THE

House of Assembly Debates

PARLIAMENT
BARBADOS

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

THIRD SESSION OF 1966-71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 19th January, 1971

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12.30 p.m. o'clock.

PRESENT

His Honour Sir J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., F.Z.S., *(Speaker);* Hon. J. C. TUDOR, C.M.G., M.A., *(Leader of House);* Mr. J. W. CORBIN, J.P.; Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, *(Minister of Communications and Works);* Mr. R. St. C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P. Hon. N. W. BOXILL, *(Minister of Labour, National Insurance and Housing);* Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD, J.P., *(Chairman of Committees);* Mr. W. C. B. HINDS; Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P.; Mr. J. B. SPRINGER, and Mr. H. B. ST. JOHN Q.C., LL.B., *(Leader of the Opposition).*

Prayers were read.

The Hon. C. E. TALMA, the Hon. K.N.R. HUSBANDS, Mr. ADAMS, Mr. BOLDEN, Mr. SMITH and Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY entered the House and took their seats.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the meetings of Tuesday, 17th March, 1970, Tuesday, 2nd June, 1970, Friday, 5th June, 1970, Tuesday, 9th June, 1970, Tuesday, 23rd June, 1970, Tuesday, 30th June, 1970, Tuesday, 14th July, 1970, Tuesday, 21st July, 1970, and Tuesday, 28th July, 1970, have all I am advised, been circulated. Is there any objection to the confirmation of them one by one? Unless I hear any objection, the Minutes of the 17th March, 1970 will be confirmed. Hearing no objection I hereby declare them to be confirmed.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS entered the House and took his seat.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there is no objection, the Minutes of Tuesday, 2nd June, 1970 will be confirmed. Hearing no objection, I so declare them to be confirmed.

With respect to the Minutes of Friday, 5th June, 1970, in the absence of any objection I will declare them to be confirmed.

Unless there is any objection I declare the Minutes of Tuesday 9th June, 1970 to be confirmed; likewise, those of the 23rd June, 1970. 30th June, 1970; any objection? Confirmed. 14th July, 1970; any objection? Confirmed.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make one point, which is that the name of the Clerk should be completed with the insertion of the letter "C" after the letters "St."

Mr. SPEAKER: I will instruct the Clerk to so correct that; those Minutes are duly confirmed. Twenty-first July, 1970.

Mr. HINDS: In these Minutes, Sir, I find that there are a few errors which show that the proof reading was not all that it should have been. If we come to the middle of page 3, we see there the following words: "On motion of Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA," the next word is "tha" and this should be corrected by replacing the "a" with an "e".

In the Resolution which follows you have a similar situation with the word "Senate", where you have the word "Srnate"; this should also be corrected, and in that same line the word "in" should be replaced by the word "if".

Mr. SPEAKER: I am wondering if in view of the typographical errors which appear we might not defer confirmation of those Minutes for the 21st July, 1970; they might have to be reprinted.
12.30 p.m.

Let us deal with the Minutes of the 28th July, 1970. May I suggest that confirmation of these Minutes be also deferred, and that the hon. member be so good as to point out the errors to the Clerk at the Table.

LETTER FROM THE AUDITOR GENERAL

Mr. SPEAKER: I have the honour to inform the House that I have received from the Auditor General's Office a letter dated 2nd January, 1971, which reads as follows:

"Sir,

Statement of Account of the Accountant General and Appropriation and Revenue Accounts for the year 1969-70

Section 26 of the Financial Administration and Audit Act, 1964, as amended by the Financial Administration and Audit (Amendment) Act, 1967, provides that the Auditor General shall report annually as soon as possible and not later than the last day of December following the close of the financial year the results of his examination of the accounts. Such report shall be addressed to the Speaker of the House of Assembly and a copy transmitted to the Senate for information.

2. I have to inform you that it has not been possible to submit the relevant report by the end of December, 1970, mainly for the reason that the account and statements to be transmitted to me by the Accountant General, as required by section 10(2) of the Principal Act, as amended, have not yet been received.

3. I should mention, in addition, that there are certain revenue as well as appropriation accounts which are still outstanding.

4. I should like to refer also to my letter No. A.2(1) 1970/1 of 2nd January, 1970, addressed to you, and in particular to paragraphs 2 and 3 thereof, and to state that the accounts and statements which were due to be transmitted by the Accountant General in respect of the financial years 1967-68 and 1968-69 were received during the months of July and December, 1970, respectively, and that the reports thereon should therefore be submitted during the present year as soon as each is completed.

5. I consider that you should be made aware of the position for the information of Parliament.

I am,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
G. B. Brandford, (signed)
(G. B. Brandford)
Auditor General.

His Honour the Speaker,
The House of Assembly,
Public Buildings,
Bridgetown."

VACANCY IN PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if this is the appropriate time to draw a matter to Your Honour's attention in connection with a vacancy in the Public Accounts Committee. There is a vacancy in this Committee consequent upon the resignation of the former junior member for St. Joseph, and I should like to have that vacancy filled. Is this the appropriate time to deal with the matter? It is really our vacancy.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think this would be an appropriate time to have the vacancy filled. It is a vacancy on the other side, and it is for the hon. and learned member to make his own nomination.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to propose the senior member for St. Thomas to fill the vacancy.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to second that.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, before you put the question, I should like to have some information. By virtue of the office which the Leader of the Opposition holds, he is the Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee; he is taking the place of the former Leader of the Opposition, and he now wants to nominate another member.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: It is a vacancy, but not for the Chairmanship. *(Asides.)*

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am not going to vote for anything in here unless I know what is going on. (Mr. HINDS: They feel that you do not know the meaning of the word 'vacancy'.)

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

Mr. SPEAKER: I declare the hon. senior member for St. Thomas duly nominated to fill the vacancy created by the former junior member for St. Joseph.

There are Notices by the hon. junior member for St. Philip, but I am advised that he is unable to be present today due to urgent business.

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following Message:

Message No. 1/1971

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL
TO
THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

His Excellency the Governor-General has the honour to inform the Honourable the House of Assembly that, acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, the following changes have been made in the allocation of portfolios to certain Ministers with effect from 1st January, 1971:-

The Honourable K. N. R. Husbands, M.P. formerly Minister with the portfolio of Agriculture, Science and Technology, has been appointed Minister with the portfolio of Trade, Tourism, Community Development and Youth Affairs;

The Honourable A. DaC. Edwards, M.P., formerly Minister with the portfolio of Trade, Tourism, Community Development and Youth Affairs, has been appointed Minister with the portfolio of Agriculture, Science and Technology.

A. Winston Scott,
Governor-General.

Government House,
Barbados.

8th January, 1971."

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am also commanded to lay for the Minister of Finance the following documents:

An Account of the transactions in Rum in the several districts of the Island for the Quarter ended 30th September, 1970.

An Account of the transactions in Rum in the several districts of the Island for the Quarter ended 31st December, 1970.

Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for eight months ended 30th November, 1970.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities of the Government as at 31st March, 1969.

Statement of Public Debt and Sinking Fund as at 31st March, 1969.

Statement of Loans and Credits guaranteed by Government and outstanding at 31st March, 1969.

Annual Abstract Account of Receipts and Payments of the Consolidated Fund, and of other Receipts and Payments for the year ended 31st March, 1969.

Statement of Loans and Advances made from the Treasury and outstanding at 31st March, 1969.

Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for nine months ended 31st December, 1970.
12.40 p.m.

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

The Scholarships and Exhibitions (Value and Allowances) (Amendment) Regulations, 1970.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following:-

The Report of the National Insurance Board on the National Insurance and Social Security Scheme for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1969.

Report on the Audit of Accounts of the National Insurance Fund for the year ended 31st December, 1968.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Black Bess, St. Peter, for the purpose of erecting a Communal Bath and Latrine.

Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Gun Hill, St. George, for the purpose of road improvements.

Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Baywoods, St. James, for the purpose of erecting a Communal Bath and Latrine.

Resolution to approve the lease to Mr. Michael Simmons of a parcel of land at Thornhill, St. James.

I also beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 130, asked by the hon. junior member for Bridgetown, is ready.

Also Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 133, asked by the same hon. member, is ready.

Also, Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 134, asked by the same hon. member is ready.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Bill to amend the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following:-

A Bill to amend the National Insurance and Social Security Act, 1966.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 92, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter, is ready.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 132, asked by the hon. junior member for Bridgetown, is ready.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

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

WHEREAS the workers, who are now living in the Horton's, Easy Hall and Blackman's Tenantries, St. Joseph, are exposed to horror and disaster in case of fire due to their houses being surrounded by large fields of sugar cane;

AND WHEREAS the said workers are very much afraid to go to bed at night knowing that a cane fire can occur at any time during the night when they are asleep;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House request the Government to protect the lives of those people by buying the above-mentioned tenantries and surrounding lands for the purpose of establishing good and proper housing areas and other tenantries likewise.

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

WHEREAS for many years the Barbados Seafood Company Limited were the Contractors to Barbados Marketing Corporation for the supply of shrimp;

AND WHEREAS operating out of Barbados in connection with the said contract were some 30 odd shrimp boats;

AND WHEREAS some 500 odd workers were employed in provision of services for the said shrimp Industry, and a sum in excess of two and a half million dollars was spent in Barbados;

AND WHEREAS the Barbados Marketing Corporation received a considerable sum of money by way of fee for the processing of shrimp;

AND WHEREAS the Barbados Marketing Corporation terminated the said contract and awarded a contract to supply and process Shrimp to the Bajan Seafood Company Limited;

AND WHEREAS the said Bajan Seafood Company Limited had only been able to secure 4 boats to supply shrimp to the said Barbados Marketing Corporation;

AND WHEREAS the said boats have been repossessed by their owners;

AND WHEREAS as a result of the repossession of the said boats no shrimp has been supplied to the Barbados Marketing Corporation and the Barbados Marketing Corporation has thereby lost considerable sums of money in fees for processing shrimps;

AND WHEREAS a proper investigation of Bajan Seafood Limited would have revealed that the Company was under capitalized and financially incapable of carrying out the said Contract;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Agriculture knew or ought to have known of this;

AND WHEREAS no steps were taken or have been taken to ensure the continued employment of 500 odd Barbadian workers who were involved in the operation;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House deplores; the incompetence in the management of the Corporation, the grave loss of employment that has occurred; the grave loss of revenue to Barbados, and calls upon the Government to take steps forthwith to restore the said Industry.

QUESTIONS

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware of the fact that due to the abolition of some of the Almshouses, that the remaining District Hospitals are overcrowded, causing the Matrons great concern to find beds and spaces for incoming patients?

If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister state at the next Meeting of this Honourable House what steps will be taken to relieve such conditions?

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Will the Minister give instructions for street lights to be placed at Fisherpond, Olive Branch and Russia Village in the Parish of St. Thomas as soon as possible?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Will the Minister state the total sums paid since January 1st, 1969, to date by the Barbados Housing Authority to contractors for the painting and repairing of the Authority's houses; the names of the contractors and how much each contractor was paid?

2. Was there any advertisement, or were any tenders invited for the aforesaid contracts before they were awarded?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware that in the last three to five years the problems caused by the flooding of highways have become more acute; that flooding is increasingly being caused by comparatively small amounts of rainfall; and that new specifications for road and pavement building and re-instatement should be laid down so as to improve highway drainage?

12.50 p.m.

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

1. Is the Minister aware that there is a considerable population living on unmade roads, running East and West off the Long Gap, Spooners Hill in the parish of St. Michael; and that these roads are in the worst possible state of repair?

2. Will the Minister give instructions that the said roads be put in order, if possible, in accordance with a scheme that would connect them with

Woodstock and the Rock areas to the West, and Thompson's Gap to the East?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his question *re* water supply in Spring Farm, St. Thomas.

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

Will the Minister take steps to improve the water supply in Spring Farm, St. Thomas by installing a larger main or otherwise?

Mr. Speaker, may I point out that you have actually passed over two questions of which I have sent copies to the Clerk? Those questions are listed as numbers 4 and 5.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. member for pointing this out to me; the hon. member may now proceed with his question *re* the recent bye-election in St. Joseph.

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

1. Is the Minister aware of the fact that in the recent bye-election in the constituency of St. Joseph, the Returning Officer failed to carry out the duties imposed upon him by the Election Rules of the First Schedule of the Representation of the People Act, 1957, in that he

(a) failed to give notice in writing to the counting agents of the candidates of the time and place of the counting of the votes as required by Election Rule 36(1) of the First Schedule of the said Act.

(b) failed to give public notice of the name of the candidate to whom the majority of votes was given as required by Election Rule 42(1)(c) of the said Act.

2. Is the Minister aware of the fact that the Election Rule 42(1)(c) of the said rules was not complied with, when the Returning Officer gave the numbers of votes received by each candidate in a broadcast interview and not by public declaration to the persons present at the premises whereon the votes were counted?

3. In the light of the foregoing, will the Minister reconsider the appointment of Mr. John Banfield as Returning Officer and Registering Officer for the parish of St. Joseph?

The other Question on the bye-election is to enquire of the appropriate Minister:

1. Is the Government aware that at the recent bye-election in the parish of St. Joseph, the Manager of a plantation whose premises were used as a polling station acted as the polling agent of one of the candidates?

2. Will the Government take steps to see that no private premises under openly politically partisan control are used as polling stations in future elections?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member's Question *re* acquisition of the valley of Joes River in St. Joseph for use as a beauty spot.

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

Will the Government consider acquiring either in co-operation with the National Trust or otherwise, the valley of Joes River in the parish of St. Joseph from the barrier adjacent to Gaggs Hill Road to the stream's outlet on the sea with a view to constructing a walk and other facilities to permit the area's use as a beauty spot?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his Question *re* environmental pollution.

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

1. Is the Government aware that a number of responsible authorities have recently stated that levels of environmental pollution notably sewage, have reached a dangerous level in Carlisle Bay and constitute a danger to sea-bathers there?

2. Will the Government investigate pollution levels in Carlisle Bay; the lagoon of Worthing Beach; the sea off Land's End, Brandon, Brighton and Paradise Beaches with particular reference to the incidence of sewage and industrial wastes and make public its findings?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his Question *re* Reply to Question No. 107.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Prime Minister:-

Does the Prime Minister intend and when, to answer Question No. 107 tabled in this Honourable House on the 12th day of May, 1970, relating to the cost of Ministerial travel and subsistence?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member's Question *re* the Laws of Barbados.

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

When will the new edition of the Laws of Barbados be ready; and what steps are being taken to revise and re-publish subsidiary legislation?

Mr. CRAIG entered the House and took his seat.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Joseph, his Question *re* the renovation of Bathsheba Social Centre.

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

(a) Will the Minister renovate the Bathsheba Social Centre at Bathsheba, St. Joseph, and have it returned to the residents of the area for use as a Community and Cultural Centre?

(b) Will the Minister insist that the said building be used for no purpose other than as a Community and Cultural Centre with the residents of the area having full and free access thereto?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member his Question *re* playing field for West St. Joseph Secondary Modern School.

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

Will the Minister take steps to provide a playing field for the West St. Joseph Secondary Modern School and a playing field and recreational facilities for the residents of the Blackman's to Horse Hill and surrounding areas?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his Question *re* persons employed with former Local Government.

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

Will the Minister state for the information of the House -

(1) How many persons who were employed with former Local Government have not been re-employed by the Central Government?

(2) How many of those persons who have not been re-employed are of pensionable age?

(3) How many of those persons of pensionable age have not yet received their pensions?

(4) When are those persons who are of pensionable age likely to receive their pensions?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his Question *re* public health inspection of Joes River.

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

Will the Minister cause a public health inspection to be made of Joes River and its Bank from Gaggs Hill through to its outlet to the sea to find out if the area is being used as a dumping ground particularly in the area near its mouth; if refuse is found, will the Minister take all necessary steps to have the river bank returned to a state of cleanliness?

1.00 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his Question *re* St. Bernard Primary School.

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

Is it a fact that children are being turned away from the new St. Bernard Primary School situate in St. Joseph because they are not wearing shoes to school?

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a Question in the name of the hon. and learned member for St. Philip who is not in his place.

BILLS

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960, be read a first time.

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

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

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the National Insurance and Social Security Act, 1966, be now read a first time.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a Question which has not been asked, but which has been duly examined by the Clerks at the Table, and I have given the hon. senior member for St. Thomas permission to proceed with the Question.

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

Is the Minister aware that great delays are sometimes occasioned to passengers arriving at Seawell Airport by reason of the absence of a sufficient number of officers checking for Health purposes; and will the Minister see to it that at least two Health Officers are present whenever 50 or more passengers are expected to arrive?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 6 be taken as the first Order of the Day under Government Business.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 6 is the instant Order of the Day, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of a parcel of land situate at Spencers Plantation, Christ Church, for the purpose of expanding Seawell International Airport.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I should have said Order No. 5, and I beg to withdraw that Motion.

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

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MEDICAL REGISTRATION ACT, 1970

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 5 stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Health, and it is to move the second reading of a Bill to repeal the Medical Registration Act, 1911, and to make new provision for the registration of medical practitioners in Barbados.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, this Bill seeks to repeal the Medical Registration Act, 1911 and make new provision for the registration of medical practitioners in Barbados and for matters incidental thereto and connected therewith. It also seeks to bring Barbados in line with common practice in advanced countries and in keeping with modern trends.

The Medical Registration Act, 1911, was very discriminatory in that only practitioners who were duly qualified in the United Kingdom, Canada and those who had passed the New York State Board Examination were granted permission to practise in Barbados. That was during the old days when the Conservative element decided to run things their own way. I refer to as far back as 1911 and up to quite recently. We have made certain amendments to the Medical Practitioners Act, 1911, whereby medical practitioners are allowed in certain circumstances to practise under supervision. Some of them have been allowed to practise on a limited scale at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital under supervision.

Mr. Speaker, the present Medical Registration Bill, which I am now introducing, will repeal the existing Act and take its place. We have set up a Medical Council which will be a body corporate. The Registrar will keep a Medical register, and the register will be open to the public for inspection. Any person whose name is not on the register will not be deemed as a medical practitioner. The present medical practitioners whose names are on the register under the Medical Registration Act, 1911, will automatically remain on the new register without having to make any application or to pay any fees. In the circumstances, the Act will do what is fair, right and equitable to those already registered and their rights will be preserved. In other words, they will continue to practise as they are doing now. The Act will not impede their progress in any way.

Mr. Speaker, a person is qualified to be registered as a medical practitioner who holds any diploma, degree, fellowship, membership, licence, certificate or other status or form of recognition granted by a University, College or body empowered to confer authority to practise medicine by the law of the country or place where it is granted and which in the opinion of the Council is evidence of satisfactory medical training. You will observe that doctors who qualify at Mona, Jamaica, shall be deemed to have satisfactory training.
1.10 p.m.

Of course, there is a reciprocal arrangement between the University of the West Indies and the United Kingdom, and there are amendments which I have here to cover that point. There are certain moves-in and it is for that reason I will now be in a position to deal adequately with the Medical Registration Bill here today. Even while it is no reflection on anybody, the legal luminaries have sent them down only just now.

In Clause 6(3) I will be moving an amendment, and it is for that reason I think I had better mention it here now. Clause 6(3) is to be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

"For the purposes of subsection (2) a qualification mentioned therein which the holder has obtained from the University of the West Indies or from a medical school in the United Kingdom approved by the General Medical Council, shall be deemed to be evidence of satisfactory medical training."

The position is that the Medical School of the University of the West Indies has been granted reciprocal accommodation with the General Council of the United Kingdom, so that a doctor who qualifies at the U.W.I. will be accepted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom, and vice versa the ones who qualify and are accepted by the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom are granted reciprocal treatment out here and will be recognised as being duly qualified medical practitioners.

That is one of the amendments which I will be moving in, and I thought at this stage just to clear that point. I will come back to these amendments and will deal with them as they arrive, and seek permission from the Chairman to move them in at the appropriate stage.

Where the Council is not satisfied with the applicant's qualifications or medical training or the question as to the evidence presented by the applicant, then the applicant shall be submitted to an examination in such subjects as the Council thinks fit. In other words, if the applicant is not qualified or if his qualifications do not satisfy the Council, then he is asked to take an examination which the Council will set. A Board of Examiners shall be appointed by the Council and three Medical Practitioners will comprise the Board of Examiners. A fee shall be paid by the applicant subject to the approval of the Minister. After the expiration of six months, the applicant may present himself again in case he is unsuccessful, and a further examination can be sat. A practitioner will have to register annually and the registration shall take place in the month of January in each year and obtain a certificate of such registration. An alphabetical list of

names of persons who have been registered before 31st January must appear in the *Official Gazette* and that is sufficient evidence by a Court of law that he is a duly qualified medical practitioner.

The question of temporary registration which I touched on a few minutes ago has also been included in this new Medical Registration Bill. There is temporary registration for six months or under on payment of a fee subject to the approval of the Minister, and also if employed as an intern in a Hospital in Barbados for the period of the internship. It is also possible to specially register for a period not exceeding three years if he has satisfied the Council that he is qualified to practise medicine in any country, that he is doing special work in the field of public health or research and is sponsored by the U.W.I. W.H.O., P.A.H.O. or such other organisation or body as the Minister may approve. Peace Corps employees of the United States of America will be granted special registration. They are granted this registration provided they render medical services exclusively without fee to members of that organisation, or are employed on a full time basis in the public service and are working under the supervision of a medical practitioner. A medical practitioner is entitled to demand and recover in any court his reasonable charges for professional services rendered, and for drugs, medicine or appliance supplied by him to his patients.

