

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION OF 1971 - 76

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 7th December, 1971.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 2.35 p.m. o'clock.

PRESENT

His Honour N. G. A. MAXWELL, LL.B., (*Speaker*); Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Leader of the House*); Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, (*Minister of Health and Welfare*); Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P., (*Chairman of Committees*); Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (*Minister of Agriculture, Science and Technology*); His Honour C. A. E. HOPPIN, (*Deputy Speaker*); Mr. L. S. CRAIG; Mr. ELLIOTT D. MOTTLEY; Hon. F. G. SMITH, Q.C., B.A., (*Minister of Communications and Works*); Hon. P. M. GREAVES, B.A., (*Minister of Housing, Lands, Labour and National Insurance*); and Mr. H. deB. FORDE, M.A., LL.B.

Prayers were read.

Hon. P. G. MORGAN, C. B. E., and Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, O.B.E., entered the Chamber and took their seats.

ANNOUNCEMENT

TELEGRAM FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION *re* DEATH OF SIR GRANTLEY ADAMS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have one announcement to make. It is in the form of a telegram from Mr. Robert Vanderfelt, Secretary General, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association: "I am distressed to learn of the death of Sir Grantley Adams distinguished servant of Parliament and of Barbados and of the Commonwealth Caribbean. Please convey to his son and all to other members of the House of Assembly and Senate my humble sympathy."

PAPERS LAID

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Finance, I am commanded to lay the Customs Duties (Public Officers) Order, 1971.

On behalf of the Prime Minister, I am commanded to lay The Public Officers Loan and Travelling Allowances (Amendment) (No. 3) Regulations, 1971.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay Report and Accounts of the Transport Board for the year ended 30th September, 1970.

Mr. ADAMS entered the Chamber and took his seat.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$1,664 out of the Consolidated Fund, and to place it at the disposal of Government to Supplement the Estimates 1971-72-Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1971-72, No. 18 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

On behalf of the Hon. Prime Minister, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$12,848 out of the Consolidated Fund, and to place it at the disposal of Government to supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1971-72, No. 17, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Mr. HINDS entered the Chamber and took his seat.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$228,930 out of the Consolidated Fund, and to place it at the disposal of Government to Supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1971-72, No. 19, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

On my own behalf, again, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$40,355 out of the Consolidated Fund, and to place it at the disposal of Government to Supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part 1 - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates

1971-72, No. 21, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. P. G. MORGAN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the release of the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation from liability to meet any interest or Capital Instalments due to Government on the loan borrowed by Government from the Bank of Nova Scotia for the said Corporation.

Hon. P.M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Jordans Lane and Jessamy Lane in Bridgetown for the purpose of providing a site for the Construction of Government Offices.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$71,000 out of the Consolidated Fund, and to place it at the disposal of Government to Supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part II - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1971-72, No. 20, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

RESOLUTION OF SYMPATHY *re* SIR GRANTLEY ADAMS

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, before the business of the House is commenced this afternoon, I should like to join with the members of the Other Place and, indeed, with numerous organisations and bodies both here and overseas in paying tribute to the work and memory of the late Sir Grantley Herbert Adams, C.M.G., D.Litt., who was recently called to the great beyond and was accorded a State Funeral by our Prime Minister and the Government of this country on Thursday last, 2nd December, 1971.
2.45 p.m.

The late Sir Grantley Adams distinguished himself in numerous fields of endeavour. Not only was he an outstanding scholar and an eminent lawyer, but he made a very positive and substantial contribution to the social and political life of this country and his work would be remembered and be a landmark in the last stages of Colonialism in Barbados.

Coming as Sir Grantley did, soon after the spade work and the vast political educational programme which was launched by the late Dr. Charles Duncan O'Neal and the Democratic League of that day, Sir Grantley and his colleagues, the late C.A. Brathwaite, M.C.P., the late J. A. Martineau, J.P., the late Dr. Leonard Storey, J.P., the late Dr. Hugh Gordon Cummins, M.D., M.C.P., a former Premier of Barbados, Mr. Herbert Seale, Mr. Dan F. Blackett, Mr. W. Algernon Crawford, M.P., Sir Winston Scott and your humble servant, who was the first General Secretary (to mention a few) - in the Barbados Progressive League and then the Barbados Labour Party in 1938 and onwards, immediately after the riot of July 1937 had taken place, and caused the untimely death of many innocent people, commended the struggle to build a new Barbados.

It was in those difficult and dark days that Sir Grantley appeared on the political scene and to-

gether with his colleagues provided the necessary leadership and organising ability for our people.

The names of the late Clement O. Payne and Fitzgerald "Menzie" Chase should also be recalled; and also of the Martyrs of the Riots of 1937, Olric Grant, Israel Lovell (to mention a few).

Sir Grantley has left his mark in many areas - whether it was before the Moyne Commission in 1939 or at the Colonial Office subsequently to secure full internal self-government, adult suffrage and a Ministerial system - or whether in the setting up of the Barbados Worker's Union, of which he was President for many years, or, as Chairman of the Barbados Labour Party for over thirty years, or as the first and only Prime Minister of the now defunct Federation of the West Indies - his name has gone down in history not only on the local scene, but as a Caribbean Leader and also Internationally.

In those days of deprivation and victimization - the deplorable, wicked and bad days of 1937 to 1944 - fitting tribute should also be paid to the contribution of Sir Grantley's widow, Lady Adams, whose indomitable courage and understanding were always a source of encouragement and inspiration to the late statesman, and without whom he could never have achieved such success and achievements.

I now have the sad duty and privilege on behalf of the Government and people of Barbados of moving this Resolution and ask that Your Honour be pleased to direct that copies be forwarded to his widow and son, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition.

The Resolution reads as follows:

"BE IT RESOLVED that this House place on record its deep sense of sorrow and bereavement on the passing of the late Sir Grantley Herbert Adams, C.M.G., Q.C., D.Litt., a former Premier of this country, a Member of this House of long and illustrious standing, and former Prime Minister of the Federated West Indies."

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. WALCOTT and the Hon. F. G. SMITH rose.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. Michael-West caught my eye first.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, in seconding this Resolution, I think the Hon. Leader of the House and I are the only members of this present Chamber who were here in the 1944-1946 Session, - the Hon. Leader of the House came in here in 1944 and I came in a by-election in 1945 - and I would like to say that at that time all of us came from different parties; he came from the Congress and I was then from the Barbados Labour Party, and in paying tribute to Sir Grantley Adams' memory and work, I think it would be ungracious if other names were not mentioned without in any way detracting from the work of Sir Grantley,

because I am a believer that in politics it is impossible for any single person to do all the work himself, and if there are not faithful and loyal lieutenants, then the work is in vain. I very well remember in the same session a former member the hon. J. B. Springer whose son is now a member of this Chamber, the hon. L. E. Smith whose son is one of the Clerks of the House, the late and lamented A. E. S. Lewis, who was a Deputy Speaker of the House, the late Dr. Cummins, and Mr. Cox who was a Minister in the first Government. It was in this era of 1944 when these men together with Sir Grantley had to lay the foundation for democracy. At that time democracy was still to come because they came to the House of Assembly without the privilege that men and women can now come to the House of Assembly with. Everybody at that time could not vote and there was still a restrictive qualification for membership. This is just an indication to show what has gone on. Historians are not always clear about the facts after twenty or twenty-five years, and I would like to say for the sake of the records so that posterity would know some of the things that have happened in this Chamber and in this Island now that we are paying tribute to Sir Grantley that, as has been stated elsewhere, he was a man who had very great gifts, a man who was born at a time when it was difficult for people like himself to identify themselves with the masses, and in joining with the Leader of the House in remembering men like Chase, Grant and others, I would like to go on record as saying today that people of this country still do not pay enough credit to the masses and the men of the masses. Sometimes they pay more credit to those who pick the fruits from what the masses themselves have created. These were the men who braved it; they were not afraid of prison and went to prison, no special encomiums were paid to them; some of them died the death of dishonourable men; some of them died near to the public institutions and were not remembered. Notwithstanding that, history must record that these were the men who took it upon themselves without any aid or assistance to make it known that they intended to make democracy a reality in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that Sir Grantley was at that time the leading politician in the Island and there was no other alternative for a man who identified himself with the masses but to join forces with him.
2.55 p.m.

It is for that that we pay tribute today to him for the work he has done. "We praise him for the identification he showed with the masses despite the difficulties inherent in such action in those days, we know too that in these days there are and can be no such problems for anyone who wishes to identify himself with the masses because if you do not identify yourself with the masses today it is very difficult to reach this Chamber - and I would not like to play the role of a hypocrite in praising a man when he is dead, I worked with him I believe as closely as anyone else in this House and closer than many. I believe the only other person who has worked more closely with him is the Leader of the House, but I have worked with him for a long time and our relationship has been one in the cause for the advancement of the masses of this

country. Though our relationship and friendship were severed, I do not think it incumbent upon myself to explain why that relationship was severed, as I feel my own personal integrity is such that it stands above explanation to anyone and is a matter unto myself, and even at this stage now he is dead I do not consider it necessary for me to explain to anyone.

I think that all of us in public life at some time or other must make decisions, and in making a decision I am happy today that I can speak here without any feeling of rancour or bitterness, because it is not necessary for me to be a bitter man. I would like to join with the Leader of the House in paying special tribute to his widow, Lady Adams. She has been a very loyal and faithful companion and she has been associated with the cause he was pursuing all these years. He was a very fortunate man, these wives do not come every day and a man in public life who at times appears to have forsaken one of his major responsibilities, the responsibility to his family and at the same time to find a wife who is steadfast in the cause, this is something you must pay special tribute to, and I have found throughout the years that Lady Adams was always willing and ready to assist the cause her husband took up and I feel a special tribute should be paid to her for these long and faithful years.

Mr. Speaker, historians will have to do the job of writing the history of Sir Grantley, I am here to join in the tribute that has been paid by the Hon. Leader of the House. I do not think it is for us to say more or less than the work he has done as to enable the forces of democracy to come forth, and I do not think it is necessary at this stage even to record his early political history, that is well known, I think it is necessary to state that when he pursued the cause on behalf of the working classes of this country he did it with a force of eloquence that has brought success to the cause of the masses. As I said elsewhere, he was not without mistakes, I am not a historian and I do not think anyone was born yet who has not made a mistake on the road to political power and for the purpose of political power. The temptation of political power is great, and sometimes a man feels he must remove all obstacles or would-be obstacles in pursuit of this power. He was one of those persons and therefore we do not lay too much blame on him for that human frailty. I would like to say I cannot share the views of others who feel he was a man without faults, I would like to state that in seconding this Resolution, now that the Government and the Minister have stated that a Committee has been formed to make some appropriate gesture to his memory, I hope that those persons who go into it will think of something not in the old fashioned, bogus, nonsensical way that people think, that the only way you can refer to a person's memory is by sticking up something that somebody can throw at sometimes when an angry mob is there, but something that is more tangible and valuable to the future and to posterity, so that people can learn from it as the years go by, and not merely the repetition of substituting one piece of old iron for another piece of old iron as a memory to a person. I am not suggesting what should be done, but

I feel that if you want a person whose life has been dedicated to the masses to be remembered - the masses are alert today - we are not looking for old iron, we are looking forward to things which will perpetuate the memory of people by widening the boundaries of knowledge and making it easier for those who come afterwards not to make the same mistakes we have made. In so doing, it is a pleasure for me to second this Resolution, and I feel sure that on an occasion like this there is no difference between the two sides.
3.05 p.m.

There is no question of Opposition and Government on an occasion like this because, fortunately, we are paying tribute today to one thing that is the great leveller of all human beings and, sooner or later, whenever it comes that is the price we have to pay for being alive.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, apart from the Hon. Leader of the House and the hon. member for St. Michael West, perhaps, on this side of the Table I am the only other person who has had a very long association with the late Sir Grantley Adams. My association with him starts from 1948 at which time he was President of the Barbados Workers' Union and I, at that time, volunteered to run classes for the Union's Secretaries at the building in Fairchild Street. As a matter of fact, one of the happiest memories of my days in studying law was the drives Sir Grantley and I had on our way to Oxford when he used to come over to Geneva quite often to attend the International Labour Organisation Conferences. In those days his bags used to be kept in the little, humble flat which I, as a poor student, then occupied.

On an occasion such as this, Mr. Speaker, those who have been intimately connected with him and those who have followed his career with interest have paid tribute to Sir Grantley Adams, and anything I may say on this occasion will only be a repetition of the hundreds of thousands of words and of sermons that have been preached in paying tribute to this Barbadian patriot. I believe in democracy, and I have always felt that, if the people of this country can support and keep in Parliament for a period of 24 years, in the first instance, and after a break when Sir Grantley went to the Federal Government he can be returned to Parliament and can voluntarily resign at his own will and choice, then the fact that the people have put him in this House and the fact that the people have enabled him to form a Government from time to time in a democratic sense must indicate that the contributions which he has made were sufficient to justify that confidence.

I am today paying tribute to him as a Parliamentarian, because I think in this House at the moment, perhaps, I am one of the few members who share with Sir Grantley the right of having resigned voluntarily and being able to return to this House. I shall not say very much more, Mr. Speaker, because, as I have said, his work and his contribution to Barbados will stand for all time. The hon. member for St. Michael West was quite right when he said that Sir Grantley was a man not without fault, but which of us in public

life can cast the first stone? Which of us can, honestly, say that, as the hon. member has said, on the way to political power some mistake has not been made? I am paying tribute, Mr. Speaker, to a man who has made his contribution to the country he loved and to the country I love, and may he rest in peace.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, unlike the three hon. Gentlemen who spoke last, I am not in a position to speak at any great length of a very long association with the late Sir Grantley Adams. I can only speak about just over the past 10 years. I first met Sir Grantley at a party in 1950 at the home of the late Clarence Bushell, who was then one of the men in the forefront of the business of trade unionism. What immediately impressed me, to my mind, as a younger man and seeing him as a big man, was his very humble and simple approach to things. When he was questioned by a friend of mine by the name of Frank Taylor and myself as to the meaning of Federation - only a week or so before we questioned him I had read in the newspapers about federation, but I did not understand what it was all about at the time - in a very simple way he said to us: "It would mean one people; one destiny."

As a lawyer, I can only go by what I have heard. I was told that he was an outstanding barrister. As a journalist, I can only go by what I have also heard and read: He was also an outstanding journalist. As a politician, my association with him has only been for that last 10 years, and this came about in 1961 in the Market Square when there was a hostile crowd chanting: "We want Sir Grantley." I felt that the crowd was in favour of hearing Sir Grantley, and I joined in chanting: "We want Sir Grantley." When Sir Grantley was introduced, the angry crowd started to sing: "Abide with me." I turned to my wife and said that if there was one thing that I should try to do before I died it was to help restore this great man's image.

I joined my present party, which now forms the Opposition ^{two} ten years after it lost the Government, because I had set out on the path to help restore the man's image. I worked with him as a member of the National Executive Committee of my party. Even in those years, which I would term the evening of his years, he always had a charm and was able to command his forces and hold them together. In the Election of 1966, after he had returned from the now defunct Federation, and the days grew older during the campaign Sir Grantley looked stronger. I came to the conclusion at that point that politics was part and parcel of his life. He rallied through that election and became the Leader of the Opposition. Even when people might have thought that he was fading, there was still something about him as a leader that, even though you had disagreed with him on any particular point, there was always that inclination to give in. That is one of the qualities of any leader.

3.15 p.m.

Let us not overlook that it would be impossible for leaders from all the Caribbean territories and as far north as the White House and the Prime Minister of Canada and other present-day statesmen to

of the late Sir Grantley Adams. He has been a great man. I do not think, Sir, of us in here could say that he made a valuable contribution to his country and the West Indies. Some of us may have had a different opinion during his life time, but we are entitled to this, and as the hon. member for Michael-West said no one of us is without misgivings. I can only say in paying tribute to his work that he has left a landmark which no one can remove from the pages of history, and that no living Barbadian will ever reach the political heights of the late Sir Grantley Adams.

I recall, Sir, the Leader of the House on one occasion saying that Sir Grantley Adams is responsible for all of us in this Chamber. I will always remember those words, and I think no one would have been in a better position to say something of that nature than the Leader of the House because of his very close association with Sir Grantley. I have been for the past five years and a few months a representative for the parish of St. James which is basically an agricultural district, and it is only when you sit down and talk to old-timers of the dark days when they come to see you in particular about the Provident Fund that one can then understand and recognise why he was such a loved man. There is a younger brigade on the scene and only the history books can tell them what his real contribution was in this country and in the West Indies. To his widow, I can only associate myself with the remarks made by the three hon. members who spoke before me. She must have been and probably still is a woman of very strong character and a wonderful woman to have gone through such dark days and across rugged paths to stand side by side with him in the struggle.

After hearing tributes paid and reading telegrams coming in, I can only conclude that he must have been a noble man who fought a noble battle for a noble people, and I sincerely wish that whatever there is to perpetuate his name would be something as lasting as his work has been. I am in very close contact with his son and I have already expressed my sympathies to him. What is fitting, I think, would be the lines -

"For when the one great scorer comes to write against his name,
He'll ask not how he won or lost, but how he played the game."

Mr. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, as one of the youngest members of this House, I think it is fitting that I should join the other members in paying a brief tribute to the name and to the honour and glory of one of Barbados' greatest men. You will recall, Mr. Speaker, that a few weeks ago on a Resolution in this House I said that Barbados should honour its great men by its own system of honours, and in that speech, Mr. Speaker, I hardly thought I was foretelling events to come when I tacked the name of Sir Grantley Adams with the others who have gone not only out of this House, but had gone out of this world, leaving their footprints in the sands of time; and yet

within a few weeks we are here almost all of us paying respects to mortal remains of Sir Grantley Adams, but paying respect to this great country of ours which has nurtured him and which has given him the opportunity to serve it for the fullness of his life.

