, abilities, unless you play against top-rate teams. No good hockey or football team will play on our bad grounds; that is the first criterion. Government must accept that it is their duty to protect the grounds and should not allow sheep to be grazed on them.

They must provide not playing fields in the sense in which they were known; they must provide proper grounds. The Government can be complimented for one thing - that is, the Gall Hill Centre. There is a need for more Centres like this. I would certainly like to see that there is a hard court for tennis, basketball. You have cricket and football fields; it is only right that the Government should undertake that same programme in all the parishes in this country. 6.15 p.m.

I should hope that, in due course, when the Stadium is being built, instead of building the Arts Centre at the Stadium, some of the land will be used to provide a proper indoor Auditorium not for cultural activities, but for things like water polo, basketball, boxing and so on. You cannot expect these sports to develop unless proper facilities are provided by the Government.

Mr. Chairman, as I have always said in my speeches, this is not a matter of Party politics; this is a matter of doing something - not for me or for you, but for the benefit of the entire community. It is not the sort of thing that one looks at and says that it will cost too much to do this or to do that. If you do not provide these facilities, people will become frustrated and that is where your trouble will start in this country. It will be cheaper to provide facilities at this stage than to deny the people the right to activities of sport in this country. I do not know if the Minister would like to reply at this stage.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, just before the hon. member replies, there are a few questions in relation to my constituency on which I would like to have some information. One is the Dispensary at Christ Church. Does the Hon. Minister know that the Dispensary at Christ Church for many years now has been providing a very useful service to the relatively large population surrounding Oistin and the suburbs? I understand that at the present moment the hours for the opening of the Dispensary have been changed, and I should be most grateful to the Hon. Minister if he would tell me what are the new hours for the opening of the Dispensary, and whether there has been any change in the service formerly supplied there.

The second point is something dealing with the area around Scarborough. Not so long ago I asked the Hon. Minister whether he would consider the erection of hard-court facilities at Scarborough, and to abandon any attempt or suggestion that Scarborough or any part of it be used for any Police Station in the future. When you look at the area it will easily be realised that in the whole of Oistin, Silver Sands, Gall Hill and Maxwell areas there are no playing-field facilities. It has been suggested that an area should be acquired near the Housing area for the creation of a Playing Field. I do not believe that we are going to be as fortunate as the people in St. John and have a complex of facilities which were created there.

Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that, unless some part of this area is used for the creation of tennis courts, basketball, netball, etc., all we will get there is a Playing Field on which cricket and football will be played. That is not good enough for so large a number of people who live in the surrounding areas.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, there are numerous questions asked, and I will attempt to give answers to as many as I can. The hon. junior member for the City asked questions in connection with the Arts Council. I mentioned that consideration is being given to the erection of a building to accommodate the Arts Council, an Auditorium and a place for Concerts and Lectures mainly at Waterford. In any given year a clash of events should seldom occur, and that could be avoided by proper planning. In other words, we are thinking in terms of having proper parking facilities at the Arts Theatre and for the Auditorium, and they could be located at Waterford where we have all the necessary parking facilities. Very seldom will you have various things clashing.

Mr. Chairman, a suggestion was made by the hon. senior member for the City that a portion of land in the precincts of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital would be a better site for the Arts Council. That could be examined, but there are already plans for certain health facilities - a Central Laboratory, an Out-Patient Clinic, and general Medical and Dental care on a portion of the Delamere land. There will also be a Central Mortuary and a Training Centre. There are plans for about half of that land; but it might well be that the site adjoining the Queea Elizabeth Hospital may be more centrally located and easily as-sessible, as suggested by the hon. junior member for the City, for the Arts Council having their headquarters and Theatre, as well as for the Auditorium.

6.25 p.m.

I will promise the hon. junior member for Bridgetown to look into this, because there are valid points in his suggestions. Now the hon. junior member for St. Peter and other hon. members asked quite a number of questions. The hon. member enquired about Temporary Public Health Inspectors under Item 157. The information is that there is a limit of ten posts on recruitment ranging from $1, 680 per year to $2, 280 per year. There are posts for trainees, and the policy which we adopt is not to appoint first and train after, as if the appointee failed to gain his Certificate, his services would have to be retained and he would probably retard progress generally. It is for that reason that we have Temporary Public Health Inspectors. In 1969 with the aid of Pan-American Health Organisation a training course was instituted, and one of these Temporary Officers is now in Jamaica at the West Indies School of Public Health, and he will be able to fill one of the vacant posts when he qualifies.

Mr. HINDS:

On a point of order, I wonder how many vacant posts you have now.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I said there are ten. As we all know, they are eligible for pension under the Public Health Pensions Act, and their conditions of service are negotiated by the Barbados Workers' Union.

Under Item 87, ground staff in the Sports Department are treated exactly like similar workers in the Ministry of Communications and Works and also in the Secondary Schools.

Under Item 68 - Part-Time Staff -there is one at each Hospital who works about two hours a day. Under Item 120 - Ward Maid, the Ward Maids perform subordinate duties on the Wards. We are re-examining the persons taken over from the Local Government services and training them, and reorganising the work programme. I think I have already explained the Nutrition Programme under Item 145A. This is a new programme. We cannot move backwards and employ unqualified persons in top jobs.

Under Item 146 - Medical Aid Scheme, during 1969-70 treatment in Jamaica was secured for twenty persons, and five others were sent to Trinidad. Certain enquiries are made by the officer at the Hospital who enquires into the means of the patient and his family, and I can tell you that the policy is a very liberal one. We send almost all. In this case the power has been delegated to me and I use a very reasonable discretion, and I do not think anyone stands to suffer. Almost 100% assistance is given to cases that come to our notice. If the hon. member knows of any case that has been turned down, I would be glad to know so that I can have it examined.

With respect to the Quarantine Station, by international standards and the regulations thereunder, we are expected to keep a Quarantine Station ready for any eventuality or emergency.

Mr. HINDS:
Where is it located?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I will come back to that. I am dealing now with training. This Item is intended to establish local training schemes for Dispensers, Laboratory Technicians, Public Health Inspectors and Nurses instead of relying completely on sending people abroad. I think hon. members are fully aware of our training programme for Nurses at our Nursing School and the recognition which it has been given recently. It is no longer a four-year course, but a three year course, and it is fully recognised by the British Medical Association. We have courses going on all the time. We lose some of the Nurses, but this is inevitable.

Mr. HINDS:

If the Hon. Minister would give way, perhaps he would tell us of some of the difficulties that applicants find in being placed. Persons who want to become Nurses have to meet certain requirements, and in view of the fact that the Ministry of Education has eased the requirements necessary for getting into the teaching service where you no longer require all these "O" Level Certificates, is it not time that something should be done so as to enable more of our young girls and young men to get into the Tercentenary Training School?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

The point is well taken. There is an examination which is set by the Ministry of Education, and it need not necessarily be as rigid as it was in the past, owing to the fact that many of our Seventh Standard girls and others who might never have had the opportunity of going to a Secondary School or College and having G.C.E. Certificate do well abroad and turn out to be excellent Nurses. Some of the Nurses who worked with me over the years are now prominent Nurses in the United States and Canada; so I am fully aware of the problem. However, I will make a note of that, because it is in keeping with our policy as enunciated by the Prime Minister when he spoke about the Government Service, because the fact remains that a person who has all these Certificates may not be a good Nurse. Fifty per cent of the Nurses at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital do not have any G.C.E. Certificates, but they are the best Nurses we have, and we are training others. We also train Ward Assistants. These are the ones who may not be fortunate enough to get into the regular Nursing School, but they are trained as Ward Assistants and in time become Nurses if they pursue the course, because a good Ward Assistant can always make the grade as a Nurse.

6.35 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:

If the Minister would give way, Mr. Chairman, does the Minister know that it is time that the training scheme carried on at the St. Joseph Hospital and the one at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital should be integrated, and you would have a larger number of Lecturers? You would have the Lecturers from the St. Joseph Hospital and the ones from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital; you would get a better service and you might be able to take in more girls. I want the Minister to understand that many persons who apply sit the examination and they pass, but there is a lot more apparently that they have got to do besides pass the examination, and they still cannot get into the Training School. I want the Minister to let us know what is wrong; if they pass, why are further obstructions put in their way? These girls get disgusted; they go abroad and they graduate. What is wrong?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I am fully aware of that grievance in that the examination seems to be divided into two parts - a written examination and then there are personal interviews. I will look into that because I am not satisfied with the personal interviews, and if they have the qualifications to pass the written examination I do not see why they cannot pass. I am looking into it because certain cases have come to me, and I am aware of a few cases like that where the young ladies have passed the examination and have been rejected for some reason.

Mr. HINDS:

One reason given was because the father and mother do not live together; that is a fact, because it did not suit a girl to answer and she held her face down when the question was put to her, she was rejected, but she had passed the written examination.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I will look into this matter. No young person is responsible for their parents' conduct or misconduct; so for her to be penalised on those grounds from becoming a trained Nurse, even though she has passed the written examination, is unfair, and any such case of that nature which is brought to my attention I will see that she gets it.

Mr. HINDS:

I promise the Minister I will bring this case to his attention.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

The hon. member spoke about integration of the training schemes; that is a - very good proposal and that, too, I will ask my Chief Secretaries and the officials that deal with these matters to make a special note of, and to see that a greater number of young ladies should be trained, and the whole system integrated. I think it is a very good suggestion.

Special Services. I spoke on this but I did not cover the Cataract cases, and so the hon. junior member for St. Peter asked for a clarification. As the hon. member knows - he is one of the experts - Cataract conditions have to reach a certain ripe stage before operations can be performed, and during 1969 the Queen Elizabeth Hospital was for a period without the services of an Eye Specialist; one arrived in June and there is a revote in the draft Estimates for a Cataract Extractor. One is on order and is due to arrive towards the end of this month, so that the Cataract operations will be taken care of, we hope, under the supervision of an Eye Specialist and with the help of this Extractor.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I want the Minister to understand that there are several Civil Servants in offices that are turning back these people. An old man who lives at St. Mary's Row had been waiting at home and had been given a date on which he should go to the Hospital. He hired a taxi and had made preparations to be taken in; but when he got there a Clerk in the office told him that they were not ready for him yet. He went home and later he received another letter telling him that he should come in on another date; but when he got there he was told that there would have been no Doctor for about four or five months. This meant a second preparation for being a patient at the Hospital, a second set of transportation costs and excitement and nervousness; so that fellow is still suffering with his Cataract. You have some Civil Servants who have too much power.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I have made a note of the hon. member's remarks. Item 150 - Deafness in Children. On the recommendation of the E.N.T. Surgeon, we had an order placed for an audiometer which will facilitate accurate measurement and hearing defects, and there is also a supply of hearing aids, about 30 per year, at a cost of about $100 per set. The vote we are considering now includes $4,000 for this.

Item 177. We have never had any complaints about the food at the Maternity Hospital in Oistins. This Hospital has a maximum of 20 beds, and at the moment 15 are occupied. Item 166 - Health Education. Most of the Health Education is done through the staff - Doctors and Nurses. 6.45 p.m.

Recently a post of Health Education Officer has been added to the Ministry of Health. The officer has been selected for training under the auspices of the Pan American World Health Organisation.

Mr. HINDS:

I want to know about Reference Libraries. Are the Reference Libraries made available to the students? Difficulty is experienced in getting the person who knows where the keys are kept.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I have not got all the details. But in a library you have to keep the books locked away. There must be some measure of control, not that the books should not be accessible. In the legal profession the law books are not made available to every person. Most of the best libraries - not necessarily the barristers' books -most of the practitioners are very good librarians -they may not have their books in order.

Mr. HINDS:

Does it have a Librarian or Library Assistant? There should be a proper system for borrowing and keeping records when the books are returned.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I am checking. We should have a Library Assistant; there is a Librarian. Do you mean a Librarian or a Library Assistant.

Mr. HINDS:

Is the Librarian ever available to these students who want to make use of the Library? He may have another job to do and so neglect the Library. What is the system?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, we have a library right in the Ministry in my former office. We also have a library at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, in both cases the books are easily available. You must entice some of your friends to make use of the Reference Library.

Mr. HINDS:

I promise the Minister that I will. But this item is for baying equipment for the Reference Library. What sort of equipment?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

You are referring to the equipment in the Library? Or for milk sampling for testing purposes of milk from all producers, including the Pine Hill Dairy?

Mr. HINDS:

How many producers do you have?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Did the hon. member ask 'what equipment'? It is for training the Laboratory Technicians and the

Health Inspectors and that type of expert - the technical people who should be trained and the necessary equipment for training them.

Mr. HINDS:
Is this equipment for a Reference Library?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
The equipment in the Reference Library? Extra visual aids and things of that sort, apart from the actual reference books.

Mr. HINDS:
What are you going to buy?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Do you want a breakdown?

Mr. HINDS:
I do not want a breakdown. If you are telling us, Mr. Chairman, that you are going to buy visual aids, we accept that; but when you say that in these libraries the equipment includes visual aids, we do not accept that.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
If the hon. member will wait, perhaps he will have the information. I have not got the breakdown.

Mr. HINDS:
Item 166.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
The equipment is made up like this Item 166 - $3,000. Equipment for reference libraries, books, posters, leaflets etc. $2,000; displaying at the Annual Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition $1,000. That

makes up the $3,000.