These are some of the main provisions, and I will deal with them *seriatim*, as they arise. Another big point in the amendments which I will be dealing with is that the following sub-clause shall be added to clause 12 as sub-clause (2) -

"If, in any such proceedings, the Council is satisfied that a medical practitioner is convicted of an offence under paragraph (a) or (b) of sub-section (1) if he is found guilty of professional misconduct, it may

(a) censure him; or
(b) suspend his registration for such period not exceeding one year; or
(c) direct the Registrar to remove his name from the register."

That is one of the things that was left out of the original Bill.

Another matter which was not properly considered, Sir, is the question of registration, and the Council may at any time direct the Registrar to restore to the Register any name removed therefrom under section 12(2).

The question of appeals was not included, and this is one of the reasons why we had to withhold dealing with this Bill. A practitioner must be entitled to appeal to a Judge in Chambers.
1.20 p.m.

Subject to the provisions of subsection (3) any person who is aggrieved by the refusal of the Council to register him under this Act or by its decision to censure him or suspend his registration or cause his name to be removed from the register may, within three months of the receipt by him of any such notice, appeal to a Judge in Chambers whose decision shall be final.

In this Bill the Medical practitioner is given the right to appeal to a Judge in Chambers, and is nothing political; he does not appeal to a Minister, but to a Judge in Chambers so that the practitioner's rights will be properly protected and there will be no political football or anything of the kind.

The Judge may -

(a) at the hearing of an appeal against refusal of registration, dismiss the appeal or allow the appeal and direct the Council to cause the registration to be effected;
(b) at the hearing of any appeal other than an appeal against refusal of registration -
  (i) dismiss the appeal and confirm the decision of the Council, or
  (ii) allow the appeal and set aside the decision of the Council, or.....

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, I do not see what the Minister is reading from.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I am just trying to be courteous.

Mr. HINDS: I cannot follow;

Mr. SPEAKER: It may be that the Hon. Minister is going into very great detail on the second reading what he might have to go over in Committee.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: If the hon. member would give way, I am trying to be as courteous as possible in that there are certain amendments which are very important and I am trying to apprise hon. members of such amendments.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, if the Minister has amendments why not circulate them now?

Mr. SPEAKER: I understand that copies are being prepared.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, the amendments which I have, I have passed on four copies to the Clerk and I have mentioned to him that the Speaker should have a copy, and I gave a copy to the Deputy Leader of the Opposition so that he and his colleagues would be *au fait* with what is going on.

Mr. Speaker, all I am attempting to do is to explain at a very early stage that necessary provisions have been made for appeals so that the practitioners' rights will be protected, that he has the right to appeal to a Judge in Chambers, and I was really giving more details probably than I need give, but I was doing that because I knew that there were not enough copies. These are amendments which I am moving in, and I have said that about four times in my remarks.

I am speaking now of appeals, and I do not care if I tire the Reporters but I will go right back and make it quite clear. I am dealing with appeals, and I will read the amended clause 14 which is as follows:

"14.(1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (3) any person who is aggrieved by the refusal of the Council to register him under this Act or by its decision to censure him or suspend his registration or cause his name to be removed from the register may, within three months of the receipt by him of any such notice, appeal to a Judge in Chambers whose decision shall be final.

(2) The Judge may -

(a) at the hearing of an appeal against refusal of registration, dismiss the appeal or allow the appeal and direct the Council to cause the registration to be effected;

(b) at the hearing of any appeal other than an appeal against refusal of registration -

(i) dismiss the appeal and confirm the decision of the Council, or

(ii) allow the appeal and set aside the decision of the Council, or

(iii) allow the appeal and direct that the disciplinary proceedings in respect of which the decision of the Council was made be reconducted by the Council, or

(iv) set aside the penalty imposed by the Council and impose in substitution therefor such other penalty under section 12(1) as he thinks fit.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) no appeal shall lie under this section against refusal of an application for registration in a case in which such registration is conditional upon the applicant's satisfying the Council that he is qualified to be registered."

The position is that we had made certain grave omissions. This Bill was under consideration for some time, and this part of the Bill is a very important part, and we had to suspend further consideration of this Bill in Cabinet since October because these amendments are very, very important, and this Bill could not have been considered unless we had these amendments inserted.

Mr. Speaker, I think I might have tired you, but I am just doing my duty. I know that in future opportunities will be granted to ambitious young Barbadians, and West Indians generally, who may happen to go abroad and qualify in whatever part of the world they choose, whether it is in India or in Pakistan or Korea - I do not know if they will get so far - but the fact remains that all recognised Universities and not only Universities in the United Kingdom or Canada, but all recognised Universities from all parts of the world, Kenya, Uganda, Ghana or wherever they qualify, provided it is a recognised University as such they will be entitled to be registered here and to practise their profession in accordance with modern trends. I beg to move that this Bill be read a second time.

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

1.30 p.m.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have listened very carefully to the Hon. Minister.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, it appears that the air conditioning people are present, though not in this House, and wish to test the equipment as well as the voltage. I am suggesting, at this stage, that we may take a break for lunch and, during that period, allow the workers to do what they have to do. They want to have the air conditioning tested and put in order, so that we may work in greater comfort.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I do not see why we should go to lunch now. Why should members of the House of Assembly go out in order to allow people to test the air conditionning equipment at this stage? All of that should have been done before the meeting!

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, there was a power shortage as well as a power diversion, and the workers were unable to complete the job. Now that the power has returned they would like to complete the job. We should allow them to test the equipment.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I will be very short; I will try to accommodate the Hon. Leader of the House. I have listened very carefully to what the Hon. Minister of Health has said during the introduction of this Bill. I have read the Bill, but I have not been able to go through the amendments. I suppose the amendments will make a lot of difference to the Bill. The Hon. Minister of Health dealt with the Bill from 1911, but I thought he would also have dealt with what took place before 1911. I do not agree with the Hon. Minister when he says that the Medical Registration Act, 1911, was discriminatory. If he thinks so, I feel that it was in the interest of the inhabitants of this country.

Mr. Speaker, in the United States of America you had A,B and C medical classes. Barbados was, I believe, the only country in the Commonwealth at the time that had a Medical Registration Bill and, I think, St. Lucia introduced one at a later period. We allowed people who had passed the New York State Board Examination to practise here. Certain Medical practitioners were not allowed to practise all over the United States of America because of the low standards of medical colleges at the time. I am not in favour of this open-door policy whereby any medical practitioner from New York can come here and practise.

Mr. Speaker, it is known that medical practitioners who attend medical schools in Chicago are not allowed to practise in New York unless they are able to pass the New York State Board Examination.

I have known of 32 persons who left the Chicago Medical School and only two of them were able to pass the New York State Board Examination. The State of Columbia College is one of the Ivory Schools, and it is regarded very highly in the United States. This Bill says that if anybody gets a diploma from a Medical College in the United States he will be able to come here and practise. I do not agree with that.

Mr. Speaker, you can understand the reason why the New York State Board calls for a high standard of efficiency. *(Asides.)* If a man cannot take the New York State Board Examination unless he is a citizen, then I do not see why we should allow people to come here and practise medicine who are not properly qualified. Now, there are two well-known medical schools: Howard and Behari. West Indians go to Washington to study medicine, but there are certain medical schools in the United States where it is not necessary for a student to have certain qualifications. The Columbia University is in charge of all State and City Hospitals in the United States, and it is well recognised by medical authorities in the United Kingdom and all over the world. I do not know the reason for amending this Bill.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has misquoted what I have said. I said that a person is qualified to be registered as a medical practitioner who holds any diploma, degree, fellowship, membership, licence, certificate or other status or form of recognition granted by a University, College or body empowered to confer authority to practise medicine by the law of the country or place where it is granted and which in the opinion of the Council is evidence of satisfactory medical training. We have qualified people running this show.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Your Council may be politically persuaded. I am really interested in the health of this country. I know that men who could not pass the New York State Board Examination came here to practise and were sent back. At one time somebody wrote an article and said that it would appear as though some people had graduated under a sandbox tree.

1.40 p.m.

I am somewhat worried as to why this is being done, Mr. Speaker, and I would like the hon. member to tell us in this House what is going to take place with the New York State Board. It might seem discriminatory to the hon. member. It is discriminatory in the United Kingdom. Jersey never had a medical school, but there are private medical colleges in Japan, and if you pass an examination there, you can practise in Chicago, but you cannot go into New York and practise because you have to face the big boys of Columbia University to pass the New York State Board, and I think the New York State Board is the correct thing to have. It would be interesting to know why this is being done. When it comes to saying that you will have these intelligent men on the Board, they are not going to take the examination. The whole thing about this is that there are certain colleges which take in people without the necessary qualifications, and they get diplomas. We had an instance in Grenada. I repeat that Howard and Behari are two recognised schools and West Indian boys who go to these schools can get the New York State Board. I do not know anybody practising here who has the New York State Board. Why must you go away from this? Who is to come in now that is some third class person? I do not agree with it, and when it goes to Committee, I will have more to say on it. If it is your own child or brother, you want the highest qualifications necessary to practise on people.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am shocked somewhat and appalled at the attitude of the last speaker. *(Asides.)*

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Standing Order No. 5 be suspended for the remainder of today's sitting.

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

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

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

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

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

On resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER: I am advised that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 92, standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter is ready.

QUESTION *re* PINE HILL DAIRY

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Has the Dairy Industry in this Island been extended since the establishment of a pasteurization plant in the Island? If so, to what extent?

2. Has such expansion, if any, reduced the outflow of any portion of the millions of dollars spent annually on the importation of canned and dried milk, imported into this Island prior to December, 1961?

3. In terms of dollars and cents, to what extent has the outflow of money for the importation of this commodity been arrested?

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

1. Yes Sir. The Quantity of milk supplied to the Pine Hill Dairy has risen from 1.5 million pounds during the last 8 months of 1966 to approximately 3.8 million pounds in 1967 and to approximately 4.2 million pounds in 1969.

2. The population of Barbados and number of tourists visiting the Island have increased by 21,182 and 100,750 respectively since 1961 and there has been an upward trend in the *per capita* consumption of milk. However, with the increase in locally produced milk it has not been necessary to import all the milk necessary to satisfy the increased demand.

3. The outflow of money in 1969 for the importation of milk was approximately 127,730.00 less than it would normally have been. This amount represents the value of the difference in the quantity of milk produced in 1969 over and above that produced in 1966. In addition, the Pine Hill Dairy manufactures certain milk products and the cost of certain inputs such as labour in the manufacture of these products can also be considered as savings in the outflow of capital.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell us what percentage of dried or canned milk was being imported during the period referred to in his Reply to Question No. 1.....

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, would the hon. member repeat what he has just said?

Mr. HINDS: Can the Minister tell us what percentage of dried or canned milk was being imported into the Island during the period referred to in his Reply to Question No. 1 and how this relates or compares with the previous period as at 1961 referred to in the Question?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I have the information for the hon. member, but I left the file locked away in the brief case of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas. Apparently he has carried it outside and is of the opinion that it is here. If you will give me a minute or two to collect the file from the hon. member, I will give him a breakdown on the information from 1961 to 1969 as the case may be.

Mr. SPEAKER: Perhaps the hon. member would have no objection to allowing another Question to be asked in the meantime.

Question No. 130 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for Bridgetown.

QUESTION *re* BURSARIES

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Question reads as follows:-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. How many Independent Schools are approved for Bursaries by the Ministry of Education?

2. Will the Minister give -

(a) the names of the schools;
(b) the number of Bursaries awarded to each School;
(c) the amount of money paid under each Bursary to each school?

3.10 p.m.

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

(1) 17.

(2) (a) Christ Church High, Codrington High, Community High, Co-operative High, Federal High, Industry High, Lynch's Secondary, Mapp's College, Modern High, Presentation College, St. Gabriel's, St. Winifred's, Seventh Day Adventist, Unique High, Ursuline Convent, Wakefield High and Washington High.

(b) Bursaries are awarded to pupils and not to schools.

(c) Each bursary is worth $40 per term irrespective of the school which the pupil attends.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister give any reason why only 17 schools have been approved; is it because other schools have not been approved or is it a case where approval has been sought and the machinery for bringing into effect the approval is not readily available?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the reason why no more have been approved as yet is neither of the reasons to which the hon. member has referred, and I would like to refer the hon. member to a document which is already a document of this House which was laid in this House in 1965 as a White Paper. It is called "Policy on assistance to approved Independent Schools" and on page 2 of this document going over to page 3 at paragraph 10, the policy of this Government on assistance to approved Independent Schools is set out.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister aware that an inspection period has been known to cover some eleven months after the application has been made and the first visit to the school? Approval has not yet been granted nor has it been refused? Let the Minister deny this.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I do not think this is anything I can confirm or deny. I can imagine a school applying for approval taking just as long to put itself in order, and this may easily happen.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Can the Minister state whether checks are carried out yearly to see whether the schools are meeting the requirements? Having once met the requirements and given a grant, are the checks carried out yearly to see that they are still up to the required standard?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes, this is my understanding.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Would the Minister like to state when last such a check was carried out?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am afraid I would have to have further notice of that.. The hon. member is asking a Question about bursaries awarded to pupils and not the conditions under which schools are approved.
3.20 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister willing to admit that the delay in approving other schools has been brought about by the unavailability of the machinery that looks after the matter?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I have already answered that question.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister favour us with a repetition of his reply.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, of course, the hon. member asked this question in a slightly altered form. I said that the delay in the reporting of the results of the inspection could easily happen. A school might apply for approval in the month of January, but it may take some time before the Department can reply.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister aware that there have been instances where schools have made applications and have not been inspected because the personnel for carrying out the inspection could not be got together?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this is not something arising out of the substantive question, but I am not aware of that.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister investigate this aspect of the matter and try to remedy the situation?

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I have information available for the hon. junior member for St. Peter in relation to Question No. 92.

Mr. HINDS: Let us take Question No. 133 now.

Mr. SPEAKER: An hon. member has already risen to deal with Question No. 133.

DISREPAIR OF St. MARY'S INFANT AND St. MARY'S JUNIOR SCHOOLS

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

Is the Minister aware that the yards of both the St. Mary's Infant and St. Mary's Junior School are in a bad state of disrepair?

Will the Minister take immediate steps to remedy same?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the yards at the St. Mary's Infants' School and St. Mary's Junior School are in a state of disrepair. They were scheduled for repair during the current financial year. Conditions have been aggravated by the floods of 2nd October, 1970, and it is proposed to effect the necessary repair work shortly.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister tell us how long these schools have been scheduled for repair? Was it during the financial year, or after the floods?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, from the time we put the money in the Estimates to do the job. We could not have any schedules before we appropriated the necessary funds.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, as a further supplementary, will the Minister give the House an undertaking or the assurance that steps will be taken to repair these schools during this financial year?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I give that assurance.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell us whether the flood caused any other damage to the schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, if it is possible not to stress the meaning of the word "aggravated", yes.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, has a survey been carried out since the flood to find out the extent of such aggravation?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: To the extent that we will carry out repairs in this financial year.

Mr. SPEAKER: We will revert the Question No. 92.

DAIRY INDUSTRY IN BARBADOS

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member has already asked a supplementary question. I will give the hon. member a breakdown of the Evaporated and Condensed Milk for the period 1961-1969. In 1961 the importation of Evaporated and Sweetened Condensed Milk amounted to 7,761,500 pounds at a value of $1.9036 million. In 1962, 8.1137 million pounds at a value of $1.8083 million. In 1963, 9.793 million pounds at a value of $2.3685 million. In 1964, 9.895 million pounds at a value of $2.549 million. In 1965, 10.274 million pounds at a value of $2.613 million. In 1966, 7.88 million pounds at a value of $2.041 million. In 1967, 5.1352 million pounds at a value of $1.467 million. In 1968, 7.66 million pounds at a value of $2.2 million. In 1969, 10.2 million pounds at a value of $2.9 million.

As far as Dried Milk and Cream are concerned, in 1961 the amount imported was 910,500 pounds at a value of $454,900.
3.30 p.m.

In 1962, the amount was 875,300 pounds at a value of $462,500; in 1963 the amount was 933,600 pounds, at a value of $406,300; in 1964 the amount was 1,306,400 pounds at a value of $613,700; in 1965 the amount was 1,219,600 pounds at a value of $652,700; in 1966 the amount was 1,899,900 pounds at a value of $934,000; in 1967 the amount was 2,390,600 pounds at a value of $1,059,900; in 1968 the amount was 1,392,400 pounds at a value of $417,700; and in 1969 the amount was 1,805,800 pounds at a value of $614,200.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, the Minister has given us figures from 1961 to 1969. Since the Minister has before him what obtained prior to 1961, is he in a position to tell us, looking at these figures, if since 1961 the outflow of dollars has been arrested?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, in my reply I made reference to the increase in population of 21,182 and the increase in the tourist industry of 100,750. The majority of these people are milk drinkers, and they obviously increased the necessity for milk in the country considerably. Paying attention to the question of devaluation etc., it is obvious that with the establishment of the milk plant you have not had the proportionate increase in the importation of milk commensurate with the increase of population and the increase in the tourist industry, therefore the answer to the hon. member's question is "yes, it has been arrested considerably with the establishment of the milk plant and the increased demand for milk in the country."

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, does the Minister agree that if the dairy industry has expanded since its establishment that it has expanded abroad and not locally?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I could not give a direct answer to that question. I am replying to it as I see the situation. There has been an increase in the production of local fresh milk since the establishment of the dairy industry. There has also been an increase in the use of evaporated and sweetened condensed milk. There has been a reduction in recent years in local consumption directly by the householders in powdered milk, but the sweetened condensed milk and evaporated milk have seen an increase. Now the sweetened condensed milk and the evaporated milk which are manufactured by the Pine Hill Dairy are manufactured out of the importation of dried milk and cream. The Pine Hill Dairy however has been able to meet the increased demand for evaporated and sweetened condensed milk by importing such amounts as it cannot produce itself. I think this answers the hon. member's question.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, does the Minister have any evidence to produce to show that the Barbadian public is now consuming more condensed and evaporated milk as manufactured and sold by the Pine Hill Dairy than in the days when they were free to choose from Four Cows and various other brands that were sold on the market?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I have already given that reply. In 1961 the importation of sweetened condensed and evaporated milk amounted to 10,188,300 pounds at a cost of $2.8616 million which was an increase over any other year, plus the fact that there was an increase in dried milk powder and cream, and the amount used in 1969 was 1.8058 million pounds, and most of this importation of dried milk and cream went into the manufacture of sweetened condensed and evaporated milk by the Pine Hill Dairy.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 132 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for Bridgetown.

QUESTION *re* STUFF-BIN AT MARSHAL GAP

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Question reads as follows:-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Will the Minister cause a proper stuff bin to be erected in Marshal's Gap, New Orleans for the benefit of the neighbourhood?
3.40 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows: Efforts to obtain a suitable site for the erection of a concrete stuff bin at Marshal's Gap are still being made. In the meantime, steel drums for the collection of the stuff have been provided in the area by the Sanitation and Cemeteries Board.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Would the Minister be so kind as to state, having regard to the last part of his answer, when this was done?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: This matter has history attached to it. The Manager of the Sanitation and Cemeteries Board advised that a concrete refuse bin was formerly erected at Marshal's Gap, New Orleans, and another just a little way off on an adjacent avenue. These bins had to be demolished on the demand of the owners of the land on which they were erected. Thereafter a number of steel drums were placed in the area and these were removed by persons residing nearby. Persistent efforts to secure alternative sites have not been successful; owners of land and residents in the area have so far not co-operated in the exercise. There is also a great reluctance on the part of residents to have concrete bins or metal drums on refuse sites near their homes, and it is not possible for the Sanitation Board to erect a stuff bin on private lands if permission is not given.

I am afraid we will have to use the powers of the Land Acquisition Act; we are trying to avoid doing that, but we will have to do that if people will not co-operate. When we put refuse cans they are taken

away and it seems as though the time has come when the Land Acquisition Act has to be invoked in order that a proper refuse bin can be erected.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: The Minister is saying that some time in the past there were some steel cans, but he is not now in a position to say whether there are steel cans or not. Will the Minister give an undertaking that instructions will be given to replace the amenity in the area for the collection of refuse?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I will give that assurance.

Mr. HINDS: Can the Minister tell us if steel bins have been placed in Marshal's Gap?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. member apparently wants me to read back what I have just said. We had a refuse bin there and it was demolished on the request of the owner. We put steel drums there and they were removed.

Mr. HINDS: How many were placed in Marshal's Gap? I am putting it to the Minister that he is conscious of the fact that he is not stating to this Hon. House what he knows to be a statement of fact.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, this matter is being investigated by the Sanitation and Cemeteries Board, and that is the report.

Mr. HINDS: Does the report state how many bins were placed in Marshal's Gap and when they were placed in Marshal's Gap?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I am reading from a minute by the Manager of the Sanitation and Cemeteries Board, if that will help. "A concrete refuse bin was formerly erected in Marshal's Gap, New Orleans..."

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, was the bin erected with the permission of the owner of the land?

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister is reading what appears in the Memorandum he has before him.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: "A concrete refuse bin was formerly erected at Marshal's Gap, New Orleans and another just a little way off on an adjacent avenue. These bins have however, had to be demolished on the demands of the owners of the land on which they were erected. Since then a number of steel drums were placed in this area; these were removed by persons in the area.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Would the Minister be so kind as to state to the House how long ago these steel drums were placed there or how long ago the stuff bins were demolished.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I cannot help the hon. member with that.

Mr. HINDS: Will the Minister tell us the date of the Report he is reading from?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The date of the Report is the 3rd December, 1970.