I do not wish Mr. Speaker, to recall in detail his contribution as a Trade Unionist, his contribution as a legal luminary, his contribution as a politician, his contribution as a family man, or his contribution as one who has devoted his time exclusively to the masses of this country. I wish, however, particularly on this occasion to stress and draw as I think he would wish us to stress and draw certain guidelines for our nation, and the first guideline which I think his life teaches us is that no matter how big we are in our own right, no matter how powerful we may imagine we are for the short time we are alive in this country and in this world, yet the greatest wisdom that we can achieve is the wisdom of humility. Humility is endless. Sir Grantley was an humble man despite the hours of glory where he sat with kings and queens, whether he was all-powerful in his country as its Premier and in the West Indies as the only Prime Minister of a Federation which it hurts many of us has regrettably failed; yet he saw fit to come back to his country and to this House and to sit as most of us will probably leave this House only sitting as backbenchers or a member of the Opposition. In this respect those of us in this country regardless of whether we are the governors or the governed must pay tribute to a man who was so humble despite the greatness which he had achieved.

There is a second lesson which I think many of us in public life should bear in mind. Sir Grantley was a cohesive force despite the fact that he had to fight forces which were against the masses of this country, and I think it is another way of saying what the hon. member for St. Michael-West has said.

3.25 p.m.

His early times were times that he could have turned his back, if he so chose, on all other than himself, but selflessly he came forward in the process for which he has achieved glory by making the necessary sacrifices. It is one of the lessons which our young people could learn. There is a third lesson also. He was a man who fought a cause not only because he believed in it and not merely because he wanted fame, he fought the cause because of convictions, and even when in his lifetime he did not achieve, he has yet left a landmark that those of us who believed steadfastly in this faith can follow, and I think generations of West Indians yet unborn will sing in future his praises, when in time to come the last vestiges of colonialism are removed from the West Indies and we no longer have semi-independent States and a few independent States plugging on in their limited ways, we can join our hands across the Caribbean Sea and embrace our brothers and sisters regardless of their creed, colour or race in a true bond of West Indian friendship and unity. This was his goal, this was his

dream and it is a dream that many of us are wedded to making become a reality, and in his memory if we should achieve it in the lifetime of those of us in this House, Mr. Speaker, Sir Grantley's memory will be more honoured than in any other way.

I feel sad of course to see that he has gone, as any young man in this country should feel sad that he has gone, but I rest in the knowledge that he has fought hard, he has fought selflessly, he has fought with others whose praises may not have been sung as strongly in their time as they should have been sung, and I am sure Sir Grantley was so big a man that were he here he would take it as no mean tribute to his fame and achievement that others should on this occasion be remembered, that others who should have been remembered, people who have passed on a long time ago could be remembered on this occasion. Sir Grantley would say "if in my death I have again asked some of you kindly to recall the passing of the masses, then I think I have achieved what I should have done."

I am sure that each of us in this House ought to feel sorry at his passing but we should take courage that within the House and within our country there are people who follow in his footsteps and who themselves should be able to carry on some of the work which he has started and to achieve some of the things which he did not achieve through the shortness of this mortal life. I join in expressing my sympathy to his family and particularly to his widow whose graciousness, dedication and selflessness is an example for the women of Barbados, and indeed the women in the West Indies in general.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, it falls but seldom to the Leader of the Opposition to have to rise to take part in a Resolution of tribute to his father and of sympathy towards the family of which he forms a part, but I thank God that it has been given to me to be in this position today because in all the years in which I was in contact with my father, the late Sir Grantley Adams, I think it is safe for me to say that love and admiration competed together to the exclusion of any other emotions during the present 40 years of my existence. As hon. members will know, I was his only child and though politics is a great consumer of time which other men give to their families, with Sir Grantley politics and his family during my days, certainly of remembering myself, were so much his life that my mother and myself I believe had as full as possible a share of his company, his attention, his example and his outlook towards the moral, social and political problems of our time as we could reasonably have asked.

Others have said today that Sir Grantley was a humble man, how humble perhaps none but his family could ever tell. He was a man of no slight intellectual attainment, he was a man at every stage of his life who stood out from his fellowmen, those who were at school with him and who speak of him now I believe are not and have not in the past sought to flatter us in his family and his friends when they tell us they remember him at school for this, that or the other achievement. He was a man who never particularly

promoted himself for his own sake. I never in conversation, and perhaps less from the Press of his youth or certainly many of us who have achieved less reception would include myself among those, we come little in days when we are held out as politicians to public as persons to admire; when Grantley Adams was a young man and a graduate recently returned to Barbados, and as a barrister, it was not the case that he was immediately held up to the public of Barbados as a person to be particularly placed in the forefront of the people's admiration. As an undergraduate, I think it safe to say that he had received the approbation of his fellows at one of the two leading Universities in the world. It is seldom known that he was the President of the Student Body of his own College, he was a captain of cricket at his college, and these are things which I know he valued although, as I say, he never advertised a great deal, his interest in undergraduates was varied. Perhaps it was never known he was a prize winner in theological law; I daresay this is one aspect of his career which must surely be a closed book to most of us who think that we know most about the lives of public men. His contemporaries at Oxford of whom he has occasionally spoken to me were, among other persons who have become eminent leaders in politics, Mr. Norman Manley, Mr. Bandaranaike, late Prime Minister of Ceylon, Mr. Anthony Eden, in the days when there were conditions that made the University in those years a forging ground for political leaders both of Britain and of the then colonies. He was as interested in his associations with such persons in the cricketing field as Douglas Jardine and Robertson Glasgow as he was in his association with persons who became eminent politicians. These were parts of his private life which he always, I think, wanted to remain private because as a politician I think it fair to say that he held himself out to the people of Barbados on a basis of political promise and then political achievement.

3.35 p.m.

I think he always advertised himself as a politician, and this is how we will, certainly, judge him in this House.

I spoke of Sir Grantley's attitude towards moral and social affairs. I do not believe that I will ever know, in my life, a man to whom what I call the ordinary principles of morality, the importance of telling the truth, of straight dealing, and of kindness wherever possible were more important. Hon. members in here may be surprised if I tell them I can say, from the bottom of my heart, that I have never heard Sir Grantley say that he disliked anyone far less use a word as strong as hatred. His bitterest political opponent in private, Sir Grantley would not be found to say that man is evil, that man is wicked, or I do not like that man. I have never heard him express dislike of a fellow creature at any time.

There are a number of moral precepts which I have taken from him and which I will try to follow as, indeed, I have tried to follow them all my life. Sir Grantley, perhaps, was a reserved man. There are many things that he found it difficult to say that

would have smoothed his political path, if he had made it possible to say them. I think, particularly, of the hon. member for St. Michael West whose seconding of the Resolution I may say I much appreciate in the circumstances. I remember an occasion when Sir Grantley and I were in England. He was in England and I was then resident there, and we received some ill news about the affairs of the Barbados Workers' Union and about persons who were then hostile to the then General Secretary. I remember Sir Grantley packing up his bags and his affairs at a moment's notice, so to speak, to come back. I was told that he went straight from the Airport to a meeting at the Barbados Workers' Union Headquarters to make it clear that the loyalty with which he always supported subordinates would be exercised upon that occasion.

I may mention for my mother and myself that we much appreciate the kindness shown to us and the good wishes expressed to us in the last few days by many members of this Honourable House and of the Other Chamber and persons, indeed, no longer in private life. Before I extend that, I should like to mention, not by name but by constituency, the hon. member for St. Michael South Central because this will be unknown to him, but I think one of the last letters which Sir Grantley received before his fatal illness during which he did not recover consciousness was one from the hon. member for St. Michael South Central congratulating him upon the award of an honorary degree from the University of the West Indies, and I may say that he much appreciated it.

Sir Grantley's interest in politics remained undiminished right up to the very day before his illness because he was making collections of newspaper cuttings even up to that stage about the House of Assembly and filing them away in a filing system which he was expanding on the occasion of his retirement.

I would like to thank, Mr. Speaker, all the members of this Honourable House for their kindness at this time. I would like to thank Senator Tudor, who gave the greatest possible assistance in connection with the funeral of Sir Grantley and the arrangements for it. I would like to thank the Prime Minister who, within half an hour of Sir Grantley's death, was kind enough to try to get in touch with my mother and then he got in touch with myself and offered all assistance in dealing with the State Funeral, and invited me to speak to Senator Tudor to work out all the arrangements. I should mention that, when there appeared to be difficulties at a later stage, the Prime Minister was also kind enough to telephone, again, and offer such further assistance as might be necessary.

There are other Ministers who have expressed their condolence and their sympathy: The hon. member for St. Andrew, the hon. member for St. Michael South-West, the hon. member for Christ Church East, one of my father's friends in politics, a political associate, I believe, for well over forty

years and a person of whom my father always spoke of the highest regard indeed I can almost say in private as well as in public but, certainly, in private.

I would like to thank all members of the House who attended the funeral, and may say that I much regret, indeed, that the Prime Minister was unable to come. I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all those members of the public who supported the State Funeral of Sir Grantley. I should say as well that I believe that is what he wanted. He was a humble man, but I think he was a man who believed in giving credit where credit was due. I have every reason to believe that he would have appreciated the knowledge that a State Funeral and burial in St. Michael's Cathedral was the tribute which the Government of Barbados decided to pay to him after his death.

Sir Grantley did not die at a great age; he came from a relatively short-lived family, and his three score and 13 years represented, indeed, the longest span that any male member of his family has ever lived. With the hon. member for St. James, I can say that I believe that politics, his interest in politics, his re-election to the House in 1966 was one of the things which gave him fresh hope and fresh interest after the failure of the West Indies Federation about which he felt so strongly.

Mr. Speaker, I can only end by saying that, as Leader of the Opposition, I join in this Resolution and, as a faithful and devoted son, I much appreciate what hon. members have said today on this occasion. 3.45 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: Before putting this Resolution to the House, I would like to recall that when I myself was not a member of this House, but simply attended sittings of this Honourable House, I quite frequently remember Sir Grantley's insistence on order in the Chamber and to the maintenance of very high standards of debate and that to me as the present incumbent of this Chair, is very significant indeed.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: I shall see that the Resolution is conveyed properly to the widow of the late Sir Grantley Adams.

As a token to his memory, the memory of a man who for many many years represented the constituency of St. Joseph, I will ask all hon. members to stand and observe two minutes' silence.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Government business be now taken.

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

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

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

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

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

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: The first Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House, and it is to move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the Service of the Island.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1971-72 No. 14

Head 16(1) Office of the Prime Minister - Cabinet was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in moving the passing of Head 16 (1) - Office of the Prime Minister - Cabinet - hon. members will be aware that a new Ministry of State has been set up and this is merely to make provision for various items of furniture for that office and also an amount of \$785 for office expenses.

I beg to move that Head 16 (1) - Office of the Prime Minister - Cabinet - stand part.

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

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

Head 35 - Waterworks - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in moving the passing of Head 35 - Waterworks, probably the appropriate Minister will want to deal with this. There are several items. In so far as our time is concerned a team of consultants under the joint offices of PAHO and the Government of Barbados have undertaken a study of the Waterworks Department, and included in the study are the accounting procedures. As a

result of this study, it is proposed to computerize the accounts of the Department with effect from 1st January, 1972. A prerequisite of this computerization is that the accounts should be brought up to date, and for that we need this amount of overtime.

Under item 36 - Maintenance of vehicles - an amount of \$28,210 has been provided in the Estimates under this item to meet the cost of maintenance and insurance of the department's vehicles including bicycles. Provision has also been included to purchase new bicycles. The total expenditure under this item to the end of September, 1971, is \$21,601, leaving a balance of \$6,609 available. This amount of \$9,857 is now needed.

Again in the case of travelling, an amount of \$30,000 was provided under this item to pay officers who were required to travel. The total expenditure to the end of September, 1971, is \$21,074 leaving \$8,926 available. Since the beginning of the financial year, the following categories of workmen have been included in the First to Fourth Schedules to the Public Officers' Loan and Travelling Regulations: road meter readers, inspectors, district foremen, district workmen etc. There are more people in that category, but the Minister may want to continue the explanations if necessary.

I beg to move that Head 35 - Waterworks - stand part.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, the Addendum as set out clearly explains the position of the Ministry, and if hon. members wish any further information, I will be willing to give it.

I beg to second the motion.

Mrs. EASTMOND entered the House and took her seat.

Mr. E. E. GREAVES: Mr. Chairman, there are a couple of points which I would like to raise under this Head. Firstly, I must say that we are indeed very glad to see that Government has taken the opportunity to increase the efficiency of the Waterworks Department particularly from the point of view of the collection of rates. I am sure that there are a lot of water rates which have been lagging behind in collection because of the inefficiency which existed in the office particularly in the method of the collection of these rates, and this to me is a very welcome move on the part of Government.

3.55 p.m.

There are two matters I would like to raise under this Head. It has been drawn to my attention Mr. Chairman, that it is extremely difficult for people who are in need and who would like to instal water on their premises to get this water installed within a reasonable time. My information is that right now it takes something like well over six months to get this water installed. I was checking on behalf of one of my constituents who made an application in June and I was told by the Waterworks De-

partment that they are about four months behind hand in the provision of even the estimates for the installation of this water. To me this is a situation which needs immediate action, and I think therefore that it is incumbent on the Government to ensure that adequate provision is made and the appropriate steps are taken to ensure that water is installed when people make applications as soon as possible, because you have to realise that water is one of these facilities which go towards making a decent life and which everybody would like to have as soon as possible, and I think that this something which should be looked into as quickly as possible.

The other point, Mr. Chairman, which I should like to raise relates to my constituency, St. Lucy, and for some time now there has been some talk of the construction of a reservoir at Half Acre in St. Lucy particularly to supply and to upgrade the the supply of water to that part of St. Lucy, and even before the experience which we are going through now from the dry spell, there has been considerable difficulty in some areas, particularly, Josey Hill, and Alexandria, in obtaining an adequate supply of water particularly at the peak hours, and I am sure that all my constituents will indeed be happy if the Government would speed up the construction of this reservoir so that the area can be well served.

Mr. HENDS: Mr. Chairman, I believe that the Government has come here today expecting hon. members, particularly on this side of the House, to gloss over this Resolution and be caught up by the suggestion that they are going to computerise the accounts at the Waterworks Department. Our view is not so much with the accounts at the Waterworks Department, it hinges more on (a) administration and (b) on a point which the Hon. member for St. Lucy raised, people not being able to get adequate supplies of water. As for computerising the accounts, I want to make it abundantly clear to the Government that computerising the accounts can mean absolutely nothing at all, for the simple reason that all that is going to come out of the computer has got to be fed into it first, and if accurate information is not fed into the computer you cannot have accurate information coming out to assist the waterworks Department in its accounting problems. We have been told here in this Addendum that during the past few weeks or months as a prerequisite to bringing this computerisation into effect it has been found absolutely necessary to bring the whole accounts up to date. Government, Mr. Chairman, has been using the same old staff to bring these accounts up to date, working them overtime. If you can use your staff overtime and get your accounts up to date half of your problem so to speak ought to end there; you should then carry out your enquiry at that point to see if you need additional staff to keep your accounting procedures up to date from the point where your old staff, working overtime, has been able to bring them. You will find, Mr. Chairman, even Government Departments have not received up to date accounts from the Waterworks Department for three years, they have received bills for water that has been used for three years

or for some little plumbing job, in one case after the job was completed three years and eight months, to be exact. Something is wrong with the administration and we cannot fool ourselves.

We appreciate the fact that an examination by PAHO or by any other body can in itself bring about a vast change, however temporary, in the administration of the Waterworks Department, but if all the other problems are going to remain we are getting absolutely nowhere. There are something in the region of 44 thousand subscribers to the Waterworks Department, and what one has got to bear in mind is this, that you have only got to send out four bills per year per account, because the bills are sent out quarterly.

4.05 p.m.

Now, I understand that certain staff at the Waterworks Department can find nothing to do until the end of a quarter. In other words, from the first week in the second quarter they begin to work on the bills of the past quarter, when it comes to the question of sending out bills. That is the system that has been in operation, Sir. If one were to try to investigate the operations of the Waterworks Department, it will be discovered that it is felt that, if work is done before the first week of the beginning of the second quarter, confusion will be caused by certain persons coming in and making payments and that persons who pay their bills during the last week of the previous quarter will still be receiving bills showing arrears although the bills have already been paid. What is wrong, Sir? If that were true it would not be so bad, because I am sure that any business hours in Bridgetown could easily find a remedy for it. It is known that several persons pay their bills quarter after quarter; they do not owe the Waterworks Department for any quarter, but in a two-year period they still get bills showing an amount of arrears. What can be wrong in this matter?

Mr. Chairman, I have been made to understand that when we start computerising the accounts, it is expected that bills will be sent out to customers or subscribers during the first month of each quarter. That is what is being aimed at. We must admit that we have a computer in the Island; it costs a lot of money, and work will have to be found for it. If it can be used effectively to bring about an improvement in the sending out of bills from the Waterworks Department we will be glad to hear about it, but if it is only to ensure that the bills are sent out during the first month of any quarter, then I do not consider that to be any achievement on the part of the computer.

Now, the Waterworks Department has numerous problems on its hands. We have before us a Resolution for money for the maintenance of vehicles. We are now asked for another \$9,857 to carry on things to the end of the financial year. It would be interesting, Mr. Chairman, to learn from the Waterworks Department what is really creating the problem of this high expenditure for the upkeep of its vehicles. I am sure we will learn that it is costing the Water-

works Department much more money to have its vehicles serviced by the Ministry of Communications and Works than to have the work done privately, because there are certain unauthorised operations that take place at the workshop of the Ministry of Communications and Works which have been costing the Waterworks Department very considerable sums of money. Now, a vehicle is sent to M. C. & W. to have certain repairs done; it is checked and a list is made for the parts required, but after these parts have been acquired a second list is then submitted, but there is no evidence that the parts ordered by the first list have gone near the vehicle for which they were ordered. This is something that makes it extremely difficult for the Waterworks Department or any other Department that has to send its vehicles to the Ministry of Communications and Works to have them checked and serviced. If there is any means of having something done about this matter, I should like to see the Minister do something about it.