Mr. HINDS:
To print hardboard.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Item 168, Environmental Sanitation. When the equipment arrives it will be possible to step up the programme. The compressor is now giving trouble. Item 194, Sports Department. The Labour Welfare Fund gives assistance in connection with playing fields, pavilions and equipment; in other words from the Labour Welfare Fund assistance is got for playing fields, pavilions and equipment. There are three items under Non-Recurrent Expenditure, and provision for bats, balls and nets for training purposes. 6.55 p.m.

The Clubs are encouraged to help themselves, and they are shown how to do so by Officers of the Department. The Welfare Department is doing everything possible to help. When the hon. junior member for the City spoke, he spoke in a manner as though very little is being done. I do not think that is strictly correct. Even in the football sector we have started a Community Football Competition, and there are a number of Clubs interested in it. They probably need more assistance, but we are doing our test. The fact that Barbados cannot field an excellent Football Team is not important. Barbados has never had a proper Football Team. We have always lagged behind in football. We have played a little netball and basketball, but we have been good at cricket. I think the hon. member has in mind the Basketball Coach who is a very good announcer. We are trying to improve all of these things.

Mr. Chairman, we have put down a Stadium. We are the first to attempt to put down a Stadium with the assistance of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. We had to underwrite a lot of the money, and we have $450,000 in the Estimates. I am anticipating things, and I am trying to take the wind out of certain hon. members' sails. The hon. senior member for Christ Church is anxious to get certain things for Christ Church. We have made a decision on Gall Hill, and the Scarborough area has been suggested as being more central for basketball, netball and so on. I will work along those lines.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Mr. Chairman, how many acres are there available at the site at Gall Hill? Where is the site situated?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, it is immediately behind the row of houses in the Housing Scheme and it has 6 1/2 acres of land. We will have accommodation there for a tennis court, netball, basketball and so on. Because we are putting one in Scarborough and one at Gall Hill, it does not mean that we are going to stop there. With the assistance of the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance, the hon. member can rest assured that other things will be done.

Mr. HINDS:

Are all the X-ray units at Enmore Health Centre functioning properly now?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, probably that reply could be suspended. Let me give the other replies. With regard to the Ambulance Service.....

Mr. HINDS:

Are all the officers employed there qualified for the jobs that they hold?

Hon. C E. TALMA:

I will give you the answers to both of those questions later. The Ambulance Service will be based at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and other points, but they will use certain facilities of the Fire Service such as the VHF equipment. The Fire Services or whatever agency is used for central control will be given an Officer to take charge of the Service, and this Officer will be sent for training to an appropriate Centre, which will probably be a Fire Service abroad. Three new Ambulances have been ordered and are expected to arrive at the end of April as replacements.

Mr. HINDS:

What plans have the Government for a link-up between the poor people who depend on the Ambulance service in the country districts, and the Headquarters for the Ambulance?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I started off by saying that although the Ambulance Service will be integrated, it will be based at various places such as the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and various other points of vantage. (Mr. HINDS Where are those points of vantage?) This matter is being investigated; it is not clear-cut at the moment.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, do not let the Minister bring that to us. He, his experts and advisers, sat down and made the Estimates. If he has not yet completed the Estimates, then let us remove the amounts you are asking for under this Head, or let us reduce the amounts by $1 each. If you do not have the information, then tell us that you do not have it because I believe that one day you will tell us what is the position. Do not put yourself in any embarrassing position unnecessarily. We are not going to embarrass you on this side.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I said that the Ambulances would be based at Queen Elizabeth Hospital and other points of vantage. It is batter for me to find out and be truthful than to say one at Ois-tin, one at Speightstown and so on. Let me get the precise information and give it to you.

With reference to Item 195 - Special Events -there was a supplementary this year for $4,000, making the total available for expenditure $19,000. All of these funds were expended. We are providing a Stadium here to enable us to reach the minimum standard for International competition in cycling, ath-tics, football and other games which can be accommodated at the Stadium.

With reference to Item 210 - Inmate Labour -the importance of occupational therapy has been stressed by the Medical Officers in respect of some of the residents at District Hospitals.

7.05 p.m.

The breakdown shows St. Michael $3,000, Christ Church $500, St. Philip $500, St. Thomas $400 and St. Lucy $500.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I would like to hear from the Minister what per day these workers will be paid.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I am afraid I have not got the exact rates.

Mr. HINDS:
If you do not have the exact rates, how did you arrive at the sum of money?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I can get the information for you. With respect to dietary supplements under Item 216, in some cases the Medical Officers prescribe vitamins and vitamin pills and milk for malnutrition patients. I think I have answered most of the questions raised.

Mr. HINDS:
What was your reply to Item 216?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I said that in some cases the Medical Officers prescribe vitamins and vitamin pills and milk for malnutrition patients.

Mr. HINDS:
Does the Doctor or Medical Officer always prescribe tablets? Does he not prescribe a caloried diet? If the Medical Officer prescribes a caloried diet, who does the compounding thereof?

Hon.. C. E. TALMA:
The Item, as the hon. member would recall, is for dietary supplements. That means supplementary to the regular diet; so my information is that in cases of malnutrition the Doctor and Medical Officers prescribe pills and see that patients get more milk and protein.

Mr. HINDS:
I do not mind what the Minister says. I am asking the Minister if these Medical Officers do not prescribe what we call a caloried diet. I have my reasons for asking.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I would have to find that oat definitely, because I do not say anything unless I am sure. With respect

to the inmate labour, I am advised that it is done by task labour, and it is so much per task and not per day.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I am trying to re -strain myself. I respect the Minister, but he is getting bad advice which is embarrassing him.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, those are all the questions I can answer at this stage. At a later stage, I will provide the hon. member with answers to the other questions he raised.

Mr. St. JOHN:

What about the Dispensary in Christ Church?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

At one time we. provided a lot of patent medicines at the Dispensary at Oistin and at one or two others; bat since the takeover by the Central. Government and the auditing system, it is found to be an encumbrance because any money they receive has to go to the Treasury. Under the Local Government system it was easier to see after the selling of drugs, etc., but the service is not now as complete as it was in that we have not got as many of the drugs and patent medicines. I raised this question recently and I am quite satisfied that the service is not as good as it was before, and in that big district I feel we need a better service. It is not the first time I have had this matter drawn to my attention. I think the same hon. member raised this matter some time ago, but I was told, whether rightly or wrongly, because I am to expert, that under the present system the money from anything you sell has to go in the Treasury.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Previously, . it used to be a sort of semi self-accounting Department, but that no longer obtains. What we must remember is that because of the way it operated in the past, no drag st) used to be able to operate effectively in Oistin so that there is nothing to provide the service that was once provided there, and there is no drugstore in the area and the situation would become worse when the new Regulations come into force dealing with what first-aid shops can sell.

Mr. HINDS:

Before the Minister replies, I would be glad if he could tell us how many apprentices are now attached

to these drug-stores and how many have been taken on since centralisation came into effect, and what are the rates of pay for these apprentices. 7.15 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

The hon. member asked about the number of apprenticed Druggists at the various Dispensaries; qualifications laid down in the Civil Establishment Regulations for Medical Officer of Health state "qualified doctor". All the Doctors at Enmore are qualified registered medical practitioners. Any Medical Officer of Health who holds a diploma in Public Health receives an additional non-pensionable allowance of 20% in lisa of private practice. The hon. member also asked whether there were any Doctors who Were not qualified. One of the X-ray units at Enmore is giving trouble and it is to be repaired.

Mr. HINDS:

Is there a Doctor at Enmore receiving an allowance but who is not qualified?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

That is hardly a fair question; all are qualified.

Mr. HINDS:

Are they qualified for the posts they fill?

Hon. C. E. TALMA; All of the Medical Officers of Health are duly qualified as medical practitioners and they get their respective salaries at: such; the ones who are qualified with extra qualifications receive the 20%.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I am asking the Minister to look into the matter again because he might have to withdraw his very last sentence. I am putting it to the Minister that there is one such Doctor who is receiving these allowances and is not qualified to receive them. Will the Minister please investigate and advise us?

Horn C. E. TALMA:

I will give you the assurance that I will investigate; but, as far as I know, there is one such Doctor whom I am advised does not receive this allowance. Item 189. The Children's Legislation Committee Report has been printed and recently submitted to Cabinet; it is proposed to lay it in the House shortly. As far as the District Hospitals go, we have Rediffusion sets in two Wards at Christ Church and St. Philip; Television and Rediffusion sets in four Wards; St. Thomas has two Rediffusion sets; there are Rediffusion sets in the Male Ward at St. Lucy; St. Michael has Television sets in nine of the Wards. The District Hospitals all have Rediffusion sets.

Mr. HINDS:

I wonder if the Minister found them there when centralisation took place. Did the Minister have these on his credit side?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I am not dealing with credit or debit as long as the people have the sets; they are there for the benefit and advancement of the people. I am glad they are there, and whoever put them there had the people's interest at heart also.

Mr. HINDS:

Item 222 - Dental Treatment. The hon. junior member for St. George asked some questions in connection with this dental service, but I have not heard the reply from the Minister. The Minister ought to be in a position to tell us if the situation has improved any since the publication on this Report on Health Services in Barbados in 1968, because this Report tells us that there are 15 registered Dentists catering to a population of 252, 931. If the Minister is telling us that there is no Dental Officer retained in certain districts, and this sum of $500 is to cover the cost of extractions, this amount is very small; but I do not want to steal the thunder of the hon. junior member for St. George because he asked the question bordering on this same subject.

7.25 p.m.

I want to know if the Minister is in a position to tell us if the dental service has improved in any way.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

The answer is yes.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
You cannot say "yes" like that!

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, we had 15 dentists in 1968 and we want to know what is the position now. If the Minister is in a position to reply, we will be glad to hear him.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
In answer to the hon. junior member for St. Peter and also the hon. junior member for St. George - he really raised it earlier - a similar question; while dealing with his constituency, he asked who ore the dentists and where is the work done. My advice is that the work goes on as usual, where it is done I do not know. If you knew your constituency, you should know where the work is done.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Hon. members must not behave in this manner. I do not expect eight hon. members to be speaking at one time. Let the hon. member who is standing address the Chair.

Mr. HOPPIN:
Mr. Chairman, the reply given by the Minister really does not satisfy me. I asked the question because I want information and he is saying if I am a member of my constituency I should know, I asked it for a specific reason. If he cannot answer it, just say that he cannot answer it; but I do not have to know in whose house or yard the teeth are extracted.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:
Extractions used to be done at the Infirmaries for poor people; with the abolition of Infirmaries in certain areas, we would like to know how it is being carried on. Actually, the $500 is very small for the price which is charged for extractions. (Aside Mr. Chairman, ...Why you don't keep out of this.)

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I will investigate this matter further and let the hon. member know exactly where this service is carried on. The old service goes on; but exactly where it is done, I have not got that information here tonight.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I had asked the Minister about typhoid cases that were not reported -what action has been taken. I have not had a reply from the Minister on that point. (Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY It is compulsory to report typhoid cases.)

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, typhoid cases are compulsory notifiable diseases; they should be compulsorily reported. Is the hon. member saying that there are cases which have not been notified?

Mr. HINDS:

It was published in the Daily Advocate and the Chief Medical Officer commented on it - how sorry he was to see what had happened, and so on. We want to know what action has been taken at the Departmental level, who was responsible for not reporting - what has been done? Justsaying something in the newspaper and that is the end of it? (Mr. CORBIN Sit down and don't answer another question for the night.)

Mr. HINDS:

At Item 251, Mr. Chairman, page 129. The Sanitation and Cemeteries Board is faced with the problem of refuse disposal. I understand that nine more trucks have been ordered; I wonder if the type of truck that has been ordered is a type similar to what I have seen.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

What Item is the hon. member speaking on?

Mr. HINDS:

I gave that ever since -251, but you are so bent on putting the question that you wouldn't listen to hon. members. I don't know why the Leader does not take the Chair; people are getting irritable. What I am asking is, Mr. Chairman, whether the type of truck that has been ordered is the type which I have seen operating in New York. There is a very large truck similar to what I see here, but it is equipped with some kind of machinery that compresses, destroys, reduces what is heaped into it.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

We have one here.

Mr. HINDS:

I have seen steel chairs thrown into it and it minced them up. I do not know the cost. The advantage is that you hardly have to look for a dumping site. We cannot hear anything about the incinerator at the moment. The Minister might have some information on this.

Mr. HOPPIN:

If the Minister will give me permission, I might be able to throw a little light on the question. The trucks that have been ordered are similar to those that are in operation now. We have some compressed units as well as the ordinary type. But the one he was making reference to is too costly and we are not in a position to get that type of truck right now. The Tenders Committee have agreed on a certain type of truck, and we have accepted that truck which is expected to be here pretty soon.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

The question is.... (Interruption) Hon. N. W. BOXILL Put the question, man!

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

You look at the Chairman and say 'put the question, man'!