Mr. HINDS: In view of the fact that the Report does not contain the dates they were placed, will the Minister come to the conclusion that the Report is not complete and that the officer who carried out his investigations has not completed his work; and will the Minister return the Report for proper investigation before he comes back to this House?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, we are trying to get co-operation, we will select a site which we consider suitable and invoke the powers of the Land Acquisition Act.

Mr. HINDS: Is the Minister aware that in the meantime there are people in Marshal's Gap who cannot open their windows because the stuff is heaped up against their homes carrying a lot of flies in their places?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: If the people in Marshal's Gap would take an interest and would allow the bins to remain, that nuisance would never arise.

Mr. HINDS: Was the bin erected with the permission of the owner?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid I cannot regard that as a proper supplementary to the Question.

Mr. HINDS: Can the Minister tell us why the bins had to be demolished?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On the demand of the owner of the land.

Mr. HINDS: Was it put there with the permission of the owner?

Mr. SPEAKER: My understanding is that Question Time expired at 3.45 o'clock p.m.
3.50 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: We were dealing with Question No. 132 when Question Time expired.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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

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

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

MEDICAL REGISTRATION ACT, 1970

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I will start off by saying how shocked I was to hear the statement made in this House by the senior member for the City in relation to the Bill before the House. He is not here at the moment, but he wants to give the impression that he is more interested in poor peo-

ple than anybody else. He could not have more interest in the people of Barbados than the members who have been sent here by the people to form the Government. The hon. member is much older than I am, but he may be half as intelligent.

Mr. Speaker, when this bit of legislation was put on the Statute Book of this country during the 19th Century, it was done specifically to suit the Englishmen who had everything made to suit themselves and it was merely a way to keep out certain people who did not come from a big home or did not wear the same College Crest they were wearing at the time. The hon. member knows this. I am sorry he is not here, but I want to get it on record. Some years ago a certain gentleman came to this country without completing his medical examination, and he was told that he could practise medicine here. He did so and became a very good doctor. There was nothing said about that at the time, but because we are now trying to change an antiquated law all sorts of things are being said. *(Asides.)*

Mr. Speaker, the late Dr. Cummins suffered almost disastrously as a result of this same bit of legislation we are trying to amend today; however, despite the fact that he became the Minister of Health, he did nothing to change this vicious piece of legislation. *(Asides.)* A member on the opposite side says that he was a nice man, and I accept that. It can also be said that a lot of people went to the top of the ladder and then kicked it down. I am not saying anything derogatory about the late Dr. Cummins; I am merely saying that he suffered because of this same bit of legislation.

Now, the hon. senior member for the City is saying that you must have the New York State Board Examination. Is he telling us that Professor Bernard would not be able to practise, if he came to Barbados?

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I am not trying to defend the hon. senior member for the City who is absent at the moment, but I understood him to say not only the New York State Board Examination but that of the United Kingdom and other countries.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether you accept that as a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, you get this sort of nonsense all the time. Some people get through easily and they do not want others to progress. I am sure the senior member for the City stressed that he did not want the New York State Board Examination to be removed. We are saying that you will find qualified doctors all over the world. Are you saying that the people who learn medicine in France are not qualified? The moment this Government does something you will hear all sorts of criticism. *(Asides.)*

Mr. SPEAKER: Hon. members not addressing the Chair will, of course, observe the relevant Standing Order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I wish you will stop saying so and use the necessary Standing Order. *(Asides.)* This is the kind of thing we have been getting all the time. It looks to me as if the ship has arrived and we have not yet gone ashore. We are still backward in our thinking. The object of this Bill is to stop in this modern age, what was being perpetrated all along. It is a fact that certain people who did not attend certain Universities were unable to practise here. The Minister of Health has said that he has a panel of doctors set up to examine the qualifications of doctors. He can also write a University and have a man's qualifications investigated. I hear the senior member for the City trying to imply that, because we were doing something about this iniquitous situation, we were trying to benefit somebody. Every time we do something it will benefit somebody even if it does not benefit us.

4,00 p.m.

I do not understand what is meant by all the nonsense we have been hearing. I am saying that this should never have been on the Statute Book, but realising that our masters wanted to protect themselves and keep out certain people, they got it placed on the Statute Book, and this is not the only thing that needs to be removed therefrom. There are a lot of iniquitous laws that need removing. I am extremely shocked and surprised at the hon. senior member for Bridgetown and the line he has taken in this bit of legislation which we are trying to put on the Statute Book that will alleviate what is an iniquitous situation.

Mr. Speaker, the shocking thing about it is that there are doctors here who can practise at the Hospital on what they call poor black people, but these doctors, according to this bad piece of legislation are not qualified to attend to people outside the Hospital. They can remain at the Hospital for one million years, but the moment they leave the Hospital they cannot attend the people outside. What sort of nonsense can this be? Even Dr. Booby must be a doctor at some time. The hon. senior member for Bridgetown forgot that these people can leave whichever University they attended and come to the Hospital and perform operations on the poor black people they represent, but they are not allowed to go outside and make a living. Do you expect me to sit here and agree with the nonsense that was spoken on the other side without making a contribution to this debate? I believe that when the hon. member said what he did, he had not read the Bill, otherwise he would not have said that, or he does not know that people can work at the Hospital as doctors until the cows come home, but the same people are not allowed to leave the Hospital and practise the same medical profession. This is the reason why we have to change this, because it was placed on the Statute Book specifically to suit certain people. It is like the former Cable and Wireless legislation, but the time has come when we are in power and have seen that this should be removed from the Statute Book.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I see two hon. members on their feet.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I would like Junior to understand that he has just come and he must take his place and have respect.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Thomas was still addressing the Chair.(Mr. BOLDEN: Golf Club Road.)

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The hon. member made some aside about Golf Club Road. It is not Golf Club Road or any place in St. John. Do you think this is heading canes out of the cane piece in St. John?

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member continue to address the Chair?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I really intended to finish, but if the hon. member wants to start that, he will have to wait. This is the House of Assembly.

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

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I hate to repeat myself, but I say again for the record that the same poor black people whom the hon. member said he was trying to protect are the same people who can go to the Hospital and meet these doctors that we are allowing to practise their profession after they have completed their service at the Hospital. We felt it was a sinful act to have this bit of legislation remain on the Statute Book.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to see one addition to this Act and that is in the paragraph 6(1). The section reads: "Any person who after the commencement of this Act applies to the Council to be registered as a Medical Practitioner.....

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph cannot go into details of the Act outside of the Committee Stage. He has to deal with the principle of the Act.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Minister who has just sat down said, we are dealing with the lives and interests of Barbadians, but the Hon. Minister should look back and see where they have fallen down in the Act, because one of the principal things, which I would like to see, is provision to make sure that any person claiming registration can really use and understand the English language, since that is the only way in which they can really preserve the the interest of Barbadians. When the Act reaches the Committee stage, Mr. Speaker, I am going to raise the issue of the knowledge and use of English. There are cases in which I know personally that lives have been lost because the doctors dealing with the patient could not understand the nurses and other doctors who were working with them at the time. The hon. member says that everything the Government does, everybody opposes. If on this side we try to point out where the Government has fallen down in a particular instance, the Hon. Minister does not have to think that everybody is opposing the Government.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: On a point of order, not for one moment did I say that. I have stressed the point that it is the duty of the Opposition to make the Government in power uncomfortable, but it is also the duty of the Opposition to criticise constructively.

Mr. SPEAKER: That could be no point of order.

Mr. BOLDEN: As I was saying, Mr. Speaker, the Bill seeks to ensure that Barbadians are entitled to good medical attention, but you have got to safeguard not only the interests of those people who come here.
4.10 p.m.

This is not in this day and age the time to look back to see if we are creating a Bill to fix the interest of some particular person, we are here looking from this side to make sure that any Bill or any legislation is really for the benefit of the people as a whole and not for any particular person. I would like the House to know that when we go into Committee I will make that point.

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

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

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, there is the question of this Medical Council that is to be established by section 3. I am to wonder, in view of the importance of a Bill of this sort, what guarantees, if any, can the Minister of Health give us that a Medical Council such as is to be established will be a Council of integrity, a Council which can be recognised throughout the British Commonwealth, United Kingdom, United States and beyond. I think, Sir, that there are very good reasons for what I am making mention of, because this is a question no doubt of life and death; this is what this whole Bill must be presumed to be based upon, the question of life and death, and one has got to be ultra cautious with anything that pertains to this Bill and we realise that after the Bill is passed there are certain conditions which have got to be fulfilled such as registration, etc., but what are we to look for in the Council? It will be a Council comprising of how many? How many names of experience will it have? These are things that must concern us at this stage. I feel that the Minister would have some little thing to tell us on those points and we may be able to move on.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the composition of the Council is the Chief Medical Officer, *ex officio*, two medical practitioners appointed by the Minister, three medical practitioners appointed by the Minister on the nomination of the Association of Medical Practitioners approved by the Minister, and one Medical Practitioner appointed by the Minister on the nomination of the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the University of the West Indies. The Council may appoint such Committees composed of members of the Council and medical practitioners not being members of the Council for the proper carrying out of its functions and may designate to such Committees any functions as considered necessary. No member of the Council other than the Chief Medical Officer may hold office for more than three years but is eligible for re-appointment. Notwithstanding that, no member other than the Chief Medical Officer shall hold office for more than two consecutive terms, but such member is eligible for re-appointment after the expiration of one year thereafter.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the Minister has just told us that two medical practitioners who shall be on the Council will be appointed by the Minister. What is going to be the Minister's yardstick for deciding which two medical practitioners to appoint? Will it be political, social or what? Is it a case where the Minister is going to look at a long string of degrees behind the names? What is he going to bring to bear upon a situation such as this? It is a case where I must admit our Minister of Health is not himself a medical practitioner and I am not suggesting that he should be, but the Minister is now placed in a very, very unfortunate position, that here it is a Minister who has absolutely no medical experience except for the fact of becoming ill like any other person, is given the power to appoint two medical practitioners on the Council.
4.20 p.m.

He has no further association with the medical practitioner, and that same Minister has to place two doctors in a very responsible position where they will be the persons who are to decide as from this day forward who are eligible for registration to practise the medical profession.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member must realise that the Ministry of Health is comprised of quite a number of doctors, and the Chief Officer is the Chief Medical Officer of Health. There are two Senior Officers of Health as well as doctors all down the line. I am not a doctor, but it has been proven that the most successful Ministers of Health are not qualified people. I do not pretend to be a doctor, but the fact is that I can listen to competent and qualified advice; I have qualified people to advise me, and I know how to select the right people for certain posts. There is really no danger in that. To suggest that I do not know the doctors personally is nonsense. We always see to it that highly qualified doctors with the necessary experience are appointed. Experience is the main factor, provided the doctors are fully and properly qualified.

At present we have a Medical Staff Committee, and we run the Hospital on a certain basis. Although we have administrative and clerical staff, we have the Hospital Medical Staff to look after the discipline and so on of doctors. We do not interfere with the work of doctors, and it is for that reason that our Institution, as far as the Medical Department is concerned, works very well. We have a Committee for the Medical Staff, a Registrar, a Consultant, etc. We also have a very dynamic Chairman who stands up for the rights which the Medical Staff should enjoy.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the Minister has told us that, in choosing his two doctors, he will be relying on the experience of the doctors. Experience in what?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I rely on the advice of the Chief Medical Officer.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, when we come to the Schedule, will the Minister be prepared to accept that he will appoint two medical practitioners on the advice of the Chief Medical Officer? That is what I am concerned with. This is a very serious matter. The Minister says that he is going to give attention to the experience of these doctors. They may be medical practitioners who have attended medical schools and acquired several degrees behind their names; they may be A-class abortionists. Are you going to appoint them because they are A-class abortionists? If a medical practitioner comes here and asserts himself actively with the Government, is the Minister going to tell us that he will go outside his political party to appoint qualified medical practitioners? How can he go outside the party and appoint a doctor? How can he justify this?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I thought the hon. member had been in here long enough to realise that I will have to take the advice of the Chief Medical Officer. Who else can advise the Ministry of Health on medical affairs? That is the Chief Medical Officer's job.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, there is one thing upon which we can rely on this Hon. Minister, and it is in a matter of this sort he will accept the advice of the Chief Medical Officer providing the recommendation meets with the approval of his political colleagues. That is what we know. There are prominent medical practitioners who are members of his party. Mr. Chairman, I am trying to remember to which political party you belong.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That has absolutely nothing to do with the Medical Registration Act with which we are now dealing. Quite a lot has been said on Clause 2 and the definition of the word "Council". This debate is going very hard to Clause 3, Establishment of Council.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, we have to accept your ruling. We are now discussing the definition

of the word "Council". It says: "Council" means the Medical Council established by Section 3."
4.30 p.m.

Now, Sir, if in Clause 2 we are told that it means the Medical Council established by Section 3, how can we be called upon to narrow our confines to Clause 2? I am sure you will agree that this is what the definition says.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, I have to support my colleague, because at one stage I was saying to him that he was dealing with the Schedule. To my mind this is so badly drafted that you can only discuss Clause 2 if you talk about Clause 3. You may be anxious to get away and would like to stop discussion, but I have something to say on this. What puzzles me is that the Medical Council shall consist of the following persons: the Chief Medical Officer. We accept him. This is a Government appointment. Then there are two medical practitioners appointed by the Minister; then it goes on to say there will be three Medical practitioners appointed by the Minister on the nomination of an Association of Medical Practitioners approved by the Minister. That is why my colleague was on a good wicket because the Minister is responsible for five of the appointments, and all my colleague is trying to show to Government is that it is not necessary to put this type of power in the hands of the Minister for fear that you may have these lackeys. You have Dr. Haynes and Dr. Caddle who are members of your party. Can anybody really see the Government nominating or accepting Dr. Forde before they accept Dr. Caddle or Dr. Haynes? That is all my colleague was trying to establish, and he was forced to go into the Schedule.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: It would have been very much better for members after going into the Schedule.....

Mr. CRAIG: I am not dealing with the Schedule.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If we deal with Clause 3, this debate can then appropriately go on.

Mr. CRAIG: Do not tell me how I must debate. You can tell me that I am breaching the Standing Orders.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I think I have given enough latitude on Clause 2.

Mr. CRAIG: I am dealing with Clause 2.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I said to the hon. junior member for St. Peter that this type of debate could certainly have gone on under Clause 3, because Clause 2 only deals with the definition of a Medical Council while Clause 3 deals with the establishment of a Council.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, suppose hon. members on this side did not understand the meaning of "establishment" in Clause 3, what would you do to help them?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is no point of order.

Mr. HINDS: Suppose we had to seek the meaning of "establishment", what would you give as your assistance?

Mr. CRAIG: I thought you wanted to get away, but it seems you would like to be here for a while. There is something else which bothers you.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I want to draw to the Minister's attention the definition of "appropriate fee" which means the appropriate registration fee payable pursuant to sections 3, 5 or 6, as the case may be, of the Professions (Registration Fees) Act, 1968. That, Mr. Chairman I understand, amounts to something like $120 a year. I am sure the Minister will have this at his finger tips, and would be in a position to assist by telling us what was the determining factor which fixed the amount at $120 a year.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. member cannot reflect on past legislation, and I suppose he knows that. The Cabinet agreed on the fee.

Mr. HINDS: Is that a reflection? The Minister should know better than that.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Again I think the hon. member would certainly be in order if he deals with Clause 5.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, the question asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter is a question which ought not to be accepted in that if the hon. member remembers, this was a budget proposal and it is not fair to ask the Hon. Minister about the criteria on which this fee was reached, because budgetary proposals are the premises, so to speak, of the Minister of Finance. This was a budget proposal which was dealt with in this House and the appropriate time to have questioned this proposal was when it was brought before the House. No question was asked as to how it was arrived at, and I think it would be completely out of order. Either you agree with the proposal or you do not agree, but I do not think it is in order to ask the hon. member how you arrived at a budget proposal.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, all I am asking is how does the Minister content himself with accepting what was decided yesterday as a budget proposal or otherwise for the basis on which the Council must function in future. That is all I am asking the Minister; it is no reflection on anything. Nobody is looking for an escape valve in this.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Until such time as a new Registration of Fees Act is put on the Statute Book to amend the Registration of Fees Act, 1968, we have to go along with what we have. But I cannot come and tell you that the fee for doctors' registration should be $500 because we have the Registration of Fees Act, 1968, and it has not yet been amended.

The question that Clause 2 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

4.40 p.m.

Clause 3 was called and passed.

Clause 4 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 4 stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, under this clause it is seen that there can be a time when because the name of the most highly qualified, the longest practising doctor, the most efficient or whatever he might be, because his name is not on the register, he is not a medical practitioner. I am referring to clause 4(4), and I wonder if the Minister has any light to throw on this.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I can assist the hon. member. He is a doctor but he is not a practitioner because a practitioner is one who practises. If you are not practising and you do not care to have your name on the register it does not mean you are not a doctor any longer, the machinery is there for you to be registered as a practitioner and in this case he has to apply and show his qualifications.

The question that Clause 4 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 5 was called and passed.

Clause 6 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: In moving the passing of Clause 6, there is an amendment to this Clause which is that Clause 6(3) be deleted and the following substituted therefor:

"3 For the purposes of subsection (2) a qualification mentioned therein which the holder has obtained from the University of the West Indies or from a medical school in the United Kingdom approved by the General Medical Council, shall be deemed to be evidence of satisfactory medical training";

Mr. Chairman, subject to this deletion and substitution on this sub-clause 6(3), I beg to move that Clause 6 as amended stand part.

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

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to see a further amendment to Clause 6, that is, that there be inserted in some place the words "that can speak and understand the English Language well", the reason being.....

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, I am not opposed to what the hon. member is saying, but he said that it should be inserted some place in the Clause. Would the hon. member state where he would suggest that it be inserted?

Mr. BOLDEN: Part of the conditions under which a person would be registered is set out in Clause 6(1) (a) and (b) and in Clause 6 (2) and (3). I would suggest that this be Clause 6 (1) (a) and then 6 (1) (a) be moved to (b) and then (b) moved to (c), for the very reason that I have known of at least two cases in which persons have died as a result.....

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. member's motion has been accepted. It is a very good suggestion in that you are opening the door to Indians, Pakistanis and people from all over the world when they are qualified, and they must have a proper control of the Queen's English in order to be clearly understood and so that there is no misunderstanding between doctor and patient or between doctor and nurse etc. I think it is a very good suggestion and I accept it.

Mr. BOLDEN: The Hon. Minister, I see, is fully aware of the circumstances in this, but I know that there are at least three medical practitioners in this island who about two years ago could not understand the English Language as spoken in Barbados; as a result of this, a boy from Christ Church lost his life and it resulted in a manslaughter trial. One of the doctors giving evidence said that he found difficulty in communicating to the officer who was performing the operation; therefore, I would like to see it laid down clearly because I know it is provided that he should be a fit and proper person, and one does not know how a foreigner would interpret that, but if it is clearly set out that a person must be able to understand and speak the English language well I am certain that everything will be carried out well. I would like to congratulate the Minister for having accepted so readily my suggestion.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I would like to hear the wording of the amendment.

Mr. BOLDEN: "That he can speak and understand the English language well". What is happening is that in places like India and Pakistan, although English is one of the recognised languages, many of those people communicate in other languages. It is when they are in the operating theatre or in the casualty that they cannot understand what is being said; communication is that poor between two persons.

4.50 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, perhaps at this stage we could suspend the passing of Clause 6 in order that the Clerk may have a clear indication of what is intended and for the hon. member to communicate with the Clerk and see that he thoroughly understands the amendments he wishes to make.

I beg to move that Clause 6 be suspended *pro tem.*

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

Mr. CRAIG: It should be read, write, speak and understand.

The question that Clause 6 be suspended was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 7 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 7 stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that in the past we have had a number of bogus degree holders applying for jobs in Barbados, I believe that Clause 7 is of the utmost importance. As we have heard earlier today, there are places where the degrees granted by certain Institutions are not accepted and students who go there are not entitled to be registered in certain territories. Some people do not have the necessary qualifications, and there should be some means whereby their qualifications could be investigated most thoroughly. After all, the medical profession is not the same as other professions and we have to be very careful about the registration of doctors. I feel that the Council should be given authority to investigate every bit of evidence presented, so that everything could be verified and proved beyond a shadow of doubt before registration takes place.

The question that Clause 7 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 8 and 9 were called and passed.

Clause 10 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 10 stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, it has been accepted that the *Official Gazette* is the medium through which notices of certain matters are brought to the attention of the public, but it would be to the benefit of the public if we were to go further afield beyond the *Official Gazette* and publish the official list of medical practitioners. It could be done once a year, and it would do the medical practitioners no harm if they met once in the month of February to discuss this matter. It is known that about half-dozen people receive the *Official Gazette,* and less than half of the people who receive the *Official Gazette* worry to read it.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member has raised a good point. Administratively this matter will be given the widest publicity, but the *Official Gazette* will have to be used as the official medium. I appreciate the hon. member's point, and we will publicise it in the *Official Gazette* and otherwise.

The question that Clause 10 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 11 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 11 stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, this Bill deals with medical practitioners, but Clause 11 (c) (ii) says -

> "that he is doing special work in the field of public health or research and is sponsored in such work by the University of the West Indies, the World Health Organisation, the Pan-American Health Organisation, or such other organisation or body as the Minister approves after consultation with the Council....."

I wonder whether the Public Health Engineer has been given consideration in this matter? We appreciate the fact that this Bill is to repeal the Medical Registration Act 1911. What does the Minister have to say about such matters?
5.00 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I am not quite clear what the hon. member wants. Do you want a Public Health Engineers Act too? I do not suppose you mean that. I am not quite clear what proposal you have for the Public Health Engineer.