Mr. Chairman, the Waterworks Department has been known to send a Land Rover to the Ministry of Communications and Works for repairs; parts from the Land Rover were put in the rain for many days; the Department was told that it was necessary to obtain new parts, but the parts could not be obtained in Bridgetown; however, when an attempt was made to look for the parts that were put in the rain they could not be found. They may have been put in the rain in order to make somebody believe that they were discarded. That is the type of thing that must carry up the cost of the maintenance of vehicles, and we do not like to see it.

With regard to the water services, I agree, Mr. Chairman, that the waiting period in many cases is far too long when applications are made for domestic services, but I have heard on the Floor of this House that the Department is not suffering from any shortage of plumbers.
4.15 p.m.

I have heard on the floor of this House that the Department is really not suffering from any shortage of plumbers. I think you, Mr. Chairman, once gave me the shock of life when I had information to the contrary by telling me that the Department was not suffering from any shortage of plumbers. Now if you are not suffering from shortage of plumbers and you are not suffering because of a shortage of material, what is the delay in having the services connected up to people's homes? People make their applications and pay the deposits that are demanded of them. What could be wrong in such cases? This to my mind needs an investigation, and as soon as the Minister can have this investigated, the better it would be for all concerned. I would like the Minister at the same time to have a general look at those areas that are still being supplied by lorries. This is not the crop season and it is a shocking state of affairs to have water being supplied to any part of Barbados in tanks by motor lorry. I speak, Sir, with special reference to Mount No. 1 and Mount No. 2 at St. Peter. You can well go there and find that there

are a number of standpipes and all they can offer you is hot air. I would like the Minister to see if it is humanly possible to have something done in such a case. I believe, Sir, that a reservoir could be provided at Mount and along Highway 1 a booster could be placed to push the water up the hill to the reservoir so that the people could be served. There are lots of things which we are told are big engineering projects which in truth and in fact when tackled boldly cease to be as great a problem as we have been led to believe for five or six years and maybe more, and I am sure we now have a Minister with the amount of drive within him to get some of these things done.

Under Item 42 - Refunds - the note says that refunds for consumers in respect of amounts over-deposited in respect of services laid have shown an unexpected increase. I understand this is a case where upon application being made, it is not always possible to visit the site in question before an estimate is given, but some sort of approximation might be given to the applicant whereupon he makes a deposit, and it depends in many cases whether the applicant can satisfy the department as to which side of the highway the main for tapping really is, and that in itself reduces much of the cost because when you do not have to cross from one side of the road to the other, that effects a saving in respect of the actual work to be done in the laying of a particular service. If a person happens to make a deposit or pay a bill and when the work is executed it is found that it did not cost what the estimate was, a refund comes about in such a case.

The note also says, Mr. Chairman, that in addition some deposits for work to be done were later withdrawn. I would like to hear an explanation from the Minister or the Leader of the House in connection with that point, and I believe that after I have heard that, I might be able to say something further on the point if necessary.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I shall be very brief. As the hon. member knows quite well, the Waterworks Department is moving to a new building in the Pine, I hope, in the new year where there will be not only facilities for staff but accommodation for the minimum required standards for efficient work in the Department. We have just had a team of experts who have submitted a report which is being studied by my Ministry, and one of the recommendations is that we should computerize the accounts from 1st January, 1972. In order to start with a clean sheet, we are endeavouring as far as humanly possible to clear up the billing of the old accounts. I must confess that this whole question on billing of the accounts of the Waterworks is a matter of concern to me, and I am keeping a constant watch as to the best method of getting for the Government the revenue which it does and the hon. member for St. Peter need not think that this matter is of more concern to him than to the Government because non-payment of money from the Waterworks Department into the Treasury of this country places a greater strain on the Ministry of Finance to find the where-withal for the carrying out of government's

programme. I am looking into this matter. I have had discussions with the Chief Engineer, and I think we will not see an immediate improvement until we have moved to more commodious quarters at the Pine. We hope to get the building ready for occupation by the end of the year. It is a hope which I hope will be realised. When this is done, I suspect and have every reason to believe that in the new year we shall see not only a more efficient method of billing, but a quicker collection of Government revenue.

To deal with the matter raised by the hon. member for St. Lucy, what has been holding up the construction of the reservoir was a matter of land acquisition. As a matter of fact, I think hon. members know that within the last week my Ministry has taken on at least 140 additional workers to clean gutters and drains and had the matter of construction and the matter of land acquisition been done, the Ministry was hoping to start the reservoir in St. Lucy as a continuation project as we have just finished another reservoir in Christ Church. I do hope that in a very short time we can start the construction of this reservoir in St. Lucy which is likely to improve the water supply in the northern parishes.

With regard to the vehicles, I would prefer if the hon. member for St. Peter would tell the employees at the Ministry of Communications and Works who give him this information to give this information to the Minister, because it is alarming that people who work in a Ministry can carry out information not only of defalcation and outright larceny, but of deliberate sabotage in a Ministry, and that they have the confidence to run to a member of Parliament when the Minister is only too willing to hear of misdeeds and negligence in his Ministry. I think I can say that I am one Minister who is accessible to any taxpayer twenty-four hours a day even if it works me hard. You do not have to make any appointment. You can see me if it is a matter of Government business; not only my constituents, but anybody who has a genuine cause of complaint against any section of my Ministry; so I would ask him to tell the people in the Ministry of Communications and Works for the future that the Minister is willing to investigate any defalcation or any act of negligence or sabotage which is brought to his attention.

4.25 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I am not to blame if these people prefer to come to me rather than go to the Minister; it is not my fault.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: I am certainly not going to take up my position outside the doors of the workshop down the road, although it is in close proximity, but I would like the hon. member in addition to be more specific in the charges which he makes against my department. To only mention parts being put outside the workshop in the rain is an accusation which calls for more specific description as to dates, places and even numbers of vehicles. I do not think there is anything more I can say on this Resolution, but it is amazing to find the applications for private development that are increasing, and we cannot just

pick up any plumber and put him to do this work. We discussed that when we were doing the whole water main laying programme on Bay Street and all along the south coast. Every plumber is not qualified to lay down the type of pipes which the plumbers who have had specialist training and who have been doing it all the years possess. You cannot just pick up any plumber and send him to do the work which these people are doing, this is a specialist type of work even although it is called plumbing, and we have a specialist staff who are doing this type of work.

I think I can say boldly that I am very happy at the cooperation and work which the workmen gave the Government in laying down that pipe all along the road. They were ahead of time, except for one or two breaks like the one we had last Sunday morning, but the increase for plumbing before Parliament now is due to the fact that we are about 600 water services behind hand and we are looking into the question of speeding up the requests for water. We are very pleased to see that people are putting it in their homes, and we are doing everything possible but it is a question of time, a question of change of staff, and I think you will see as soon as we have moved to more commodious premises a marked improvement in the execution of work. The new year, I can assure the hon. members of this House, will see an improvement which will be perfectly stunning.

On the question of plumbing, on the question of water services, on the question of the reservoir, on the question of building, I think you can see an improvement soon. I have only been in the Ministry two months, so all the criticisms you have made are not against me, it will take me some time to find out what are the causes of this dissatisfaction and when this is done they will be remedied.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the Minister said that the unpaid money that is due to Government is a great cause for concern, and I wonder if he can tell us exactly how much money is outstanding, and I believe he will be willing to tell us if there has been a change of Government policy as regards the water meters.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: First things first, Mr. Chairman. I myself have asked for the information as to the total amount of arrears, therefore I am not in possession of it at the moment. Secondly, the question of meters does not arise in the Resolution and I have no intention of answering it.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, it is all right for the Minister to say that water meters do not arise in the Resolution, we are discussing money for the Waterworks Department.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I cannot agree in this instance with the hon. member for St. Peter. I feel you have the prerogative in this Chamber to ask a question, if the information you seek is not there, in order to get that information.

Mr. HINDS: That is what I have done, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Not now.

The question that Head 35 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head 37 - Ministry of Education - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 37 stand part. The notes are very explanatory and the Hon. Minister of Education will give any additional information that is requested.

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

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The question has already been put.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 37 be recommitted.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I beg to second that.

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

NOES: Hon'bles: C.E. TALMA; G.G. FERGUSON; A. DaC. EDWARDS; L. E. SANDIFORD; F. G. SMITH; and P. G. MORGAN; Messrs. C. A. E. HOPPIN and E. E. GREAVES; Mrs. G. L. EASTMOND - 9.

AYES: Messrs. E. D. MOTTLEY; H. deB. FORDE and W. C. B. HINDS - 3.

Head 42 - Queen Elizabeth Hospital - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 42 stand part. In so doing, again the notes are very explanatory and if there are any other explanations the Minister of Health and Welfare will supply that information.

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

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, it seems as if hon. members cannot even get on their feet.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like the hon. member to understand that from the moment a Head is moved it is my duty to put the question. It is your duty to get on your feet, and let me see you on your feet, or I will put the question that the Head be passed.
4.35 p.m.

I cannot argue with the Chairman. Mr. Chairman, we go to Item 77 - Hospital Engineer. We are asked to vote the sum of \$1,255 in respect of a Hospital Engineer. I want to know from the appropriate Min-

ister if the post of Hospital Engineer was ever advertised; who was appointed Hospital Engineer when the advertisement appeared; how many applications were received; when was it advertised, and I am particularly interested in knowing how many Barbadians, who have gone abroad and have studied, have been given an opportunity to apply for the post. I think, Mr. Chairman, I can give the Minister an opportunity to reply.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I think the question raised by the hon. member as to the number of applications received is out of order. The hon. member knows very well that the Hospital is run as a direct Government Department and that the applications are addressed to the Public Service Commission. No Minister has any access to the applications made to the Public Service Commission. The Minister is responsible for administration and not for personnel. The Minister is not in a position to ask the Public Service Commission how many persons applied for the post. Now, the hon. member for Christ Church West has sat on Public Service Commissions and he can advise the hon. member on the procedure.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: No point of order!

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, this is not a question of anybody asking for advice on anything. The Minister has come here today asking for a sum of money to pay a Hospital Engineer. As far as I can remember, Mr. Chairman, it is something new that has come before this Honourable House.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. What I am trying to establish is that the hon. member cannot, on the Floor of the House of Assembly, get up on the spur of the moment and ask the Minister a question like that. He must bring a substantive question so that the Minister can have the matter investigated.

Mr. HINDS: The Minister can come here and ask for money whenever he likes, but a member on this side of the House is not entitled to ask the Minister when was the post advertised, and how did he come by.....

Mrs. EASTMOND: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I think that this shouting and carrying on is very irrelevant to this House. If the hon. member for St. Peter wants to ask the Minister about a post, he should be able to do it in a different manner instead of carrying on in this manner in the House. We do not belong to the Establishment Division; we are Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries, and when something is put to us we deal with it in a proper manner. I thought that the hon. member would know this, too.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: No point of order!

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I understand what the hon. member, who has just sat down, has been

trying to say is no point of order. I also understand what you have done, but I think that you, as Chairman, ought to know what it means in ordinary Bajan parlance when one member accuses another member of carrying on in Babrados.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am absolutely nothing to do with what is "carrying on" in Barbados; I am something to do with what is carrying on in Parliament. Let us get along with the Resolution. I will know when any remark in here is offensive to any hon. member and I will deal with it. Nobody will have to tell me that. We are dealing with Parliament and not Bajan slang. Let us get along with the Resolution.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I asked the Minister or the Introducer of the Resolution for certain information which I know to be relevant to Item 77 which is under discussion. If one were to look at the note, it tells us: "This Officer's contract ended during the year." I did not know that Barbados had a Hospital Engineer, or that there was any post on the Establishment for a Hospital Engineer so that we could be asked to vote for a Hospital Engineer without some sort of indication as to how this came about. The note goes on to say: "His terminal pay" I am further in a position to ask the Minister, who is the Officer to whom he is referring? The note goes on to say: "It is evident that the provision was under-estimated during the preparation of the Estimates." It is evident to whom, Mr. Chairman? I should like to hear what the Minister has to say about this.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the replies which have been previously given are quite in order. This is an Establishment matter. When the Minister of Agriculture explained that, it is absolutely correct that the appropriate Minister does not have direct access to these files and they are dealt with by the Permanent Secretary. I have already explained that in here on several occasions. By way of giving the hon. member some information, the question of maintaining the equipment at the Hospital and the appointment of suitably qualified Engineers has been considered quite recently. The equipment at the Hospital is very expensive.

4.45 p.m.

The engineering staff has been revamped and reorganised. There is an executive engineer who has been appointed, a hospital engineer and a maintenance engineer; but these are matters which are being worked on and dealt with by the Public Service Commission as of now and to ask the Minister who has got this job and that job, he does not know. It would be fitting for the hon. member to ask questions in the normal way and he would get the answers because these answers cannot be given from file one which deals with one matter whereas there are six or seven different files dealing with different matters. The appropriate file for example is not here. It is not a question of not being willing to give the answer. There are about one hundred files in the Ministry on the Hospital but the appropriate file dealing with the specific ques-

tion about how many engineers there are, the new post created and what not is not here. All I have given is from memory and my memory is not too bad yet. If the hon. member would ask a substantive question he would get chapter and verse, because there is nothing to conceal. It is in his right to get the replies and he would get them in the regular orderly manner in which questions and answers are given. The posts will be in the Estimates which will be coming up shortly, but in the meanwhile the member for St. Peter is in the place to ask substantive questions on this particular matter.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, if I now ask the Minister who has just down if he read these notes would it be out of order? I want to ask the Minister if he has read them and if he understood them after having read them.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is another question. You may ask him if he has read the notes, but do not impute anything. You can ask him when he rises.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, when he rises for me to ask him if he understands them, he would have to sit and I would have to rise.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am not here to argue.

Mr. HINDS: I am not arguing.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If you want to ask the Minister a question, the Minister is willing to answer.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Minister if he has read these notes and particularly the last note on page 9 of this Resolution. If the Minister is not inclined to answer, I think the most we can do is to move that further consideration of this particular item be postponed. I do not understand what the Minister could be trying to hide behind. The note to which I refer is a note pertinent to what we are doing.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, first of all I do not know if the hon. member is referring to me, if he is, I referred to hospital engineer which is clear proof that I did read the note. The present name is resident engineer and it is now being changed to hospital engineer, and I made reference to hospital engineer, and I made reference to hospital engineer which is clear proof that I read and understood the note. The paragraph the hon. member is referring to is the permission to change the name from resident engineer to hospital engineer, and in my reference I will call him hospital engineer as from now.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, we are asked at Item 77 to vote money for hospital engineer, not for a resident engineer, The Minister now says that at item 77 there is something about a resident engineer. This is not the case with the Resolution I have before me. The Resolution I have before me tells me about a hospital engineer at item 77 and note 22 tells us a-

bout this officer's contract; so if you did not have a hospital engineer a year ago, how can the hospital engineer's contract come to an end during the year? This is not right at all, and the Minister knows, understands and appreciates as well as ever that all this is not right and is not properly before the House. The note itself tells us something not about a hospital engineer; the note must be in reference to a resident engineer. We are asked to vote money for an entirely different person, a hospital engineer, and it is a matter which I suggest to the Minister to try and have corrected. Nobody is trying to put the Minister in an embarrassing position, but there is a way of bringing these matters before the House.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, if the hon. member would look at the end of the note, he will see that permission is also being sought to change the name "resident engineer" to "hospital engineer". This is why it appears in the Resolution as hospital engineer as against resident engineer, and it is in the explanatory notes to the Resolution. I do not think we have to spend all this time over this little technical point.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the Minister now admits it is a technical point, but you will agree that before we can be asked to vote money for a hospital engineer our first duty here today ought to have been for permission to change the name from resident engineer to hospital engineer.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, it is understood that in agreeing to the Resolution you are agreeing to the change because the note says that permission is being sought; it does not say that permission will be sought, so it is understood that in passing the Resolution we are agreeing to the change of the terminology.

Mr. HINDS: All right, Mr. Chairman. We are now told by the Leader of the House that we have this expensive equipment at our Hospital. I take that to mean the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. If the Minister does not mean the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, I would like to be corrected at this particular point before I proceed further.
4.55 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, the Head says Queen Elizabeth Hospital, this is what we are talking about.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, all of this is something for us to smile at, but after I have been heard. The Head undoubtedly is Queen Elizabeth Hospital, but I am challenging the Hon. Leader of this House to deny that the Hospital Engineer to which this note refers will be having absolutely nothing to do with the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, in that the Queen Elizabeth Hospital will be having its Resident Engineer, but that the Hospital Engineer has been recruited, if recruited he really has been, or put into

a post, but the Hospital Engineer is not an Engineer to have anything to do with the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. As proof of this, he is moving out of his residence.....