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

I say, "Put the question." Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY Mr. Chairman.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Hon. members not addressing the Chair, please. Let the hon.. junior member for the City address the Chair.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

I am indeed grateful to you, Sir. Mr. Chairman, I believe that, earlier on, the Minister did make some sort of statement about the crematorium. He said that the crematorium was not going to be built on the first site, but on another site. I would like to know the reason why the first site was abandoned, and, secondly, what is the new site selected. 7.35 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I have mentioned that already. I said that plans for a new Cemetery and Crematorium are being developed, and that during last year a Resolution was passed for the acquisition of land for the purpose. Further tests have indicated subsequently that wide areas of the chosen site which is near Mr. Challenor's place at Warrens were too hard and the stone had to be blasted. The site was totally unacceptable; it was impractical and impossible to put it there. We had to change the site and it is now in an area not far from the Tobacco Company which is considered suitable, and the Crematorium will be sited in that same compound.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, the Minister has just said that tests were carried out and it was discovered that the area was rocky. I should like to find out from the Minister when the tests were carried out. Certain people on that side are wasting the taxpayers' money. (Mr. CORB1N Do not answer any more questions)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

Hon. members not addressing the Chair!

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I thank the hon. member for giving way. Preliminary tests were taken in the first place, and then an Engineer from the Ministry of Communications and Works made further tests, and it was discovered that the area was entirely unsuitable, and we had to abandon it entirely.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. This matter has been going on a bit too long. The hon. member has just asked a question. Some time yesterday I drew your attention to the fact that he asked a question which had already been answered, and it proves conclusively the dilatory manner in which they have been carrying on, I am, therefore, asking that the question be now put.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

I beg to second that.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I am of the opinion that certain members have been repetitive, and I have had to warn hon. members about it. In my opinion the question can be put.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I...

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
The question is, "That the question be now put". Hon. members in favour will please say "Aye", and those hon. members who are against will please say "No". I think the "Ayes" have it.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Divide. (Asides.)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
All hon. members who desire to behave in this manner will be dealt with accordingly. I am asking the hon. junior member for the City to behave himself. A division has been called for, and it must now be taken.

A division was taken as follows:-

AYES:
Hon. C. E. TALMA; Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON; Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS; Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS; Hon. N. W. BOXILL; Mr. LOWE; Mr. SPRINGER; Mr. CORBIN and Mr. HOPPIN - 9.

NOES:
Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY; Mr. HINDS; Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY; Mr. St. JOHN - 4.

The question that the sum of $5, 758, 709 under Head 41 - Ministry of Health and Community Development - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative wit bout division.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, how much money are you appropriating? You are entitled to leave Mr. Clerk and go!

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
The hon. junior member for St. Peter is out of order.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, I apologise.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
The amount is $5, 758, 709.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. That amount is wrong. You have made amendments to the Boy Scouts' figures.

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

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, at Item 250 you reduced "3000" to "300"; so how could you appropriate the same amount?

Mr. St. JOHN:
Mr. Chairman, when you get a bunch of lackeys over there who are not following the proceedings and who are anxious to go and eat the food, they will put you wrong.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I am asking the hon. member to withdraw that remark.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
I am asking the hon. member to withdraw the remark.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Mr. Chairman, I withdraw the remark, despite the fact that it is true.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
I think you will find more lackeys in Christ Church than you will find over here. You know exactly where to look for them!

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Mr. Chairman, hon. members were in order in drawing to my attention the fact that amendments were made and that certain amounts were changed. The amount for the Boys' Scout Association was changed from "1200" to "2000"; the Girls' Guides Association was changed from "734" to "2684"; Family Welfare League was changed from "3000" to "300". The hon. members are on good ground on this occasion. However, all of that has been taken into account and the final figure, I understand and I am advised, is correct. The total is still correct. 7.45 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, I think this will be a convenient time to have a break.

I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative, the Committee dividing as follows:-

AYES:
Hon. J. C TUDOR; Hon. C. E. TALMA; Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON; Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS; Hon. A. DaC EDWARDS; Hon. N. W. BOXILL; Mr. LOWE; Mr. SPRINGER; Mr. CORBIN and Mr. HOPPIN - 10.

NOES:
Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY; Mr. HINDS; Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY and Mr. St. JOHN - 4.

Mr. CHAIRMAN reported progress to Mr. SPEAKER who resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

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

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the sitting be suspended for fifteen minutes.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
We accept that.

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

On Resumption:

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I observe that there is no quorum and ask that you direct the Clerk to ring the Bell.

The Bell was rung and a quorum was obtained. COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER:
When the sitting was suspended, the House was in Committee of Supply, and it reverts thereunto now.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee of Supply, Mr. YEARWOOD in the Chair.

HEAD 42 - WELFARE DEPARTMENT Head 42 - Welfare Department - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $3, 765, 278 under Head 42 -Welfare Department - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I would be grateful if the Minister would give the Committee some information as regards the expenditure for Legal Aid at Item 34.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY:

Mr. Chairman, speaking under Items 41 to 50, there is a situation -where you have one person in charge of Community Centres, and another person in charge of the Playing Fields attached to those Centres, and the Playing Fields are not opened to suit the working class people. I would like the Minister to give some explanation here. Mr. Williams would be in charge of the Playing Fields, and Mr. Gollop in charge of the Centres, and this is causing some difficulty because one man working there would say he is not working under Mr. Williams and another would say he is not working with Mr. Gollop. Similarly at night if the caretaker is going away, he closes the building and people cannot get the use of the Centres during the crop season when they want to have their fetes.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, speaking on Items 41 to 48, it is to be regretted that our Comunity Centres are not even now put to the use for which they were intended. It is surprising to find that the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education that are primarily concerned with these Community Centres have not apparently made use of what must be found in the Ministry of Education, that is, a copy of Mr. Howard Hayden's "Policy for Education". In that document some very good advice was given in that it was suggested thai; Wardens at these Community Centres ought to be retired schoolmasters. Somebody may suggest that if a schoolmaster is a retired person, then he might be Loo tired for the activity of a Community Centre. 8.10 p.m.

Why did the "Policy for Education" suggest that type of individual, if it were not with a view to having the Centres placed in the charge of persons who could set about to cultivate and generate the spirit for the type of cultural activity that has an educational flavour all rolled into one? Having a person of the standing of a schoolmaster as a Warden at a Community Centre would in itself help to flavour the life of the immediate surroundings of the Community Centre; but for some reason or other I do not think that an attempt was ever made with our Community Centres in providing that type of individual for taking charge and for organising youth activities, and even the activities of some of the old people. To my mind, it is a very grave reflection on these two Ministries in not seeking to implement, wherever possible, the recommendations or the suggestions : found in this "Policy", because the "Policy" even went further and laid down that persons to be in charge of Community Centres would be persons requiring some measure of training, and the "Policy" set out at pages 45 and 46 - and Erdiston Teachers' Training College was suggested as the place where it might be found possible to have our Wardens for the Community Centres trained for some period of time.

One would readily appreciate, Mr. Chairman, that if the scheme as laid down here had been applied as nearly as possible as it could be, we would today be looking at our Community Centres as centres of culture. We would be looking at them not merely as dance halls or gambling dens as some have turned out to be, and this is something to be regretted very much indeed. This "Policy" stated where the Warden would be expected to spend most of his time organising - and as you know, these Community Centres ought to be playing their part in providing Evening Classes of instruction, and a whole course of activity should be organised for these Centres. In the "Policy" at page 46 the responsibility for the staffing

should be placed on the Ministry of Education; but as we have a situation now with our Ministerial system, it would be that responsibility for the proper functioning of these Centres would be a matter for two Ministries in an integrated system. We feel, Mr. Chairman, that something will have to be done if these Centres are to serve their originally intended purpose.

We can still, to my mind, appoint people to take charge of these Centres who can contribute something to the welfare of the people who are to make use of the Centres, or who are to be part and parcel of the activities that are organised at these Centres. It is not too late; but we must know how difficult it will be to bring about a complete break from the present state which exists. I have gone to a dance at one of these Centres on a Saturday night, and what I found was that whilst patrons were dancing and enjoying themselves, part of the floor was occupied with groups of persons gambling inside the room. One part of the dancing space was takrn up by these groups of persons gambling whilst the others were dancing, and I do not want to say that I did not have my scares every now and again, because whenever there was a misuaderstanding between these competitors in their gambling pursuits, all the people who were dancing had to be scampering every now and again. I have even seen some of these gamblers bare-back as if to give an understanding that they left home to fight; surely we have seen and we have had enough of the bad side of the Community Centres.

We have some Welfare Officers now who are going around from parish to parish and organising activities. We do not blame them; we would not even try to discourage them; but some of these Officers are going about the districts and organising people on a political basis. That is what they are doing. They are not organising people for cultural pursuits, for the spread of religious instructions or anything of the kind. All of these are things to be regretted even now that we have centralised our services and that these Officers are Civil Servants.

8.20 p.m.

I would say, Sir, that we do not fear this. If the Government is spending money on these Officers and organising them for the political Party in power, let them do it. We are confident that when the time comes the reward will be reaped by him who deserves it. We have, Mr. Chairman, quite a number of Youth Groups - as a matter of fact I remember in 1947 we had more active Youth Groups than we really have today, and I can say that in that day such groups as were organised were thrilled at being part and parcel of a community set-up. I can say that in those days there was no political entanglement or attachment to be found in any of the Youth Groups that we had functioning in Barbados; but today, whenever and wherever you find that there is a Youth Organisation, one has not got fax to go to find that it is being run by someone or some group which has some political leaning or interest; and eventually the group becomes affiliated, not to a central Youth Council, but to some political Party, and as one would expect, it invariably happens that when a political Party ceases to carry the sway, the death of the affiliated organisation is certain.

It is not a good thing, Mr. Chairman, for Government to be spending money on trying to bring the youth together and then find that there is dissipation at some point or other - waste of human material and resources; no encouragement, no sense of direction as such. It is about time that we see where we are going in the mat:er of Youth Organisation. When we look at it, Sir, here in Barbados there is a crying need for leadership amongst those in the 14 to 18 age-group. We can say that enough is not being done for the 14 to 18 age-group in this country. They are neglected. Another thing is that the Club's people who in the past voluntarily came forward as sponsors or leaders seem to have all gone into a state of oblivion or have lost interest in the whole matter, partly because of the politics of the day. We can also say that even in the Boys Scout and Girl Guide organisations there is a crying need for leadership; and we feel that if our Community Centres are the meeting point, the place for the assembling of these various youths into their various organisations, we can go a long way in moulding our society, through the use of the Community Centres, into a people worthy of being part of our nation.

Mr. Chairman, you will find that not half of the benefits that can be derived from organised activity at these Community Centres is now being received by the people who should or are expected to benefit from the establishment of them. You will find at Grazettes Industrial Estate - there should be no difficulty in finding people to take part in activities organized at that Centre because it is situated in the type of area that can make its own demand; in other words, if a programme with sufficient attraction were drawn up, we are confident that the gambling that is now being engaged in at these Centres would find no place because the healthy activity would root it out. And then any amount of money that is spend on Community Centres would be felt to be well spent.

You will find that at some of them, Mr. Chairman, the buildings are in a state of disrepair. An amount of $16,000 is appropriated for maintenance of buildings. I am saying that there are some Community Centres which require $16,000 to be spent on repair; one Community Centre can alone have $16,000 spent on it. What is said here must give us the feeling that Government in itself does not have any programme or organised activity at the Community Centres.

8.30 p.m.

So far as the maintenance and repairs of these Centres are concerned, I am sure that a good paint job for some of these Centres would very nearly use up the $16,000. You must realise that, with the cost of paints, the cost of materials and the condition of some of these Centres today, it will be necessary to spend more money on them. You may pass and nee some of these Centres from the outside; but when you enter some of them you will be shocked to see the extent of the repairs that are necessary.

For instance, I have attended a dance at the St. Thomas Social Centre, which is next door to the Police Station, and I can tell you that it is one of the Centres that must call for a considerable amount of m:"ney if it is to be repaired properly and brought back into shape so that it can be gainfully occupied by activity, whether from the Department of Community Development and Welfare, or from the Ministry of Education, or both.

Mr. Chairman, let us go to St. Peter- I cannot understand why it is that, in the parish of St. Peter, for all of these years, there is no building the doors of which are thrown open for Community purposes that we can point our hands to and feel proud of.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member was told here only two weeks ago that St. Peter will have this year a Community Centre and a Day Nursery established on the outskirts of Speights-town. It was in reply to a question which he himself raised, and I told him that, with the new Housing Estates we are establishing in Speightstown, we were going to build a Day Nursery and 30 houses. I do not see why he has to go off at a tangent in respect of that, because provision is made for everything.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, it is for me to talk until the day when we get what the Minister has just mentioned, because for too long the people in St. Peter have been denied of the benefit of a Community Centre. It is not a question of promise.

Hon. A. DaC EDWARDS:

Mr. Chairman, it is not a question of promise. I assure the hon. member that provision is made in this year's Estimates for a Community Centre. Only last week a visit was paid to St. Peter in respect of that.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, I have gone through these Estimates and I see something called "re-vote". I am not saying that provision may not be made here, there, or somewhere else for doing this and doing that, but sometimes the money can lapse. I am saying that it is my duty to talk until we see that something is really done.

Mr. Chairman, I am going away from the Community Centres. Last year we voted money for carrying the School Meals Service to several schools, but some of them have not got anything yet. What the

Minister has said about the Community Centre in Speightstown is appreciated, but we will talk until it becomes a reality. That is our stand on the matter.