Mr. HINDS: Does not Clause 11 (c) (ii) open up the avenue to the Public Health Engineer to seek registration?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: We are talking about doctors; we are not talking about engineers.

Mr. HINDS: This is what I am saying. What does Clause 11 (c) (ii) mean?

The question that Clause 11 stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 12 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, there is an amendment to Clause 12. Clause 12 is to be renumbered Clause 12 (1) and the following Clause is to be added as sub-clause (2):-

"If, in any such proceedings, the Council is satisfied that a medical practitioner is convicted of an offence under paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection (1) or if he is found guilty of professional misconduct, it may -

(a) censure him; or
(b) suspend his registration for such period not exceeding one year; or
(c) direct the Registrar to remove his name from the register."

Subject to these amendments, I beg to move that Clause 12 as amended stand part.

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

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, here I believe that the amended paragraph under (b) is not as adequate as it might be. I would like to see under (b) that in the first instance he may be suspended for such period not exceeding one year, then subsequently for as long as the Council shall deem fit. Let us suppose that a medical officer committed a crime for which he is convicted and he is suspended for one year, there is no reason to doubt that he would not do it a second time if the suspension period is just a year, but if there is such a Clause that would deter him and others from committing the same offence the second time, I believe it would not be necessary for us to utilise this. We could refer to several other Acts in which suspensions have been legislated for, and that is the way it is done.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. member is trying to win spurs.....

Mr. BOLDEN: On a point of order, I have no spurs to win.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. member made the point that there is nothing to prevent a person from committing an offence on the second occasion, but the Council can direct the Registrar to remove his name from the register. If a man is guilty of grave misconduct and he is censured in the first place, and if he is suspended for a period not exceeding one year, that is a long hiatus, and no one likes to be suspended, and any doctor who is suspended loses his practice in a shorter time than a year. What is more, there is a further deterrent that if he persists in that misconduct, his name will be removed from the register. I am therefore not willing to accept the hon. member's suggestion.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, with all due respect to the Minister, the Act does not set it out as the Minister is trying to tell the House. The Act gives one of three measures - censure him, suspend his registration for such period not exceeding one year, or direct the Registrar to remove his name from the register, and they all deal with individual offences. It does not say on the first occasion, on the second occasion or on the third occasion, and one can look back and see that the term of office of the Council is only two years, and if several Councils have been changed and a man commits the same offence, who is there to say that the Council can be reminded of the offence. Even in the legislation one has to look back at previous offences.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. member must realise that the Medical Council is not a bunch of nitwits; they are intelligent men put there to administer this, and when the hon. member says that I tried to mislead the House, these are corrective measures. It is only natural to assume that the first action would be to censure once, twice or three times, then suspend if he persists and finally remove his name from the register.

Mr. BOLDEN: But that is not the way it is written here.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: That is how it will be administered by sensible people.

Mr. BOLDEN: Look at the Road Traffic Act of 1937 and you will see that if a man commits a particular offence once there is a certain penalty, but for the second or third occasion there are other penalties laid down. No one can say that the Minister or a Judge is not a responsible person, but the Act must spell out what is to be done, and you should not say that because they are responsible persons that they would not censure a second time. Other legislation always sets out what should happen. If you are going to protect the lives of Barbadians, you should legislate in such a way that there are no escape routes. That is all I am asking you to do.

The question that Clause 12 as amended stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 13 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the following Clause be inserted after Clause 12 and numbered "13". It reads as follows:-

"13. (1) The Council may, at any time, direct the Registrar to restore to the register any name removed therefrom under Section 12(2).

(2) When the name of any person is removed from the register, the Council may in writing require such person to return to the Registrar his certificate of registration and such person shall comply with that requirement."

I beg to move that Clause 13 stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, if the Registrar requires such an offender to return his certificate and he fails to comply, what is the very next step that will be taken? What provision does the Act make for dealing with such a situation?
5.10 p.m.

The Minister just said that when the name of any person is removed from the register the Council may in writing require such person to return to the Registrar a certificate of registration and such person shall comply with that requirement, but if the person does not comply what is the position? Will the Minister please state?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: When the name of any person is removed from the register the Council may in writing require such person to return to the Registrar a certificate of registration and such person shall comply with that requirement. If his name is removed from the register he cannot practise and that is the end of the matter; I suppose you can work the rest of it through the Judge's Chambers. That is what the Judge's Chambers are there for.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: In reply to the question the hon. member asked, if the practitioner, as it were, was stopped from practising and he persisted in practising, he would no longer be a practitioner. As soon as he starts to practise after his name is removed from the register he will be doing something illegal.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, for the benefit of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, what I am asking is what provision is being made for a penalty. The Act makes provision that the Council can call on a person whose name has been removed from the Register to return a certificate, that was formerly issued, to the Registrar because his name has been removed from the register for some offence, and that such person shall comply, but if this person does not comply, what is the penalty? It does not provide for a penalty. If you are making it here specific that the person shall comply, you should have a penalty clause stating what penalty you would have to pay for failure to comply.

The question that Clause 13 as amended stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 14 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, this is a further amendment. The new clause 14 will read as follows:

"Appeals . 14. (1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (3) any person who is aggrieved by the refusal of the Council to register him under this Act or by its decision to censure him or suspend his registration or cause his name to be removed from the register may, within three months of the receipt by him of any such notice, appeal to a Judge in Chambers whose decision shall be final.

(2) The Judge may -

(a) at the hearing of an appeal against the refusal of registion, dismiss the appeal or allow the appeal, and direct the Council to cause the registration to be effected;

(b) at the hearing of any appeal other than an appeal against refusal of registration -

(i) dismiss the appeal and confirm the decision of the Council, or

(ii) allow the appeal and set aside the decision of the Council, or

(iii) allow the appeal and direct that the disciplinary proceedings in respect of which the decision of the Council was made be reconducted by the Council, or,

(iv) set aside the penalty imposed by the Council and impose in substitution therefor such other penalty under section 12(1) as he thinks fit.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) no appeal shall lie under this section against refusal of an application for registration in a case in which such registration is conditional upon the applicant's satisfying the Council that he is qualified to be registered."

I beg to move that Clause 14 as amended stand part.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, as I see it, Clause 14 places the Judge in Chambers in a sort of straight jacket; in other words, an appeal is made to the Judge, he must either allow an appeal or dismiss it, but remember, we have it before us here that an offender can have his certificate or his registration withdrawn for a period of one year. What we are saying here and now, is that the Judge should be given the authority to vary a decision; in other words, that the Judge could allow it, dismiss it or vary it, because the Judge, in examining the evidence from both sides, may find that the man's certificate has been taken away from him for one year but in his opinion it should only have been taken away from him for nine months or six months as the case may be. This is faulty draftsmanship, this is making the Minister look like an idiot before the Opposition. The Judge should be given authority to vary a decision in a matter of this sort.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, the Judge under Clause (b) (ii) can allow an appeal and set aside the decision of the Council.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the Minister ought to know what I mean, the Judge can either allow the appeal or dismiss it; in other words the person who appeals against a decision may get the appeal allowed and it ends there. What we are saying is that the Judge should have further authority to examine the situation, and in the case where a man's certificate of registration has been withdrawn from him for a whole year, and maybe for six months, the

Judge may see in fairness to this man the gravity of the situation is such that it should only have been withdrawn from him for two months, three months or something of the sort. The Judge is not given that authority under this Bill.
5.20 p.m.

It could not right, be and I am sure the Legal Draftsman could not have seen the point.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, if one looks at the drafting of Clause 14, one will see that the Judge has to do two things which relate to (a) and (b). I agree with my colleague that this is hasty drafting without giving consideration to the effect this Clause will have on other Clauses in the Bill.

The question that Clause 14, as renumbered, stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 15 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 15, as renumbered, stand part.

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

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

Clause 16 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 16, as renumbered, stand part.

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

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

Clause 17 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 17, as renumbered, stand part.

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

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

Clause 18 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 18, as renumbered, stand part.

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

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

Clause 19 was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 19, as numbered, stand part.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I am interested in the Medical Registration Act because I believe that I am one of the few Counsel who has had to undertake a defence to a criminal charge under this Act. In the course of undertaking this defence, I discovered that there was an English Statute made in 1539 or 1540, and this Act of Parliament was made in the reign of Henry VIII specifically extending to British possessions overseas at a time when Calais was the only British overseas possession. Now the Act is called the Herbalists Act and it will be found in use all over the United States in colleges and pseudo-institutions of medical education, where a copy of this Act of 1539 or 1540 is displayed. This Act applies to Barbados since the English settlers brought with them the law of England as it existed at the time.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am certain we would like to follow the hon. member carefully, and I would like to know on which Clause he is speaking.

Mr. ADAMS: Is it not the Clause that is renumbered 19?
5.30 p.m.

I am speaking specifically on Clause 17(3)(c). My argument may be a little difficult to follow, but perhaps if you read the *Gazette*, it may prove easier to follow. This section deals with the penalty for illegally practising medicine. In England there is no such penalty. Everybody is entitled to practise, although he cannot call himself a medical practitioner, M.D., or anything which would suggest that he is a doctor, and that is why there are so many unregistered practitioners.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The noise of hon. members along with the noise from the air conditioning unit makes it very difficult for me to follow hon. members.

Mr. ADAMS: When you think of many of the States of the United States, you can practise with a correspondence course degree as long as you do not call yourself a doctor, and in Britain you can practise even when struck off. Indeed one of the most prominent practitioners in Harley Street is making a fortune even now in spite of being struck off for advertisement some years ago. I am not going to call his name because I do not want to give him any further advertisement! He wrote a book about plastic surgery and was struck off the register, but he still carries on a practice in Harley Street, making more money than many other practitioners. He practises as a struck-off practitioner but strictly within the the law. His solicitor advises him what and what he can or cannot do. Although they too may be struck off, nurses go and work with him and he pays them much more than when they are not struck off, and he carries on a flourishing unregistered practice in his own place in Harley Street. I am not suggesting that you allow in Barbados a system by which struck-off practitioners can freely ply their wares, but we are allowing to some extent such a situation, and this did

not exist under the old Act; because when you say that subsection 2 - which prevents the practice of medicine when unregistered - is not to apply to the practise of medicine by any person "registered, licensed or enrolled under any enactment", you are in fact opening the door entirely to the practice of medicine in Barbados by persons who have a certificate from the United States that they are registered under the Herbalists Act. This Act still applies in England. It was kept in existence and given a short title by a Short Titles Act of 1958 or 1959 when the new Medical Registration Act was passed in England. It is an enactment and some interesting points of constitutional law can arise. In the ordinary way it is one of the very earliest enactments that would apply to Barbados. It is the earliest Act I know of off hand except for such things as Treason whose application is specifically extended to the British territories overseas. It applies to Barbados and you will get people who can take correspondence courses from colleges of Naturopathy operating out of Bismarck, North Dakota or some such place in the U.S.A. from which they get back certificates. I have seen the certificates, and accompanying the certificates they are given another certificate which published the whole Herbalists "charter'. They will be able to tell you that they are registered under an enactment, and they will be entitled to say this and practise. They are authorised under the Act to apply herbs to all external parts of the skin, and it is surprising what doctors will define as the skin under appropriate circumstances.

Mr. Chairman, if this is allowed to go through, I certainly believe that apart entirely from what I may have advised people in the past, there are people who can say that they are registered or enrolled under an enactment, telephone a lawyer who will say that the Herbalists Act still applies to Barbados, and the person will say he is entitled to practise such sorts of medicine as allowed by the Act. I am just raising it because it is an argument which has been submitted to the Courts of Barbados and to some degree accepted. I am not going to suggest amending it now, but I will advise the Minister to ask the legal draughtsmen to look at it because it has been before the Courts of Barbados, and the Attorney General might suggest repealing it in due course.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I propose being very brief on this. Now Clause 17 renumbered Clause 19 (2) (a) reads as follows:-

"Any person not being a medical practitioner who used any name, title, addition or other description implying or calculated to imply that he is a medical practitioner or that he is recognised by law as a person authorised or qualified to practise medicine;".....

Mr. Chairman, the practice of medicine is a particularly wide and varying field. There are many branches in that particular field and I would like to hear from the Minister exactly what he and his Council and draughtsmen have got in mind when they mention here at 19 (2) (a).....

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, if the hon. member would give way, he wants to know what the Minister and his Council have in mind. The Medical Council has not been set up yet. Under the Act a Medical Council will be set up as constituted and as set out in the Schedule; so the Medical doctors are not in a position to advise me. I do not know who they are or who they will be.

Mr. HINDS: I wish I could believe that you did not know, but that is beside the point. What we are concerning ourselves with is what branches of medicine will this Clause deal with specifically. Does it refer to all branches of medicine? I am sure the Minister must know that I have very good reason for asking a question like this, because we have in our midst people who rendered yeoman service in the practice of a particular branch of medicine, and I am wondering if the Minister and all concerned are taking into consideration all aspects of this practice.

5.40 p.m.

There are schools and colleges in the United Kingdom and elsewhere that have been issuing certificates and diplomas that according to this Bill would entitle many holders thereof to registration upon the payment of the appropriate fee. We believe that the Minister's Council when appointed will bring to bear a certain prestigious attitude, not one that will do all that is good for the community or the life of the people, because we have seen, Mr. Chairman, that even under the present registration scheme many people have lost their lives in this Island and all the Minister was able to do was to try to stop it when he thought that he could. That is reasonable enough, but, Mr. Chairman, if we have a situation such as this where you are likely to find that not through the lack of the necessary qualifications - and the Minister laid special emphasis on experience, he made special mention that he will rely on experience to bring him through with this Bill, and then I am to wonder if those people who have been practising medicine with their diplomas for many years and have gained very considerable experience and until now it cannot be said that they have done so to the detriment of the medical profession as such, what is the Minister prepared to do under the circumstances.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, you have the assurance that all practising doctors, whether they have diplomas, licences or otherwise, have to be on the register and will continue practising; they will not be interrupted in any way.

Mr. HINDS: All I am concerned with is that medicine has many branches which people practise and I want to know if there are any avenues which are not covered in this Act that people will still be able to carry on their practice.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: We are dealing with suitably qualified medical practitioners, we are not dealing with the Chiropractors etc., we are dealing with medicine and people who have degrees, diplomas and

so on, who are practising and they will continue. All they have to do is to pay their fee; there is nothing to be worried about, I do not know if the hon. member has anybody in mind.

The question that Clause 19 as renumbered stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 18 be now renumbered 20.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: 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 Clause 20 as renumbered stand part.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: 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 Clause 19 be now renumbered 21.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: 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 Clause 21 as renumbered stand part.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 20 be now renumbered 22.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: 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 Clause 22 as renumbered stand part.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: 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 this be the Schedule to the Bill.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. junior member for St. Joseph suggested an amendment to Clause 6 (1) (a); if the hon. member would read the amendment I will make the necessary motion unless the hon. member wishes to do it.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I move that Clause 6 (1) (a) be amended and that the new Clause be "that he can read, write, speak and understand the English Language."

Mr. CRAIG: I beg to second that.

5.50 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the words proposed to be inserted be accepted and stand part.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: 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 Clause 6(1) (a) be now renumbered Clause 6(1) (b).

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: 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 Clause 6 (1) (b) be now renumbered Clause 6 (1) (c).

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: 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 the arrangement of the Clauses be properly amended to reflect the above amendments and that Clause 6, as amended, stand part.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of one Bill in Committee with amendments.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Bill, as amended, be now read a third time.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Bill, as amended, do now pass.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 8 be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

APPROVED ESTIMATES 1970-71

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 8 is the instant Order of the Day, and it stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Health and Social Welfare and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to amend the note to Item 120 of Head 43, Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Part I - Current, of the approved Estimates 1970-71.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as the Addendum sets out, there is provision in the 1970-71 Estimates under Head 43, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Item 120 - Mortuary and Laboratory Equipment for the purchase of a Photo-Electric Colorimeter. It has been ascertained that a Spectrophometer which is more robust and versatile can be obtained and this would replace the Colorimeter. It is therefore proposed to amend the note to Item 120 by deleting the words "Photo-Electric Colorimeter" and inserting therefor the word "Spectrophometer" to permit the purchase of this item of equipment.

The position is that the technicians at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital are more conversant with this type of equipment. It is a standard piece of equipment at the University of the West Indies where these technicians were trained. They are more conversant with this type of equipment and will be able to make better use of it. Both instruments serve the same purpose. 6.00 p.m.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, what is most important is for the Minister to be able to tell this House what type of equipment is presently in use, its age, and if it has become unserviceable, because the Minister must know that one of the causes of the breakdown of equipment at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital is that there is no person who can service the equipment that is being used in the laboratory. If we have the most modern piece of equipment and it cannot be serviced, it brings us to the point where its life expectancy cannot be as long as desired, because these technical pieces of machinery are not the type for people to be tinkering with, and it is time that the Minister not be led up the garden path as has been happening to him so often in matters relating to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, where he merely comes here and asks for money for this and that without being given the facts of the case. What we are going to ask the Minister finally is what provision is being made for servicing the new equipment that he expects to take in. Is it not a case where we are merely patterning ourselves by saying that it is the type of equipment that is in use at the U.W.I. Hospital or other institutions and that the students, doctors, or whoever is concerned would better be able to get the best results from it? But how long can they get these results? After all, Mr. Speaker, if it is the best piece of equipment manufactured by the best precision workers, one thing that is very essential is servicing and maintenance of any form of equipment, and unless the Minister can guarantee us this, we are getting nowhere. I am asking the Minister to be brief on these points and give us what information he has on them.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to join with my colleague in the remarks which he has made. The Hon. Minister in introducing this Resolution said that technicians are more familiar with the type of equipment used at the U.W.I., but in my opinion that shies past the very nature of what we are speaking about today. We are speaking of switching equipment, but as my colleague has said, it is not only the shifting of equipment which one must just be concerned with; it is a question of whether or not the equipment now installed at the Hospital is in working order.

It has been brought to my knowledge that the equipment at the Hospital is serviced by the person holding the post of Hospital Engineer, and it is currently said that he is no more than a glorified plumber who knows nothing about the equipment. His two juniors are no brighter than he is and they do not know about the equipment in the laboratory at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, because it is of a special nature. There are certain pieces of equipment there which have not been in operation for quite a long time because there is no one to service them. I would like to see money voted to send somebody outside to learn to service and repair this equipment before bringing it in.

The Minister speaks about technicians being trained at the U.W.I. What he really should say is that technicians who were trained at the U.W.I. have now come back to train technicians in Barbados, because the Minister, I am sure, is aware that directions went out for some time now asking the Chief Technician in the laboratory to set up a school for laboratory technicians, but because of the non-direction and the method in which this is to be done, this school has not yet been set up. The very laboratory technicians are dissatisfied and it is no use asking these persons to service equipment because they are not prepared to join the school far less do jobs outside their present employment in the servicing of equipment. What we are going to find is that year after year you are going to come here and vote money to buy equipment and when anything goes wrong with that equipment, we are not going to be

told that there are replacements, but we will be told they are going to switch equipment because there is nobody to service it.

Now if the Minister would tell us which is the better piece of equipment of the two, are we to believe that one piece of equipment may be better than the other, but because the technicians at the Hospital had not been trained, you are going to use a piece of equipment of lesser quality? Are you running down the services of the Hospital because of the technicians? Are you condemning the technicians which you have employed by saying that they do not know about modern equipment? This is what it comes to. We have heard that the equipment on which these personnel have been trained is better than the existing equipment and therefore we want to improve the standard. All this says is that we are changing equipment because the technicians are more conversant with this particular type of equipment. This leads me to another question. Who first recommended the existing equipment? Did that person take into consideration what equipment would be used by the existing staff? I say clearly that I am of the belief that the reason why this is framed like this is because if the Minister goes to the Hospital laboratory, he would find several pieces of equipment lying down that could be repaired, but are not in operation because there is nobody there who can look after them.
6.10 p.m.

The Minister admits that the man holding responsibility for the equipment is an engineer, but this in itself is a fallacious statement because it shows that somebody did not take the interest of the Hospital at heart. Engineering is a science with several branches, and that man might be a structural engineer or an engineer dealing with heating or sewage and he would not know the technique of the laboratory equipment; therefore, I would say that the first thing that has got to be done is to provide someone who could first service the existing equipment in the laboratory before putting in new equipment, because it will always be breaking down and then there will be nobody to service it. It means that we are spending money which could be saved if we had a man there who was sufficiently qualified to carry out the necessary repairs to the equipment.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, there is a maintenance engineer at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, who as far as I know is a qualified electrical engineer and does the servicing of this equipment and apparatus. So far as the paramedical school is concerned, at present we are trying to set up this school of paramedical education and Dr. Ralston is working on that. There is no school yet for training technicians in Barbados because the school has not yet been set up.

The position is, as I have already mentioned, that he wants permission to purchase a Spectrophometer at a cost of approximately $1,800 instead of a Photo-Electric Colorimeter which was approved under Head 43 Item 120 at an estimated cost of $1,000, so that we would be spending $1,800 and this is a better piece of equipment. The Spectrophometer is now considered to be more robust and versatile than the Photo-Electric Colorimeter, and it is in use at the University of the West Indies where most of our technicians are trained. The evidence is that it is money well spent.