Mrs. EASTMOND: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I have not been in the Ministry so long but I know the Resident Engineer deals with everything to do with the Ministry, not only the Hospital, and I am aware that this Hospital Engineer is strictly for the Hospital because there is enough work in the Hospital for him to do, and the Resident Engineer will be involved with the Ministry of Health and Welfare.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, let the hon. member who just sat down understand that she has the bull by the tail; it is the other way round.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There are no bulls in this Resolution. I will ask the hon. member to keep to the Resolution: if she has it at the wrong angle you say that but nothing to do with bulls by the tails. Please discuss the Resolution, either agree or disagree. This is my ruling and when I rule I rule.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the Hospital Engineer is the Engineer who is going to be functioning in the Ministry of Health proper and not the Resident Engineer. What I am saying is this, Mr. Chairman, in the Ministry of Health and Welfare a post has been created and it is now being filled by the former Resident Engineer at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. That Resident Engineer will also be functioning, not alongside of the Public Health Engineer in the Ministry of Health, but he will be a Construction Engineer for the projects of the Ministry of Health that fall outside his old administration, so to speak.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: In this instance I cannot agree with the hon. member for the simple reason that we are dealing with Head 42 - Queen Elizabeth Hospital and it is the Ministry of Health also, so I cannot see how you are going to disconnect one from the other. The Resident Engineer at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital is also responsible for Health so when we are dealing with it we must deal with it as it is, the Ministry as a whole and not as two separate bodies. That is just what you are doing.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I cannot be held responsible for what the Chairman does not see in this particular, I am making statements of fact. You might not agree with me but I am making definite statements of fact, and I do not want to be accused of repeating myself, that is what I am trying to avoid. What I am saying is that the former Resident Engineer of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital - and as this note 22 tells us this Officer's contract ended during the year - that is in reference to the contract of the former Resident Engineer at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. It is his contract that came to an end during the year. I am sure the Minister will bear me out, but what the Government has done now, perhaps the Government thought of the benefit of cashing in on a good Engineer and rather than let his services go they have created a post within the Ministry of Health and are going to

use him as a Hospital Engineer for all the hospitals the Government has all around. That is a definite statement of fact, I am willing to be hanged by it. I do my homework before I come here, I do not mind how many Parliamentary Secretaries get up and say something, I am going to teach the Parliamentary Secretaries. Let them come in here and learn it from the Opposition.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: If the hon. member will give way, the hon. member is making capital of a very slight point. The position is that the post of Resident Engineer is being sought to be changed, and as from now it will be Hospital Engineer, but in the files it is Resident Engineer still. In order to regularise the position we are calling it Hospital Engineer now. This is straightforward, and if the hon. member wants a full explanation, it is this. The sum of \$12,000 has been provided under this Item as salary for the Resident Engineer, but during the year his contract ended and he received salary in the amount of \$3,129.03.
5.05 p.m.

The Officer appointed to act in the vacant post was also paid from this item at the rate of \$375 per month and received a total of \$1,125. On this basis it is considered that gross expenditure to be 31st March, 1972, will be \$30,254.03. That is expenditure at 30th September, 1971, \$7,254.03; expenditure at the 1st October, 1971, to the 31st March, 1972, \$6,000, making a total of \$13,254.03. The sum of \$1,255 is therefore requested to supplement this Item for the remainder of the year. Permission is also being sought for a change in nomenclature and that this Item be changed to Hospital Engineer. It is also suggested that the salary scale be put at \$8,760 - \$10,800 Z. 6 - 1. That is the whole explanation, Sir.

Mr. Chairman, if I had introduced it in the regular way, I would have given all of that information but I left it for the Minister to give, if necessary. There was nothing being concealed; there was no miracle; everything is on the level. Instead of having one Engineer we have three Engineers, and that is all there is to it.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I believe that the Minister, who has just sat down, is sincere in all that he has tried to say, but I am in a position to say that the Minister needs being briefed further on this particular point. I am aware of the fact that you, as Chairman, find yourself in, perhaps - I would not say an awkward position.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: In no position at all; I am just simply the Chairman.

Mr. HINDS: Any decision you might make must be dictated by how much credence you may put on what the Minister has to say as against what any members on this side may say. That is the position, Mr. Chairman. Hearing the Minister read from his files, one must come to the conclusion that the

Leader of the House of all persons must lead the House aright. That is why I say that he is sincere, but in this particular instance he needs to be briefed further. The position is as I have stated it; the note here is as I have explained it before; the post in the Ministry of Health is exactly as I have explained it and, definitely, not as how the Minister has put it to us. I believe that the Minister of Health is going to rise to put the record straight. I would pray that he would rise to put the record straight. It is a case where one would feel that if you are changing the title of an office there is a reason for so doing, and that the Minister who has to seek that change of title would be given the appropriate reason to support his request for hon. members to bring about that change. In the same way one would feel that the Leader of the House must be brought up to date with, at least, a minimum of the developments that are taking place in the various Ministries with which he has to deal during the course of the day-to-day functions of the House.

In the case of this Resolution at Item 77, I maintain that we have to be satisfied about certain things. The Minister ought to be in a position to tell us where we are going to have this Hospital Engineer. Is the Hospital Engineer going to have a maintenance staff? Now, at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital the Resident Engineer carried a maintenance staff, but I have told this House on previous occasions that the Resident Engineer took the maintenance and used that staff to do capital works. That was a case where the trade unionists should have taken up the matter in those days. You employ people as maintenance workers at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and you.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am not prepared to accept any further discussion about trade unionists on this Resolution. You will stick either to the Resident Engineer, or you will discontinue your speech.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have made a ruling. You will discuss the Resident Engineer or the Hospital Engineer, but you will discuss absolutely nothing about trade unionists or anybody else. You will discuss Item 77 - Hospital Engineer - so let us get that straight.
5.15 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: I am discussing the case of the resident engineer at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. We are now changing the name to that of Hospital engineer.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is what I want to hear. There is nothing here about staff. Let us deal with the engineer alone.

Mr. HINDS: Do you mean we cannot concern ourselves with his functions and how he operated?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Not with staff.

Mrs. EASTMOND: On a point of order, I would like to explain to the hon. member for St. Peter that the post of hospital engineer is a post which the superintendent, Mr. Clarke, held previously. He will be upgraded and be called hospital engineer and there will be a vacant post very soon for resident engineer and this will come before the House, and then this resident engineer will be called the executive engineer.

Mr. HINDS: Is that a point of order?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You cannot question me as Chairman. Be seated. Let us get this straight. You cannot question the Chair whether something in here is a point of order. I am not going to tolerate that type of behaviour. When I say it is a point of order it is, when I say it is not a point of order, it is not, but you cannot question the Chair. No hon. member in this Chamber is going to do it. Anyone who tries to do it will know where he stands.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, if I had asked if you the hon. member had risen on a point of order, would I have been out of order?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is obvious. I told you that the hon. member had risen on a point of order.

Mr. HINDS: Now, Sir, I have listened to what the hon. member has had to say, and the hon. member has convinced me.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like all hon. members to observe Standing Order No 29(6) that when any hon. member is speaking all the other members must be silent or converse in undertones. I am expecting that from both sides.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I feel that the hon. member has brought to bear upon the deliberations of this House certain information which I had been offering under considerable stress and strain, and which, as you would understand, until this very moment by what the hon. member who has just sat down has said, it must now be recorded that the Leader of the House, the Mover of this Resolution, is not at all familiar with the requirements of this Resolution in this particular respect.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, there are a number of items under this Head about which I would like to speak. I will attempt to deal jointly with items 16 and 104 and notes 21 and 30. The first note deals with the question of the number of posts which are paid from this item for only partial provision was made because it was felt that these would have been placed on a permanent establishment during the year. In addition to this some 22 posts have been created during the current financial year for which no provision was made. Note 30 deals with long term contracts of several consultants, registrars and senior house officers from the United Kingdom and India which ended during the year and their replacements were recruited

from the same countries. These heavy commitments were not anticipated during the preparation of the budget.

On the question of staff at the General Hospital, I think the time has come when the Government must consider the expansion of the specialist service provided at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The hospital was opened in 1962 and I think that we must consider that the number of people requiring treatment today must have gone up considerably and the type of service required has become more specialised. I think the Government should be commended on the establishment of the Intensive Care Unit, but on this side of the House we would like to see them go further. Things like a kidney machine which Trinidad is getting may be very useful if this country can obtain one; but in order to do this and to provide one it would mean you would have to have physician specialists who would then specialise in various aspects of medicine. I think of cardiac cases and kidney cases, and the same thing would go for neuro-surgery etc., and I think the Government must at this stage realise that there is a demand for these services. We on the Opposition benches would certainly like to commend to them and ask them to investigate as soon as possible the question of the expansion of the specialist service at the hospital.

In addition, I think one has got to look at the present situation of the Hospital where you have quite a number of young Barbadian doctors who have specialist qualifications. I think the Government must realise that if they are going to keep these people in Barbados, every effort must be made to make their terms of employment as attractive as possible. In addition to your two consultants there are at least three other persons who hold a specialist degree, and now I think it would be too much for the Government to expect that these people are going to remain here working as registrars when they can go abroad because to their specialist degrees and become consultants. When the Government looks at these people they will see that in one way or another they have invested money somewhere along the line in the training of these people either as a Barbados scholar or through some sort of Government grant or even after in supplying money to train these doctors, and I daresay they would much prefer to serve their country, but the conditions must be made right.

5.25 p.m.

I know they would much prefer to serve their country but the conditions should be made right. It may be that the Government is thinking of some sort of rearrangement but I would just like to suggest to the Government not to delay too long if they are going to change the establishment and make sure that these people remain in Barbados, because naturally they are highly qualified people and they will obviously become frustrated. I think we have lost one exceptionally young Barbadian doctor, and I would hope to see that this country, having invested so much money in these people, will have the benefit of their services and not lose them.

The same thing applies to surgery. I understand there has been some delay in appointing people to these posts and it is rather obvious that the establishment will have to be increased in order to keep these people, and I think the Government should investigate whether the establishment requires the increase, and if so do so as soon as possible so that the services will be provided. As I said, it would mean that if you increase the special services you will have to give people an opportunity to specialise in the various aspects of medicine or surgery.

As I move on to a slightly different aspect of the question of specialists, there are a number of fields at the hospital where there are young Barbadians qualified. I daresay there is no Barbadian qualified in the treatment of eyes, no qualified Barbadian Radiologist, no qualified Barbadian Anaesthetist, there is only one Barbadian specialist for ear, nose and throat, and I would like again to commend the Government at this stage that they should investigate the possibility of giving a number of young doctors at the hospital scholarships to specialise in these aspects where there is obviously a need in Barbados. As far as Dermatology is concerned, I believe the only specialist in that field is the Minister of Home Affairs. I am in favour of giving people scholarships to enable them to qualify but not to leave them free to come back to Barbados; they should be bonded to return to serve the country for at least seven years after having gained these specialist qualifications. This is not a question of a first degree at this stage, it is a question of specialist qualifications and I do not think that asking seven years is too long.

I have suggested seven years, but the Government perhaps will be able to reach a shorter period, but the principle should be that there should be scholarships for young Barbadian doctors to encourage them to go abroad and qualify as specialists and return to serve their country. I believe, on the question of a Radiologist, that something should be done. I do not mean to be in any way disrespectful to the gentlemen who now perform these services at the hospital and who are two retired men, but there is a Barbadian who I know will be willing to come back, and the need is there.

There is also the question of eyes, no Barbadian, only one English lady at the moment. There is no Barbadian Anaesthetist, and therefore I commend that suggestion to Government to look into the possibility of giving national scholarships, or even giving specialist scholarships so that you can get people qualified in these fields. I know the amount of money you are going to pay every year to bring people on contract is a lot, but it is a long term investment which I feel that all members will agree with.

Item 95 - Medical Supplies. The note to this Item, note 23, states: "It has been observed that freight rates continue to rise at a high rate. A recent survey has also indicated that the cost of supplies has risen by 26.4% above last year's figures." What is not quite clear to this side of the House, and

I do not believe the Government is really suggesting it here, is whether the 26.4% is due entirely to freight rates. That would seem to be a rather high figure, and I think the Minister should give us some idea as to how this rise of 26.4% is made up, whether it is because of the actual increase in prices of drugs or on the question of freight rates alone. While on the question of drugs, I think the time has come when the Government must seriously consider the question of price control, because one hears from time to time that there is absolutely no doubt that there is a very high mark-up in the prices of drugs in this country. Without trying to be too personal, I once obtained some medicine from a doctor and paid him about \$5.04 and at another stage I bought the same pills from a drugstore in Bridgetown and had to pay \$8.40, so there must be something which needs investigating.

I understand in some cases the mark-up on drugs is as high as 200%, and it is particularly hard on people who suffer from continuing illnesses such as hypertension, diabetes or heart cases that require constant medical attention and which require medicine. It is hard for these people to continue to pay the exorbitant prices that you have to pay for drugs in this country. There is another idea I would like to commend to the Government. I know that if you become a patient at the medical out-patient department of the hospital you can get your drugs free.

5.35 p.m.

I think the Government should consider a scheme for allowing private practitioners to prescribe drugs and have these prescriptions filled at the Hospital. If a person goes to a doctor suffering from one of the ailments which I have already mentioned such as hypertension for a few months and he has a constant supply of medicine from a Drug Store, the time will come when he will realise that he cannot go on paying for the medicine. He may then, probably, be told by his doctor that he should go to the Hospital and become a patient at the Medical Out-patient Department. After having gone to his doctor and spent money with private chemists, he then goes to the Hospital. All that will happen to him, at that stage, is that he is going to create pressure on the Medical Out-patient Department merely to be told that he is suffering from hypertension and then given a prescription to take to the Hospital Dispensary to receive the medicine.

Now, what can be done to prevent this pressure on the Medical Out-patient Department - I can only commend this as a suggestion to the Government - is to investigate the possibility of allowing people in certain circumstances to receive medicine free. You may want to have some sort of means test regarding a person, or you may feel that you will limit it to preschool children or pensioners. If you want to limit it to two categories in order to ensure that the people who receive the medicine at the Hospital are people who cannot afford to pay for it and that the system will not be abused by people who can afford to pay for medicine getting it free, then something could be done about that. You may very

There is no point a man having his degree as an engineer and can only put up buildings on paper, in theory, but when it comes to constructing buildings from what he has on the paper he cannot do it. A lawyer comes out from the Inns of Court reading and studying at night, but that does not mean anything until he gets into the courtroom and begins to practise, if not he will only be practising to lock up people and law. You do not practise it while you are reading it, and it is the same thing with medicine. He must be a man mixing in a community to feel the reaction to his medicine, and that is the whole essence of his practice. We must have more doctors; there are still too few doctors purely on a statistical basis. Somebody will rise up in Barbados and tell you that per head of the population we have enough doctors, but I still feel we have more specialists when we have more doctors. With the spread of free secondary and university education, my view is that we should have more doctors coming back to Barbados, but unfortunately we have not yet created the national spirit so when a doctor possesses international qualifications and he can work other than in Barbados he does not return to work in Barbados.

A lot of doctors are poor people in the main and they seek wider pastures to practise their profession. Medicine is one of these difficult professions, and sometimes a doctor's mother and father live in "Jack-my-Nanny" Gap and not at a house that he can practise his profession, so when he gets through his medical degree he cannot think about going into that house because a doctor cannot practise there, therefore he will have to remain outside for some years before he can acquire anything like the money he has borrowed even to establish his practise. Those are some of the real problems you have, and unless they are sons and daughters of wealthy parents they have in the first instance to think of making a living under circumstances that are more unfavourable to them.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like to draw attention to the presence of a stranger in the passage-way.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, while agreeing with the hon. member for St. Michael West that if you have more doctors, as night follows day you will have more specialists, while that may be true I think one has got to look at the present requirements, and that is, in the fields of radiology, dermatology, ear, nose and throat and for eyes. There is also need for qualified anaesthetists; there are no qualified Barbadians in this field. When I talk about giving scholarships, I am talking of scholarships in order to satisfy the present demand in these fields and also specialists in the field of eyes. If one morning the lady who is here decides she is going back to England we will have to seek help from overseas again, and this is to prevent this. We have qualified Barbadians in the field of medicine and surgery, and we on this side of the House would like to see in the case of eyes at least two Barbadian Specialists, at least two for ear, nose and throat, two Radiologists and two Anaesthetists to satisfy the present demands we have. The mere fact that in this

country you have two expatriates performing the duties of Radiologist at the hospital shows that there is present at the moment the need for it, and I am not dealing with the question of any cardiac transplants or anything like that, I am dealing with something for which there is need at the moment.

I agree that there is need for more doctors because one of the things that appeared earlier this year when the list of doctors, the people who passed the examination from the University of the West Indies, appeared I think there were 69 people who qualified as doctors and only four came from Barbados. I do not think that is really leading up to the requirements of Barbadian society, but if you say that a chap who goes to study may be poor and cannot come back here, I do not think it is a question of a brain drain, of Barbadians qualifying and not coming back to practise in Barbados, it is a question of Barbadians not qualifying as doctors, and there may be various reasons for this. What I can think of is an obvious one, that it is a very long course and it costs a lot of money, and I will suggest that the Government should make some study as to the yearly requirements over the next 10 or 20 years, taking into account the population and the past figures, and then the Government will be able to, on the same terms of being bonded, create and give scholarships and encourage people to go and study. It is not like law where perhaps you can do it part-time, it is a full-time course and therefore the Government should think seriously about it. I am glad the member for St. Michael West raised this aspect of it, and the Government should consider also the question of supplying scholarships for doctors qualifying for their first degree. I, like the hon. member for St. Michael West, recognise that drugs are expensive all over the world, but I do not think that merely to say that drugs are expensive all over the world is an answer to the problem in Barbados. It may very well be that the answer is not price control, but what I would like to see is that at least the Government should carry out some enquiry to ascertain what can be done to reduce the price of drugs in Barbados. It may very well be that drugs are expensive but that in Barbados they are made more expensive because of the high mark-ups that are being placed upon them.

6.05 p.m.

If any enquiry carried out by the Government shows that the reason why drugs are so expensive is due to the high mark-ups, then it is something within the province of the Government to deal with effectively. I commend these things to the Government, and I sincerely hope that the Minister responsible will investigate them.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Chairman, I do not think there is much I can say with regard to the specialist field of medicine. I think the hon. member for St. Michael West has answered this question reasonably well, because some of the diseases might not be frequent enough and cover a wide enough field to encourage the attention of a Specialist.