Mr. Chairman, what I see being used as a Community Centre nowadays is in itself a mere fire hazard; it tends to make people sick more than anything else. I was invited to a function at a Community Centre by the Industrial Development Corporation when they were advertising something. It was not an occasion for a "jump-up", but I can tell you the Community Centre was as hot as an oven. Does the Minister mean that we must not bring those conditions before the Committee, because provision is being made for doing this and that in Speightstown? There is so much that was to be done for us community-wise in St. Peter that we are now compelled to talk. What we want to see is positive action; we want to see organisation and activity, and our Community Centres put into the hands of proper people who by their daily lives can show and do show an example to children.

Mr. Chairman, it must be remembered that I said that children between the 14-18 age-group can find no proper place to go in the afternoon to spend their hours in worthwhile pursuits. 8.40 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, the actions of these Wardens, the way they carry themselves and the manner in which they use their uniforms do not promote anything cultural at these Centres. Some of them seem only too glad to jump in the uniforms and do not worry to wash them. Uniforms of these Wardens should be clean at all times, and they should act in such a way as to inspire the children who must go around the Community Centres. We would like to see the Minister address his mind to this and have his Welfare Officers lecture to these Wardens, and, if necessary, change the type of Warden we now have to see if in a reasonable space of time we can get the Community Centres up to the standard all of us would like to see.

Under Item 38 there is an amount of $3,000 to meet expenses in connection with transport for voluntary workers, expenses of Annual Youth Camp, and other sponsored activities a mong Community groups. Mr. Chairman, reference is made to this Annual Youth Camp, but let us ask ourselves what in truth and in fact is the purpose behind a Youth Camp. Is it to give the Government in power and some of its members an opportunity to indoctrinate the youth? To a show you how these Welfare Officers work, they will go into a parish which is represented by two hon. members - one drawn from each side of the House - and extend invitations to some of their functions to only one member, and that member is a member of the Government Party. Are we not then within our rights to say that these youth activities are being organised for political purposes? We are saying that they should be free of anything like this.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I have to draw to the attention of the hon. junior member for St. Peter Standing Order No. 36 which refers to repetition. This happens to be the third time I heard the hon. member say that youth groups are promoting certain political parties.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, with all due respect to you. I never said it, and anybody who said I said so is not speaking the truth.

Mr. CHAIRMAN:

I heard the hon. member say that Welfare Officers are promoting political parties.

Mr. HINDS:

This sum is to meet the expenses in connection with transport for voluntary workers, expenses of Annual Youth Camp and other sponsored activities among community groups. You may one day find in these sponsored activities - and I hope it will be very soon - that a chair with four feet might find i;self on the head of some person who has only two. This would be a good activity that could be promoted, but you should not spend the taxpayers' money in doing it. These activities are not as wholesome as one would like to see them, and I would like the Minister to look into this very vexed question.

At Item 34 there is an amount of $3,000 for legal assistance in bastardy and alimony cases. I remember hearing in this House from time to time about the kind of Court that the hon. senior member for Bridgetown used to carry on at the former Town Ha1!. This was no Court at all. We know the kind of service that was rendered to mothers and fathers alike in respect of illegitimate children and support for them. You will find that the type of service that was rendered enabled in many cases a mother to get support for her child without having to pay fees when applying for assistance under this particular Item. 8.50 p.m.

It was a case where people of experience in many fields - many of them parents -sat and listened to the complaints, inquired into the circumstances surrounding the case and would then turn to advise either father and mother, whichever wanted to be advised, and it worked very well for a very long time. We should find in our Welfare set up Officers with that kind of experience today - not just to run every father before the Court, but to actin a manner more justifiable; they should inquire into the circumstances surrounding the case, relate it to what the mother has got to say and see what can be done to settle as many of these cases as possible out of Court. Perhaps the lawyers might not like to hear that, but I still feel thai: much can be done to help both parties and to help maintain a link through which the child can benefit even after the legal period of support has passed, That is the type of service I think we

need in our Welfare Department.

I believe at Item 32 I come right home or a little closer home to yourself and perhaps to some other hon. members of this House; that is, relief in kind. We have a Board, Mr. Chairman, and I believe that you are head of that Board, and you will know that all cases that require or that deserve or merit relief in kind can be brought to your notice in any one month, in any one day, or perhaps in any one year. There is an amount of $60,000 for this type of assistance, and what we would suggest is that sub-Committees of the appropriate Board could be set up; you need them in several villages - not two or three, not one to serve the North, one the South and one the Central; that would not do at all; we should have sub-Committees comprised of people who are near and dear, people who are trusted to minister to the needs of these several people; and if this is done I am sure that the amount of money that is appropriated here can go a long way in relieving much of the distress of many of the people who are in need of assistance such as we have under this Head. Mr. Chairman, I think that I have said enough on those Items I have touched so far, and other hon. members should be given an opportunity to make their contributions, but I will certainly be listening to the Minister and continuing as soon as I get a reply.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Mr. Chairman, there are a few matters I would like to draw to the attention of the Minister. I want to find out whether or not it is a fact that people who hitherto were employed both under the Vestry system and under the Local Government system as Public Assistance Officers-who are now called Welfare Officers- are required now to do, in addition; to work which, they formerly did, or similar to what they formerly did, Community Development work. This is, I understand, a source of great dissatisfaction, bearing in mind the fact that many of these people were transferred officers and they have absolutely no training at all in this type of work, and the only fact seems to be that such a policy, if it is created, can mean you would have a dissatisfied officer and an incompetent officer in so far as the officer is required to do Community Development work.

Secondly, I believe that the full benefit of the Community Development work can never be achieved unless a decision is taken that some degree of decentralisation is going to occur. I do not think that unless you create offices in the large areas - I am thinking in terms of Speightstown, possibly St. James and certainly the Oistin area - where people can go to a recognised Welfare agency, so to speak - a sub-Department of the Welfare Department, to carry their problems to them, you are going to get the full benefit of the services which the Welfare Department is there to provide. People are not going to leave Christ Church or St. James and the other areas and come down to town; I understand that there is a sub-division and that there are Senior Welfare Officers in charge of areas; but as far as I know there is no office in the areas in which the Senior Welfare Officers are situated, and I hope that it will be the policy of the Ministry to create offices in these areas. You have offices for Public Health Officers and for District Hospitals and things of that kind, and I think you should carry it further and use the same sub-division for the purpose of Welfare Administration.

Item 31 - Old Age Pensions. Repeatedly many old people have been complaining of the fact that they are unable to draw the Old Age Pension because of the fact that although they have reached the age, they happen to own property above the value which the existing regulations say they can own and draw Old Age Pensions at the same time. 9.00 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, I feel that a substantial change in the amount of property or income that a person can have and still be eligible for Old Age Pensions has got to take place. Very often in the areas like Silver Sands and part of St. Philip a person may own an acre of land without agricultural value, and, if based upon the existing value of the land, it would com? above the amount of income that a person is eligible for. That land would have to be sold for building purposes; the old people are not going to sell it because they feel it is from parent to child seed to seed - and to cover burial expenses. At the same time it is not providing any income for them and they are being deprived of the benefit of drawing Old Age Pensions. There is also the fact that there are many people who are willing to hire some of these older people on a part-time basis in Christ Church to do cleaning and sweeping of the yard and they get an income; they are hired usually by visitors to the island and this income places them just above the point of eligibility. They should be encouraged to work because they are still able to work. I would like the Minister to state his views on that.

Now, Community Centres, Mr. Chairman. I want to know what is the policy of the Ministry with respect to the use of Community Centres. There used to be a certain procedure if you wanted to use the Centres in the South. I have no experience of the North, and, in the City, if the Bridgetown City Council gave permission, you got it; if they didn't, you wouldn't get it. There was a procedure whereby you informed the Clerk of the Council of the date, instructions were issued, and the place made available. I would like to find out what is the present position. With the centralisation that has taken place, a lot of procedure has been changed, and I would suggest that whatever procedures we now have, publicity should be given to them. I notice, Mr. Chairman, that you have Item 46 - maintenance of buildings; I want to know whether the parks and playing fields have been taken over by the Commission and whether the draft Bill has been circulated what is the relation between that and the functions carried out by the Welfare Department in relation to the Community Centres. Would this new Commission look after the fabric of the buildings and the administration of the buildings? Or is it the intention that the administration of the Centres and the fabric of the building will be under the control of the Welfare Department? I notice a sum of money was voted previously by action of the Ministry of Home Affairs, and included in the Notes is 'to make provision for the maintenancce of the grounds and the fabric of these buildings'. I would like a statement on that, too, from the Minister. These are the three points I want to deal with in relation to this Head.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I think the majority of members have spoken. To deal with Community Centres, Head

42 Item 41. The Welfare Assistance to Community Centres is under the charge of the Chief Welfare Officer and not the Chief Sports Officer. A training course is in progress through the U.W.I Extra-Mural Department, and a course is planned for the Chief Welfare Officer, to be given soon. At present we are handicapped by the number of vacant posts at the Welfare Department. The Public Service Commission is now dealing with the appointments to fill 10 vacancies. There are also six Welfare Officers abroad on training courses. It is expected that by filling these posts and from the training courses, use can be made of the Community Centres. The senior member for Christ Church, I thought he was aware of this - that Playing Fields - King George V Park, Farley Hill - are under the control of the Ministry of Home Affairs which has responsibility for parks and beaches. The Sports Department will therefore be assisting with the sports activities on these playing fields and will be able to make use of the playing fields of the Community Centres, which are under the Ministry of Health and administered by the Chief Welfare Officer. Use of the Community Centres has to be applied for to the Chief Welfare Officer. I agree with the many remarks made; the idea is to uplift the cultural activities and studies. The Community Centres have been rented but given free of cost for Sunday School. We all know that the Community Centres have been used for dances mainly, and weddings and service of songs in the past. There was a complaint some time that they are not being freely administered and used, and I gave a directive that they should be brought in line and facilitated to people as in the past.

I think, Mr. Chairman, that the hon. senior member for the City, when he spoke, had Friendship Community Centre in mind. I will look into that one; among other things I understand that the Warden there is not particularly co-operative. The hon. member for St. Peter suggested that a more educated type of person should be considered to organise certain functions and community activities. It is a good suggestion. The point is to find a Headmaster, may be, to do that; and it was suggested that certain courses should be awarded these Community Centres. These are good suggestions and I have noted them.

Maintenance of Buildings, Item 46 - $16,000. The hon. junior member for St. Peter said that this could be spent on one Community Centre, and that the general condition of the Community Centres is such that more money should be voted for the purpose.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Not long ago, Mr. Chairman, I was in the Bathsheba area and I saw the one there. I understand that it has been abandoned now; can the Hon. Minister confirm that? It is in a very deplorable condition.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

The one in Bathsheba is in a very deplorable state. I do not know if it is abandoned; it will have to be investigated. We all know these Community Centres have been badly treated, handled and used and have need of a better measure of control. The chairs are all broken up; the state of the buildings is

deplorable. The general standard of behaviour today has fallen to such a low ebb that we must have rigid control on these Community Centres; that is, having the proper type of men and women to do cleaning and control the place, generally; it is a bad state of affairs. We have to pick the right people; a proper type of man should be encouraged in this activity. The Chief Welfare Officer is looking into that, and the amount of $16,000 may be regarded as a token provision because it cannot go the full length. The. breakdown is as follows - material (lumber & paints etc.) - $9,000; plumbing - $2,000, wages for artisans - $5,000. This is a token figure. This could be spent on Bathsheba alone. Although Bathsheba is a lovely site, we cannot spend that on Bathsheba alone; the $16,000 would be more beneficial being spent elsewhere.

Mr. HINDS:
We need one in St. Peter.

9.10 p.m.

Hon. C E. TALMA:
The hon. junior member for St. Peter has been told that he will get a Community Centre in St. Peter. I understand that the old Community Centre at Bathsheba is now condemned, and provision has been made for another one in the Development Plan somewhere in St. Joseph.

With regard to Old Age Pensions, there is really something in what the hon. member has said. There are a lot of people who take pride in having half acre of land; they work hard to get it, and they want to leave it from seed to seed. Some of them want to leave the land to enable them to get a decent burial. The means test will definitely have to be given close examination. On the last occasion we came here, we wanted to remove the means test. We wanted to see the money paid out as quickly as possible. I can assure the hon. member that the question of the means test will be very carefully examined and it will be removed, if possible. Of course, the price of the land will be inflated to a considerable extent, if we remove the means test completely,

Mr. Chairman, there is the case of the elderly person who owns half acre of land and gets no income from it. The value of the land would cause a certain amount of difficulty in dealing with such a person. 9.20 p.m.

As far as the point about legal aid raised by the two hon. members is concerned my information is that the Accountant reports that there has been no expenditure from this vote since the Central Government took over from 1st September, 1969. No applications have been received. The old-time Court which

existed there no longer functions.

Mr. St. JOHN:

If the hon. member would give way, I agree that the old Court has gone, but I can give an experience of how it used to be administered in the South. 'The people who used to administer it were the Public Assistance Officers, and when people made application, in the course of their enquiry they found that the lady was pretty certain who was the father, and hitherto he was contributing regularly to the support of the child, but had ceased and a grant was given to her. The Public Assistance Officer pursuant to the Act used to get a lawyer to ensure that her case was properly put before the Court so that an Order was made against the man, and by so doing it saved the State from paying the obligation of the father of the child. The money is there with the object of reducing the amount of expenditure under another Head, although that in itself is an expenditure. There must be cases where this vote could be used. All that has happened is that people are being given a grant, and no attempt is being made to collect from the husband or the reputed father of the child.