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF A PARCEL OF LAND AT BRIDGE GAP St. MICHAEL

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think that hon. members remember that this is a project which was started way back in 1956 and carried through its stages up to 1964 or 1965, and during this period about 3,300 feet of drain was constructed but it was not possible to complete the project because a Mr. Samuel Holder, the alleged owner of one of the properties through which the drain should normally pass did not release his land. For a long time now Government was trying to reach agreement with Mr. Holder and he has consistently refused either to sell or give the land required. Obviously in a case like this the only sensible alternative is to have recourse to section 3 of the Land Acquisition Act, which provides that where the land is required for public purposes it should be so acquired in terms of the law. It is necessary therefore, Mr. Speaker, that the acquisition of this be completed so that in the future there will be less risk of flooding in this area for the lack of proper drainage. It is for this purpose therefore that I am asking the House to approve this acquisition, and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to see that Government is paying some attention to this drainage system which is of paramount importance to me, because in St. James in the Holetown area from about December, 1966 I called on the Government to do something about a water course which is responsible for flooding whenever there is a heavy rainfall in Holetown. It is regrettable that the people who are living there are very, very poor and I am quite sure that many a lawyer would sit back knowing that this would be a lovely law suit. Four years have gone by and nothing has been done about it, and I am happy to know that Government is still acquiring land for the purpose of drainage, and also I take this opportunity to call again on the Minister responsible to go and look at this spot in Holetown.

I remember also, Sir, I had to go to David Key and Partners, who I think built Discovery Bay and they put up a 7 foot or 8 foot wall and whenever there is any kind of rain at all in St. Thomas, rather than the water taking its usual course as it did several years ago, this wall blocks the water and at all times you have the whole area flooded out.
6.20 p.m.

I think this is a very important matter and the Government should do something about it. It is ridiculous when the sun is shining in St. James and rain is falling in St. Thomas and the people in those areas cannot get in and out of their homes. During the last flooding, I think the Minister of Communications and Works decided a week or so after the event to visit St. James and he still found water about 2 ft high. The people could not get out of their houses and it was necessary to use the Fire Service equipment in St. James to take a woman and her child out of a house that was surrounded by water. I am again taking this opportunity to call upon the appropriate Minister to go into this matter and to instruct the people concerned that it is against the law to block a watercourse. If anybody was living there who was in a position to bring a lawsuit, then the wall would have been pulled down long ago. It was only after certain people decided to use drills that the height of the water was reduced. I am appealing to the Hon. Minister to put this matter on his priority list and to endeavour to assist the people in St. James.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, the hon. senior member for St. James has just mentioned something about the drainage system. The entire drainage system in Barbados will have to be dealt with collectively, and we cannot deal with an individual area alone. I have discovered during the recent flood that most of our drains lead the water into the City and a lot of levels along the East Coast are far above the dangerous level. As soon as flood water cannot be drained into the sea, then you will have a serious flood. That is what takes place all over the Island. You will get a lot of garbage blocking drains and you will find water overflowing bridges and so on.

Mr. Speaker, we know of this problem, and the Government has made application to the United Kingdom Government to send down experts to deal with this matter. We know that whenever there is a good downfall of rain there will be a serious flooding all along the entire West Coast and so on. We have asked the experts to come here and make a survey of the entire Island in order that we may be able to put things right. We hope that the experts will arrive here before there is another flood. Take for example, Salt Pond in St. Peter where the sand on the beach is piled up high and the water cannot be drained into the sea easily. You will find that this flooding usually takes place when there is a Full Moon and there is high tide. The water is higher than the land, and flooding will certainly take place from time to time. I trust that the experts will be able to do something in this matter.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, the Minister has spoken about drainage in the City, but I would like to draw his attention to certain places in the parish of St. Joseph where the water is not drained into the sea. I refer to two areas in St. Joseph where you can always find an accumulation of water. In the Sugar Hill area where the land slopes from the North down to the bottom, whenever there is rain the water comes from Chimborazo and Castle Grant and settles at the bottom of Sugar Hill. There are about six or eight properties situate East of the Sugar Hill Road, and they are always in trouble. During the month of November there was flooding in that area. There is a man who keeps fowls, and every time it rains he loses a number of fowls. I have been told that a well was sunk there several years ago, but it is not taking off the water as effectively as it used to do. As a result of that, any rain which falls in St. Joseph will force water to accumulate at the bottom of Sugar Hill.

There is also an area where the water comes down from Orange Grove and settles below McCuloch's Bridge in an area where there are a number of breadfruit trees. Some arrangement should certainly be made to drain the water from that area. I should like the Hon. Minister to go into this matter and see what can be done to help the people in this area. I do not think it is necessary to bring an expert to deal with this. There is no escape for the water by way of the sea, and it will be necessary to sink a well in the area.

Mr. Speaker, this is a matter of health. If the water becomes stagnant there, the mosquitoes will live in the water because the water remains there for a considerable period of time. I should certainly like the Hon. Minister to carry out an investigation into this matter. He should look at these two areas and see what could be done to assist the people up there. I understand that the Sugar Hill area was in this sad state for a very long time. One of the residents up there told me that water flooded his house for some eight or nine days. It must be remembered that whenever there is heavy rain in those areas people will certainly lose their livestock.

6.30 p.m.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, although it might be allowed by the Standing Orders of the House, I do not want to say all that I could this evening on the subject of drainage of the Goodland Area and elsewhere. Hon. members will observe that there is a question which I have given notice of today dealing with drainage. I have been talking with the Minister privately about drainage before now, and he has been very helpful on the question about the sand at Salt Pond in St. Peter, but what I would like to say to the Minister is that the whole conception of drainage needs revising. You get spring tides every year and there is also a sand wave that moves up and down the West cost of Barbados which is now obstructed by the existence of the Harbour and the many other constructions. Irrespective of the spring tides, you are going to get a lot of movement of sand that is going to block the type of drains being built. The Salt Pond in Speightstown needed substantial concrete works being carried out to the west of the road and have caissons around some of the outlets to the drain, if you want the water to flow off and not back up through the presence of sand. At Oistins little drains have been built, and when spring tide comes they are overwhelmed by it. It is a question of building the drains too small and when a swell comes in, water is being forced back in the drain, and the flow of water

at spring tide flushes the sand out of these drains in an indirect way. They were built too low, and when you get a good rainfall, water collects in the streets.

Now the Goodland area drains perhaps the marshiest part of St. Michael. Emmerton Lane and Chapman Lane are areas of marshy, boggy, low-lying land. The drainage area of Goodland is 8 square miles and the water that collects there has nowhere to go. The people of Chapman Lane and Brandons are content to live near water. If the people wanted houses higher up from the water and better drainage you would channel the water into smaller areas and you would have to find areas to build rivers, far less drains, to take the water. Perhaps the hon. junior member for St. Lucy knows Indian Ground and that right behind Westbury Road there is an outlet to the Goodland River.....

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: On a point of order, the drainage in the Goodland area where the canal goes to the Indian River is at the end of Land's End and goes to the sea but the particular spot we are acquiring is owned by a man who would not let the workmen go into that area; so it is part of the canal, then a lake, then a canal again and we are opening it out so that the water can drain into the canal which is at the end of some person's land in that district. The owner of the land stopped workers from passing any drains through his land, and that has been going on for several years. The canal enters a lake and goes into another canal joining the beaches together, and the water eventually goes into the Indian River which goes into the sea.

Mr. ADAMS: With these in fact connected up, I am still not happy that the Bridge Gap drain is going to be a coherent whole because the drainage at Indian River is not good. I am among those who believe that a road from Land's End passing through to Brandon is a highly desirable road in Barbados, and although you talk about Indian River draining into the sea, people still walk through the Indian River. They still expect a thoroughfare to exist there as it existed years ago when the Indian River was carried under a culvert which then drained into the sea. That road is under water, and if you go and look into the river at Sidmouth, you will see the road bed. There is a road running by Sidmouth Wall to Brandon, and if you look beyond that road to the sea you will see what is an old road there.

The whole area needs drainage, and I wonder if this is not a piece-meal approach. There is a swamp in that area that is full of mosquitoes. I know the road leading down from the old Mental Hospital Farm Road, and the last time I saw it, it was blocked up and was causing great inconvenience to the travelling public because it was not easy to travel through there to go to Brighton. It is all part of the Goodland drainage area and part of the discharge area of which Goodland drains take a relatively small part.

Mr. Speaker, Brandon is not as healthy as it possibly could be because there is no proper drainage. When the Harbour is extended I expect that you must look for some type of development of Brandon and Brighton. I cannot remember what the Development Plan says, but it might be decided that since you have industrial establishments to the north of Brighton, you should have one continuous industrial development that runs from the warehouses on the Wharf to the Rum Refinery, but you cannot do that without draining the area. You cannot have roads in such an area unless you have substantial drainage work carried out, and while I am glad to support this acquisition, I would hope that the Government does not think that this is the complete answer to the drainage problem of northern St. Michael.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Indian River and Bird River of which the hon. member has been talking are no longer rivers.
6.40 p.m.

On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, we no longer have actual rivers, and twice every month the entrances to both of these have got to be cleared to drain water into the sea, because the sand will blow up from the beach and then the water becomes stagnated just after the new moon because that is when you would have spring tide, the sand blows up and the water no longer drains into the sea. Behind the Mental Asylum there used to be an entrance into the sea and over the years this has been blocked out completely, so that it has to be cleaned twice every month in order that the water can drain into the sea. We have more lakes now than rivers because of this.

Mr. ADAMS: I am aware of what the hon. member says, and this is another argument about the river itself. The river can never now drain satisfactorily because the water there is too shallow; it is ankle deep where the Moffett Factory is and it is dirty sea water.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: On a point of order, this is why I have mentioned that the entire drainage system is being considered, and this is one of the things which was mentioned when various countries were asking their representatives about aid, and the High Commissioner for the United Kingdom then said that one of the things he would do would be to ask for aid in this, and I know this has been done and is being negotiated at present for the entire drainage system throughout the island, because any time you get heavy rains there is a lot of flooding. This is a problem that we will have to face, and it is more than we can just consider as a trivial thing; it has to be considered fully if we are to maintain a proper drainage system.

Mr. ADAMS: The problem is growing worse because of certain man-made causes - not Government-made, but man-made causes. People are building more houses in St. Michael where you had open fields which used to absorb the water when the rain fell, but the more houses you build now the more water goes on to the roads and into the rivers. Everywhere houses are being built the drainage problem increases, and where you have a stagnant sea coast

blocked off by the Harbour and no water passing readily out to sea you will get the problem.

People seem to think that Barbados is not subject to flooding, but we have regular flooding. People think that eight years or ten years is a long time for floods, but we have floods probably about every ten years. In 1928 we had flooding and there was a lighter in the Public Buildings yard; in 1938 there was another flood and in 1949 we had another. We missed the 1958 one.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I hate to interrupt the hon. member, but I would like to know which lighter was in the Public Buildings yard in 1928.

Mr. ADAMS: I have repeated what I have heard, that there were high seas in the Careenage in 1928, and I am informed that a lighter was in the yard of the Public Buildings. If the hon. member wishes to find out when they had bad weather in Barbados, there is a book published in 1939 by Dr. Starke called the The Economic Geography of Barbados.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: If the hon. member would give way, I can assure him that in 1928 we had bad weather because there was a lot of damage where the Hilton is now, but there was no flooding.

Mr. ADAMS: His memory extends to the fact that it was not only a thunder storm but a lightning storm as well. I did not know the hon. member was so old, perhaps he, like the former junior member for St. Joseph, who at the age of three weeks could remember his cradle being moved from one side of the verandah to the other. I was told that there were high seas and the high seas washed a lighter across Trafalgar Square; at least the hon. member can confirm that there was a rain storm.

Barbados has regular floods, and to say that only two people are drowned and to make foolish jokes about footballers who have been drowned is very wrong indeed, but the fact that one person has lost his life is something that all of us should be sorry about; it is something for us to be concerned about. If this flooding which we have just had here had happened during the night time, little children in Chapman Lane would have been drowned. I think that this is becoming one of the serious problems of Barbados, and these drainage problems increase every day. I think it was the Minister of Communications who said that he spoke with the British High Commissioner; this, fortunately, is one of the problems which can easily attract overseas assistance. Flooding and the problems associated therewith are readily understood by those who have money to assist the smaller countries; We have never regarded flooding control as a necessary thing in Barbados but this is just as important as any; it is very bad that in a light rainfall you find difficulty to pass certain areas, areas like Tudor Bridge, Bush Hall, and Worthing View where all the water which used to be absorbed by Rendezvous Gardens comes down to Worthing View and you cannot pass if the rain falls. All these things the Town Planning Office does not pay the slightest attention to.

6.50 p.m.

He does not look to see the road levels, where the water is going and so on. We should take early steps to consider the question of drainage in Barbados seriously.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 6 be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

RESOLUTION TO ACQUIRE SPENCERS PLANTATION

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 6 is the instant Order of the Day, and it stands in the name of the Leader of the House and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of a parcel of land situate at Spencers Plantation, Christ Church, for the purpose of expanding Seawell International Airport.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think hon. members will remember that when the question of land acquisition was last before us, one or two hon. members suggested that it would be better to acquire the whole of Spencers Plantation instead of coming here every now and again to acquire portions of the land. In the circumstances, I think that this acquisition is in accordance with the wishes of both sides of the House. I now seek the permission of the House for the acquisition of the remainder of the land at Spencers in order to bring the entire amount of land under public ownership.

I beg to move that the Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Minister said that it was felt that we should acquire the whole area of land instead of coming here from time to time to acquire portions of it. I imagine that it is on this premise that he has brought this matter here today. I wonder whether a feasibility study has been carried out to determine how much land will be used for the expansion of the Airport and what will be done with the balance. Are you going to use all of the land you have acquired immediately for the expansion of the Airport? Are you going to use a part of it and leave the balance? How many acres of land have been purchased? What is the cost of the land?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, we want to acquire 409 acres of land.

Mr. CRAIG: How many acres are you going to use for the expansion of the Airport? What are you going to do with the balance of land. How much have you paid for the land?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the land that is not used for the expansion of the Airport will be handed over to the Agricultural Development Corporation. We have been considering the expansion of the growing of cotton, because we have a market for cotton in India. We feel that there is a good market in India, and we have been considering the question of bringing in mechanical harvesters to reap the crop because manual labour is not available at the moment. This year we will experiment with mechanical harvesters.

Mr. St. JOHN: Did you pay $250,000 an acre for the land? Are you going to grow ground nuts there?

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I was not present in the House when this matter was first dealt with and I do not know what information was given to hon. members. I have heard it said that there would be another runway; that there would be a highway running through certain places; that St. Bartholomew's Church would be knocked down, and certain factories would find themselves in the immediate Airport. Is there a plan, Sir? Does the plan reveal a second runway or a second highway?

Mr. Speaker, the *Advocate* newspaper does not understand how to report the proceedings of this House, and it still leaves out most of the important things said in this House. The speech made by the Minister of Labour deploring the small attendance at the opening of a seminar received headlines, but the Hon. Minister makes more important statements in here every week and the *Advocate* does not make headlines about them.

7.00 p.m.

So until I see the *Official Gazette* or unless I actually hear it said in here, I do not know what it is going to cost. I apologise to the hon. member if the questions that I asked were laid. He specifically indicated that the plans were set for a runway, but I want him to say that it would have to be another runway, because there is no land at all now for a second runway. I did hear the Prime Minister say that very soon more money will have been spent on the Airport than was spent on the Deep Water Harbour. I do not want more money to be spent on the Airport building one runway and one terminal building than was spent on the Harbour which added 90 acres to Barbados. I am expecting that if $19 million are to be spent on airport extensions that you are going to duplicate runway facilities. I am not an expert on airport management as the Prime Minister purports to be, but I do not see that you will have a modern airport, even granted the great advantage that the wind always blows up or down the runway, 310 days down and 40 days up, and the other days across, which still does not provide certain duplication of runway facilities.

One of the things which I believe is hampering the expansion of light aeroplane traffic through Barbados is the fact that light aeroplanes are not made as welcome here as in Antigua, because if you see the extent of light aeroplane ownership in Antigua, Martinque and Guadeloupe, you would be surprised to know how Barbados has so little. You see the light aeroplanes scrambling to takeoff between the big lights. I myself have appeared in a case where a light aeroplane had to be parked in such a position that a man with a mobile air conditioner got out, looked at the light aeroplane - he was servicing a big airline - got back into the mobile air conditioner and reversed on to the light aeroplane and knocked off the wing. Fortunately my client was a man of substantial wealth and rented another aeroplane at a cost of $US50 an hour and charged it to the Director of Civil Aviation. That is only by the way, but that is because the runway is congested.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that if you really had serious trouble in Trinidad and a lot of airlines had to turn around at Seawell, you would have to park the aeroplanes on the runway itself, because when you have Air Canada, B.O.A.C. and Pan American planes on the parking apron, the place is full, and if you had a few light aeroplanes that could not be accommodated on the sidelines, you would have no room on the apron to park. I would be glad if the questions concerning the runway, the church, the school and the road could be answered, because they are all important.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am not too sure that what I am saying is exactly correct, but I think that when I was in the Ministry of Communications, the former proposals were that Highway 7 would have been abandoned, and the questions that the hon. member asked were operating in the minds of the experts. I think however that the question of using Highway 7 as an alternative runway had been abandoned, and the reason I believe for acquiring this amount of land is because there are proposals to put a runway on the opposite side from the sea to take the small aircraft of which the hon. member has been speaking, but not the big jumbos. Small planes like LIAT would use this runway, but not the DC8s and so on. I am speaking under correction, but I think these are the new proposals for establishing a runway parallel to the existing one.

The hon. member made a very pertinent point which touched on the reason for our acquiring the remainder of this land. When planes could not go to Trinidad, they had to turn around here, but even with no trouble in Trinidad, I have seen seven Pan American planes, two Air Canada and two B.O.A.C. on the ground at one time. We were always short of parking aprons, and we intend now to extend the parking apron, because to put in another runway would entail moving the building that the hon. member just spoke about, moving the church and closing down Highway 7, and this would go past the $20 million allocation; so we will use the old runway and extend it as far as possible, and put in another runway running parallel to the existing one.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I just want to add that these proposals have been put before us, and although the

hon. member partly answered in respect of the proposed disturbance of Highway 7, I do not think this is now contemplated. My understanding is that 40 or 50 acres of this plot we are now acquiring is for the extended parking apron and so on, and the rest of it will go into agriculture, at any rate, diversification. 7.10 p.m.

With respect, lastly, to a price, the owners have instructed their Solicitors to ask the price of $2,400. This we regarded as negotiable and the Crown Solicitor has been instructed to keep the matter going in order to reach some agreement. This is as much as I can say now on the question of price. There are certain other conditions which are attached to the sale, the usual one I believe is that the vendor's legal expenses have to be met, stamp duties to be shared equally between the vendor and the purchaser, and other expenses like land taxes, insurance premiums on buildings, etc. should be met.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, I think I should at this stage ask the Leader of the House why we are purchasing compulsorily.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: We are negotiating the price.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, we have not had any indications from the Leader of the House that there has been disagreement on the question of price, all we have heard is that the owners have given instructions to their solicitors as to what price to ask. We have not heard that there was any difficulty on the question of arriving at an amicable settlement, and one need hardly see that the owners of Spencers could not be in a position to give a feasible title. I just cannot understand why we have to acquire it compulsorily.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I must then speak with the leave of the House because I cannot break the rules any more. We have on several occasions come into this House with Resolutions asking the House to approve certain land acquisitions, and as now we have told the House the usual implications that one side of the bargain has asked a price which we do not consider amicable, and we instruct the Crown Solicitor to carry on negotiations. The owners themselves have said that it is negotiable.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I think that concludes our business for this meeting. I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday next, 26th January, at 12 noon.

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

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

7.14 p.m.

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

THIRD SESSION OF 1966-71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 26th January, 1971

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

PRESENT

His Honour Sir J. E. T. BRANCKER, Q.C., F.Z.S., *(Speaker);* Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Hon. C. E. TALMA, *(Minister of Health and Social Welfare);* Hon. J. C. TUDOR, C.M.G., M.A., *(Leader of the House);* Mr. J. W. CORBIN, J.P.; Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, *(Minister of Communications and Works);* Mr. R. St.C WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P.; Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD, J. P., *(Chairman of Committees);* Mr. C. A. E. HOPPIN, J. P.; Mr. J. B. SPRINGER and Mr. C. L. BOLDEN.

Prayers were read.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS and Mr. HINDS entered the Chamber and took their seats.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: In view of a certain number of errors, which have appeared in the Minutes of the 21st and 28th July of last year, these Minutes are being reprinted.

I have the honour to inform the House that the Minutes of the 13th October, 1970, are now available for confirmation. Unless any member objects, the Minutes will be confirmed. Hearing no objection, I declare confirmed the Minutes.....

Mr. HINDS: Wait a minute, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I, at this stage, remind hon. members on both sides of the House that they must speak very loudly because of the competition of the air conditioners.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I have not read the Minutes and cannot make any comments on them.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am advised by the Clerk that the Minutes have been circulated for about seven meetings at one time. I must agree that, perhaps, the time was not long enough to afford members, who like to scrutinise the Minutes, to go through them. I am, therefore, disposed to defer confirmation of the Minutes of 13th, 20th and 27th October, 3rd November, 8th and 16th December, 1970, until the next meeting by which time I hope that all hon. members will have carefully perused those Minutes.