So far as training is concerned, the Government is very active in giving aid and scholarships to people who want to be trained. One of the things the hon. member for the City of Bridgetown has mentioned is the question of bonding. I do not think he will find anybody who will be willing to be put on a bond for 7 years to study in any field and return to Barbados to serve. I think that 7 years is a long time to be bonded. The only bond I would sign with anybody for 7 years would be with my father or mother. No Government or anybody could get me to sign a bond for 7 years to come back and serve here. I would like to see more Barbadians and West Indians in certain fields. The hon. member mentioned anaesthetists. Not so long ago the Government loaned money to an anesthetist; he went abroad and as soon as he was qualified he decided against coming back to Barbados. This is the type of chance that the Government will have to take. You give them scholarships; they go up and qualify, and it is left to them to come back and serve Barbados. Some of them say that they will pay back the loan. I can well see why the hon. member has mentioned about bonding them for 7 years. I feel that when we use funds in order to qualify certain people and they refuse to return and serve Barbados or make arrangements to repay the loan that is not good enough. Sometimes they start to repay the loan and then you cannot find what part of the world they are living. At present they are bonded for three years.

The hon. member asked a question about Item 16. There are a number of posts which are paid from this Item for which only partial provision was made, because it was felt that these would have been placed on the permanent establishment during the current year. In addition to this some 22 posts have been created during the current financial year for which no provision was made: 2 Trainee Dispensers; 9 Staff Nurses; 5 Clerical Officers; 3 Blood-collecting Technicians; 1 Senior House Officer, and 2 Laboratory Technicians. It should also be noted that remuneration for substitutes for certain posts such as Clerical Officer, Maid, Cook, Key-scale Workers, etc., it also met from this Item; therefore, the extent to which this Item will be used cannot be readily determined.

The average monthly expenditure has been approximately \$32,000 which would give an annual amount of \$384,000. To this must be added the amount required for the created posts mentioned above for 7 months, which is \$51,590, making a total revised estimate of \$435,590. On this basis, therefore, it is estimated that \$184,000 is required to supplement this Item to the 31st March, 1972. That deals with Item 16.

With regard to Item 95, the amount provided under this Item is \$1,100,000, and at the 31st August, 1971, expenditure plus commitments amounted to \$1,110,955.47. Reasons for this high rate of ex-

penditure are as follows: It has been observed that freight rates continue to rise at a rate which was never anticipated when the Draft Estimates were being prepared. It has also been observed that the cost of these supplies have risen by 26.4% above last year's figures. This would mean that the freight rates are separate and distinct from the normal rise. The normal rise is 26.4% and that is exclusive of the freight rates. It would be a serious problem if freight rates rose to cause a commodity to go up 26.4%.

An investigation has shown that almost all persons employed at this Institution have their private prescriptions filled free of charge, and in some instances, those of their relatives. During the first 5 months of this year the number of such prescriptions amounted to approximately 3,500 at a cost of \$12,500. The Ministry proposed to give further consideration to this matter. Mr. Chairman, it means that approximately 3,500 people or relatives of people working at the Institution have received medicine free, and that has nothing to do with the normal patients and out-patients at the Institution.

Mr. MOTTLEY: What is that?

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: I said prescriptions amounting to approximately 3,500 at a cost of \$12,500. I refer to the staff at the Hospital and, in some instances, their relatives.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, is this in keeping with Government's policy that these people should receive free irrespective of the salary they receive? I can appreciate the staff getting the medicine free, but what about their families? How immediate must the family be?

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Chairman, this refers to the staff and their families, and I have already explained that the Ministry proposes to give further consideration on this matter. In other words, consideration will be given to whether this should go on and be the practice. It can be seen that expenditure and commitments have been incurred at the rate of of approximately \$222,200 a month, but it is felt that available stocks will be fairly high for the next few months, consequent on the number of orders placed.

Mr. Chairman, one of the things that one must remember is that having a large staff of doctors, you will find that some doctors prefer to use their own medicines. In the circumstances, you will always have a high stock of a particular drug when one doctor believes in one type of drug and another doctor believes in another type.

6. 15 p.m.

If the pharmacists were trained to a higher standard, there are certain drugs that they could purchase at a cheaper rate and have them standardised whenever they were using standard drugs. As the hon. member for St. Michael-West mentioned, in this drug business you must get a lot of wastage. People say this drug does not taste good to me or I do not like

that doctor, therefore I am not drinking his medicine, and therefore wastage is constituted in this manner because they are free and they can afford to put drugs aside. Too many people say they are not drinking medicine because they do not like the looks of it, not only the taste.

Under item 104, during the current financial year the long-term contracts of several Consultants, Registrars and Senior House Officers especially from the United Kingdom and India ended. It should also be noted that their replacements came from the same countries. As a result of these heavy commitments the entire provision of \$45,000 had been expended at 31st August, 1971. In these circumstances, therefore it is considered that the sum of \$45,000 would be adequate to supplement this item.

Mr. Chairman, the passage from countries like India which is very far away would be very expensive. We have been having to substitute a lot of staff with replacements from India which would make very heavy commitments on the treasury in this connection. If it were possible to get them from closer regions, we could reduce this considerably, but as I have stated, so long as it is from India and the United Kingdom and from off countries, the passages will be very high.

Mr. HINDS: I wonder if it is within the knowledge of the Minister that since the coming into operation of the Central Purchasing Department a large quantity of drugs and supplies generally at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital has been unearthed and the trouble is that in very many cases the labels have been mutilated by cockroaches and other pests and the expiry date on packages and the contents cannot be determined. In such a case I wonder if the Minister would have what is called the book value, because we must appreciate that when you have such a state of affairs you cannot dispense these drugs. You have to try and dispense with them in some form or fashion.

As to the employment of temporary staff, I notice that the Minister tells us about employing a lot of dispensers and staff nurses and Lab technicians. I wonder if any provisions has been made for the employment of the assistant dietitian in this case. We are very interested in all these. The hon. member for St. Michael-West ought to have a very special interest in the dietitian at the hospital.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I would like to be brief on item 95 bearing in mind some of the remarks I have heard. I am sorry in fact that I could not have spoken before the Minister made his general reply because I would have to say that I do not know how many voices the Democratic Labour Party is using to speak on the question of control of drug prices with their manifesto said they should be controlled. The hon. member for St. Thomas was in the House when I spoke. I said I have my own reservations about control of drugs because it is not as simple a matter as controlling saltfish. I did not say there should be no control.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Point made.

Mr. ADAMS: I was in the House and I recall that is what he said. Saltfish and corned beef I think were the things he said were easier to control. I wonder if that is true. I believe that a great deal of what you hear about the control of drug prices being difficult you hear principally from European countries where there is a national health service and drugs are, largely speaking, supplied free to all the citizens except perhaps for some nominal charge to cover the prescription expenses, and there is the question in those countries and indeed in the United States that the manufacturers, when they find out that the drug is likely to be popular by placing it with selected doctors to certain places all over the country, they may very quickly make excess profits before any control can be established or before proper prices can be arrived at in negotiations between national health administration and the drug manufacturers. In Barbados we do not have this problem since we do not manufacture that type of drug. It comes to us as an article from overseas and if you can control motor cars, I do not see what the physical difficulties in controlling drugs are. What I would ask for, Mr. Chairman, apart from that some cavil, are some new ideas from the Government over the approach to the general question of what the hon. member to whom I have just referred called socialised medicine and what we on this side tend to call a nationalised service. The Government has just been re-elected with a great majority. What are the ideas the Government is projecting to the people for future health and wellbeing of the citizens? For ten years, I venture to say, no new idea has come out of the Ministry of Health. I say this although I have the greatest possible respect for the incumbent of the office past and present and for the Civil Servants who run it and for many of the talented doctors we have had at the hospital; but the next logical step for Barbados is something in the line of giving persons free medical treatment at all levels. I do not mean going to the hospital Casualty and waiting for four hours. This is something that any Government should be seeking to grasp at this stage. Our Government, had we been elected, would have tried to grasp it. We want a sign. We are unbelievers on this side and we are waiting for the sign. We are unbelievers in the efficiency or the competence in many instances of the present administration, and to convert us from our unbelief and the unbelief of many members of the public, you have to give us signs. You have to make us believe that the Government is interested in reducing the high cost of medicine and medical care.

I sometimes think that we are too close to the United States. It was Diaz, I believe, who said "Oh Mexico, so far from God and so close to the United States." In many ways we are too close to the United States in this particular way we have the worst example in my opinion that we can possibly follow held to us. As soon as I hear anything about the United States and medical treatment, instinctively my reaction is that the United States greatest social fault is the high cost of treating ill and sick persons, and the stranglehold which the American Medical Association has upon the Governmental policies in this regard. It

is the only civilised and rich country in the world where people have to pay large sums of money for medical treatment.

6.25 p.m.

The only one, I venture to say. People speak as if the United States is one of a number and Britain is one of a number. As every country becomes a little richer and more civilised it seeks to give its citizens free medical care. Among the countries you call developed, in the United States an expensive ailment or sickness can cripple you financially as well as physically, and I want to get right away from that example. The hon. member for St. Michael West spoke of wishing to see national insurance take over some aspects of medical care. This is a matter which I have canvassed inside here when the hon. member was not a member in here, which appeared in the manifesto of our Party at the last election, that a national insurance medical plan would be introduced and it is time it is done. We have a relatively young population and a lot of employed persons compared to the number of sick persons. If Britain with an aging population and France with an aging population and a relatively small number of workers compared to those for whom the National Health Service has to cater, if they can afford it Barbados can at least start to take the first steps, and my view is that the first steps you should take should have to do with medical supplies.

I much regret that there should be any suggestion of depriving the family of those employed at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital of the opportunity to get free prescriptions. I heard some amount of \$12,000 being mentioned—I hope I got it right—but it seems to me that families of poor porters and very ill-paid persons who work at the hospital, because they get a few drugs free and it costs the Government \$12,000, that seems to me to be penny-pinching of the worst sort and I would like to know why the Government is reviewing the situation. I would like to ask the Minister for an assurance that the families of those employed at the hospital will not be deprived of this right.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: On a point of order, nobody is deploring the situation, I said it is \$12,000 and we are thinking of whether it should be established generally for all or whether some should have it. I said that some of the families of the employees have been getting this and it has to be considered whether all should get it and not just leave it at some.

Mr. ADAMS: I welcome what the Minister has said, and as far as we are concerned we would be in favour of extending it. If you work in a private business in Bridgetown selling motor cars you can get perhaps easier terms to buy a motor car, so why if you work at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital should one set of persons have a privilege which is denied to others. I would much deplore any restriction of this apparently relatively inexpensive facility but we are asking for ideas, we do not want to prolong the debate unnecessarily, we are asking for ideas,

give the public some ideas of what you are going to give them for their medical care. I only wish that every hon. member could be given a little education of what the countries that do not even consider enlightenment, like the Germany of Bismark and pre-first World War France, did the medical care for their citizens when they were much poorer countries than ourselves. Germany has had a national health service for nearly 100 years though it was a poorer country than Barbados is now and yet we are still scratching about and believing that we can go on as we have always gone on. I look forward to seeing the same free benefits extended in the field of health as the free benefit that we saw extended elsewhere, perhaps not as substantially or as pertinent but nonetheless they were extended 10 years for education. All these are services which the State should provide free for its citizens; free education, free medical care and not just for the citizens who have to go and wait at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for hours for treatment. You should be able to go to your own private doctor and receive free treatment without having to pull your pocket for \$5.00 or \$8.00, and hon. members who have had an opportunity of living in a system where this is so will realise that all the arguments about the cupboards full of unwanted pills and the constant visits to the doctors do not in fact have so much validity in practice. In practice people very quickly settle down to a social service such as this, and I would hope that in the next few years, since our budget is \$100 million and we are getting to be a rich country and so on, that the Government would show some awareness of its responsibility towards the health of its citizens.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for St. Thomas challenged part of my speech.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: My eyes caught the Leader of the House first.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I could not sit here having been Minister of Health and Social Welfare for the past six years and allow certain statements which have been made here this afternoon to go unchallenged. Already in the context of our limited resources we are more or less giving free health services in this country. We have a modern hospital which incidentally this Government built, and we have.....

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, I would like the hon. member for the City to take his feet down. I do not mind him relaxing in the best possible comfort but he should not put his feet on the table of this House.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like to inform the hon. member that there is nothing in the Standing Orders which can make him take them down, it all depends on his parental training.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: As I was saying, Mr. Chairman, we have a modern hospital which this Government built, we have many training courses for nurses

for the last four of five years, we have set up an intensive care unit which we never had before, and a cobalt machine has been ordered. We have a good system, and what is more we have never implemented a fee for medicine and drugs which was passed by the Barbados Labour Party Government years ago, so that the service is still free. That is why we have to come back here and ask for large supplementaries in the case of drugs, so to say that we have done nothing and there is no hope for the people of this country in this respect is not correct. We have plans and we hope soon to set up an out-patients clinic. When we have the out-patients clinic set up on the curtilage of the hospital people will not have to wait for long and will be able to get the free service to which they are entitled. To all intents and purposes medical services are free in Barbados and have been kept free by this Government, and we have never imposed any charge for drugs as was laid down by the Labour Party Government. If we had implemented that part, the cost for prescriptions would be \$1.00 now and now 25 cents. Apart from the length of time you have to wait - because we have not got an out-patients' clinic separate and distinct from the casualty or emergency section - bearing in mind that casualty or emergency normally deals with emergency cases and not old chronic cases, so when we succeed in separating these emergency cases from the old chronic cases for the out-patients' clinic we will have it streamlined and people will be attended to within a reasonable time. That is the only flaw, but Barbados cannot have free school meals, free bus fares and all these things together, we are not really sitting back and doing nothing to help our people, because everything at that hospital is free, gratis and for nothing as long as you are sick and you are prepared to go there and wait to get attended to. We have free medical service to all intents and purposes in Barbados.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman,...

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member for St. Michael West caught my eye.

Mr. WALCOTT: The hon. Leader of the Opposition referred to part of my speech and in fairness to your Leader you should allow me to reply to him. The Leader of the Opposition made reference to the speech I made; he said that in their Manifesto they spoke about a free medical plan, and I want to remind the Leader of the Opposition that I am in the House now and that I can talk for myself.

6.35 p.m.

Now, this is what the Manifesto says at page 20.
"HEALTH AND SOCIAL PLANNING

The Party's health policy is basically to provide health services to the population in areas within easy reach, and at a cost" -

not free -

"Within the means of all Barbadians."

There is not a word in the Manifesto that they are prepared to give free medical services; so when you come here today and say (Mr. CRAIG: "Read on"). The Manifesto goes on to say:

"The Party planned and started the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, it built the Oistins District Hospital, and a number of health centres throughout Barbados, and this programme has not been interfered with under subsequent governments. The Party will continue this hospital building programme and will further institute the following measures:"

I have not yet reached the word free, Mr. Chairman, (Mr. CRAIG: "Read the balance".) He has asked me to read the balance. It goes on to say:

1. "Free....." (Asides)

Free what? Free bus rides? (Asides) It says "Free medical facilities for pensioners and pre-school children." Now, imagine an hon. member is going to come here today and say that as long as he uses the word "free" you can say to old men over 1,000, old women and everybody. You have qualified it. You have said "Free medical facilities for pensioners and preschool children." It means that if you are not a pensioner or a preschool child you should not get free medical services. If you study law there must be some logic in any argument you use. One of the exercises of law is logic. You cannot write "Free medical facilities for pensioners" and then tell me that you mean everybody! If I am an old man who has finished school, an old dunce, I cannot spell Ada backwards, I went through all of the stages in school, do you mean to say that I am going to get free medical services? You do not mean that, so you qualify your free medical services to mean pensioners and preschool children. You mean that an old man or old woman who is drawing a pension will be given free medical services. If you have not started school yet you will be given free medical services, but the moment you are working you will be given free medical services, the moment you are working you will have to pay. If you are in the active labour force you will have to pay for such services; so do not come with this old-fashioned jazz. You are playing a tune, and we have passed that key. You are playing a different key; this is not key F any more, and you are playing the key of P. The workers will have to pay; so do not come with that music. (Asides) You must understand that I travel with all of your documents.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I always like listening to an amusing speech, especially if it bears no relationship to what has gone before, but the hon. member is misrepresenting my motives. The hon. member has said that I said in my speech that we advocated and put in our manifesto that there will be a free health service. That is not what I said. The only reference I made - - (Asides) You can have it read back by the Reporter, if you want to. The only reference I made to the Manifesto of the Barbados Labour Party was to his comment

that the National Insurance should take care of Medical attention. I said that was in our Manifesto, and I said that our aim should be towards a free health service. I never said it was in our Manifesto. Read through the report of my speech and do not misrepresent what I said. You may have been in the House when I spoke, but you were not of the House.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am ruling. I am not prepared to hear absolutely anything further on this subject different from drugs.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, we are in Committee the hon. member need not rise on a point of order, because he can reply to anything I say, I merely want to inform him that there is no point in rising on a point of order. I spoke and I am speaking again, because the hon. member for St. Thomas in his speech questioned what I said and the point I was making, and said that I was saying something different from what they had in the Manifesto in relation to free medical attention and the control of drugs.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. I never said so; he is really misrepresenting what I said. The only thing I spoke about is what he said and what the Manifesto said about the control of drugs. I only made two references to the hon. member's speech. He must not misrepresent what I have said.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I do not have any intention of misrepresenting the hon. member, because there is no need to do that. The hon. member made reference to my speech about the points that he mentioned about the control of drugs. I spoke after the hon. member for the City of Bridgetown, and I said that I had my reservations about the control of drugs and I gave instances. Owing to the nature and the size of a bottle of white drug it is difficult to tell one drug from another. The hon. member in making a point made a broad sweep not only at me but at the whole Party, and said that for 10 years this Government has not been able to define its policy about this medical question. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition said that his Party advocated free - and that it was in their Manifesto.