The question that the sum of $3, 765, 278 under Head 42 - Welfare Department - stand part of the Schedule, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 42A - LOCAL GOVERNMENT Head 42A - Local Government - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, there is no money to be voted under this Head.

HEAD 43 - QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL Head 13 - Queen Elizabeth Hospital - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $4, 135, 279 under Head 43 - Queen Elizabeth Hospital - stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:

I beg to second that.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, this is the main bone of contention for the hon. junior member for St. Peter, and I hope the hon. member will not keep us the whole night. In so far as the Dispensary is concerned, following the Report of the Committee of which Dr. Hall was the Chairman, the Green Window went into operation on the 16th of this month, and under this system certain standard prescriptions are written on a green form and presented at the Green Window where the drugs have been prepacked in order to speed up the service. Considerable progress has been made by the Hospital Drugs Committee in the establishment of a formula which will control the use of drugs and enable the Hospital to function as a central agency for medical supplies.

In so far as the Supplies Department is concerned, with the assistance of Mr. Garner, the Pan American Health Organisation Consultant in Hospital Supplies who has been working for the past three months at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, the Supplies Department has been completely re-organised to achieve improved purchasing techniques, better storage and parcel delivery to departments.

In so far as the Out-patients Department is concerned, I will give a break-down. I will give the figures for 1967, 1968 and 1969. General Medicine: 9, 919 in 1967; 8, 645 in 1968; and 8, 969 in 1969. Diabetes 357 in 1967; 2,017 in 1968 and 2, 238 in 1969. Paediatrics 5, 186 in 1967; 6, 163 in 1968 and 5, 990 in 1969. Nursery 672 in 1967; 589 in 1968 and 715 in 1969. General Surgery 7, 831 in 1969; 9, 825 in 1968 and 9, 250 in 1969. Orthopaedics 1, 977 in 1967; 1, 519 in 1968 and 652 in 1969. Ears, Nose and Throat 2, 843 in 1967; 2, 680 in 1968 and 1, 924 in 1969. Ophthalmology 5,031 in 1967; 4, 387 in 1968 and 5, 221 in 1969. Dental 2, 115 in 1967; 2, 264 in 1968 and 2, 116 in 1969. Ulcer, Legs 1,042 in 1967; 941 in 1968 and 579 in 1969. Gynaecology 3, 389 in 1967; 3, 937 in 1968 and 5,019 in 1969. Obstetrics 9, 121 in 1967; 12, 544 in 1968 and 12, 986 in 1969. The grand totals are 49, 463 for 1967; 55, 511 in 1968 and 55, 659 in 1969. 9.30 p.m.

As far as the admissions to the Hospital are concerned, in 1966 there were 14, 212; in 1967, 14, 111; in 1968, 14, 934 and in 1969, 16, 608. The remaining figures are as follows:

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1966 1967 1968 1969

Deliveries 2, 205 2, 219 2, 783 3,007

Out-Patients 46, 387 49, 463 46, 870 55, 659

Casualty and General Practitioners 88, 967 99, 226 100, 294 86, 885

Operations 7,045 8, 455 9, 435 9, 750

Prescriptions processed 181,047 187, 487 217, 117 196, 106

Therapy treatments 15, 213 19, 230 22, 795 23, 867

Consideration is being given to the establishment of a Schools Medical Service, and this will necessitate the appointment of one or two Medical Officers plus School Nurses. District Nurses and Public Health Nurses are being better organised by a Home Visiting service. It is proposed to introduce legislation to make early notification of births compulsory so that Home Visiting of the new born can be undertaken as early as possible, and it is anticipated that this will result in a substantial fall in the infant mortality rate.

In connection with Mr. Spencer, there have been charges and many things brought to light here by hon. members, especially the hon. junior member for St. Peter, the shadow Minister of Health and Community Development and Education. From time to time adverse comments have been made about the functioning of the food service and the kitchen in particular at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and as a result of certain allegations and charges made, a Committee has been set up to deal with the problem. The Committee consists of the Senior Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Doctor Hall, the Surgeon Specialist, the University Supervisor, the Matron of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and two officers of P.A.H.O. The Committee has investigated the officers engaged in various aspects of the food service and has also made on-the-spot investigations and examinations of the staff and operations. The Committee is fully conscious that the food service should function primarily in the interest of the patients, and every effort will be made to improve the service by carrying out investigations on the spot and looking into the matter at first hand. Attention is also being given to the reduction of waste, as this is an unfair burden to the taxpayers. The Committee is hoping to report sometime before the end of April, and special attention will be given to staff relationships and organisation generally. I promise to give a full and candid detailed statement as soon as I get this Report, and I will lay it on the Table of the House

as soon as possible. I may mention that I have carried out some investigations myself, and whereas this Committee is investigating the matter generally, I am doing my own investigations as well.

A little incident occured at the Hospital recently; it appears that on Thursday, 19th March, an un-indentified person entered the Hospital through the Casualty Department and found his way to the Pay Wards. Once there, it is alleged that he introduced himself as a doctor and started to discharge the patients there. He refused to leave when requested to do so, but after persistent efforts by the Matron, Staff and Orderlies, he entered the lift and insisted on leaving the Hospital premises before the Police, who had been called in, arrived. People are misrepresenting themselves, impersonating doctors and the like; you see, it is such a big institution you are likely to come against all these things.

The question that the sum of $4, 135, 279 be appropriated under Head 43 was put and resolved in the affirma-

9.40 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:
I am going to let the Minister go.

HEAD 44 - MENTAL HOSPITAL Head 44 - Mental Hospital- was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $736, 286 under Head 44, Mental Hospital, stand part of the schedule.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:
I beg to second that.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask one question, which I raised earlier; what provisions are made for the criminally insane and convicted?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I am glad the hon. member raised that and has reminded us again. I have made special note of it to see that adequate provision is made for those who are criminally insane and convicted as such because they can be very dangerous. It has happened that once or twice people have got away. I will look into it for the safety of the other patients and the Medical Staff. It is bad not having a proper cell for these criminal cases.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, at Item 46 there is provision of $380,000 for feeding of patients and Nurses, and the Note reads "Provision for daily feeding of patients and nurses. Increase due to increase of prices, efforts to raise the- standard of diet and further intake of additional Student Nurses". I would like the Minister to tell us what steps are being taken to raise the standard of diet apart from buying quantities of provisions. If he could answer that, I have another question arising out of the answer he has given.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Can you see the time?

Mr. HINDS:

Can I do more?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Yes, sit down.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Chairman, I will give a breakdown of this $380,000 as follows - yeast, $2,500, biscuits, $14,500. (Mr. HINDS That is very good yeast.) Fresh meat, $33,500; tea, coffee, Horlicks etc. $5,000; bread, $20,000; fish, $14,000; sweet potatoes, breadfruit, eddoas etc. $8,000; sugar, $10,000; butter, flour, lard, $12,000; fruit, eggs and vegetables, $50,000; frozen meat, chicken and ice etc. $83,000; rice, tinned meats, corn meal, English potatoes, peas etc., $82,500; and milk $40,000 making a total of $330,000. The hon. member wanted to kow in what aspect the diet is improved.

Mr. HINDS:

After buying all of this, how are you trying to improve it?

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Dietitian. We haven't got one yet.

Mr. HINDS:
But, Mr. Chairman, this where the Minister is falling down. After spending $380,000 how is he going to improve the diet? It needs, as he says, a Dietitian. The Mental Hospital - (Interruption)

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
Hon. members not addressing the Chair!

Mr. HINDS:
The Mental Hospital is now a training institution; how can you be spending $380,000 on the items that the Minister has just told us here and at the same time, when you look back and compare it with, say, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, it is a little over half? The Minister told us that he appreciates the fact that the Mental Hospital requires a Dietitian to bring it up to the standard of a training institution in the Commonwealth Caribbean. This is a joke and I am asking the Minister; it is a matter for the Public Service Commission as such when the recommendations are made there. Let the Minister satisfy himself as to the type of person that is required to fill the post when it is created because I am not going to rest until you appoint a Dietitian at the Hospital. It is beastly unfair to the Catering Officer, and the same thing applies even at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. 9.50 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, it is wrong to have them doing therapeutic dieting, and then pay them as Catering Officers and so on.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Mr. Chairman, the Nutrition Officer at the Mental Hospital has been asked to prepare new diet sheets for the Mental Hospital. It is our plan to appoint a Committee. One Committee is now working at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and, with a slight change of membership, the Committee which we set up will look into the question of the appointment of a Dietitian and will be given a directive. We feel that the time has come when a qualified Dietitian should be there to look after complicated diets. The Dietitian will have to be guided by our various Committees. I promise the hon. member to give him some statement on this matter.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, with regard to Item 58, the Minister and I understand each other very well when dealing with the Mental Hospital and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and if the other Minister will keep out of this we will be able to pass this Head. At Item 58 you are spending $630 for the replacement of books, etc., for the Training School. At Item 46 you are spending more money because you are making preparation for a greater intake of students. How is it that you find yourself in 1969-70 spending or appropriating $630, and in 1970-71 you are making preparation for increasing your Student Nurses and you are not making adequate provision by way of increasing the number of books to meet this extra intake of students? Something is wrong in this matter. I want the Minister to look into this matter. I am going to let the Minister get on with this Headt because he is a Minister who will give us all the information at his disposal. If he can reply to that point, you can put the question, Mr. Chairman.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Mr. Chairman, the amount is the same as the amount voted last year, but I will have to check on the matter. The Mental Hospital is expected to be helped with books, etc., and the School will function alongside the School at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and share the same books.

The question that the sum of $736, 286 under Head 44 - Mental Hospital - stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 45 - MINISTRY OF TRADE AND TOURISM

Head 45 . - Ministry of Trade and Tourism - was called.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the Note to Item 18 opposite page 149 be amended to read as follows

"To provide for Petroleum Quota payments in accordance with Section 7 of the Petroleum (Winning Operations) Act, 1950 (1950 - 1)."

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

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

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $1, 586, 642 under Head 45 Ministry of Trade and Tourism - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 46 - MINISTRY OF LABOUR, NATIONAL INSURANCE AND HOUSING

Head 46 - Ministry of Labour, National Insurance & Housing - was called.

Hon. A, DaC. EDWARDS:
Mr. Chairman, I beg o move that the Note to Item 28, opposite page 151, be amended to read as follows

"To meet claims and changes in respect of Government employees in accordance with the Workmen's Compersation Act 1964-3."

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

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $584, 683 under Head46 - Min-istry of Labour, National Insurance and Housing -stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:
I beg to second that.

Mr. HINDS:
May we have some information on this?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:
Mr. Chairman, I have absolutely no information to give. If hon. members want to ask questions, I will answer them.

The question that the sum of $584, 683 under Head 46 - Ministry of Labour, National Insurance and Housing -stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division. 10.00p.m.

HEAD 47 - NATIONAL INSURANCE Head 47 - National Insurance - was called.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $40, 486 under Head 47 -National Insurance - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 48 - HOUSING Head 48 - Housing - was called.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $80,000 under Head 48 -Housing - stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Chairman, to go into Housing at this stage would take us a very long time, because to deal with the Minister we would have to go into political morality, and I do not think we should do it at this stage.

The question that .the sum of $80,000 under Head 48 Housing - stand part of the Schedule, was put andresolved in the affirmative without division.

ANNEXED ESTIMATES -POSTOFFICE Annexed Estimates - Post Office - was called.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $1, 181, 504 under Head 1 - Annexed Estimates - Post Office - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 3 - PARLIAMENT Head 3 - Parliament - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, if hon. members have their Estimates, we will have a lot of amendments to put in here. First on page 4, Item 5 -Duty Allowance. The amount to be put in there is $42,000 under Statutory Expenditure. Then on the opposite page there will be a note now numbered "5" and this note will read "Payable to all Members other than Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries at the rate of $3,000 per annwm." Delete note 5 (a) "Payable to the Leader of the Opposition." At Item 6 - Members - the figure should be $48,000 instead of $52,800 because, of course, the Deputy Speaker, the Speaker and the Chairman of Committees are all of them shown separately. Underneath "Members" is "Chaplain" and the figure is $840 instead of $600. Under Item 8 - Clerk - after the word "Clerk", put in brackets "7,500 - $10,800", and in the column under Statutory Expenditure the figure "$10,800" is to be inserted. Under Item 9 - Deputy Clerk, bracket the figres "$5,040 to $7,200", and under the column "Statutory Expenditure" insert $6,000. Item 11 - Marshal - insert in brackets the figures "$3, 420 - $3,600"; then under Statutory Expenditure insert $3,600. Item 12 - Deputy Marshal & Library Attendant.....

Mr. HINDS:
Should it be " Library Attendant" or "Assembly Orderly".

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
It appears we had proposed to call the post "Deputy Marshal and Assembly Or-derly" but the Act has not been amended yet. Until we amend the Act we cannot so describe him. We have to amend the Act, and in the Approved Estimates the change will be made if we amend the Act before the revised Estimates are printed. 10.10 p.m.