STATEMENT BY THE Hon. MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS ON THE FITTING OF BUSES FOR THE TRANSPORT BOARD

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a statement in regard to the need to utilise, for the purpose of fitting 4 bus bodies in the U.K., a portion of the loan authorised to be borrowed by the Transport Board under Resolution No. 77/69 of 19th November, 1969.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The Reporter has indicated that he cannot hear the Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: I understand that was the Reporter's problem last Tuesday, and the matter was reported to the person responsible for setting up the air conditioners.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, in order to enable the Transport Board to embark upon a programme of fleet replacements, the House of Assembly at its meeting held on 19th November, 1969 under Resolution No. 77/69 approved the guarantee by Government of the payment of a principal sum of $600,000 and the interest thereon to be borrowed by the Transport Board from a Commercial Bank for the purpose of meeting the obligations and discharging the functions of the Board under the Transport Board Act, 1955.

2. The Addendum to the Resolution states *inter alia* that -

"The loan is to provide additional rolling stock for the Transport Board as follows:-

(a) by purchasing twenty (20) bus chassis;
(b) by meeting the cost of locally manufacturing and fitting bus bodies to the chassis.

The loan will be drawn in such instalments as the Board may from time to time require."

3. The policy in regard to the supply of bus bodies for the Transport Board is that chassis should be ordered from overseas and fitted with bus bodies built locally.

4. The supplier of the locally manufactured bus bodies is Messrs. Acme Manufacturing Company Limited.

5. The Transport Board is however faced with a situation which requires a deviation from the policy which I have just mentioned, as was the situation in 1965 when the Board was authorised to purchase ten (10) buses complete to enable it to meet its requirements under the concession, since the production of the local bus bodies at that time was expected to take some time.

6. Under its concession, the Board is required to keep 121 buses operational. Due to the age of some of these units and the difficulty being experienced in obtaining spare parts, the Board is having trouble in meeting its obligations and the operational efficiency of the Board has been affected. It is therefore evident that the Board urgently requires new units as a means of increasing the efficiency, and economy of its organization.

7. Messrs. Acme Manufacturing Company Limited in a letter to the Board stated that they were unable to give any definite delivery dates of the 20 completed buses based on the delivery dates of the chassis for the following reasons:

(a) delivery date of raw materials had not yet been indicated by the Supplier;
(b) due to the intimated delivery of chassis which was January, 1971 no orders had as yet been placed for materials;
(c) most of their trained men had left their employment since they had delivered the last set of buses in 1969;
(d) the Company had gone into a new line of business, and in consequence additional accommodation would be needed for the construction of the bus bodies.

8. In view of —

(a) the inability of the Company to manufacture and fit the bus bodies within a reasonable time;
(b) the very urgent needs of the Transport Board at that stage;

it was recommended to have bodies manufactured and fitted to the first four chassis in the United Kingdom. The additional cost will be $7,291.20 over the quotation of the Acme Manufacturing Company Limited. The Transport Board has stated that this excess will be met by the Board from a previous loan, $41,000 of which has not yet been committed.

9. The Government recognizes that the overriding consideration must be the maintenance of adequate public transport. The Cabinet therefore concluded that an order should be placed for the fitting of bus bodies in the United Kingdom to the four chassis which were then ready for delivery. The bodies are expected to be completed this month.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL and Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY entered the Chamber and took their seats.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I am also commanded to lay statements showing the sums advanced to the Postmaster-General for the payment of Money Orders for the period April to October, 1970.

12.30 p.m.

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

Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Meadow Road, at Venture, St. John for the purpose of erecting a Communal Bath and Latrine.

Resolution to grant the sum of $1,901 from the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1970-71 Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1970-71, No. 13, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Resolution to grant the sum of $990,531 from the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1970-71, Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1970-71, No. 14, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Resolution to grant the sum of $310,743 from the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1970-71, Part II - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1970-71, No. 15, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Resolution to grant the sum of $104,203 from the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1970-71, Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1970-71, No. 16, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Resolution to grant the sum of $338,314 from the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1970-71 Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1970-71, No. 17, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Resolution to grant the sum of $33,036 from the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1970-71, Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1970-71, No. 18, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Also, Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of my intention to move the House into Committee of Supply at its next meeting to consider the money Resotions of which notice has just been given.

On behalf of the Hon. Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Mortgage Insurance Act, 1962.

I beg also to state that Oral Replies to Parliamentary Question No. 120, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter, Parliamentary Questions Nos. 131 and 134, asked by the hon. junior member for Bridgetown, Parliamentary Questions Nos. 135 and 136, asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter, are ready.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following:-

Resolution to approve, under section 10 of the Barbados Harbours Act 1970, the expenditure of the sum of $49,664 required to supplement the Annexed Estimates 1970-71 Part I - Current, Port Department, as shown in the Schedule to the Resolution.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

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

WHEREAS there are persons having the care of children -

(a) who are under 16 years old and are orphans
(b) who are illegitimate, and whose mothers are dead and fathers cannot be located

BE IT RESOLVED that this House requests the Minister responsible to recommend to the National Insurance Board the payment of a special children's benefit to their guardians from the National Insurance Scheme and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this benefit bear some relation to the allowance per child as contained in the Income Tax Act.

WHEREAS on several of the Barbados Housing Authority Estates the existing roads do not permit parking of motor vehicles and;

WHEREAS several tenants occupying said houses are the owners of motor vehicles;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House requests the Government to provide parking facilities in these areas similar to those at the Farm Road in St. Michael, and Silver Hill in Christ Church.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, a Bill to amend the Mortgage Insurance Act, 1962, was read a first time.

RESOLUTION TO ACQUIRE LAND AT BLACK BESS

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 6 be taken as the first Order of the Day.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 6 is the instant Order of the Day and stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Black Bess, St. Peter, for the purpose of erecting a communal bath and latrine.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, in accordance with the plans to provide communal baths and latrines at various centres of the Island, it is proposed that one such bath and latrine should be located at Black Bess, St. Peter. The site chosen.....

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, this contraption here seems to be the only one working and it should be cut off. It is impossible to hear. I do not know how hon. members on the other side feel about it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I quite appreciate what the hon. member is saying although it is not a point of order.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: I am sure the Leader of the House will object to this. Something should be done about it.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY and Mr. ST. JOHN entered the Chamber and took their seats.

12.40 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I was saying that in accordance with the plan to provide communal baths and latrines in several parts of the Island, it is proposed that one such of these facilities should be constructed at Black Bess in St. Peter. The problem there is that the piece of land chosen belongs to a Mr. Kellman but is occupied by a Mr. McAllister. The Standing Valuation Committee and Mr. Kellman have agreed to sell the land at a price of 10 cents per sq. foot; the total area required is 1,942 sq. feet, and the amonnt required to purchase the land is $194.20. The problem is that the Land Acquisition Act is being invoked in order that Government might acquire a strong and indefeasible title to the land, that is the only reason why we invoke land acquisition, and there is no problem what-

ever about agreement on price. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my only concern is over the area. The area of land, to my mind, is pretty small as compared with the plots that are purchased elsewhere in other parishes to provide similar facilities, and I would like to hear if the Hon. Leader of the House has any idea of the plan for the erection of the facility; that is, if it is similar to what is provided in other parishes.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, as I understand it, the hon. member's question is whether the piece of land will suffice for the size of the building.

Mr. HINDS: My first query is, if the size of the land compares favourably with plots that are purchased in other parishes for similar facilities, and secondly, in view of the size of this land - 1,942 sq. feet - if the facilities that are to be provided here are going to be of equal dimensions with what is provided in other areas.

Mr. TUDOR: My information is that from 1,800 to 2,000 sq. feet is normally used, and therefore it is proposed to buy 1,942 sq. feet.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, now that the.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House has exercised his right of final reply, and he is not entitled now to get up to answer a question without making a speech, but the hon. member may seek leave of the House to speak at this stage; otherwise he cannot speak.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I thought the Hon. Leader was replying to the question asked by the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

Mr. SPEAKER: When the hon. junior member for St. Peter sat I asked him if he had completed his speech to satisfy myself whether or not the hon. Leader of the House could make his final reply.

Mr. SMITH: May I speak now, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. SPEAKER: If the hon. member asks for leave of the House I am sure it will be granted.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask for leave to speak on this Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no objection from either of the respective Leaders and the hon. member may speak with leave.

Mr. SMITH: Now that the question of land acquisition for communal baths and latrines has been raised, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister if he can let us know here and now how far they have got on the question of a bit of land at Branchbury, St. Joseph for the purpose of erecting a communal bath and latrine. This question was hanging fire for a very long time now, and seeing that I have some unfinished business on the Order Paper and would like to get it finished before my time to quit, I would like to know how far the Hon. Minister has got. It is time now that the residents of Branchbury should have the same amenities as anyone else in the Island.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker,.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member may also speak with leave of the House.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I ask for leave to reply to this query.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member proceed there is no objection.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: As the hon. member who raised the query may recall, the site at Branchbury was formerly selected and has recently been decided on as the site on which the communal bath should be placed. It was suggested by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph a few months ago that the original site should be abandoned and that consideration should be given to a site at Andrew's Tenantry, but then on reflection the hon. senior member for St. Joseph again asked that the site at Andrew's Tenantry be deferred and that priority should be given to the site at Branchbury; that is the site on which Cabinet has decided and on which the communal bath and latrine will eventually be placed. We are thinking of the people who need the service as such, and we are out to help any particular section of the people in general who will need that service. Therefore, Branchbury, St. Joseph has been finally selected by Cabinet, after due consideration and various requests, as one of the sites for a communal bath in St. Joseph and not Andrew's Tenantry for the time being, although Andrew's Tenantry will be seen after in due course and as soon as possible.

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

12.50 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to move that Order No. 7 be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT GUN HILL

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 7 is the instant Order of the Day and it stands in the name of the Leader of the House, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Gun Hill, St. George, for the purpose of road improvements.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this land acquisition Resolution concerns road improvements at Gun Hill. It is proposed, therefore, to acquire by compulsory acquisition a small portion of 135 square feet of land. Hon. members opposite, I believe, have seen the plot and will be able to judge for themselves how necessary this is. I do not know if there are any questions hon. members would like answered, but, if so, I would answer them.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I am not speaking specifically on this matter, but on a matter concerning road improvements. I think that some time ago a suggestion was made from this side of the House that the Ministry of Communications and Works should publish a list of the proposed roads they were going to improve during the financial year. The Prime Minister and others were present, and I think it was agreed that a list regarding such roads would be circulated to members of the House. The list would include new tenantry roads, roads in need of repairs and so on, so that we could inform our constituents regarding such matters. I am sure that when people hear of this specific road improvement, they will be descending on the backs of members on this side to find out when road improvements in respect of our constituencies will be done. We cannot give them any information, because twe do not know ourselves.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, now that we are dealing with road improvements, I would like to know from the Minister whether it is the Government's intention to repair Fruitful Hill Road. That road was out of commission for years - I believe over ten years. Time and again I have visited the site with officers from the Department and the Minister, and up to now nothing has been done for the people in that area. Now that the weather is favourable, I think this is the time for the Government to do something by way of making a new road in order that those people may be able to get to their homes, churches, and the market in the same way as people in other areas are able to do.

Not so long ago, I witnessed a man riding with a boy about eleven or twelve years of age on a bicycle trying to get a motor car to take him to a doctor. That was a laborious job; the man had his son on his shoulder while he was riding the bicycle. I do not think it is fair to the people in that area. We are now thinking in terms of road improvements. Whenever you are improving a road it means that you already have a road in existence, but in this particular case there is no road at all. I do not know whether the Minister, who is now in charge, will be able to say something about the matter. He must have seen the file. If I am not mistaken, it was during his time in office that this road went out of commission. It is high time that something be done in this matter, and I would like to see something done as soon as possible.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, Fruitful Hill Road is one of the engineering problems that we have to face. The Department is working in conjunction with the Soil Conservation Department in this matter. The hon. senior member for St. Joseph knows that the area is a place where the land slips, and the engineers are not going to spend money on any road unless the Soil Conservation Department is satisfied that the money would be well spent. The matter is now within the jurisdiction of the Soil Conservation Department.

Mr. HOPPIN: Mr. Speaker, speaking on the improvements to the road at Gun Hill, I feel that this portion of land, which the Government proposes to acquire, would help the people who have to travel through the St. George's area. We have many tourists who would like to go to Gun Hill, and I think the Government is doing a good job by acquiring this portion of land. Mrs. Gamble's property lies near to the road, and by acquiring the land people would be able to go to the Powder Magazine, which is situated on the hill, quite easily. It would also be easy to go to the School Meals Centre.

Mr. Speaker; we have had several accidents near St. Augustine Church, and I feel that some of the wall near the corner should be cut off in order to avoid accidents which have been happening there quite recently.
1.00 p.m.

The acquisition of this land in St. George is a very good thing, and I am looking forward to many more spots in St. George which need improvement being done at an early stage.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, this matter of road improvement is a very considerable one because it can take us, in the case of my constituency, all the way to Mount No. 1 and Mount No. 2 For instance hon. members on that side of the House less than a week ago paid a visit there and they can vouch for what I am saying now that it is a disgrace for any Minister of Government continuing to visit a place like Mount No. 1 and Mount No. 2 at St. Peter and continuing to see the road remain in such a state of disrepair causing such distress to the residents of these two areas. I can also say in the case of Lonesome Hill in St. Peter that this is an area which is in need of every urgent consideration, and I want to urge upon the Minister responsible to pay some attention, and as I said, especially to Mount No. 1 and Mount No. 2, because the Ministers have seen these for themselves.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, the hon. senior member for St. Joseph spoke about the condition of the road at Fruitful Hill. Following him the hon. junior member for St. George spoke about cutting away of a portion of land to facilitate tourists to the country. He also spoke about accidents. Unfortunately because of the state of the roads in St. Joseph, the people there cannot enjoy even seeing the tourists, neither can there be accidents occurring in St. Joseph. The majority of roads in St. Joseph are in what can easily be called a dilapidated state. If we consider the roads in Dark Hole, I am sure that in looking at the *Official Gazette* it has been recorded

in this House that the roads in Dark Hole were broken away some seven or eight years now. A portion of the road in Melvin's Hill has been broken away for some five years. The Hon. Minister speaks about the engineering problem. Certainly the roads may present an engineering problem, but I do not see how this length of time could have gone by without something being done in respect of these portions of roads. There is no doubt that St. Joseph itself is a difficult parish, but the people still grow sufficient sugar cane to contribute to the economy of this Island. In order to remove the sugar cane from the fields to the factory, it is necessary to use the very highways which I speak about. I have had complaints quite recently of roads which are in such a condition that unless something is done to them very shortly, a portion of the sugar cane crop cannot be removed to the factories.

Mr. Speaker, I consider St. Joseph more than an urgent problem, and I do not believe that we should say that we are going to do the roads in conjunction with the soil conservation processes of which the Government may be thinking. The roads are one thing, the soil conservation problem is another. If the Minister had said that he would look at the road in conjunction with the drainage, I would tend to agree much more easily, but I am sure that in looking at one corner of St. George, one can certainly take a careful look at the entire road system in St. Joseph, and I hope the Minister will pay careful attention to these roads at least, so that the people in St. Joseph would have some of the facilities which are now being offered to the people in St. George and other areas.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am not asking to have roads in St. Andrew done, but I am replying to a point raised by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph who does not see the Minister's point of view when he mentioned that the roads in St. Joseph be looked at in collaboration with the soil conservation project. Now I want to make this clear. The hon. member pointed out that if the Minister had talked about drainage in respect of the roads in St. Joseph, he would agree with the Minister, but not with the soil conservation. What is soil conservation established to do? The prime work of soil conservation is a question of putting underground pipes to drain the water which is disturbing the land in the Scotland district. So it is sheer ignorance for anyone to say that you are not to look at the road problems in the Scotland district in collaboration with soil conservation. If you talk about drainage, how are you to drain the land in the Scotland district unless you go through the engineering devices of the soil conservation? You have had land broken away at Mellowes Hill, at Spa Hill, at Fruitful Hill, in Dark Hole, in Sedgepond and at Boscobelle, and we have been able to keep the land in certain parts of the Scotland District steady and avoid slipping because of drainage which was done by soil conservation.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, the Government had a good engineer here by the name of Mr. White who knew this work very well, and they got rid of him.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is no point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: That is a point of interruption and stupid interruption at that. Mr. White was not there is our time. We have a Mr. White at soil conservation now and he is looking after the soil conservation work in the Scotland District which is drainage work. They have got to dig trenches and put down pipes. The water drains through the very pipes; they put down gabions and they put down dams to hold the water. The problem with St. Joseph is that almost the whole of the parish falls in the Scotland District, and it is a question of underground water fighting with the water which comes from rainfall and you get this slippage of the soil. There are certain deposits of oil, and these are the problems which we have in the Scotland District. So do not let anybody fool you. If they are running the country they would have to do it in collaboration with soil conservation, because experience has shown that especially in the hilly portion of the Scotland District, and St. Joseph is no exception, every time you put down a bridge, any slippage in the bridge was the fault of drainage which has got to be done by soil conservation.

1.10 p.m.

The soil conservation work which they do there is to conserve the land; in order to do that they must drain. The Ministry of Works is not equipped to go and do the roads today that would last for another year if there is a rainfall, because as I said they do not have the equipment, the equipment is used by the Soil Conservation Board. They do not have the experts in the Ministry of Works that know anything about soil and about soil movement, therefore you have to depend on the experts of soil conservation. The whole point, Mr. Speaker, is this, that it costs a lot of money to spend in the Scotland District; it is estimated that a full and proper comprehensive soil conservation scheme for that area will cost about $75 million; this was the estimate we had some years ago.

At present what is being spent on soil conservation is approximately $8 million a year, and this can only be spent in maintaining the work which was done already, say in Sedgepond or Boscobelle, and if the hon. member goes to St. Andrew he will see the problems that the soil conservation people have. Although thousands of dollars have been spent in the Boscobelle and Morgan Lewis areas for drainage, you will still find that when there is a heavy rainfall the problem there is so acute that the road tends to sink; it does not break away as it did ten or fifteen years ago. The point is, Mr. Speaker, that you must have the advice and the guidance of the soil conservation engineers in carrying out any major work programme on the roads in the Scotland District. If you can have their advice, if you do not use the expert advice of these people in soil conservation you are throwing away money. Do not let us be too enthusiastic about doing the road at Fruitful Hill or anywhere else if we do not have the skill, or if the Soil Conservation Board is not equipped to work on the particular drainage and land conservation problems in the area. They must work hand in hand.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, I have brought to the attention of the Government the deplorable condition of some of the roads in St. Philip, and these roads in many cases were built by the defunct Vestry and the former Council, but since they were built they were never repaired. I think, Sir, that the time has come when Government should consider giving out some of these roads by a contract. In case of sickness doctors find it almost impossible to get to the homes of their patients; we realise that the Government has done its utmost to improve the roads in this country, but I still feel it my duty to ask the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works to carry out a complete comprehensive survey in the parish of St. Philip, and I will also invite him and members of his Ministry to visit some of these roads in the very near future so that we may be able to do something to alleviate the hardship which these people must face daily. In case of rain some of them find it almost impossible to travel to and fro, and their children must go to school daily; some of them have to wait until they get on to the highway to put their shoes on, and I think that we should do something to assist these people; I wish to mention only a few of these roads: Kirton's Bottom near Oldbury, Long Bay and Perry Tenantry. These roads were built by the former Vestry and they were never repaired.

It is a hazard to the people and the time has come when we should look after the interest of these people. As you are aware, Sir, these people contribute to the economy of this Island, and it is our duty to see that they have proper roads. This should not be taken in any way to be a criticism of the Government, because I am grateful for all that the Government has done, but I feel that is my duty to implore the Hon. Minister to assist in making these roads suitable for the people of St. Philip. I hope that the Minister will find it possible to organise a tour of this parish, and I shall be willing to accompany him and to show him the very bad condition of some of the roads in the constituency which I have the honour to represent.
1.20 p.m.

Mr. CORBIN: Mr. Speaker, I have heard so much about St. Andrew that I think it my duty to enlighten hon. members about conditions in St. Andrew as well as the unstable conditions in St. Joseph. In Cooper's Hill the land is resting on sand, and silky oil runs between the earth and sand and the land becomes unstable even during dry weather. When it rains the land moves away. Sedgepond has a certain amount of water above it, and every now and again you can see water flowing there. There is need for proper drainage in these places.

Mr. Speaker, the Soil Conservation Department is doing a good job in building drains and putting down pipes in that area. They are co-operating with the Highways and Transport Department with a view to having proper foundations. The Soil Conservation Department knows more about land than the Highways and Transport Department, and the Soil Conservation Department is trying to do something about unstable conditions. We need the Soil Conservation Department to stabilise the land. We have reclaimed hundreds of acres of land that would have been washed into the sea. (Mr. HINDS: Tell them about the oil.) Is it not possible to keep your mouth closed?

Mr. Speaker, I am saying that the Soil Conservation Department will be going to St. Joseph very soon, and I am sure that the road at Fruitfull Hill is really needed. We have to wait on the Soil Conservation Department, because they have big equipment such as bulldozers to work on the job. I hope that the Soil Conservation Department and the Highways and Transport Department will co-operate and give us a good job.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, a stranger coming to this House today would have no reason at all to doubt that this is really election year. I have never heard such parishpump, parochial politics until today. I have never heard Government castigated by their back benchers as I have heard today. On the one hand, I have heard members castigating Government, and on the other hand I have heard members praising the Government. One member talked about water in Sedgepond. I am confused with the reshuffle in the Cabinet nowadays.

Mr. Speaker, I heard the senior member for St. Philip talking about roads in St. Philip. This is 10 years since the hon. member was in Parliament not only as an ordinary member, but as a Parliamentary Secretary and in some cases as an Acting Minister and he could not persuade the Government to give him better roads in St. Philip. It shows the hypocrisy of some of the members of the Party in power of which Your Honour is also a member. I do not understand what they are trying to say or prove.