Mr. ADAMS: Have the Reporter read back what I have said! I never said so. Cannot you understand that I have never said so? Do not go on saying you are making me out to be a liar.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Be seated.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, the whole idea about the hon. member saying

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Sit down!

Mr. ADAMS rose --

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Clerk, kindly ask the Reporter for the particular sentence which is the bone of contention right now.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, you cannot ask--.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am Chairman and I know how I will react.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I - -

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Do not argue with me. I am asking you to take your seat.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, asking for words that have been said must come from somebody with a motion. No motion has been made, so the Chair

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. member prepared to take his seat?

Mr. WALCOTT: There are Rules of the House. 6.45 p.m.

Mr. WALCOTT: No motion has been made so the Chair does not take upon itself to ask for words to be read back.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will the hon. member please take his seat? When the Chair stands, all other hon. members must be seated. I as Chairman have asked for it. If you are going to question my ruling, ask me to leave the Chair. (*Asides*)

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, I would like to draw.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You will also be seated. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition asked that these particular words be read back, and as Chairman, I am ruling. Whether I rule to suit you, when I ask for something in here, I am going to see to it that respect is given to one and all. I am prepared to give one and all all the latitude he might think. (*Asides*) I have already made my ruling. Are you telling me that as Chairman I cannot ask the Clerk of this House for something? (*Asides*)

Mr. FORDE: Mr. Chairman, I know you are awaiting the words, but could hon. members restrain themselves a bit? There is too much cross talk.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am waiting on the Clerk of the House.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I would have no objection to the hon. member continuing his speech if he does not continue to misrepresent what I said. I have never at any stage of my speech said that our manifesto advocated a free medical service, and if he goes on saying that, I will have to go on objecting.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have already ruled.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I want to know something. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition got up and made a speech just now.....

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, you have called on the Clerk to give you certain

words, and it is not fair for you to be disrespected in this manner.

Mr. WALCOTT: What are the words to be taken down?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will both hon. members take their seats? *(Asides)* I am going to say for the last time that I have asked for something as Chairman of this Chamber because I want something clarified. If I am in doubt about something, I feel it is my privilege as Chairman to ask so that I will not be in doubt any longer. I thought I was to rule and govern this Chamber. If it is not to be like that, I will use all the appropriate Standing Orders.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: On a point of order, I am trying to expedite proceedings. About five minutes ago you wanted the words and my enquiries show that the present reporter is not the appropriate Reporter and the two Clerks are sitting at the Table; so who has gone to get the words?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I want to get it straight that I have asked for something and I am prepared to have it, and that is the end of it.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say that words to be taken down are words that are used. You cannot ask for words to be taken down when a member says that he was misrepresented.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You will kindly take your seat. I am not asking for words to be taken down. As Chairman of Committees I am in doubt and I want that doubt clarified so that I would be able to direct the Chamber, and until it is clarified, I am unable to direct the Chamber. I am the Chairman and you cannot tell me what I must do.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, at this stage, in order to facilitate you in guiding and running the affairs of the House while we are awaiting the words for your guidance and benefit and in making your ruling, it may be an appropriate time to report progress and ask for leave to sit again, because this may probably take a little time, and I certainly would like to assist you in having the words which were used and which you would like to examine before making any decision.

I therefore beg to move that Your Honour do do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Mr. CRAIG: I beg to second that, and wish to congratulate you, Mr. Chairman, on the stand which you have taken.

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

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. FERGUSON: I beg to second that.

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

6.55 p.m.

On Resumption:-

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, when the sitting was suspended the House was in Committee of Supply and to that it now reverts.

Mr. SPEAKER: The House will now revert to Committee of Supply.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1971-72 No. 14

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move subject to your ruling that the question be now put.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, before the question is put, there is a point I am forced to make.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, you had requested words which were spoken by the hon. member over which there was some contention to be submitted to you, and I would like to know if this report is now ready.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: A motion has been made that the question be now put and no debate can take place at this time.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, the House is in Committee. When the House was debating this.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: No one was addressing the Committee.

Mr. WALCOTT: The motion that the question be put has to be moved and seconded. I do not want to lose my temper on this simple matter and I want to make it clear, Mr. Chairman.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member must sit.

Mr. WALCOTT: I was addressing the Committee when the hon. Leader of the Opposition made reference to part of my speech. I maintain the right that I have not finished my address and there can be no question of putting the motion during my address to the Chair. I was addressing the Committee.....

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There can be no point of order.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, Sir, I am entitled to this. I am only trying to find out from the Chairman what the hon. member is speaking on. The motion was moved by the Leader of the House and you put the question; on what is the hon. member speaking?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You must sit. I am waiting to find out if this motion was seconded, no one is going to tell me what to do. In the absence of a seconder, there is no motion and the hon. member may speak.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, my speech was never ended, I was addressing the Committee on this question. The Leader of the Opposition rose and he made a point of order and said he was misrepresented, which he has the right to do in Committee at any time. There is no question of the Leader of the House making a motion that the question be put because I was still addressing the Chair and I am completing my address so you cannot put the question until I am finished. *(Asides)* Let me hear how you are going to get up now and close it when I am speaking.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, if there is any repetition as such I am perfectly in order in moving that the question be put. The same thing is being repeated over and over again and I am quite in order in moving that the question be put.

Mr. CRAIG: I beg to second that the question be now put.

Mr. WALCOTT: It cannot be done. You cannot make a motion when a member is speaking.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have already ruled and I would like the hon. member to carry on.

Mr. WALCOTT: I am going to speak, I am not going to carry on.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, did the Chairman get the report from the Clerk?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The report I asked for was for my benefit. I wanted something clarified and I have that clarification.

Mr. HINDS: I thought it was for the benefit of the Committee.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That was for my own benefit, not for the benefit of the Committee. I was asking for these remarks in order that I might be able to state what I had to state.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: There can be no point of order.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, Sir.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, Sir.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: What is the point of order?

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, Sir, I would like to draw to your attention Rule 35.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You will not be drawing anything to my attention where Rule 35 is concerned.

Mr. CRAIG: You gave a ruling, Sir, and it states here that the decision of the Chair is final.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When I stated that the motion was not seconded I asked the hon. member to continue to speak.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I was always addressing the Chair and I was interrupted from the time the Leader of the Opposition said that he was misrepresented. During the debate when we were discussing health services and the hospital the Leader of the Opposition, in reply to the statements I made, said that his Party felt that there should be free medical services and to that effect they had put this in their Manifesto. I read the Manifesto and I had reached the stage, when I was interrupted, that they said their measures would be free medical facilities for pensioners and pre-school children; (2) the introduction of a National Insurance Medical Plan no free service; (3) the creation of a system of incentive for doctors who would be practising in areas in the country; (4) the inception of specialist services at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital; (5) the inception of family planning facilities; (6) the creation of an integrated medical health service with extended facilities within easy reach of all who need assistance. There was nothing in this programme, nothing in the Manifesto which stated that the Party if it got into power was going to introduce free medical services, and I was at pains to raise that, and that was the whole problem. I think the worry with the Leader of the Opposition was that I was quick to draw the Manifesto to his attention, I had no intention of entering into the debate, but if the hon. member had not said that it was in the Manifesto I would not have worried about whether free medical services should be introduced and that it was in the Manifesto.
8.10 p.m.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member is accusing me of lying, because I have said on the floor of the House that I did not make that statement in my speech, and, by his repeating it, he is now accusing me of lying and, therefore, misrepresenting my motives. That statement that I said that free medical attention was in our Manifesto was not made by me. If the hon. member goes on repeating it, he is repeating to the House, or whoever happens to read the Debates, that I am telling a lie in the House. That is a misrepresentation, in my respectful submission, of my motives in this House within the meaning of the Rules.

The question that Head 42 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1971-72 No. 15

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is in the name of the Hon. Prime Minister, and I am asking for leave to deal with it. It is to move the passing of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$300,000 out of the Consolidated Fund, and to place it at the disposal of Government to supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part II - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1971-72 No. 15, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You can deal with it.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, as the Addendum sets out, as a result of a comprehensive investigation of all aspects of the operations and management of the Government Printing Office, including the printing requirements of Parliament, it has been recommended, *inter alia*, that certain new equipment, to the estimated value of \$266,000, should be provided for the Office, and that there should be extensions to the existing building. It has also been further decided that the Printing Office should be removed from its present premises and located elsewhere in a new building especially constructed and designed to streamline the production processes and to meet present day requirements of the department.

This Resolution seeks the provision of funds for the purchase of the equipment and for the extensions to the building.

Mr. Chairman, I shall attempt to give, briefly, certain of the main recommendations of the Committee which dealt with this investigation of the Printing Press, the equipment and the premises. As a result of complaints regarding the unsatisfactory operations of the Government Printing Office, a Committee was set up to investigate and report on the working of the Government Printing Office. The Committee completed its investigation, and one of its findings is that the machines can no longer produce work of the quantity and quality required of the Printery. Another finding of the Committee is that the Printery is operating under unsatisfactory conditions and in a building with inadequate floor area. In addition it was found that these conditions were in the main responsible for the reduction in the overall efficiency of the Printery. Another finding of the Committee is that, contrary to the Report of the Debates Committee concerning the operation of the Government Printing Office, it would be uneconomical to spend \$150,000 on second-hand equipment for use in the printing of Parliamentary matters and that the staff, as recommended in the said Report for this exercise, was excessive. The Committee, however, found that proof-reading and composing with respect to Parliamentary Debates and other matters should be undertaken in the Parliament building in close proximity to the offices of the Parliamentary staff.

Mr. Chairman, another of the Committee's findings is that an I.B.M. Recorder should be located in the Parliament building, and the tapes produced therefrom should in turn be passed on to an I.B.M. Console and the Printing Presses at the Printing Office. With such an arrangement it is considered that the existing difficulties experienced in the composing and printing of the Parliamentary Debates would be surmounted.

The Committee also recommended that the present composing equipment should be replaced by I.B.M. Magnetic Tape selective equipment comprising 8 Model V Recorders and 2 Modified Composers complete with Magnetic Tape. Two of the Recorders with the appropriate staff should be set up at the Parliament building to work exclusively on Parliamentary Debates, and the tapes produced therefrom passed to the Printing Office for final processing.

In summary, Sir, the recommendations of the Committee may be categorised as follows:

- (a) Additional staff for the Government Printing Office. That will be the subject of a special Civil Establishment Order which will come down shortly;
- (b) A Comprehensive Training Programme for staff;
- (c) Additional accommodation;
- (d) Additional machinery and equipment.

The recommendations of the Committee have been accepted, and this Resolution seeks to provide funds for the implementation of the said recommendations as well as the removal of the Printing Office from its present site and its location elsewhere in a new building especially designed and constructed to streamline the production with a view to achieving maximum efficiency.

At the present moment, Mr. Chairman, the existing equipment in the Press Room is comprised of -

- 1 small platen press letter-press
- 1 cylinder press letter-press
- 1 Davidson offset small press
- 4 Davidson offset large presses
- 2 A.B. Dick 360 offset presses
- 1 guillotine - large

In the Binding Department -

- 1 Folding machine
- 1 Ruling machine
- 1 Wire-stitching machine - small
- 1 Wire-stitching machine - medium
- 1 Wire-stitching machine - large
- 1 Perforator.

8.20 p.m.

- 1 Numberette
- 1 Punching and Tabbing Machine
- Guillotine (small)
- 1 Blocking Press
- 1 Card Cutter

In the Camera room:

- 2 Light Frames
- 3 Light Tables
- 1 Kenro Camera

In the Composing section there are:

- 4 Varitypers (1957)
- 1 Varityper (1968)
- 1 Varityper (1969)
- 1 Justowriter Recorder (1957)
- 2 Justowriter Recorders (1967)
- 2 Justowriter Reproducers (1967)

I have given a list of the existing equipment at the Government Printing Office. The Committee which was set up has recommended that the renovations and re-equipping of the plant and machinery be done in two phases, but the Government decided to do it in one phase, so we are now coming for the entire amount of \$300,000. The re-equipping which has been recommended according to the Report are:

IBM Magnetic Tape Selective Composer Equipment

			\$	¢
1 Modified Composer	...	...	10,000.00	
1 Composer Console	...	...	13,200.00	
1 Magnetic Tape Reader	...	...	4,300.00	
4 Model V Recorder	...	...	33,600.00	
Standby Composer	...	...	10,000.00	
Desks	...	...	4,000.00	
1 Heidelberg Sorm Offset				
Printing Press	...	...	35,000.00	
1 A.B. Dick (22 1/2 x 17 1/2)	...	...	18,000.00	

Binding Equipment:

Collator	...	...	5,000.00
Cutting Machine	...	...	9,500.00
Folding Machine	...	...	4,000.00
Numbering Machine	...	...	2,500.00

PHASE II

			\$	¢
2 A.B. Dick (22 1/2 x 17 1/2)...	...	...	36,000.00	
Composing Equipment as above				
(excluding Standby Composer)	...	...	65,000.00	
Kenro Vertical 24	...	...	10,000.00	
Light Table	...	...	2,500.00	
Light Frame	...	...	3,400.00	
and for extensions to existing building which will be 1,000 sq.ft. at roughly \$20 to \$25 per sq. foot	...	...	25,000.00	

This extension is to the west side of the building in order to make provision for proof reading and to enable the Government Printer and his assistant to have comfortable offices, because at present both the Government Printer and his deputy are in one small room, and it is for that reason that the question of proof reading might have been considered difficult, but proof reading can be done anywhere,

even in that small office where you have the Printer and his deputy. This is something which we want to do immediately, and we also want to tile certain floors; so this \$25,000 will be spent in that way. We would like to have this \$300,000 voted in order to place the orders. We know that we can do it by a token vote as far as the placing of the orders is concerned, but we are coming for this \$300,000 which has been estimated, and even if we have to revote the amount in the Capital Estimates, the fact is that we want to get ahead with this matter and do it as quickly as we can. We need to make immediate improvement in order to cope with the situation as it stands. We are having new premises specially built for the Government Printery with streamlined arrangements so as to do the work more efficiently, but the exact siting has not yet been accomplished. Some hon. members might ask where we are going to site it, but we have not yet agreed on the site, and the appropriate officers are making the necessary investigations and seeing that a proper site is selected.

Mr. Chairman, I do not think there is very much more I can tell you at this stage, but any pertinent question will be answered. We need much more room in the binding section and there are certain floors to be tiled in order to improve the situation immediately apart from the extension to the west end which we will do as quickly as we can in order to provide additional facilities for the Government Printer and for proof reading.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, we are asked to vote the sum of \$300,000 to set the Government Printery on a good footing, if I should put it that way. Setting it on a good footing should be taken to mean placing it in a position to execute the work that it will be required to turn out from time to time and to meet the demands that may be made upon it. Now we should address our minds in the first place to one or two of the things that caused us to set up the Government Printery in the year 1957. At that time I think I am right in saying that the backlog of parliamentary work the debates, the Minutes, Hansard and everything connected with Parliament was being neglected. Government at the time felt too that by establishing its own printery it could effect a considerable saving in the sums that the commercial printeries had been charging.

8.30 p.m.

All of these things, Mr. Chairman, had been taken into consideration and Government was advised to set up its own printery. We should at this stage ask ourselves whether in the short period of 14 years the Government Printery has at any stage during that period measured up to expectations. We should address our minds to this. Have we seen Government taking the Government Printery and its chaotic state from time to time and giving it the serious consideration it deserves? I would like at this stage to

ask the introducer of this Resolution how many annual reports have been published by or on the Government Printery from the year 1957 when this Printery had been established, and my reason for asking that is this, we are now asked to vote \$300,000 of the taxpayers' money to set the Government Printery on its feet, but on this side of the House we are saying that if we were to vote ten times that amount of money the Government Printery will not get going. The Government Printery throughout all the years, the Minister cannot tell us whether it has been paying its way or whether it has been losing money, but all we have been doing from time to time is pushing our hands into the taxpayers' pockets, finding money and just throwing it into the Government Printery.

One of the sordid facts which we have to face up to again much to my regret is that the Government has not yet learned to appreciate what printing is, and it seems to me that they do not intend to learn. I feel it is the duty of the Opposition to begin in some small measure to teach Government to appreciate what printing really is, and we have the opportunity to do it tonight. When the Government is faced with our traffic problems, with our big engineering problems, they send abroad for traffic experts, for road construction engineers, people who are specialists in their particular fields. Whenever they want surveys carried out in the Government Printery they look about for Civil Servants who know something about everything that they do not really know, and whatever the Civil Servants put on paper and give to the Government, the Government is willing to accept. The Government was badly advised when they decided to set up the Government Printery to embark on the type of machinery that was set up. (Hon. F. G. SMITH: That was your Government.) I do not mind what Government it was, the Government was badly advised. If I were the Head of the Government at the time, and I know I was not, whoever accepted the advice at the time was badly advised to buy the equipment with which the Government Printery was equipped at that time, because we have seen that the equipment which cost a tidy sum in those days and would now cost a fabulous sum has only had a life existence of 14 years, and anybody who is associated with printing will tell you that a piece of printing machinery manufactured by the poorest of engineers must last a minimum of 50 to 75 years, and with care must last well over a century. Here is it, only 14 years, and a Minister is telling us tonight that after having this machinery installed for only 14 years it is of no more use to them.