Item 12 - Deputy Marshal and Library Attendant, put in brackets ($1,800-$2, 860).I will do the amendments to the Notes altogether when I go over to the other side. In the Other Expenditure column opposite Deputy Marshal and Library Attendant, you substitute the amount of $240 for the amount of $48. Item 14 - Secretary, ($4, 320-$5,040), and under Other Expenditure you substitute the amount of $4,800 for the amount $3, 960. Item 15 - Messenger/Cleaner; substitute the amount of $1, 602 for the amount $1, 190 and make consequential amendments. After Item 15 we have an Item 15A, and this Item is described as "Gratuity for former Deputy Clerk"; we insert the amount of $17, 920 under Other Expenditure. After Item 15A there is an Item 15B described as "Arrears of salary for Officers of the House", and under Other Expenditure to be inserted the figure of $8, 572. We delete Item 18 because it is all now compounded and consolidated higher up.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Are you taking away the Speaker's entertainment allowance?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
An Acc has been passed al-ready; you are reflecting on Parliament.

Mr. HINDS:
By asking a question?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Delete Item 18, also Item 18A and Item 33 and you can go on to Item 381-President's Hospitality, and the amendment of the note there will read "32A. Grant to His Honour the President to cover his entertainment expenses".Af-ter Item 37 - all the words in italics - insert a subheading "Senate and House of Assembly - 38 - Renovation of Houses of Parliament", and we put in under Other Expenditure $120,000. The note would read "for the renovation and redecoration of the Chambers of both Houses and their precincts." After Item 38 we insert 39 - Parliamentary printing; the insertion of the amount of $1 under Other Expeaditure, and the note will read "Token provision for facilities, staff and equipment for the printing of Parliamentary debates and papers". In order to make quite sure we are doing this quite accurately, I have to go over the other side to put in the appropriate notes. Under Item 7 - Chaplain, the substitution of the following reference as the Note thereto "Act 1891-34 as amended". Item 8 amendment of the Note to read as follows "Act 1912-2, Resolution of 17th March, 1970." Item 10 the amendment to the Note thereto to read as follows "Act 1912-2, Resolution of 17th March, 1970". Item 11 amendment to the Note "Act 1912-2, Resolution of 17th March, 1970". Item 12, the same thing; Item 13; the substitution in the note thereto of the words "Library Attendant" for the words "Assembly Orderly" as we have not yet amended the Act. Item 14 amendment of the note to read as follows "Resolution of 17th March, 1970". Under Item 15A, the note would read "Gratuity in respect of the

services of the former Deputy Clerk, Mr. H. L. Thomas". Under Item 15B, the insertion of the following note"For payments of arrears of salaries and allowances to Officers of the House in respect of the year 1969-70". Item 32A we have done; we have done Item 38 and we have done Item 39. I beg to move that the sum of $290, 109 be now appropriated under Head 3.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN:
The question is.....

10.20 p.m.

Mr. HINDS:
Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have under this Head an item.... (Aside Bree, are you ready?)

Mr. St. JOHN:
I am very glad to see that an ex-traordinary sum has been put in here for refurbishing the Houses of Parliament, but I don't think that is going to go far enough. I am as a result concerned about the old machine in here for keeping this place clean. I do not know about the hon. members on the other side. I really feel the Health Ministry should come in here because there are some man-size mosquitoes in here biting people night after night, and they bite you so hard that they even can bring blood. We on this side are very dissatisfied with the method of keeping in here clean. I understand that it is a divided responsibility, but I would like to suggest that in conjunction with the Ministry of Communications & Works, a regular programme, whether it be every two months or quarterly, should be laid down; that a proper cleaning, including cobwebbing of not only in here but all around - and I believe that it is not felt that the glass windows should be kept clean. A regular programme should be established so that everything in here can be kept in a much better condition, and should include Health Inspections and Waterworks inspections because some considerable amount of water wastage goes on in here.

Now, Sir, we are talking about the other things. I note that all members of the House have been given increase in salaries. I see the Ministers -everybody -got a little piece. I am always one of those who believe that politicians should be properly paid, and I do not begrudge any Minister nor any member in office the salary that has been paid them; (Aside: Homie) but for that I think that the public is entitled to

expect that they get proper work for the money that they are being paid. I think it is also to be remembered that, when the Prime Minister was projecting the expenditure saying how it rose from 26 million dollars right up to the figure of some hundred million if you took Recurrent and Capital into account, what has happened now with the centralisation is that all Government expenditure is now contained in these Estimates. The responsibility for looking after all areas of Government now reside with the 24 mem-bers of the House 6f Assembly, and anybody who thinks that as a result of the centralisation of Local Government, it has not placed tremendous demands upon the time and energy of all members of Parlia-ment, has no idea of how to run a constituency nor the demands that constituents make upon Members of Parliament. We are Local Government politicians and everything now; so that is a factor we have to take into account. Secondly, we are operating in .an economy in which, however we look at money, we must divide it into two because of the fact that all of us by virtue of our position are called upon to meet, to compete and to incur expenditure with people who come here, the purchasing power of whose dollar is twice as much. Anybody getting $20,000 or $25,000 a year in Barbados is not getting more than a scavenger gets in Manhattan, because when you divide it by two - and I don't believe that the difference in the cost of living is that much - all of these factors have to be taken into account. There is another vital factor, and you only have to compare it when you go to other territories. We have been lucky that the reports of our Government are not as bad as the reports in other territories. Important power is vested in the hands of Ministers and the Government in this country, and if they are not properly paid they are going to submit to blandishments from businessmen, and-let us not fool ourselves - the ability to give pioneer status, to give hotel aids, to give licences, is a powerful power, and businessmen know the meaning to that. Unless your people are paid properly, you encourage them to take bribes. There is no question nor doubt about that. I hope that the commitment that was given in respect of the re-adjustment to certain sections of the Judiciary in this country will be honoured and that we will soon have the amending Order coming down here; I say this, because next to Parliament, to me the most important aspect of any administration in any country in the world is a free and an independent Judiciary.

The question that the sum of $290, 109 under Head 3 - Parliament - stand part was puitand resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 17(1) - PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE - CABINET

Head 17(1) - Prime Minister's Office - Cabinet -was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

We also have, Mr. Chairman, some consequential amendments to this Head in the light of the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries Remuneration Act. It has been circulated.

I beg to move that the sum of $309,087 under Head 17 (1) Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet, stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. St. JOHN:
Now, Sir, this is very important, Item 17 - Government Hospitality $36,000. I would like a Statement on this, Sir. We have now readjusted the provisions in respect of the Prime Minister and the Ministers. I understand that this vote formerly was used to cover expenditure over and above a certain limit by individual members and to coverextra-ordinary expenditure for entertainment. I feel that in view of the revision that the limit should be "upped". 10.30 p.m.

Secondly, I feel that Parliament's extraordinary entertainment arising out of the office of Speaker, when dignitaries holding similar posts come from abroad, should be paid out of this amount. I understand that expenditure above $20.00 was met out of this, and I feel that the amount should be raised.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
Sir, with regard to what the hon. member is saying, instead of coming back to the Cabinet constantly you were allowed anything over $20.00. From the time the new allowances came into force, you are only allowed anything spent at the Air-port. Any time a Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary entertains anybody, it has to come out of his pocket; so the hon. member's fears should be allayed because that system is no longer in operation.

Mr. St. JOHN:
With regard to the Speaker, I feel that when people in a similar office come from abroad and the Speaker has to indulge in extraordinary entertainment - this is a tourist area and people come from abroad during the winter season; members of the Canadian Cabinet come here every year and either when the Speaker or the President comes here on holiday, the Speaker of this House will have to entertain him. People do not like to think that they have to depend on anything. If a directive or a circular were sent to the particular person concerned informing him that the Cabinet has decided that when he entertains such people It will be regarded as part of Government's General Hospitality, he

would feel that he is not begging for it. Let us get that directive down, so that there will be no problem about it.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY; Mr. Chairman, I should like to draw to the attention of the Leader of the House that Amstel Beer costs more than Banks.

The question that the sum of $309,087 under Head 17 - Prime Minister's Office (1) Cabinet - was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

CAPITAL ESTIMATES

Mr. St. JOHN:

We have had four days of debate on Capital already in which we have debated the appropriations under each Head this year in the De-velopment Plan; so, generally speaking, I do not anticipate that we would have another four days of debate on it. The only point that we would want to have something on is the question of the Marketing Corporation, because that was not in the Development Plan. We have checked on the Marketing Corporation, and my information is that the last Statement of Account was laid a long time ago.

HEAD 102 - COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS

Head 103 - Communications and works - was called.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:

Mr. 'Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $3, 946,500 under Head 102 -Communications and Works - stand part of the Sche-dule.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

The question was put and re solved in the aflirma-live without division,

HEAD 103 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Head 103 - Ministry of Health and Community De-velopment - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $1, 792,700 under Head 103 - Ministry of Health and Community Development - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question was put and re solved in the. affirmative without division,

HEAD 104 - EDUCATION

Head 101 - Education - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $2, 651, 618 under Head 104 - Education - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 105 - HOME AFFAIRS Head 105 - Home Affairs - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $2, 101, 225 under Head 105 - Home Affairs - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 106 - OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER Head 106 - Office of the Prime Minister - was a called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $1, 629,500 under Head 105 - Office of the Prime Minister - stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirma-. tive without division.

HEAD 106 - OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (2) AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT

Head 106 - Office of the Prime Minister (2) Airport Development - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $3, 403,200 under Head 106 - Office of the Prime Minister (2) Airport Development -stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 106 - OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (3) DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES

Head 106' - Office of the Prime Minister (3) De-partment of Archives - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $35,500 under Head 106 - Office of the Prime Minister (3) Department of Archives - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

10.40 p.m.

HEAD 106 - OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER (4) REGIMENT

Head 106 - Office of the Prime Minister (4) Re-gime nt - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I have to move in Head 106 (4) Regiment. If hon. members look on the circulated sheet of amendments, they will see a new Head 106 (4) Regiment - $60,000 - to be inserted. The Note is to read "To provide for the adaptation of buildings and necessary accommodation for the Barbados Regiment in lieu of the anticipated loss of use of the Drill Hall and its environs."

I beg to move that Head 106 - Office of the Prime Minister (4) Regiment - be inserted and stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. N. W. BOX1LL:

I beg to second that. The buildings referred to here are the Iron Barracks where Frank Edwards used to live.

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

HEAD 107 - EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Head 107 - External Affairs - was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $361,400 under Head 107 - External Affairs - stand part

of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 108 - MINISTRY OF FINANCE Head 108 - Ministry of Finance - was called.

Hon. J. C TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $1, 831,300 under Head 108 - Ministry of Finance - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 109 - MINISTRY OF LABOUR, HOUSING AND NATIONAL INSURANCE

Head 109 - Ministry of Labour, Housing and National Insurance - was called.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $3, 995, 750 under Head 109 -Ministry of Labour, Housing and National Insurance -stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:
I beg to second that.

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

HEAD 101 - MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE,

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Head 101 - Ministry of Agriculture, Science and Technology was called.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of $2, 422, 969 under Head 101 -Ministry of Agriculture, Science and Technology -stand part of the Schedule.

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

Mr. St. JOHN:
Mr. Chairman, this is a very serious one. We have gone through this already, and the only Item I want to speak on is Item 13 - Barbados Marketing Corporation - $138,000. This is like the rest of the Statutory Boards- They have not been keeping us up-to-date with their latest financial position, and we have no doubt that they are in a very difficult financial position like some of the others. In addition to this, there has been some very disturbing news as to what is taking place there with respect to the shrimp industry. Now I believe that anybody who looks at the accounts of the Marketing Corporation in this country could not fail to appreciate that, had it not been for the processing of shrimp from almost the inception, that organisation would have collapsed before, because the greatest proportion of the revenue that that Corporation gets is derived from the processing of shrimp. There are a lot of unsatisfactory things going along because of the fact that the Marketing Corporation has not paid the Electric Company money for months. In addition to this, it is said that notice was given to terminate the contract with the existing shrimp processers and the service company, as I understand it, contrary to the terms of the very agreement.

Mr. Chairman, I cannot look with any degree of confidence and vote public money into the hands of a Board which is going to act so irresponsibly as not to know the terms and conditions of a contract with the person who supplies the greatest source of its revenue. We want to make it positively clear that we on this side think that a shrimp industry honestly run by people who know what they are doing can provide a tremendous amount of benefit to this country. Because with the experience that has been gained, al-ready Barbadians are benefitting in terms not only of greater earning power, but in the acquisition of new skills such as captaining boats of the size that we all see in the Harbour here, I was talking about a year ago to some people in Trinidad where they also have a similar industry, and they said that one of the things about shrimping is that after it has been in existence for a certain period of time, people who rise to being captains soon rise to being shrimp-boat owners. We have now, I believe, twelve Barbadian captains, some twelve or fourteen people from the other Islands and very few expatriate captains now. These people have acquired the skill, and I understand their earnings are higher than a lot of jobs on the land, and no doubt soon they themselves, now that they know the fishing banks and the economics of the industry, will learn how to finance themselves and buy boats.

I warn the Hon. Minister to have a thorough investigation of this shrimp dispute that is going on. Beware of speculators who come here and profess that they have a tremendous amount of skill and capital behind them. There are a lot of front men who walk about this country and use their influence or friendships for the purpose of furthering their own economic interest.