Now sometime ago the name of a district was changed from Penny Hole to Gemswick, and a road was built there to accommodate about thirteen houses. The road is about two miles long. One can imagine this bad, silly.....

Mr. WEEKES: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I would like the hon. member to know that the road he is speaking about was built several years before I decided to reside in that parish.....

Mr. BOLDEN: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: Has the hon. member completed his point of order?

Mr. WEEKES: I have not completed my point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: What is the point of order?

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, I repeat that the road was built several years before I lived in that district. I also want to point out that the road is in need of repairs at the present moment. There is no road attached to my home which has been built by the Government.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is now making a speech; he has completed his point.

Mr. WEEKES: There is no road to my home which was built.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has already made that point.

Mr. WEEKES: The road to my home was built by the Manager of Edgecombe Plantation, and I have paid for that road.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has made his point, and I do not deem it to be a point of order.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I have heard points of order, and I know that you can interpret them. It is regrettable that a man of his age still indulges in points of ignorance.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member should not refer to another hon. member in that manner.
1.30 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member should not refer to any other member of the House.....

Mr. CRAIG: I said that hon. gentleman. Even if I said "that gentleman", I accept that the Government did not build the road. The hon. gentleman. said that the road was built by Edgecombe plantation.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, the road which I am referring to is a private road.

Mr. SPEAKER: On what has the hon. member risen? The hon. member did not say "on a point of order".

Mr. CRAIG: I am very grateful to hear it is a private road. I am wondering if it is not the Government, whether it was the Council of which the hon. gentleman was Chairman.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. senior member for St. James continue to make his point and speak on the Resolution.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, my view on the network of roads in the country and my contribution to this Resolution is that the Government spent too much money not on the building of roads, but it is the amount of lackeys which they have at the top as supervisors, and the cantonniers are the people who are responsible for Government spending that amount of money and then you cannot get the roads done in time.

There is another point which I would like to draw to the attention of the House. I am very concerned over the digging up of the roads by International Construction Co. and Mitchell Construction and those other people who dig up the roads. Some time ago the Hon. Minister of Housing when he was Minister of Communications said on the floor of the House that he had given a directive to his officers about the digging up of the roads for one and two miles without filling them back in, thereby causing a lot of inconvenience to the traffic. A classic example now is that you can go up by the Pine Hill Dairy and see almost a mile and a half of road dug up, traffic is diverted, and every evening that I take that road, there is always a traffic block there. Of course they should determine how deep the trench should be, but what bothers me is that the road is not properly lit at night so that motorists can determine how close they can go to the trench, and until somebody brings an action against some company, no one is going to understand the problem with the whole road works in this country.

I am not here to speak about the roads in St. James. You know that I have asked questions and brought in Resolutions on that. I have these things and I can tell my constituents when the occasion arises. To come here and talk about a road in Valley not being done for ten years is only showing you the incompetence of the Government and the Ministry that is in charge of communications and works, because if a backbencher can get up and criticise his own Government for not carrying out a proper works programme, it is time for one to conclude that the Government should resign so that people who are in a position to provide proper roads for the country could be in power. (A VOICE: You have to fight for it.) The only things I know I have to fight for is to make sure that the hon. member does not get richer in thirteen months.

Mr. SPEAKER: Meanwhile, let us finish the Resolution.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I am also concerned about a road at Pine Hill which runs from Pine Plantation Road through to Erdiston. I have observed that there are a number of posts planted almost six inches away from the walls of people's homes, and one is not going to be satisfied until some person is killed on that road. Those are the three points which I would like to draw to the attention of the Hon. Minister. All the campaigning I have heard is not to be done in here; you have to do that outside and tell the people what you are going to do. Do not tell the Government in here.

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

RESOLUTION *re* ACQUISITION OF LAND AT BAYWOODS, St. JAMES

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the Day stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Baywoods, St. James, for the purpose of erecting a Communal Bath and Latrine.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this next one is not because of any quarrel about price. We are buying the land at 30 cents a square foot, but we are

acquiring this year to give a clear and indefeasible title.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, it has taken three and a half years for the Government to acquire a piece of land in Baywoods to put a communal bath and latrine. Maybe Government does not realise that the people on the other side are quite capable of keeping the questions they ask and taking great care of the Resolutions. I know good enough the move behind this. I am happy to know that you are buying this land to provide for the people in that area a larger communal bath and latrine, because there is one in Orange Hill, and Baywoods is not that far from Orange Hill. It is just about half a mile, and the Hon. Minister of Social Services some time last year along with my junior colleague visited the site, and I think he had with him his Permanent Secretary and Mr. Shepherd from the Town and Country Planning Office,

1.40 p.m.

but we all visited the site. I am happy to know you have decided on this, but what bothers me is that I hope none of the candidates would say that they brought it about, because I asked the question and the newspaper printed an article when we met and visited the area, so be very careful how you are coming out fighting from that corner. What I am asking the Government today again is to provide for the people in Fitts Village the facilities of a communal bath, a latrine for the fishermen and a small esplanade. I am happy to see you are buying land in St. Philip, in St. James, a piece that adjoins St. Andrew and a piece in St. Joseph, and I only hope when the hon. gentleman, whoever he might be, stands up that he does not make the error of saying that he is responsible. I am expecting the Hon. Minister of Health to be so kind as to tell me when they are going to acquire a piece of land in Fitts Village to build a communal bath, a latrine and a small esplanade for the use of the people there.

There is also a question in which I asked Government about using the Good Shepherd School for such a purpose, and I was told they could not determine the ownership, but I know Government reigns supreme and they are acquiring land if they cannot find the ownership, so they should hold on to the Good Shepherd School and give me my desire.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I am very glad indeed to see that the people of Baywoods are now going to be provided with these facilities. What must interest me is to find that this land, 2,860 sq. feet, is being bought at 30 cents per sq. foot, and earlier during this same day I saw where Government had an opportunity to buy land at 10 cents per sq. foot and only bought 1,942 sq. feet. This is a case now where they are buying it at 30 cents and are buying 2,860 sq. feet. I would like to hear from the Minister what is responsible for the difference in the amounts of land you are buying in these two cases, especially when we learn from the hon. senior member for St. James that the two communal baths are about half a mile apart.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned here on two previous occasions, owing to the indiscriminate burning of sugar cane over the last two years, the Rural Amenities Fund has been depleted and no money is there to be made available for the erection of communal baths and latrines, so that the Labour Welfare Fund is being depleted to that extent owing to the indiscriminate burning as distinct from controlled burning which will be introduced.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, are we to understand then from the Minister that there is no money in the fund and that he does not see the wisdom of buying 2,860 sq. feet at 30 cents as compared with buying only 1,942 sq. feet at 10 cents?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member would not allow me to develop my statement; I am saying that nine more communal baths and latrines should have been done, but there is no money in the fund to do it with the result that I have to introduce a Resolution for funds to do it.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, there is no question of any money in this case, this is a case where you are buying more land at 30 cents when you are getting land at 10 cents and should have bought more.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am not answering one question, I am answering all the questions. The position is that we have only $200,000 for the erection of communal baths and latrines, and a similar amount will be placed in the next estimates, so we have selected 12 sites which have been given priority. The hon. member for St. James is not in his seat, but I am answering his question first because his spoke first. The 12 sites have been selected and Baywoods is one of these sites. It does not mean that the needs of the people at Fitts Village will not be served, they will be served in the next priority.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Sir, can the Minister explain why in the case of St. Peter land was being sold at 10 cents per sq. foot and they have only bought 1,942 sq. feet, while in the case of St. James where land is costing 30 cents a sq. foot they are buying 2,860 sq. feet?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am replying to the hon. senior member for St. James first; he spoke first. I am saying that the needs of the people Island wide will be served, and we have selected 12 sites which have been given priority and will be dealt with as quickly as can be, so we are acquiring this land by the Land Acquisition Act. In most cases the title is either missing or not clear, but as soon as notice is served by the Land Acquisition Act the matter can be settled.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, Sir, before the Hon. Minister answers my colleague's question, I

wonder if the Hon. Minister can tell this side of the House what is the position with the Good Shepherd Boys' School where they have not been able to determine ownership, and I would like to get this building for the use of the people of Fitts Village.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I am afraid I cannot help the hon. member, but I can say that the hon. senior member for St. James did show us the site at Fitts Village on several occasions and also the one at Baywoods, and he has taken an interest in getting these communal baths established.
1.50 p.m.

I am merely giving the reason why things were not done before. There was no money in the Labour Welfare Fund to do these things, and I had to get the Cabinet to release money from the Consolidated Fund in order to get things done.

Mr. CRAIG: Will the Minister say whether there is now enough money in the Labour Welfare Fund to do more than 12?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Not yet. There are no cane fires like last year. I notice that the fires are fewer, and if things continue that way there should be money in the Labour Welfare Fund.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. Will the Hon. Minister give this side of the House an assurance that there will be, on his list of priorities, a communal bath and latrine for Fitts Village?

Mr. SPEAKER: That is no point of order.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the Crown Solicitor and the officers in the Ministry of Home Affairs look after the price of land. I have no hand in the purchase of land. The quantum of land depends on its topography; if it is flat land it will be more suitable for building purposes. I am no builder, but commonsense tells you that. In some cases we have to buy 4,000 square feet of land, and in other cases where the area is small, we buy between 2,000 and 4,000 square feet of land. In this case, I think, it is only 1,920 square feet. Even though I am the Minister of Health, I do not have much say in the acquisition of land. The Surveyor, the Crown Solicitor and the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs look after the acquisition of land and then pass it on to us.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am somewhat disgusted to hear a Minister of Government say that there is no money in the vote because of cane fires, and as a result of this certain community developments could not take place. A few years ago when we were discussing the question of purchasing houses overseas for the diplomatic staff of this country, we pointed out then that it was all part and parcel of the sloppy, bad, planning by the Government when they could afford to spend almost $200,000 to purchase a house in London.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, Mr. Speaker, you have been in here for about twenty-six years, and it is time somebody in here should learn the Rules. The hon. member is reflecting on a vote already passed by the House of Assembly. It is out of order, and it is time that you learn the Rules.

Mr. SPEAKER: I deem this to be referring but not reflecting. There is a difference between referring and reflecting. The hon. member cannot reflect by saying it is wrong to do it, but he can mention that it had been done.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, at the time members on this side of the House pointed out that the Government, in taking this amount of money, as I indicated $200,000, to purchase a house in London, had shown sloppy and inadequate planning; it showed a lack of appreciation for community development in this country. This is not the only sum of money that was spent in this manner. You will recall, Mr. Speaker, that over a period of one year, the Government spent over $1 million in purchasing houses in London, New York and Washington. How can a Minister on that side of the House expect a member on this side to accept the stupid suggestion that, because of cane fires, there was no money in the vote to carry out community development? The Minister said that there was no money in the vote and, therefore, he had to take money out of the Consolidated Fund.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Let the hon. member be fair. The Minister said that there was no money in the Labour Welfare Fund, and it was the practice to finance rural amenities out of the Labour Welfare Fund. *(Asides)* I am saying that it has been the practice to do that. The point is that when the Estimates were prepared earlier in the year to provide for these baths, the advice that the Fund could not carry them was not then available and the necessary provision was not included. (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: The Minister never said so.)

Mr. Speaker, the programme had to be financed from the Consolidated Fund because it was anticipated, ignorantly, that money would have been available in the Labour Welfare Fund. The position is that we have it on the programme for this year, and you cannot carry out the programme unless money is voted. In the past provision was made in the Labour Welfare Fund to take care of such things.
2.00 p.m.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: If you at this stage revert to the Consolidated Fund and spend money from it for this purpose, if you are planning all along, this business would have been done earlier.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, the hon. member must know that money only goes into the Labour Welfare Fund from sugar levies. What has happened is that the Labour Welfare Fund was over-committed, therefore the projects which should come from the Labour Welfare Fund in this current year's Estimates could not be financed from Labour Welfare Funds. You can only get money

from the Labour Welfare Fund passing to Government in November.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for Bridgetown was speaking and he gave way to the hon. senior member for St. Andrew.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker,.....

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, am I to understand from the Hon. Minister that if there is a spate of cane fires again this year, there will be nothing at all as far as community services are concerned?

Hon, C. E. TALMA: I have already said that provision has been made in the Estimates.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: If the hon. member does not understand, he should bring his son because he would have more understanding.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid I have to inform hon. members that the time for the luncheon adjournment has come, and this sitting is now automatically suspended.

On Resumption:-

Mr. SPEAKER: Last week I allowed the postponement of Parliamentary Question No. 132, standing in the name of the Hon. and Learned member for Bridgetown.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I think there was an assurance which was required by the hon. junior member for Bridgetown and the hon. junior member for St. Peter who were dealing with supplementaries. The assurance I have to give is that I have given specific instructions for three more refuse containers to be placed in Marshall Gap, so that it will be left to the residents there to remove them again until we have acquired a portion of land under the Land Acquisition Act for erecting a refuse bin.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister give us the assurance that refuse will not continue to be dumped against the house of any resident in Marshall Gap?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: It is for that reason that I have given specific instructions to the Manager of the Sanitation and Cemeteries Board to see that particular attention is paid to providing enough refuse collector bins so as to avoid any unsatisfactory state of affairs in that gap. We are looking into that very carefully to see that it is not done.

Mr. HINDS: Just to assist the Minister, I refer to a shopkeeper commonly called "Mimie Dick" who cannot open his window.

Mr. SPEAKER: Do I gather that the hon. member is enquiring whether the shopkeeper can open his window?

Mr. HINDS: The Minister knows he cannot.

Mr. CRAIG: Can the Minister give this side the assurance that rather than using bins that can be removed they should use some concrete bin which it would not be necessary to remove?

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

Mr. CRAIG: But a very important suggestion, Sir.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The suggestion has been noted. It is for that reason that instructions have been given.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I just want to find out how far the negotiations for a site have reached.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Investigations have now been commenced.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Will the Minister give the House the assurance that the matter will be expedited in the interest of the residents of New Orleans?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Yes, I give that assurance.

QUESTION *re* COMMON ENTRANCE EXAMINATION, 1970

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 134 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for Bridgetown.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows:-

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Will the Minister state how many school children -

(a) sat the first part of the Common Entrance Examination in May, 1970;

(b) passed the first part of the said examination;

(c) sat the second part of the said examination;

(d) passed the second part of the said examination;

(e) were admitted to Secondary Schools in this Island?

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

"(a) 10,816.
(b) 2,206.
(c) 3,294.
(d) 715.
(e) 4,309."

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Will the Minister be so kind as to say what this figure of 4,309 represents?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I will go back to (d). 715 pupils were awarded places at the Government Secondary Grammar Schools, and 4,309 were admitted to the Government Secondary Schools and the Approved Independent Schools.
2.40 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, are we learning from the Minister today that the Government Grammar Schools are no longer considered as Government Secondary Schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No, Sir.

Mr. HINDS: Are they Government Secondary Schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: They are.

Mr. HINDS: So then. Mr. Speaker, when the Minister tells us that 715 children were admitted into the Government Grammar Schools and 4,309 into the Secondary Schools, what part of the Government Secondary Schools did the 715 children enter?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The hon. member must not be confused, the total of 4,309 is the total number of pupils, including the 715, who have been admitted to the Government Secondary Schools, whether Grammar or Comprehensive, and to the Approved Independent Schools.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, according to part (d) of the question, the answer given is 715; am I to understand that 715 passed the second part of the examination? Now you are saying that of the 4,309 awarded places, 715 were admitted to the Government Secondary Schools.

Mr. SPEAKER: What is the supplementary question?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Am I to understand...?

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, all you have to do is to rule it is not a supplementary question.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no supplementary question.

Mr. CRAIG: Do not be funny with me, you should know that.

Mr. SPEAKER: There are two hon. members on their feet; let the hon. and learned member for Bridgetown proceed.

Mr. CRAIG: You treat me as a member and then I will treat you as Mr. Speaker.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Minister stated under (d) of the question that the number of children who passed the second part was 715, and then he gave the number admitted to Comprehensive, Grammar and Independent Secondary Schools as 4,309. Will the Minister state whether it is the case that pupils other than those who passed the second part of the examination were placed in Secondary Schools, because according to his figures this is what it appears to be.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The figure of 4,309 is broken down as follows: 715 were given places in the 10 Secondary Grammar Schools, 257 bursaries to the Independent Secondary Schools and the remainder to the Comprehensive Schools.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, did I hear the hon. member mention the number 715?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The hon. member heard what he repeated, 715.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I would like to find out from the Minister if he said that this 715 was included in the 3,294 who sat the second part?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Are these the pupils who passed or are these the pupils who were given places?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If you choose to interpret it this way, that is the number; 715.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Certainly the Leader of the House would appreciate the difference between the number of children passing an examination and the number of children getting into the Secondary Schools; I have not asked how many pupils were given places in the Secondary Schools, I would like to know how many pupils passed the examination.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If the hon. member knows that this is an examination in which passes are awarded to whoever comes first.....

Mr. CRAIG: Would the Minister be able to say how many places there are available in the Secondary Schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I could not state this, this would only be known at the end of the July term.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, at the beginning of the present school year how many places were available in the Comprehensive Schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, they would have been at the beginning and children would have occupied them.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I would ask the Minister if since the beginning of the present school year there have been places in the Comprehensive Schools.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I would not know that now. This is not what the hon. member originally asked.

Mr. HINDS: Were you able to fill all the places?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Of course; the Comprehensive Schools are built in the catchment areas around the Primary Schools.
2.50 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Is it not a case where you had more children than you had places?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No, Sir.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether the Minister would be able to say what was the position up to the time this question was tabled on the 3rd November, 1970? The Minister said that 10,816 school children sat the Common Entrance Examination, but he does not know how many places were available. If 4,309 were admitted, am I to understand that there were only 4,309 places available?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: There would have been 4,309 places and the pupils would have been admitted two months before the question was tabled.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, the Minister just said he does not know.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister prepared to say that Ellerslie Comprehensive School Princess Margaret School, the two schools at St. Leonards, Springer Memorial, Parkinson School and other Comprehensive Schools, did not have to turn back some of the children who were seeking admission at the beginning of this term?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I am not prepared to say that, because I do not know it for a fact.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, would the Minister be in a position to say whether they had turned back children who had passed the examination because they did not have enough places?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister prepared to adopt a shift system in the other Comprehensive Schools similar to what exists at Richmond School in order to alleviate the position?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, we are not prepared to do that. We are now taking steps to remove the shift system at Richmond School.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, with regard to question 3(c), it is said that 3,294 children sat the second part of the examination. I would assume that that was made up of the 2,206 who had passed part I of the examination and those who had failed Part 1 but had not achieved the maximum age at which they could sit Part II and who then sat Part II. Would that be correct?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, nobody sits Part II of the examination unless he sits Part I. It could be the 10-year olds who did not make places the previous year..... *(Asides)*

Mr. BOLDEN: If that is so, how then were the 4,309 made up? There is a deficit of 1,015 places under (e).

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The total number was made up by including the 715 and the bursaries awarded to the Independent Schools, and the 11 plus from the various catchment areas around the various Comprehensive Schools.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, that would not be in accordance with the Rules. If one can only gain admission to the Secondary School by passing the second part of the Examination, then there must be a method by gaining admission other than by taking the examination, because there are 1,015 which cannot be accounted for under the examination system.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, let us look at it this way. In any one year you get a number of children taking the second part of the examination, of that number, 680, 715, or whatever the number is, are selected to fill the available places in the Grammar Schools. In addition to those there would be other children who had passed Part I that year or the year before who were eligible for bursaries, or, even if they had not passed Part I, are in the Primary Schools surrounding the Comprehensive Schools, have reached the age of 11 and are ready for transfer. The total number is made up of those who are awarded Grammar School Places; those who are awarded bursaries to the Independent Schools, and the total catchment outside of them for the Comprehensive Schools.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, is the Minister saying that there are persons who can benefit from secondary education without having passed an examination under the present system?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: That is possible.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister admit that the 11 plus system has fallen down? It is not a true system.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I can admit all he says about it, because I had my misgivings about it when I was the Minister of Education. The difficulty is how to replace it. Some people think that the examination now taken at 11 should be taken at 13; some people would even postpone it further; there is a minority who would like the selection examination taken at an earlier stage half-way in Primary Schools. There is a lot of argument among experts on this matter. There is no hard and fast attachment to the 11 plus examination like the law of the Medes and Persians.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister answer this last question from me for the benefit of the public. What is the method of acquiring one of these secondary places without having to sit an examination? What is the method used for determining the 1,015 who can acquire secondary education without having to sit or pass an examination under the present system?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I will give you an example. Suppose a child attended a school at Westbury or at St. Stephens, and for some reason or other the child sat and did not pass the Common Entrance Examination or did not sit at all, when he reaches the age of 11 he has to go to Ellerslie; he need not sit and pass; he need not sit at all.

Mr. BOLDEN: What method or yardstick is used to determine whether child A, B or C should go from the Primary School to the Secondary School?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, pure catchment. A Comprehensive School is, in theory and practice, surrounded by seven or eight Primary Schools from which pupils at the age of 11 have automatic transfer. Some of those 11-plus children either get places to the Government Grammar Schools, or bursaries to Private Independent Schools, or in some cases where there are All-Age Primary Schools remain until they are 14.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, does Government give bursaries to Comprehensive Schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: To pupils.