We have now got to start and set up a new Government Printery so to speak. Is it fair to the taxpayers of this country that the Government acted in on this advice immediately prior to 1957? The Government then and successive Governments have seen that this was bad advice.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, I hate to interrupt the hon. member, but the Government of 1957 was not our Government.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the present Government since 1966, since I have been in this House,

came for money and bought machinery for the Government Printery and wasted the taxpayers' money. They were advised then that they were wasting the taxpayers' money, but the Government is not prepared to accept good advice in this matter, they prefer to have advice from Civil Servants and from the same Civil Servants who led them up the garden path immediately prior to 1957 when the Printery was set up. Let the Minister get to his feet now and tell us who carried out the survey on the Government Printery; give us the name of one printer who knows the case or anything about printing at all that has been associated with the team which carried out this survey to advise the Government. It is wickedness on the part of the present Government, and I will tell you this, while we want to respect Civil Servants, I feel that if a Civil Servant knows that he is called upon to perform a task which is entirely outside of his scope for which he holds no specialist knowledge, no specialist training or aptitude for it, the Civil Servant, regardless of who he might be, ought to be honest enough to urge upon Government to look for a specialist in that particular field and be advised by him, but not because you are a Civil Servant and might have reached the top you are going to be dabbling in this and in that and expect to be a specialist in every field. I am trying in my poor way, Mr. Chairman, to defend the taxpayers' \$300,000 that the Government is prepared to throw down the drain tonight by putting it in the Government Printery. I am trying to urge upon Government the necessity of having the shoemaker to stick to his lathe, so to speak.
8.40 p.m.

When the Trade Union want advice, they do not look for a carpenter, a mason or a baker on the road to give them advice. They look for specialists in the particular field who can give them the advice they want. That is how you can expect to make progress. When you want advice in any particular field you do not go outside your own scope and recruit all sorts of nondescript people. Simply because they have good looks, good height and size, they may not be equipped for doing certain things.

I think that these civil servants who allow themselves to be dragged into this matter by saying that they are carrying out a survey of the Government Printery and making recommendations for this and that - things that they know nothing about - are not doing a service to this community. They are definitely not doing a service to the Government. If the Government is being badly advised on this matter, then what is the position of the Leader of the House when he comes to introduce a Resolution of this sort? He cannot advise us properly, because he does not have the best advice at his disposal on the subject with which he has to deal.

Now, Mr. Chairman, we find that the Leader of this Survey Team has gone once on record as saying: "Once you can read and spell, you can do printing." That is the yardstick by which he measures printing. The Government was advised in 1957 to install this kind of equipment which has broken down from time to time because of the heavy demands made on it. We

are repeating that, and out of the Minister's own mouth we will learn further of the heavy demands being made upon the Government Printery. The demands on the Government Printery will continue to grow, and they are not becoming lighter and lighter. These demands are increasing more and more and, as a consequence, the Government must decide to obtain equipment that can stand up to the strenuous demands that will be made upon it.

Mr. Chairman, I have here a Report that was written by the then Government Printer at the end of 1957 in which he advised that conventional printing from type was now virtually obsolete. This was written roughly 13 years ago. I want to tell the Acting Government Printer of those days that 13 years hence, that is today, he was misleading the then Government, because today it is still acknowledged that cold type letterpress is the best form of printing and particularly for our required type of printing as in the case of the Parliamentary Debates. This can be established as I go on in the course of my address.

With regard to the varitype method, this I.B.M. typewriter/tape business is very good. It is a quicker process in this respect: It is quicker when you are going to turn out a large volume of work. In other words, if we were going to put the Hansard on the road, as in the case of newspapers, in order to catch the market on Sunday mornings, you could employ that method; however, when it is known that you require lasting type to be used with documents which will have to be stored away for long periods, then the matter should be discussed with the Archivist and those who have experience about what I am saying on this matter. I say that letterpress that has kissed the face of the printed form is much preferred not only in Barbados and in England, but all over the world for the type of work that Parliamentary documents demand. If you are printing a handbill today and throwing it away tomorrow it would be all right.

Mr. Chairman, the Government Printery is doing commercial printing, and the rigours to which these machines are subjected are great. The Report tells us that after one year of operation the machinery that the Government Printery had been set up with did not stand up to expectations. In other words, the demands upon that type of equipment was too heavy for the type of equipment which had been installed.

8.50 p.m.

We can appreciate any Government finding itself in such a position because after having taken thousands of dollars of the taxpayers' money and embarked upon a scheme of setting up a Government Printery and employing a particular system, to abandon it overnight as it would then appear and to ask the House of Assembly to vote a new set of money to instal the proper type of equipment would have been to ask too much. The cold type for letter press use is what we are demanding from Government for its long-lasting and efficient use for the

benefit of the taxpayers of this country. You have said that you bought a second hand machine and it lasted fourteen years. If you had bought a second hand machine and it lasted for fourteen years, you would want to go back and ask the people for your money. This is printing machinery and the Government took the taxpayers' money and bought machinery to last less than fourteen years, because time and time again throughout the fourteen year period, if we were to follow this report and the explanations given by Government and even what I have been able to extract from hon. members on the opposite side from time to time whenever they come with Resolutions before this House for money for the Government Printery, you will see that considerable sums of money have had to be spent to keep these machines in a state of repair to be able to execute the part they have been able to play in meeting some of the demands made upon them from time to time. We are saying, Mr. Chairman, that it is not fair to the taxpayers for Government to be treating them in this manner, not when the Government could with little or no difficulty whatsoever have got people who know about printing to advise them on how best to go about this whole exercise.

Now, Sir, I am turning away from the Government's report just briefly. If anybody read this Addendum and tried to understand it, I believe that really and truly the Minister who introduced the Resolution would have to leave town. It says that as a result of a comprehensive investigation of all the aspects of the operation and management of the Government Printing Office... Now let us stop there. We know something of the operations. We know that the Government has always seen to it that whenever they had a Civil Servant who apparently could not gain promotion elsewhere they decided to dump him whenever they had a vacancy at the Government Printery. They have never yet taken a man who knows anything about or who has had any training in printing. You will find that in Grenada there is a trained Printer; in Trinidad and in Antigua there is a trained Printer; and in Jamaica there is a number of trained Government Printers, but in Barbados Civil Servants cannot be promoted anywhere but to the Government Printery. (Hon. F. G. SMITH: Who was the first Government Printer?) The first Acting Government Printer had been a Librarian. Mr. Carlisle Burton. It is he who advised the Government on all this and it is he who has now led this survey team in the survey for the Government. I just cannot understand it. People ought to be honest enough as to say they have reached the heights in this particular field but they cannot be proficient in everything under the sun.

Mr. Chairman, all these small territories within the West Indies have Government Printers. One of the reasons for having a Government Printer to head a Government Printery is that he can demand the respect and confidence of every worker who is engaged at that Government Printery. But at our Government Printery, when a boy who has learned from the case back and knows his printing goes to the Government Printery and finds a boss who has only seen type or

anything about a printery since he has come to the printery as an old man, he is going to get around the corner with the other boys and laugh at the Government Printer, and when he finds fault with anything they have done and there is really no fault to be found, they are going to make jokes of him. He cannot then demand and expect full production from them under those circumstances. You must remember that a person who is appointed Government Printer did not appoint himself; Government appointed him. He is there doing a job perhaps as best he can, but can he get the maximum production from his staff? He cannot. He does not know what maximum production means.

Now with regard to the present building, if one were to go to the Government Printery, one would get the impression that it was built to accommodate a lot of bedrooms from the amount of partitions in it, and this has been the case since 1957 where neither the Government Printer nor his foreman was ever placed in a position where he could oversee any sizeable portion of the staff. Could anyone expect production under those circumstances?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like at this stage to draw to the hon. member's notice that we are not now dealing with the production of the Government Printery. What we are interested in right now is a Resolution for \$300,000 to buy machinery, not the operation of it, and extension to the building. I would like the hon. member to confine his remarks to the machinery and the extension of the building.

Mr. HINDS: Yes, Mr. Chairman, I own printing machinery. I have never yet kept it in a glass case and the Government Printery's machinery is just like my printing machinery and the machinery of all the other commercial printeries in Bridgetown. They are bought to produce. All I am discussing is whether or not when we spend \$300,000 production is going to measure up to the expenditure in any form or fashion. I have not mentioned the Barbados Marketing Corporation or anything like that. I am talking plainly and simply on the equipment in the Resolution. I could not be more on the Resolution. You must rule and I have to respect your ruling. However, Sir, what we are saying is that the Minister made mention that the Committee had recommended a two-phase operation.

9.00 p.m.

The Minister made mention that the Committee recommended a two-phase operation, that an IBM magnetic tape has to be bought for \$10,000 and a recorder for something like \$36,300. All of these things, Mr. Chairman, might make excellent and fascinating reading to a layman, but the Minister has got to learn all this now, that when he is telling us about all this IBM magnetic equipment, this most important feature for a new set of equipment for the Government Printery must be the type of cameras that the Government will be requiring under this present set up, because at present the Government's cameras can only photograph and blow up

a photograph to what we know in printing as a double foolscap size, so if you have to buy this equipment which is going to go beyond the double foolscap size which, I think, is 22 1/2 x 17 1/2, what type of camera is the Minister going to use in this exercise? What is the cost of the camera the Minister is going to use for processing all this? Does he expect us to believe that they are merely going to buy all this and that no consideration is going to be given to the photographic section of the Printery which is the most valuable section? When his compositors set to work you cannot reach from the compositors to the press room unless you pass through the photographic department; that is the system that is employed by the present Government. You must have your compositors, then you must go to the camera room and have the plates processed and then go to the press room, but the Minister is making ample provision as if he would have us believe that in his composing department he is making provision for his press room, but he tells us absolutely nothing of his camera room. What does the Minister propose doing in this particular respect? Where does he intend getting camera equipment from, because the source of supply in respect of cameras for this type of work is of the utmost importance. The Minister, I believe, although I do not think that he had read it out here, he and his Committee have under consideration the installation of a Heidelberg offset press. I would like to hear from the Minister exactly how much they intend to pay for this Heidelberg offset Press.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: If the hon. member will give way, I mentioned that the cost of the Heidelberg offset printing press is \$35,000.

Mr. HINDS: I wonder if the Minister has been supplied with information as to the size form the Heidelberg is going to carry because that is what makes it of some relevance. If you know what size sheet it is going to be able to take, that would be of great help. Mr. Chairman, the Minister must understand that I have come out of the hard school of experience.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Fortunately or unfortunately, but I am listening to the hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, we are buying a Heidelberg offset press for \$35,000 and we have got to be told what size sheet or what form this Heidelberg offset will take. It is very important to us because if you are going to buy a Heidelberg for \$35,000 to carry the same 14 x 17 1/2 that your present A.B. Dick now carries, our contention is that your production is not so great and you do not have such a long run into the \$50,000 run for that particular job, because I want to tell the Minister this, one of the Government's biggest headaches is that almost all the departments of Government are presently suffering for Local Purchase Order Books. Many of the departments have placed orders for periods of more than two years with the Government Printery to get Local Purchase Order Books and they have not been able to get them. Some of them

have also had occasion to place orders for the forms they call PSC 5 and PSC 6. These are not forms that are readily used, although the PSC 5 is used more readily than the PSC 6, but these are forms for which you will find one department trying to borrow from the other departments, and we have a Government Printery that we are being asked to put \$300,000 into to bring it back to life.

Even for today's meeting of the House of Assembly, although this House has not been meeting quite regularly, we have been meeting almost every two weeks or so, but today we do not have Minutes for confirmation. This in itself will go to show you that with a Government Printery in operation we do not have this material before us. Why are we not up to date with this all? We are saying that as immediately prior to 1957 when there was a backlog of Parliamentary work, we are exactly where we were then, and I am saying now we are in a worse position than we were in 1957 because at that time Government had nothing to lose.

9.10 p.m.

They had to embark on something to see if they could rescue some of the taxpayers' money and see if they could reclaim something from some of the printeries. You will find that we now have to do exactly what was done thirteen or fourteen years ago. Are we doing justice in the circumstances, Mr. Chairman? According to the note, the Committee recommended that there should be extensions to the existing building. Nobody can get around this recommendation, but I would like to ask the Minister if it is not a fact and on record at the Government Printery, and if it is not on record at the Ministry of Communications and Works, and if it is not on record on a file at the Town and Country Planning Office that the Public Works Department and the Town and Country Planning Department have advised against extensions to this building on its present site on a previous occasion? Let the Minister deny that there is on record at these Departments correspondence to that effect.

Mr. Chairman, today we are being asked in this Resolution to vote a sum of money to carry out extensions to the existing building, but in the same Addendum it has also been decided that the Printing Office should be removed. Mr. Chairman, how long is too long, if it is good? If the Government Printery is badly sited at the present moment to warrant a new building to accommodate its staff and equipment, why, in the face of that recommendation, are we going to carry out extensions merely when it is considered that we are going to house equipment to the value of \$266,000? Have we no adequate regard for the taxpayers' money in this country? We know of the cramped conditions at the Government Printery; proper supervision cannot be carried out there, and full production cannot be expected for one cause or another. These are conditions that have been existing up to today.

In the face of all the evidence this Government has produced today, Mr. Chairman, let us ask our-

selves, how long would it take the Government to produce a building? If the Government found it necessary to withdraw a team of workers from any particular site to put up a Government building to accommodate the Government Printery - *(Asides)* The Minister tells us that he now has to place an order for machinery that will cost \$266,000. Would it not have been better, in the circumstances, if the Government had decided to put up a building to house the equipment?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I should like to draw to the hon. member's attention that the Government is leaving no stone unturned in seeing that a building is put up as soon as possible, but it is necessary to place an order for the equipment as soon as possible. The equipment will take more than six months to get here. The reason for this Resolution is to enable the Department to place the order immediately and to see that a proper streamlined building for the Government Printery is established. Meanwhile, the \$25,000 is to make certain immediate and urgent adjustments to the existing building in order to relieve the situation and to make certain urgent improvements until such time as we can occupy more commodious quarters.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, if the Minister is telling us that the equipment will take six months or more to arrive here, then how urgent could this matter be? I am satisfied that the Government has not up to this point shown itself as being really and truly apprised of the situation as it now obtains at the Government Printery and has not been brought face to face with the facts. The Government did not have a survey carried out by competent people upon whose recommendations it could rely to plan something for the Government Printery for the next 20 years. It is merely a question that, because the Minister finds he has to place an order for the equipment, he would like the Resolution passed quickly. All of these things are good, but it must be remembered that this is one of the straws that can break the camel's back. It is about the last straw where the Government Printery is concerned. Now, what the Government Printer, apparently, has never been advised about is that part of the Government Printery should go offset. The machinery that the Government is spending the bulk of the money on, much of that money could be saved if the Government would shift to letterpress. You can have offset letterpress. I cannot understand why the Government is opting, time and time again, for this process that means absolutely nothing but a loss!

9.20 p.m.

At the Government Printery there is a Chandler and Price press that is old. It would be a good thing to hear from the Minister what will be done with that type of equipment, because when the Government says it is old, in the world of commercial printing it is not old. (Hon. F. G. SMITH: Do you want it for the Truth?)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will the hon. member carry on with the debate and address the Chair?

Mr. HINDS: I have not said a word other than to the Chair. I know how the Chairman of Committees feels after a member has been on his feet for the length of time I have been on mine, but I will get on with the debate. Now I have asked the Minister to help me with the latest report on the Government Printery. I would also like the Minister to help us, because he must have it in his file, on the various sums we have voted to buy equipment at the Government Printery from time to time. I do not want the Minister to tell me the sum voted in 1957 because I have that for my own benefit. The Government had been led to believe at one time that the Government Printery had turned out work valued say at \$70,000, but there was still an additional \$40,000 in work that was completed and awaiting delivery. It is the biggest piece of nonsense I have heard, unless it is a case where the printery had been manufacturing for overseas. If it is a case where the printery had been printing for the various Government Departments and had really got this amount of work completed and ready for delivery, it could all be delivered in two days' time, and I am sure the Chairman would bear me out on this.

Now surely we would like to learn from the Minister exactly how it is proposed to streamline the production process. These are all very comforting terms to the Opposition when you want to invite us to vote for a Resolution for this sum of money. The Government Printery has undergone some changes. It has gone from hand to hand. At one time it was under the control of the Minister of Communications and Works; another time it was under the control of the Minister of Home Affairs; it is now, I understand, under the control of the Minister of State, and I thought that the Minister of State would consider making available to us in the Opposition copies of the report of the Survey Team. That would help us even at this stage in arriving at a decision as to whether Government is acting on the best advice that could be made available to it at the present time and under the circumstances.

Mr. Chairman, I am not one of the people who believe that the Minister of State is a person who would try to shelter behind making hon. members believe that a report on the Government Printery contains any top secrets or anything. We are fully aware that if one were to look at copies of the Minutes or parliamentary documents that come before us, those of us who are familiar with what we call type faces - I mean the characters in the various letters - would see that something is really wrong, because they have got to employ what we call a very considerable amount of wrong font letters from time to time. What is Government doing to remedy this? I think the Minister spoke of an extensive training programme. When the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic was being established, I invited the Government to carry out an estimate of its own requirements. I asked the Government to set up a school for the teaching of the graphic arts, and I am sure that if the Government had done that at the time, they would today be drawing upon skilled workmen and they would not now be telling you about em-

barking upon any training scheme for the purpose. We know what the position is as regards training of printers in this Island. There has never been any training programme except through our bursary schemes and we really do not know what has happened even with the bursary scheme in recent years; it all seems to have gone amiss. We really cannot follow what is taking place, and we are wondering what Government is doing. I would like to see and to know that Government really does something to get itself going on this very important matter of the Government Printery.

9.30 p.m.