10.50 p.m.

Let us not forget that if you have all these shrimp boats on your hand, it is vastly strange that you only now have come down to this area; remember we had one of these fast-talking operators in the shrimp industry already and we were very lucky that at that time the confidence of the owners was not so shaken and we were given a second chance. It is now some three to four years that this industry has been built up, and I am not telling anybody to swallow anything that the existing operators tell them, but have a thorough investigation into the economics of it. If you feel they can pay more, demand that they pay more; but be not seduced by the fast-talking operators that come around here; they believe that these countries are very easy. Call for bank references, previous knowledge of the industry, and you will see how fast they will run away. We want the accounts as early as possible, and we want a full statement on the shrimp industry and Government's plan.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:

Mr. Chairman, I thank the hon. member for the remarks he has made, but I will tell him this; that all members have heard me speak on this matter already and I am neither pro nor con. I will initiate a thorough investigation, as men-tioned by the hon. member who has just sat down. I have already

questioned servants of the Board on this matter and I have not come to any decision as to terminate the agreement; this is not my province. I appreciate what the shrimp industry is doing for Barbados and I would do nothing to prejudice the prosperity of Barbados, especially where it affects the Ministry of Agriculture. The shrimp industry has been here for a few years, and I will like to see that prosperity continue, and I too would like to have more information on the subject. But I am not prejudiced one way or the other; I cannot be; I will not have to be. I will examine it as calmly and as coolly as I am expected to do, and on another occasion I promise that I will give the House a proper breakdown of the accounts as soon as they are ready.

The question that the sum of $2, 422, 969 be appropriated under Head 101 was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 25 - MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 25 - External Affairs, be re-committed.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I must apolo-gise to the Committee for detaining them, but I am suggesting a new item 108 A, an amount of $34,000, the note to read "To establish a Consulate in Florida". Briefly, Mr. Chairman, the position is that we have several hundreds of our nationals migrating to Florida, and hitherto the interest of all migrants in that part have been looked after by the Regional Labour Board, of which the Government of Jamaica holds the sway. Some problems have arisen whereby it is impossible for us to give the proper service to our nationals in the area, and we therefore propose to establish a Consulate there. The breakdown of the amount required is as follows.....

Mr. St. JOHN:

We want to co-operate, but this will have to come as a supplementary. The position is that we hear about the dismantling of a regional organisation which has been in existance for a num-ber of years; I am not saying there is anything wrong, but I do not like being committed on the floor before I understand the implications of it. I have been trained to sift the evidence; I have none.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Surely if the hon. member accepts the point I made that we have hundreds of our nationals in the Florida area on emigration -we are not satisfied that their interest can be looked after as they have been hitherto looked after within the confines of the Regional Labour Board, because the Jamaica Government is looking after the Jamaicans and not on behalf of the other West Indians. I told hon. members it was a genuine oversight.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Chairman, do you mean the Minister has asked us to accept the spending of $34,000 as a genuine oversight? We have made every possible effort to co-operate. I agree with the hon. senior member for Christ Church; we have not had time to do our homework on this. This calls for considerable research.

Mr. St. JOHN:

Put in a token vote of $1 and then let us get the facts.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

If I do that, I will not have any more information on it.

Mr. St. JOHN:

I do not agree that you can do it at this time; we want the facts. 11.00 p.m.

We want the facts on this; we cannot agree to this tonight; we definitely cannot. You will have to use your numbers.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

There is no reason for us to argue over this; this is a simple thing.....(ASIDE No.)

Mr. HINDS:
We are not in this.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
If hon. members do not agree to the principle of the establishment, I will take the dollar.

Mr. St. JOHN:
You will have to take the dollar; that is all that we are giving. If you say you are going to have problems, we don't want to shut you out. if you put in a dollar - why don't you come with it on Tuesday?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I can't keep the Appropriation Bill until Tuesday.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Well, the only thing we can do now is to put in a dollar.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
We will put in the dollar. (ASIDE The hon. member is trying to be difficult.)

Mr. St. JOHN:
Difficult? I believe you feel that you are tricking me now when you put in the dollar.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
No. The hon. member could not think so lightly of himself.

We accept the dollar. The Note would still however read - "To establish a consulate in Florida."

Mr. St. JOHN:
No, read the Note.... "proposed establishment of Consulate."

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Well, alright! token provision to establish a consulate in Florida.

Mr. St. JOHN:
That is as far as we can go.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Well, alright that's far enough.

Mr. St. JOHN:
But I don't want to get any advice now as to whether you can spend the $34,000 under that Head and then come back after.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
No.

Mr. St. JOHN:
There is always jugglery that you can do.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
No.

Mr. St. JOHN:
Government can always spend the money and come back.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
This is true; but the hon. member is only arguing weakly against what he favours; so it is alright with us.

Mr. St. JOHN:
I am not favouring anything; I want the facts. I do not even know who the Consul is.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
You can know that, too.

The question that the sum of $3, 106, 501 under Head 25 - Ministry of External Affairs stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
The position is that we have to give the Clerk a little time to make sure that the figures voted are correct; so I have to report progress for a few minutes so that we can top the figures up. It has to be done; otherwise we wouldn't be able to put in a figure in the motion - with a total amount.

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, the CHAIRMAN reported progress and asked for leave to sit again. Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended for fifteen minutes.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

I beg to second that.

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

11.10 p.m. On resumption.

Mr. SPEAKER:
When the sitting was suspended the House was in Committee of Supply, and to that we now revert.

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

SCHEDULE The Schedule was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the Schedule to the Appropriation Bill, as amended, stand part.

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

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

The Preamble was called and postponed. Clause 1 was called and passed. Clause 2 was called.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 2 be amended as follows

Delete "$77, 211,003" and substitute therefor "$79, 623, 259."

I beg to move that Clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill.

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

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

Clauses 3 to 5 inclusive were called and passed.

The Preamble was called and passed.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of the Appropriation Bill in Committee with amendments.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a third time.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill do now pass.

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

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

ANNUAL ESTIMATES OF THE PORT DEPARTMENT 1970-71

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 2 be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER:

Order No. 2 is the instant Order of the Day, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution under Section 10 of the Barbados Harbours Act 1969, the Annual Estimates of the Port Department for the year 1970-71.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
Mr. Speaker, I should like to take charge of this item. The motion reads as follows

BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Assembly approve under Section 10 of the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960, the Annual Estimates of the Port Department for the year 1970-71 in the sum of $3, 140, 492.

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

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

RESOLUTION TO VARY NOTES TO ITEMS 5 AND 15 OF HEAD 103

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
Mr. Speaker, the Resolution copies of which have been circulated to hon. mem-bers, reads as follows

RESOLVED THAT the notes to Items 5 and 15 of Head 103 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT of the Approved Estimates for 1969 -70 be deleted and the following substituted for each such note:

"to be placed at the disposal of the Child Care Board established by the Child Care Board Act, 1969 (1969-46) for the purpose of meeting capital expenditure in connection with Child Care Institutions".

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass. Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:
I beg to second that.

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

JOINT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, there are some problems which are likely to arise. We have a Re-port from the Joint Select Committee, and one of the recommendations is that, if the House accepts, it should take effect from the 1st May. The House has not yet dealt with the Report, and I think that we will have to come back here on Tuesday at 4.30 p.m. to deal with it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until Tuesday, 24th March, 1970, at 4.30 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:
I beg to second that. HONORARIUM FOR REPORTORIAL STAFF

Hon. J. C, TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I am inviting the House to agree that some gratuity or honorarium should be provided for the Reportorial Staff for the work they have done. The details can be worked out between Your Honour, the hon. senior member for Christ Church and myself, if the House wishes to delegate that responsibility to us.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Mr. Speaker, I agree with that.

Mr. SPEAKER:
Are you speaking for the Leader of the Opposition?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
Yes.

LETTER FROM REV. CAYLESS TO HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER:
I may mention that I am in receipt of a letter dated 18th March from the Reverend Cayless our Chaplain, explaining and giving good reasons why he did not attend the meeting a few days ago. He did not receive an Order Paper and, furthermore, he was misled by C.B.C.

I have accepted his apology, and I have written to the General Manager of C.B.C. and complained about the matter.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

The question that the sitting be now suspended until Tuesday, 24th March, 1970 at i4.30 p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

11.30 p.m.

On resumption

Mr. SPEAKER:
Would the Hon. Leader of the House intimate what he intends to proceed with?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I can have leave of the House to lay two documents?

Mr. SPEAKER:
The Hon. Leader of the House is asking leave to lay two documents, and unless there is any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted the Hon. Leader of the House. Let the documents be laid.

DOCUMENTS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Finance, I am commanded to lay the following

Statement showing net Customs and Excise receipts for eleven months ended 28th February, 1969.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS:
Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following

Financial Statement of the Barbados General Agricultural Society, for the year ended 31st January, 1969.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave that the Resolution adopting the Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to confer on the re-organisation of the Offices of Parliament be the next Order of the Day.

Mr. SPEAKER:

The Hon. Leader of the House is asking leave to take the Resolution adopting the Report of the Joint Select Committee as the next Order of the Day, and unless there is any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted the I Hon. Leader of the House.

RESOLUTION TO ADOPT REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the following Resolution

"BE IT RESOLVED that this House adopt the Report of the Select Committee appointed to confer jointly with a Select Committee of the Senate re re-organisation of the Offices of Parliament."

Mr. Speaker, it is wrongly put here as "Officers"; it should be "Offices". I wish further to amend this Resolution by adding:

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such reorganisation become effective on 1st June, 1969."

The point is, Mr. Speaker, if hon. members will recall, that it was a recommendation of the Joint Select Committee that this re-organisation should become effective on 1st May. As hon. members can see, this leaves very little time, having regard to the fact that it is now the end of March and there are, of course, the necessary procedures to be gone through. I am therefore suggesting, and I hope the House will accept my suggestion, that we further amend this Resolution to make the effective date 1st June, and not 1st May as is contained in the Report. I do not know if hon. members have any comments to make as this is a matter concerning the House. In view of the fact that the Committee in both Houses appear to be unanimous so far as their Report is concerned, I do not know whether we would have anything further to add to our discussions now.

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

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

Mr. HINDS:
On a point of order, the Hon. Leader of the House mentioned that the effective date should be 1st June, I969; I believe he meant 1970.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I am grateful to the hon. member. I did mean 1970.

Mr. SPEAKER:
I think that is the first valid point of order I have heard for many a long day.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY:
There is only one thing here. As regards the recommendation of the Select Committee, I see in paragraph 8 that reference is made to a newly constituted Debates Committee. When are we going to appoint that Committee?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
When the House accepts the Report, steps will be taken to dissolve the present Debates Committee and appoint a new one. Now I do not know myself whether this has to be done by Act of Parliament. I suspect that the Debates Committee operates under the Printing Act, and we may have to amend the Printing Act; but it will be thrown, as it were, back to the competence of the House to settle that matter.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL:
Mr. Speaker, when this Committee is being set up, I would also like to see a Committee set up to go into the Standing Orders of this House, because they need changing. If there is one, it is not functioning.

Mr. SPEAKER:

There is a Standing Orders Committee. I am afraid it does not meet as often as I would like. The difficulty of getting a quorum of three at times is insuperable.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

Mr. Speaker, there is nothing really before the House now, but if I may with the indulgence of the House speak very briefly on the Committee work of the House, it is felt by some hon. members that when Select Committee meet.....

Mr. SPEAKER:

I take it the hon. member has the indulgence of the House, and if one hon. member speaks, I will allow a similar amount of indulgence for no greater period of time to any other hon. member on the other side.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

I am obliged to Your Honour. It is felt by various members of the House who sit on Select Committees from time to time that the time of day at which such Select Committees might meet would be convenient for the imbibing of some re-freshment.Hon. members who intimated this to me did not say what kind of refreshment they would re-quire, but they did disguise it under the general name of light refreshment. They did not even specify qualities or quantities, but if Your Honour would be pleased to give directions, therefore, that when Com -mitees are meeting there may be refreshments at their desire, I am sure hon. members on both sides would be grateful for this indulgence.

Mr. SPEAKER:

Actually, such an idea occurred to me in respect only of the Standing Orders Committee. It might have been an inducement to hon. members to attend or an inducement to work for a longer period when we do have a quorum.

Mr. HINDS:

I do agree with the suggestion of the Hon. Leader of the House that there should be some

consideration given for providing light refreshment. Amstel is a light beer.

Mr. SPEAKER:
Such consideration will be given.

Would the Hon. Leader of the House intimate if there is any other business? 4.40 p.m.

PRIVATE MEMBERS BUSINESS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Private Members' Business be now taken for half an hour. The hon. senior member for St. Joseph has intimated that he wishes to deal with a Resolution which stands in his name.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER:
I would mention that this was a suspended sitting and there are certain notices which appear on the Order Paper and may not be needed next week. I will give the hon. member in whose name these notices stand - and which notices were given at the proper time - the opportunity now to give notice of them. The hon. junior member for St. Peter; his notice are the importation of canned and dried milk.

Mr. HINDS:
To enquire of the appropriate Minister

Has the Dairy Industry in this Island been extended since the establishment of a pasteurization plant in the Island? If so, to what extent?

2. Has such expansion, if any, reduced the outflow of any portion of the millions of dollars spent annually on the importation of canned and dried milk, imported into this Island prior to December, 1961?

3. In terms of dollars and cents, to what extent has the outflow of money for the importation of this commodity been arrested?

Mr. SPEAKER:
There is another notice; I think it is re social security.

Mr. HINDS:
To enquire of the appropriate Minister

Is the Minister aware of the dissatisfaction among persons residence in Barbados who are in receipt of Social Security payments from the United States of America, due to the fact that such payments although subject to taxation in the U.S.A. are also liable to income tax locally?

2. Will the Minister seek to provide ways and means wherever possible to alleviate the hardships caused by such double taxation?

Mr. SPEAKER:
Another question in connection with the entry into nursing schools.

Mr. HINDS:
To enquire of the appropriate Minister

Is the Minister aware that the educational requirements for entry into the Teaching Service of this Island have been relaxed?

2. Will the Minister consider making similar re-laxation in the requirements for entry in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Tercentenary School of Nursing and the Barbados School for Mental Nursing?

Mr. SPEAKER:
The same hon. member, his final query re! East Coast Road.

Mr. HINDS:
To enquire of the appropriate Minister

Will the Minister state for the information of the House how many acres of formerly inaccessible lands have been brought into production consequent upon the building of the East Coast Road?

Mr. SMITH:
Mr. Speaker, I am asking the leave of the House to do Order No. 12 standing in my name under Private Members' Business.

Mr. SPEAKER:
Order No. 12 is the first Order of the Day, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution requesting the Government to amend the National Assistance Act so as to give the National Assistance Board full powers over the administration of public assistance.

Mr. SMITH:
Mr. Speaker, "WHERE AS under the National Assistance Act 1969-37 the National Assistance Board has no power over the administration of public assistance funds which is necessary to effect the smooth running of same;

AND WHEREAS there is great dissatisfaction among the poor through the absence of a Committee to whom they can apply for public assistance;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House request the Government to amend the National Assistance Act in order to give the National Assistance Board full powers over the administration of public assistance."

Sir, as you know, in the old Vestry days you had a Board set up called the Poor Law Board; that Board used to see to the divers means of the poor and the administration of the Institutions, and as far as the relief from outside is concerned. Since we have changed it up completely we had a Public Assistance Board which used to function similarly as the old Poor Law Board, but that Board does not have any powers at all as far as the administration is concerned; this is under the supervision of the Chief Welfare Officer and his Officers. The poor people in the country districts at present do not know to whom to apply for assistance; also, they do not know where the office of the Welfare Officer is located in the country now, and the running of this Department rests solely on the Officers in the City more so than in the country. 4.50 p.m.

The people who want National Assistance have to apply to the Officer concerned and he, in turn, has the authority to turn down a man if he cares to. In some cases you may have to disqualify some people because they may not qualify for National Assistance. He has the power to turn down an application without the knowledge of the Chief Welfare Officer, but the applicant has the right of appeal.

I feel that this system is not working well, because the people do not worry to go around looking to find out who is the person to whom they have to apply for National Assistance. The people in St. Joseph are accustomed to going to the Dispensary where the office was located. We used to meet every Wednesday for the purpose of meeting the people, receiving applications, and hearing what the people wanted us to do. That type of thing no longer exists. The people and the Welfare Officer are practically on their own.

When people go to a member of the Board, he has no say whatsoever. All that members of the Board can do is to send people to find the Officer or to the Head Office. That is not good enough. Only yesterday a woman from St. Andrew came to me, and I did not know the name of the Welfare Officer at St. Andrew. I did not know where he was located so that I could have sent the woman up there. I phoned the Chief Welfare Officer, who is very co-operative, and he asked to send the woman to him. It is not good enough that all of these people should be depending on an Officer and finding so much difficulty in getting in touch with the Officer. These people are accustomed to going to a particular member in the

district on meeting day. On the day of a meeting the people would know where to go to ask for the necessary assistance.

Nowadays you will find these people wandering all about. Quite recently a woman's husband died and left her with nine children. She needs assistance and I had to send her to Mr. Gollop, the Social Welfare Officer. In years gone by she would have known that she could have gone to the Almshouse in St. Andrew where the office was situated and asked for assistance. She could have gone there and had an applica-tion made out. Yesterday the Officer gave her the forms to fill out and told her where she could find the Welfare Officer. We, as members of the National Assistance Board, feel that the Board should be given more power, because we know more about handling this matter than the Civil Servants. This matter should not be left in the hands of a particular Officer in the parish. The people will be going all over the place to find the Officer because he does not remain in one place.

In days gone by, the Poor Law Guardians did a very good job because they used to meet regularly and they did everything that was possible to help people make out applications. After the applications were made, the Poor Law Inspectors were instructed to investigate the cases and report back to the Board at the next meeting. In the absence of that system, anything can happen with these people and they tend to suffer because they do not know what to do.

I am a representative of the people; I am a member of the National Assistance Board, and I do not know enough about it because I cannot go too far into it. Now, the members of the Board cannot call up an Officer and ask him about anything. If he is wrong, they cannot pull him across the coals. We do not have any more power than an ordinary individual. The people should be able to go to their representatives in a particular parish, lay their needs before him, and he should have authority to call up somebody or to give the poor person a certificate to go somewhere and have the matter investigated.

Sir, some people are so poor that, after having to wait two or three weeks before they get a reply, they have to endure a great deal of suffering. Imagine that man died, leaving his wife with eight or nine children. He is the bread-winner in the family; so the woman will have to get up and practically beg for something to give her children until she can receive the National Assistance.

Sir, this Resolution is self-explanatory, and I am asking the Government to make the necessary amendment to the National Assistance Act so as to give the National Assistance Board more power to ensure the smooth running of institutions such as Infirmaries and District Hospitals. We have no power over them at the moment. Everything is in the hands of the Welfare Officer. I do not like, and I do not think you would

ever like, to put so much power in any one man's hands, especially a Civil Servant. I would not do that, although this particular Officer is very nice and co-operative. You may not always get one like him. I feel that power should be given to some of the members of the public so that, when the day of reckoning comes, they would have to give an account of their stewardship. 5.00 p.m.

A Civil Servant can act as he likes and treat these poor people as he likes, but at the next election he would not be offering himself as a candidate to the electorate. From the moment he joins the Civil Service, so long as he behaves himself and does not violate certain rules, he will remain until he retires or death takes him out; but a politician is only there for the life of the Session, and if he does not do the things that should be done, the electorate has the authority to kick him in the pants. A Civil Servant is not in that position. Some of them can be very hard, but some can be very good. There is one by the name of Mr. Morris who is very nice, and he is always willing to help these people, but all are not like him.

Mr. Speaker, this Resolution is asking for an amendment to the National Assistance Board Act in order to give members of the Board full powers to carry out the business of the poor people of this country, because this Board caters to the very poorest class of people who cannot help themselves, .and you have to see to it that they do not suffer.

I respectfully beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. HOPPIN:
I beg to second that.

Mr. CORBIN:
Mr. Speaker, I feel very happy to this Resolution before us this afternoon. In the parish of St. Andrew where I live there is no Welfare Officer living there, and I feel that a Welfare Officer should live in each parish to know the sufferings and difficulties that arise with the poor people. If one takes ill, there is no one to go to him. Previously there would be a Public Assistance Officer to do this and call a van to convey him to the Institution, but today the poor do not know whom to turn to. The Officer does not even know when somebody dies. Night and day people come to me at my home to ask me to request a van from the St. Thomas or St. Lucy Institution to take them to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, the Mental Hospital or some other Institution. Once or twice a week a Public Assistance Officer may come

to St. Andrew, but after 4 o'clock he goes, and they have to turn to their representatives to do the work that should be done by these Officers. I hope that the Minister will take this Resolution into consideration and find the necessary solution to eradicate the suffering that is experienced by the people.

Hon. C. E. TALMA:

Mr. Speaker, hon. members will recall that the object of abolishing the Local Government system was to centralise the system, and this Resolution would be tantamount to decentra-lisation. But my position here this afternoon is merely to state that the Cabinet has not yet had an opportunity of considering this matter which would be different from the policy contained in the National Assistance Act, and I could not commit the Cabinet at this stage. I do not care to elaborate any further because I think hon. members know my views on this matter. There is a lot in what hon. members said in that the elected representatives should have more power and be in a better position to assist. But they can still assist. If anyone comes to you, you can take his name and address and pass it on to the Welfare Officer. I am not discussing the matter in detail; I am saying that the position is not as bad as was made out to be, because if the hon. member is genuinely interested in the welfare of the people, as I think most hon. members here are, then if anyone comes to him, he can take the name and address of the per-son, get an idea of the circumstances, and pass the information on to the Chief Welfare Officer. Since I was not notified about this until today and in view of the brevity of the sitting, I do not intend to commit Government in this particular matter. The Resolution sounds very good in principle, and probably many points which the hon. member made will be adopted eventually, but the National Assistance Board has only been working for a few months and the difficulties are not yet apparent.

With those few remarks, I beg to move that further consideration be postponed until our next sitting in order to give me time to hear what the views of the Cabinet are on this most important matter.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:

I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SMITH:

Mr. Speaker, there is another Re solution which I would like to deal with. This is non -controversial and would not take long. I am therefore asking leave to take Order No. 14 as the next Order.

Mr. SPEAKER:
The hon. member is asking leave to proceed with Order No. 14, and unless there is any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted the hon. member to proceed to move the passing of a Resolution re payment to Inspectors of Motor Vehicles (Grade One) of the Ministry of Communications and Works for extra duties.

5.10 p.m.

Mr. SMITH:
Mr. Speaker, I think I dealt with this fully here last week, and I think the Hon. Minister and all the members of this hon. Chamber are acquainted with this Resolution, and I feel that I should not take up any more time in asking members to vote on this as quickly as possible. But I would still raise a point that these Inspectors are called upon all hours in the night; in other words, they have to report for duty at the same time as all the other officers in Government, and then they are also expected to report for duty any time of the night. Sometimes, as soon as they reach home, they have to visit the scene of an accident and this may continue for a whole week. They still have to report for duty every morning at the same time; I feel if a person works at night he should have the next day off, or have them work in shifts. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. HOPPIN:
Mr. Speaker, I would like to second it.

Mr. SPEAKER:
I am afraid the hon. member would have to defer his speech until a subsequent meeting of the House. there solution is duly seconded with the right for the hon. member to make his speech. That concludes Private Members, time as arranged.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 5th May at 12.00 noon. In

so moving the adjournment Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind hon. members that we have recently appropriated a sum of money which is to be devoted to the refurbishing and refurnishing of this Chamber; I do not anticipate that all can be done within the time of the recess, but I think that this Chamber - and I hope I speak for all hon. members here present - should make its views more firmly felt, that they should expect to see at least when they come back that the stairway in the northwestern corner has been cut, and that Your Honour's Chair has been moved the other way, and that the new Galleries are there to be occupied. I do not think that the air-conditioning and other things can be done within the period, but hon. members have been looking forward to this for a long time, and I am wondering whether Your Honour may not wish to direct the Clerk to liaise with the proper Government Department to see that the work is started immediately, and that at least the minimum is complete when members re-assemble.

Mr. SPEAKER:

I shall not only so direct, but I shall see that the directions are complied with.

Mr. HINDS:

Mr. Speaker, speaking on the motion adjournment, I would first of all like to ask the Leader of the House if he has any further information on the incidence of food poisoning in our School Meals system, in view of the fact that he promised the House that he was awaiting the Pathological Report and he would let us know.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:

No, I have not so received this Report.

Mr. HINDS:

One other matter, and it is in connection with the signified intention of gasolene stations to put into effect early closing, and of closing on Sundays and Bank Holdays.I am to wonder if the Minister of Trade or the appropriate Minister has given any sort of consideration to the situation to see that the motoring public and the gasolene using pulic is not put to any undue inconvenience.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON:

Mr. Speaker, for the hon. member's information, I have been considering it and in another two days I expect to bring a report to the Cabinet for some definite decision on what to do about it. But I would like to say that this is some-thing that can be easily amended at a high cost to the public, and Government has got to pay great con-sidration to the increase in prices. They are closing because they are not getting what they want as increases in the prices of gasolene.

Mr. SPEAKER:
There will be no discussion on this; the points have been made.

Mr. HINDS:
One other matter; I would like to enquire from the appropriate Minister, the Leader of the House on this occasion, if he has any information on the outbreak of near riot conditions at Lodge School on Tuesday, 17th March this year. I can assist the hon. member in this respect by just stating that on that day there was a football match played at Lodge School between Lodge and Presentation College; supporters of the Presentation team arrived with the team brandishing sticks and other weapons, including knives. However, the game was played and Presentation lost; immediately the Presentation team and their followers started to molest the Lodge team. Things reached a crisis where a knife measuring 2'2" was taken away from a Presentation boy, and when Mr. Crichlow, the Headmaster of Lodge, and members of his staff tried to restore some sort of order on the grounds they were pelted and rudely abused. 5.20 p.m.

I am asking if the Minister has any information about this.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR:
I am afraid not.

Mr. SPEAKER:
I wish hon. members a happy Easter recess.

ADJOURNMENT

The question that the House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 5th May, 1970, at 12 noon was put and resolved in the affirmative uithout division and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

5.22 p.m.