We are to wonder, Mr. Chairman, what is wrong; what is the Government doing? I would like to see and to know that Government really does something to get itself going on this very important matter of the Government Printery.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, while the hon. member is awaiting the Minister's reply, there is one point under this question of printing which I would be glad if the Minister could give me and the Committee some information about. Some time ago - and I have to say it for him since he cannot say it for himself - the hon. member for St. Peter carried out a very brilliant study of the printing needs of the House of Assembly and certain of the aspects of the work of the Government Printery, and his analysis of the situation was accepted by the Government. I believe this was about three years ago, and very fulsome tributes were paid to the hon. member for St. Peter - he was the junior member then, he is now the only member for St. Peter - and a token vote was brought down. Mr. Chairman, I say a token vote, but I believe it may even have been a vote of substance, to implement the hon. member's scheme. As I understood it, this would have produced, for one, the debates of the House of Assembly within a few days of their having taken place. I understood that the hon. member recommended to the Government the type of machinery to be bought, the site downstairs from the Chamber in which we are now engaged in our debate in which it could be housed, and the amount of staff which would be required to carry it out, and I recall on that occasion members upon all sides of the House praised the hon. member for St. Peter for the technical expertise which he placed at the disposal of Parliament in suggesting an improvement in the printing of the debates and in streamlining and simplifying the work of the Government Printery.

I would like to ask the Minister what has become of that report, of the occasion which gave rise to it, of the vote which was passed to implement it, and why it was abandoned if it has been abandoned, because I recall the general satisfaction relating to this at the time, that I for one was extremely surprised when with my Notice Paper and Order Paper I observed that the Government seems to be pursuing a fresh direction of attack upon the problems of the Government Printery, and I would be glad if the former Minister of Home Affairs, who has temporarily left the Committee, could assist us with the state of the hon. member's scheme.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. member might not have been in here when I introduced the Resolution, but I did make mention of this particular fact. Another finding of the Committee is that contrary to the report of the Debates Committee concerning the operation of the Government Printing Office, it would be uneconomical to spend \$115,000 on second-hand equipment for use in the printing of Parliamentary matters, and that the staff as recommended in the said report for this exercise was excessive. Another of the Committee's findings, Mr. Chairman, is that an IBM recorder be located in the Parliament buildings, and the tapes produced therefrom should in turn be passed onto an IBM console and the printing presses at the Government Printing Office. With such an arrangement it is considered that the existing difficulties experienced with the composing and printing of Parliamentary debates would be surmounted.

The Committee also recommended that the present equipment should be replaced by an IBM magnetic tape, electrical equipment comprising eight model wheel recorders and two modified composers complete with magnetic tape recorders. I have given all this information already. I have gone to the trouble of extracting from the report of the Committee the most salient points and I have given them to the Committee. I introduced the Resolution by giving you everything; there is very little more I can say, I have not withheld anything, I have given you the whole works.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, there are just one or two things I would like to clear up. I think the hon. member for Christ Church West could tell the hon. member for St. Peter that the Government does not appoint Government Printers in this day and age, the post of Government Printer is a Civil Service post, and it is the Public Service Commission and not the Government who makes this appointment. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition, who I assume has studied the Constitution of Barbados, will know that the Government does not appoint the Government Printer and that it is the duty of the Commission, of which the hon. member for Christ Church West has been a member for some time, to pick out the most suitable person for the job, but now I am hearing in this Chamber that the Government appoints incompetent persons.

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order, I wonder if the Hon. Minister could tell us how many people, bearing in mind that the Government cannot appoint the Government Printer, has the Government taken upon itself to train for the post of Government Printer.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: The hon. member for the City could also ask the hon. member for Christ Church West, and he will be able to tell him that the Government votes money in the Training Scheme Fund which is under the administration of the Public Service Commission. If the Public Service Commission is minded of the need of the Civil Service, the money which Parliament votes under the Training

Scheme Fund is a matter for them to train people when they discover that they have not got the people whom they want. The Government does not grant scholarships, the Government provides the money and it is the Public Service Commission and the Training Unit who pick out persons for this particular post.

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of order, I am not saying that the Government picks out people to be trained, but certainly in the particular aspect of training in the particular field the Government must have some say in whether they want to have people trained in that particular field. I am not saying that the Government has to say train "A" or train "B" but the Government must say in its list of priorities what fields it wants people trained in. Has the Government done anything about training Printers?

Hon. F. G. SMITH: As I was saying, Mr. Chairman, it is quite clear that the evidence of the hon. member for St. Peter and his knowledge of printing in itself is a clear indication that you do not have to go abroad to learn about printing, if the advice which he has attempted to give to the Government is to be taken seriously. He may have gone to some printing institution unknown to me, but certainly the hon. member for St. Peter has dealt with this Resolution on such an authoritative basis that it is quite clear that a competent, untrained person can know as much about printing as anybody else.
9.40 p.m.

What I would like to say is that the Printing Office in this country is paying its way and is more than justifying any expenditure spent on it. In 1955-56 the then Government...

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Does the Minister have any Reports from the Government to bear this out?

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, in the Estimates of 1955-56 the then Government, which is now in Opposition, was spending \$114,000 with the *Advocate* for printing the Debates and other Annual Reports. If the Government was paying \$114,000 to the *Advocate* in 1955, you can work it out and see what this Government would have been paying to the *Advocate* today when the volume of work in Gazettes in Annual Reports has increased almost a hundred-fold.

Mr. Chairman, if we had to pay the commercial printing companies in town for the work that that Printery puts out today, it would cost the Government well over \$1 million. If you look in the 1970-71 Estimates you will see a total of \$134,000 is all that that operation costs. If you relate what we would have had to pay to private printing, or to the *Advocate*, or to any other printing firm, for the Annual Reports, the Public Health Reports, and the number of Reports that this Honourable Chamber receives by law yearly, then you would see that that Department is more than justifying its existence.

Furthermore, Mr. Chairman, this Government must act on the advice of persons whom the Government considers important to advise it. The hon. member for St. Peter knows that a printer need not be the best person to advise anybody in this matter. Many a time he has come into this Honourable Chamber and criticised things which had been done by persons competent to judge and he, from his commonsense point of view, has found that sometimes they have not always given the best advice.

The Government is satisfied that the Committee appointed to go into the general working of the Printing Press is a competent Committee, highly motivated and motivated with one concern for the improvement of the Printing Press of this country. Mr. Burton was a member of the Committee, and this Government feels that he will give the Government the best advice of which he is capable. He was involved in the Printing Press in its early stages, and therefore, the Government has no reason to deny that the advice it received is worthy of consideration and should be in the form of the Resolution which is before this House.

Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for St. Peter has only expressed his view, which is a matter of opinion. He may very well feel that one type of machinery is better than another type with justification and probably from his past experience in printing and running a newspaper. He may honestly feel that way. The Government Advisers feel that one type of machinery is useful, and the Government, of course, bears the ultimate responsibility for the type of machinery which is ordered on the advice which is given. I say that this is not throwing any money down the drain. This is a Resolution which is brought here with a view to the improvement of a Department which is the subject of criticism almost daily.

With regard to the extension of the building, the hon. member for St. Peter already agrees that the building was badly built by his Government when the Printing Office was established. He has admitted that. He said that proper supervision was not possible. We did not build the building.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Was it built to accommodate a Printery?

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, we have inherited it just as we have inherited the machinery that you say should be lasting more than 14 years. When this Government came into power in 1961 it could not throw the machinery into the wharf. What we have endeavoured to do, from time to time, is to keep the machinery which was bought from taxpayers' money alive as long as possible and working as long as possible. You cannot come in here in 1971 and blame us for machinery bought by your Government at the establishment of a Press. Even if you admit that you were wrongly advised, all I can say is that the Government has now reached a stage when it is satisfied that, for the proper functioning of this Printing Press, it will have to provide a different type of machinery. I do not know the life

of machinery in printing. I suppose it is just like the Voting Machines. You cannot spend millions of dollars on Voting Machines and then dump them in Carrera. You will have to use them because it is an investment.

Mr. Chairman, all this Government has done from time to time is to endeavour to use machinery which the hon. member for St. Peter says the Labour Party of 1957 wrongly bought for a Press. (Asides). I left in 1955, so you cannot blame me for that. I think we are both *ad idem*. The hon. member for St. Peter in his knowledge of printing has given advice on what he thinks would be a better method of carrying out efficiently the working of the Printing Office. We on this side of the House are equally motivated by a desire to see that that aspect of Government functions properly. No member of this House, including the Leader of the House, is satisfied when members get their Gazettes 3, 4, 6 months or two years after the date of publication. We do not like it, and this was a handicap when we were in the Other Place. We could not adequately deal with Government Business, because we did not know what were the criticisms in this Honourable Chamber. We are interested in seeing that that Department functions as efficiently as possible.

Mr. Chairman, I accept the criticism of the hon. member for St. Peter as given from his more expert knowledge of printing than he considers to be the advisers' to this Government, but then the hon. member for St. Peter is not a civil servant, nor is he a member of an Advisory Team established by Government. We can only avail ourselves of such opinions as he may voice in this Honourable Chamber. I know that he has given his opinion from a desire to see that the best machinery is ordered for this Department.

I am satisfied, I think, the Cabinet is, and the Government is satisfied that when you have read this Report that the persons who comprised this Committee went into all aspects of the printing and the efficient running of the Printing Department and submitted the Report to the Government. We honestly felt and still feel that the Report was well written, well reasoned, well studied, and the result of this Resolution before Parliament today. Tomorrow you will get another printer telling you that another type of machinery is different. I say, again, that if the *Truth* and the *Beacon* can be run by persons who were not specially trained - I am being brutally frank - in printing, then there is no earthly reason why the Government Printery could not be run by persons who are equally not trained, but who have shown an interest in it, in the same way as the hon. member for St. Peter, and who have made it a study for the future.

9.50 p.m.

Who in the *Observer* was ever trained to run the printing? There is no magic about printing. The machinery does the printing. All you have to do is to spell the words correctly and put them on the print and get it out. Once you have a properly trained person to administer and help run the print-

ery, he need not be any high-powered expert on printing.

Anyhow, Sir, I think that the hon. member for St. Peter has given his views from his mature knowledge of printing which is, in fairness to him, greater than mine. I make no pretence to be a printer, or to know which offset machine or which press is better than the other, but if my technical advisers tell me tomorrow that such and such is a good machine and will do the work, and I am satisfied that they are not doing it because of some ulterior motive or because they want to give a particular agent a job and that their recommendation is based on their experience, I will follow that advice. If I were setting up a paper tomorrow, I would write to the printing presses all over the world that make machinery and I would be competent enough to see what it can do and what it cannot do. When you buy a Xerox machine or an I.B.M. piece of machinery you can read once you are literate and you can see what it can and cannot do. You do not have to spend ten years at any printing works to know what printing is all about. There is no magic to it because evidence in Barbados is that magicians produce papers or that papers are produced by people who I know have no special training but have a desire to make a living and a desire to learn what the whole process is all about.

This Resolution can be passed tonight. We will put up the building. I am not admitting that there is anything in the Ministry of Communications saying that it should not be put there. There might be a multiplicity of reasons why it should not be put there, but we are satisfied that that building can be temporarily extended. The money is not going down the drain because eventually if the Government builds a proper Printing Office elsewhere, that particular building will be used for other Governmental purposes. So it is not a question of throwing down something and when you leave it it is abandoned for ever more. The extension by 25,000 feet to make it temporarily more comfortable and to enable it to perform its functions more efficiently is more than justified, and I am saying, Mr. Chairman, that we are justified, and I am saying, Mr. Chairman, that we are satisfied that we have been given the best advice, and we intend to act on it which is the purpose of this Resolution.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I have listened to the hon. member who has just sat down. He made mention of Mr. Burton who headed the survey team and said that Mr. Burton was properly motivated and he gave the Government the advice of which he was capable. Who can blame him? We have no quarrel about that, but the hon. member went on to talk about printing until eventually he found himself bolting down a dark alley talking about producing papers. They are two entirely different entities. Printing is something entirely different from producing papers. In other words, you can produce a paper without printing, and you can print without producing a paper. When you listen to the arguments of the hon. member who has just sat down and of the

Leader of the House, they tell us that when the Government Printery was set up there was a backlog of parliamentary work. This is still so. We heard of the sums of money the Government had to pay the Advocate in 1955-56, but what we are saying is that we believe the Government still had to pay the Advocate and other printeries almost as much as this amount for printing in this year and the year just past. (Asides)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like hon. members to adhere to Standing Order No. 29(6).

Mr. HINDS: Sir, if the various Departments of Government are to be kept supplied with their requirements, we are maintaining from our experience that with the type of machinery the Government is installing you will need twice that amount to be able to meet the demands of the various departments of Government. We have heard that if this amount of money is voted we can rest assured that within a short time we will be able to catch up on the backlog and everything will be working smoothly. That is being trotted out time and time again, but tonight we are back in the same position. We are not against the Resolution; all we are asking the Government to do is to spend the money wisely. We have said that whenever they have engineering problems on whatever the project they should get competent people qualified in that particular field to give of their advice and not look to the Civil Servants, but as long perhaps as you have members of Government treating printing as the hon. member who has just sat down who said that you do not have to go any place to learn it, this is the problem you will have.

At the Government Printery there is now an Acting Government Printer who has had two years' training in the United States in varitype mechanism. Since he has come home from that training, the Government Printery has been going and there is not one other person that the Minister can tell us has come up under this mechanic who has had overseas training.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Now I must stop the hon. member once again. This is repeating himself consistently. We are not dealing with training in this Resolution. We are dealing with voting the sum of \$300,000 to buy machinery and to extend the building. This will be the last time I am going to speak; the next time I will act.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I ran into error because when the Minister was introducing the Resolution he said there would be an extensive scheme of training, and I am only replying to what the Minister said. You did not stop him, so I thought I was right, but if you say I am wrong, I will have to stop.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: This is the second time I have said it. I will not say it the third time.
10.00 p.m.

While we have had this Acting Government Printer on training abroad, we have still seen that machines

from the Government Printery have had to be sent to Puerto Rico and remain in Puerto Rico for well over six months, but you had on the spot the mechanic who had been trained for keeping this particular type of machine going, so you will find that what you are up against in a situation like this is we want to see the Government Printery functioning and, above all, we want to see that the various departments are getting the necessary forms so that they can attend to the problems of the public. Perhaps the Water-works Department and many other Departments cannot get their bills out.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is why I have told the hon. member already that we are dealing with machines.

Mr. HINDS: That produce, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Not producing at this stage, this Resolution is to provide money for buying, not producing.

Mr. HINDS: Machines that print on paper.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Let us get through this Resolution first for the money to buy the machines.

Mr. HINDS: And when we get the machines they will print paper.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: We will discuss the paper then, not now.

Mr. HINDS: I wonder if I am right in asking the Minister to rise and explain to us what will be the functions of the machines. I think before the money is voted we should be told. Arising from what you have just ruled, I can only now ask the Leader of the House to explain to the Committee what will be expected of these machines that we are now asked to vote the money to buy. Are these machines that will be put in the show window of the new Cave Shepherd building?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have the authority to tell the hon. member now that they will be placed, as soon as this money is passed, into a building. Let us get along with the Resolution.

Mr. HINDS: Do you mean the Government Printery?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: In a building.

Mr. HINDS: The warehouse at the Port?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Even that. We have had sufficient humour now, so let us deal with the Resolution.

Mr. HINDS: We have the Addendum here which I think is for the guidance of the Committee, and the Addendum tells us that this Resolution comes before us as a result of a comprehensive investigation into all aspects of the operations and management of the Government Printing Office, so that when we spend this \$266,000 and this \$25,000 or thereabout for the extension of a building, that we are going to be in-

stalling \$266,000 for a building which we now call the Government Printery which will be extended. This is what I understand from this Addendum, but that in addition to this the Government has under consideration removal of the Printery as a whole to other premises, and that these other premises will be specially constructed and designed as I remember, and I believe that the Minister wants to answer this point, to explain how Government plans to streamline the production process. I am sure you will give the Minister time to reply, because in addition, this streamlining of the production process has now to do with meeting the requirements of the various departments or of this particular department. In addition to this streamlining, it says "and to meet present day requirements of the department."

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, there will be a separate and distinct Resolution to deal with the construction and erection of this particular building. There is no item in this particular Resolution dealing with that, it is just that we intimated what our plans are, but we left in the \$25,000 in order to make the extension and do some tiling and urgent improvements in order to cope with the work on a better footing temporarily until this new building is set up, so the subject matter of this building, how it will be streamlined and all that sort of thing is not before this Committee, with all due respect, it is just an intimation of what our plans are, because that is the subject matter of a separate and distinct Resolution. There is not even a token vote for the construction of new premises for the plant.

The question that the Resolution for the sum of \$300,000 do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

10.10 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1971-72 No. 16

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution stands in the name of the Minister of Finance and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to grant the sum of thirty thousand one hundred and seventy four dollars out of the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates, 1971-72 Part I - Current - as shown in the supplementary Estimates, 1971-72, No. 16 which form the Schedule to this Resolution.

I beg to move that Head 32 - Ministry of Agriculture, Science and Technology - stand part. The Notes are explanatory.

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

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

Head 48 - Ministry of Tourism, Information and Public Relations - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 48 - Ministry of Tourism, Information and Public Relations - stand part.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of 3 Resolutions in Committee of Supply.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that these Resolutions be now read a first time.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that these Resolutions be now read a second time.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that these Resolutions be now agreed to.

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

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, this concludes Government Business for today's sitting.

I beg to move that this House do now stand adjourned until Tuesday, 14th December, 1971, at 10.30 a.m.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: I beg to second that.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, make it a bit later than 10.30 a.m. I would ask the Hon. Minister to accept an amendment to his Motion. Let us make it twelve o'clock. It is a very busy time for many people who may not be working in the following week. I would move that "10.30 a.m." be deleted and "twelve noon" substituted therefor.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I beg to second that Sir.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: That is accepted, Sir.

The separate questions were put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and accordingly Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House until Tuesday 14th December 1971 at twelve noon.

10.15 p.m.