Mr. HINDS: Does Government really award bursaries to Comprehensive Schools? If so, for what purpose?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes. More than two thousand pupils are receiving bursaries at Independent Schools at the moment.
3.00 p.m.

There is provision in the Estimates for the award of 2,400 bursaries. Does the hon. member know this?

Mr. St. JOHN: Not at Comprehensive Schools.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: There is no question of having bursaries at Comprehensive Schools. A Comprehensive School is fed from a catchment area.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, does the Minister recall having told this House just a few minutes ago that 3,357 bursaries were awarded to children to the Comprehensive Schools in this Island?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The hon. member is asking in respect of a school year. I said the total number is broken down as follows: 715, 257 and the rest havgone into Comprehensive Schools.

Mr. HINDS: Are the rest bursaries?

Hon. J. C, TUDOR: No. The rest are pupils who got into Comprehensive Schools from the various catchment areas of the primary schools around them.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, does the figure "4,309" refer to bursaries?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No. It refers to persons who have been admitted to secondary education in this Island.

Mr. HINDS: As bursaries?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: As students.

Mr. HINDS: Enjoying bursaries?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Some of them.

Mr. HINDS: How many?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: 257.

Mr. HINDS: 257 at Independent schools?

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, the Minister in reply to question (c) which asked how many children sat the second part of the examination gave the figure "3,294". Now you have 3,294 and 715 and then you come to the figure "4,309" at question (e) What I do not understand is this: when you add 2,206 who passed the first part to the 715, you get 2,921. How did the other 1,388 get in? Through what channel?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Nobody first of all gets into a Grammar school unless he has passed Part I and Part II; and nobody is awarded a bursary to an Independent school unless he has satisfied Part I; but you can have other persons who have neither satisfied Part I nor Part II in Primary schools, who because of their age of 11 plus have moved on with the tide, so to speak.

Mr. HINDS: For the purpose of this question, how many schools do Government take into consideration as being secondary schools in this Island?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Certainly in respect of its own schools, the Grammar Schools and all the Comprehensives, and of course the seventeen or eighteen approved independent schools.

Mr. St. JOHN: Is it possible for children who go to private primary schools to get into the comprehensive schools without taking the examination??

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes; this would be possible though not likely.

Mr. St. JOHN: Is the Minister aware that in a place like Christ Church where there is no comprehensive school and therefore no catchment area for the large number of primary school and private primary school children, that as a result they have to go to the Parkinson and Springer Memorial Schools? What does the Government propose to do for the 35,000 odd population in Christ Church?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: To build more comprehensive schools. There is a proposal - I was just trying to get my memory refreshed - to have a comprehensive school in the below the rock area in Christ Church and another one nearer the St. Matthias end.

Mr. St. JOHN: The Rendezvous area and possibly above Kendal Hill and Silver Hill areas are in great need.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: May I speak with leave? It was fourteen years ago, since the days of Mr. Theobalds, that a comprehensive school should have been put at Rendezvous. Then we had Janet and the idea of many things was cancelled and up to now we have not been able to get these comprehensive schools, but the assurance has been given that we will have one sited in the low rock area, and I agree with the hon. member for Christ Church that Rendezvous area is a reasonable area to have one.

Mr. CRAIG: Would the Minister be able to state whether there are any plans for a comprehensive school in St. James, and if so, where and when?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The hon. member cannot ask me three questions in one. The answer to part of his question is certainly "yes". It is our plan to have at least one comprehensive school in every parish.

Mr. CRAIG: Would the Minister be able to say whether St. James is first on his list of priorities?

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not regard that as a proper supplementary to Question No. 134.

Mr. CRAIG: It not being a supplementary as far as the Speaker is concerned, I will withdraw it.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, with 10,816 taking Part I of the examination and only 2,206 passing, has the Minister given consideration to finding out whether something is wrong with the children or with the examination and the work that was set?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: This is a matter that is always under review. I can assure the hon. member of this.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Since the Minister says that 715 pupils were awarded the available places at the Government Secondary Grammar Schools, would the Minister state how this compares with the year 1962 and say whether there were only 715 admitted in Grammar Schools also?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I have not got those figures, but if the hon. member would understand I am speaking from memory, I think I can tell him that the number fluctuates between 680 and 720. It is sometimes 685, 622, 710 or thereabouts.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: In view of the figures given by the Minister, would he consider the necessity for making more grammar school places available?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: The Minister has under consideration proposals for increasing the number of streams in certain of the grammar schools. He has already done it in respect of two or three in the last two years, and of course I may remind the hon. member that the "A" streams of the comprehensive schools write the G.C.E. examination.

3.10 p.m.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: One last supplementary; of these 715 pupils who passed the second part of the examination, can the Minister give us a correct total as to how many came from the Government Primary Schools and how many came from Private Preparatory Schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I cannot give you the breakdown as to the individual number of pupils but as to percentages, in this year the percentage was 79%.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell us how many of those children, who passed part 2 of the common entrance examination, were awarded bursaries at Approved Independent Secondary Schools?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: 257.

Mr. HINDS: The Minister also told us that only 715 had passed Part 2.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If the hon. member would give way, I am an old Parliamentarian, I am not exactly a green horn in this matter. Let us forget using the phrase "passing Part 2"; it is a selective examination and if you have 715 places to be awarded, you award those places to the first 715 as the case may be. You can use whatever terminology you like to express the situation.

Mr. HINDS: Are we to understand that a person might pass the examination and might not be selected for a school?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: No, all you can understand is that a person may be selected in accordance with the amount of places to be awarded, there must be a No. 1 down to a No. 715 as the case may be.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question 120 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: If the hon. member would give way, Mr. Speaker, the reply to this question is very long and it involves the calling out of a lot of figures; why not allow the reply to be laid and supplementary questions could be asked at the next sitting.

Mr. HINDS: Very well.

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 131 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for Bridgetown.

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

Is the Minister aware that the repairs to the yard of Wesley Hall Boys' School have not yet been completed?

2. Will the Minister state why?

3. Will the Minister state when such repairs can reasonably be expected to be completed?

4. Will the Minister as part of the said repairs have a fence erected between the school premises and King's Street as a precautionary measure to prevent pupils of the said school from venturing indiscriminately on to King's Street?

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

(1) Yes, Sir.
(2) Work was suspended because of insufficiency of funds.
(3) It is estimated that the work, including the renovation of the buildings, will be completed by 28th February, 1971.
(4) Yes, Sir, this work was put in hand early in November last.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Did I understand the Minister to say that repairs to the school yard have been completed?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: They will be completed by 28th February, 1971.

Mr. St. JOHN: This is not too far from Wesley Hall, but what will be done with the old St. Bartholomew's School?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, it should be demolished; however, if it is a Church building I am afraid that we will have to give them back in good repair. I am hoping it is not.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, inasmuch as St. Bartholomew is not very far away from the Good Shepherd Boys' School, and the Wesley Hall Boys' School is not too far away.....

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, he is speaking out of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: Apart from the fact that it is my understanding that it is after 3.15 o'clock p.m., I do not regard that as a proper supplementary.

Mr. CRAIG: I am not finished yet, but would you give this House the assurance that the supplementary would be held over?

Mr. SPEAKER: The time for supplementaries has passed. I will just make this statement as I promised in respect of Question No. 122. I have given the matter my careful consideration, and it is my view that because of section 94 of the Constitution of Barbados the power to exercise disciplinary control over persons holding or acting in public offices is vested in the Governor-General acting in accordance with the advice of the Public Service Commission, and that it is unfortunate, and I regret, that this Question should have appeared on the Order Paper, because in my considered view it encroaches upon and concerns the discipline of a person or persons holding or acting in a public office, and should appropriately be referred to the Public Service Commission.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now time for Private Members' Business.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that No. 16 be the first Item under Private Members' Business.

Mr. St. JOHN: I beg to second that.

3.20 p.m.

RESOLUTION *re* INCOMPETENCE IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE BARBADOS MARKETING CORPORATION

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I intimated, it is true not on the floor of this House, but as it were behind Your Honour's Chair, to the Hon. Leader of the Opposition, that I was not yet ready, or prepared to deal with this Resolution. If, however, the hon. member wishes to treat it as a Vote of Confidence, or a Vote of Censure, on Government, naturally it must be taken immediately and room must be made for it. If he does not so wish to take it, then I am appealing to him not to press it today but, perhaps, next week.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, it is true that, in another place, the hon. member did intimate to me that he would not be ready by today. I told him that I regarded it as a matter of grave urgency, and I am prepared to start it today. The hon. member will remember that I have questions relating to the same matter tabled since June, 1970. This is now January, 1971; the questions have never been answered, and I will have to do something about the matter. That is why I regard this as a matter of grave urgency. I can assure the hon. member that we will start it today, but it will not be completed today, so he will have plenty of time. People are besieging not only me, but members on the other side of the House every day and I know that. They come not only from my constituency, but from a place called South West St. Michael and so on, and I feel that we should start the Resolution.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Will the hon. member then indicate to me whether he regards it as a Motion of Confidence?

Mr. St. JOHN: Sir, I regard this as such a serious matter that I feel the whole Government should resign on it.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to the hon. member for drawing the battle lines and, therefore, we can proceed.

The question that Order No 16 be the instant Order of the Day was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. SPEAKER: Accordingly I declare Order No. 16 to be the instant Order of the Day under Private Members' Business. It stands in the name of the

hon. and learned senior member for Christ Church, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution deploring the incompetence in the management of the Barbados Marketing Corporation, the grave loss of revenue to Barbados, and calling upon the Government to take steps forthwith to restore the shrimp industry.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and a deep feeling of grief that I move the passing of this Resolution. I had thought that having regard to the fact that on the 30th June last year when I posed a series of questions in the House relating to the financial capability of the Bajan Seafood Company Limited, and when I knew that the notice terminating the existing contract between Barbados Seafood Limited and the Barbados Marketing Corporation had not yet expired, I thought that Government would have been given an opportunity to consider seriously the implications of the shrimp industry as a whole and the serious consequences which would result on the event of their awarding the contract to Bajan Seafood Limited.

As I said, Sir, Government has failed to take the warning that was given here implicit in the questions. As a result, in January, 1971, we find ourselves in a position in which in Barbados today there is no industry, no boat nor employment which formerly was provided by the shrimp industry which we were able to attract since 1962 and 1963 in Barbados. I do not think that there is any member of this House, or any member of the public who would deny the fact that the shrimp industry, which was in existence, provided employment for people in the vicinity of some 300 to 500 fluctuating and depending on the amount of shrimp that was brought here. I do not believe that there is any member of this House, or any member of the public, who would deny the fact that as a result of the processing fees which were paid to the Barbados Marketing Corporation large sums of money to the tune of some $200,000 to $300,000 were paid as revenue to the Barbados Marketing Corporation. I do not believe that there is any member of this House, or any member of the public, who would deny the fact that as a result of the operation of the shrimp industry in Barbados, new skills and new technology in a new field of development were being built up by Barbadians. These are incontrovertible facts.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this was going on for a period of six to seven years. Indications were, unquestionably, that as a result of the operation in Barbados there would have been an expansion and more Barbadians would acquire skills, more employment would have been provided, and more revenue would have come into this country. But some time around May or June last year two front men of the Democratic Labour Party in the form of Carlton Brathwaite and Bruce Procope joined with a man in America called Robert Jones and a nondescript nonentity called Kathleen Green and hoodwinked a bunch of incompetent people in the Barbados Marketing Corporation headed by a man called Livvy Greaves, and they agreed to award a contract to Bajan Seafood Limited. The seriousness of this ought to have presented itself to anybody with intelligence immediately, because it was fraud. It was an attempt at fraud from the very inception to boost the name of Bajan Seafood by forming a company and calling it Bajan Seafood, which is so near in the ordinary context of the English language as spoken in Barbados, that anybody with sense would have seen through it.

Mr. Speaker, they formed this company; it was totally under capitalised; Procope did not put up one cent; Carlton Brathwaite did not put up one cent. This was supposed to be the shore based company. It would appear that the people in the Barbados Marketing Corporation did not know that, in the shrimp industry, there are a number of companies that operate in totality: You have the boat-owning company the processing company and so on. The Barbados Seafood Company does not own any boats. If the people at the Barbados Marketing Corporation knew what they were doing, they would have immediately required this Company to explain to them where it was going to get boats. Now this Company said that it had to team up with a thing called Outriggers of the West Indies Incorporated.

3.30 p.m.

They had a letterhead which was the greatest amount of fraud ever perpetrated which said that they were the owners of the world's largest fibre-glass boats, and that they had an order for 100 fibre-glass boats. Sir, anybody with an iota of commonsense would have known that the fibre-glass industry was not pioneering into the field to build ships as large as shrimp trawlers, and they would have known that there could not have been 100 fibre-glass boats which had come off the production line proved and tested by other companies in the world, but when you have front men operating who, as the Kiaki King said, feel that because of their friendship with the Prime Minister they are entitled to walk into any Government Department in Barbados, flash their card, so to speak, and say the big man is behind this, you have to cave in, and as a result of this they were awarded the contract.

I am sorry the ex-Minister of Agriculture is not here because I would castigate him with the greatest amount of incompetence that ever sat on a bench as a Minister in any country in the Caribbean. I am sorry he is not here because he not only did not have enough sense to understand the import of the questions, but he allowed himself to be hoodwinked to the extent that he even tried to treat parliamentarians with contempt; but, Mr. Speaker, the passage of time has shown how stupid an action it was, because there questions were asked in June, 1970, and this is 1971, and they have not answered the questions, but have shown a deliberate attempt to conceal information from the public. However, the public can get it because I have the information. When I asked questions, I knew what the position was. They had four boats only called Bajan Outriggers of the West Indies Incorporation. They bought three from North American Hattaras Rockwell

and they were numbered 5, 10 and 15. There were no 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9, and there were no 11, 12, 13 and 14; there were only 5, 10 and 15, another indication of the fraud, because they were trying to project the image that they had these boats in a series of fives. One of these boats sank in mysterious circumstances; the other two they got by way of a lease backed/financed from C.I.T. Financing Corporation. They paid down $US2,000 on the boats, the total cost of which was $108,000 and they were to pay money per month. They defaulted almost immediately in their repayments. The other boat was Charlie which they got from Modern Fibre Glass Incorporated of Tampa, Florida, under similar terms and Conditions as C.I.T. Financing Corporation. I know this information because I was the one in another capacity who repossessed these boats for non-payment and consigned them back to their owners. These are facts and the Minister should have known them.

Mr. Speaker, when I gave notice of these questions, I was trying to tell the Minister to investigate them. Now the Trade Union was involved in this too. I want to say here that I know what happened in the correspondence between the Trade Union and the Marketing Corporation, and the Trade Union insisted that the new agreement that was made between Bajan Seafoods and the Marketing Corporation should contain a Clause that there should be no redundancy or no loss of earnings for the workers because at that very time negotiations were going along between Barbados Seafoods and the Barbados Workers' Union. The position is that Bajan Seafoods had only brought into Barbados a very insignificant amount of shrimp, and the Marketing Corporation despite the warnings had done absolutely nothing to see to it that Bajan Seafoods lived up to their obligations, because that company is as dead as a "dodo". You can go into the Registrar's Office in Barbados now and you will see a document signed by Bruce Procope and Carlton Brathwaite in which they informed the Registrar that they consented to a new company called Bajan Seafoods (1970) Limited using their name because the other Company was in Liquidation. Now this is where I castigate the Marketing Corporation, and if they had any sense of decency, they should resign or the Minister fire them now, because notwithstanding the agreement they had with Bajan Seafoods that there was to be no employment or loss of earnings, I tell you as a fact that workers in my constituency coming from Silver Sands, workers in the constituency of the Minister of Health coming from Silver Sands, who because of the fact that for a long time they had been associated with the fishing industry were employed at Barbados Seafoods, have not got one cent in wages since November last year, and I challenge the Hon. Minister and any other hon. member on the other side to deny that workers who were laid off or turned over to Bajan Seafoods have not got one cent of wages since November last year. I can tell you further that I know that Brathwaite put up $27,000 and Procope has not put up a cent yet; Jones has not put up any; Green has not put up any, and Fletcher Baker who was down here as manager of operations has gone, and they say that when he left, he left with $U.S. 100,000 in a brief case.

It is criminal that in a country which the Prime Minister always says has 14 per cent unemployment that we can afford through our negligence and indifference to allow an industry like this to die; but if that is shocking, this is more shocking. Do you know Mr. Speaker, that the Shrimp Company that has gone from here is now using a terminal in Trinidad and that that terminal is jointly owned by the Port Authority, International Foods and Canning and Companies Limited of Trinidad? Do you know, Mr. Speaker, that the Chairman of the Port Authority is the same Bruce Procope? The same Bruce Procope who is Chairman of the Port Authority which Company has one-third interest in the terminal is the same man who was a partner in Bajan Seafoods? I say that this is a most fantastic conflict of interests, and when you talk about public take-overs and Governments being overthrown and revolutions, it is conduct like that that causes revolutions. How can a man serve two and three masters? How can a man serve the interests of Barbados and Trinidad at the same time? How can a man serve his own private interest and his public interest in relation to his capacity as Chairman of Port Authority in Trinidad? That is shocking and scandalous. I challenge anyone on the other side to deny that fact. I challenge the Prime Minister when he comes back here, and I will hold up this debate until he comes back, and I want Hansard to be ready to give him everything so that he can come here and face the public and face the music here. I challenge him to deny the fact that the shrimp industry has gone to Trinidad and that Procope is Chairman of the Port Authority which has a large share in the terminal in Trinidad.

Mr. Speaker, for months when all this information was around, efforts were made to communicate with the then Minister of Agriculture and with the Marketing Corporation. Absolutely nothing took place. All they were telling the people down there was rumour, that they had 100 boats coming in. There are no 100 boats to come in because for 100 boats you will need money.

3.40 p.m.

I ask you what has become of Robert Jones; when last was he in Barbados? What has become of Kathleen Green? When last was she in Barbados? What has become of Procope? When last was he in Barbados? The seriousness of this from the loss of the industry is readily seen, but we go further. The Marketing Corporation is a Corporation which from the very inception was riddled and plagued with problems, and particularly problems in relation to debt. How is it that this Corporation can afford to lose the thousands of dollars that they had in processing fees? How is it that they are continuing to operate today with a capital sum involved in the buildings and cold storage plant at the Harbour which was built specifically for the shrimp industry and which has not been used for that purpose for the last seven or eight months? These are the questions people on the other side have got to ask.

Anybody who understands how the shrimp industry operates, and who understands the significance of the shrimp find off the coast of South America

will know and understand that it is one of the greatest finds in sea resources that could possibly have been discovered in the last century for under-developed countries. If you go to Guyana, Surinam or Trinidad you will see that a tremendous amount of effort is being made by the respective Governments to exploit this God-given natural resource, and we in Barbados threw it away. Read your newspapers and see what is happening. Grenada has just received an offer for a shrimping bay company to go into Grenada; what is the position in Barbados when we have a head start of seven years, and the recklessness and the indifference and the incompetence - and I charge again the Minister with incompetence, he runs the department, he had knowledge of it, and if he used to read his papers he would have smelt a rat, and from June last year he had notice of it and did nothing. He was a square peg in a round hole, he was bought, and those who very often you pay a price for, very often sink you. That is the highest price ever paid for nothing yet, so that, Mr. Speaker, there is no excuse on the other side, because from June, I repeat, they had knowledge of these facts and they have done absolutely nothing about it.

I can say that the Trade Union played its part, and the Opposition played its part, and I say this further, there are still a few other Companies willing, provided they have competent management at the Marketing Corporation, to come into Barbados, but they do not have any confidence in the Corporation nor the Government of Barbados, and worst of all, they are not going to deal with Procope and his gang. Up to today the Marketing Corporation has not revoked its contract with Bajan Seafoods; they are still the nominal holders of the contract. That is the final straw and the final piece of evidence which would conclusively prove their incompetence in this matter.

Mr. Speaker, those are the bold facts. When I moved the question I waited a long period of time because I did not think that people today were so stupid as to allow an industry of this magnitude to have gone by the board in such a short period of time and with such indifference. As I said, it is with a heavy heart and a deep sense of grief that I move this Resotion "that this House deplores the incompetence in the management of the Corporation, the grave loss of employment that has occurred, the grave loss of revenue to Barbados," -- and let them vote against the final clause - "and calls upon the Government to take steps forthwith to restore the said industry". Tell the public now that you are not taking any steps to restore the industry.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, in seconding this Resolution, one can only conclude that after hearing the speech made by the Leader of the Opposition, members on the other side should hang their heads in shame, because it is pathetic to think that for almost nine months all earnings of some 500 people supplying approximately 2,000 persons with food, shelter and clothing each week could today be thrown in the Labour market with no one by their sides to defend them. What fascinates me is the tie-up between the Prime Minister - Mr. Speaker, this is what I have been trying to figure out for a very long time, I have been trying to find out this tie-up between the Prime Minister of Barbados, Carlton Brathwaite, the Manager of HARP, and Bruce Procope the Trinidad lawyer. I cannot understand whenever there is a business move the three of them are in togetherness. I say that for this reason, there is beyond no shadow of a doubt that there is evidence to prove that when the Prime Minister is going to the Islands in a private plane Carlton Brathwaite is seated beside him, and he is not a co-pilot. I go further, I cannot understand again why is it that the Minister responsible failed to dismiss the whole Board of the Marketing Corporation, but had the guts - the present Minister - to fire the Chairman of the same Board for stealing some $14,000; now it is millions of dollars going down the drain. The inhabitants of this country are suffering financial losses, men are walking the streets beseeching you day after day asking what can be done to assist them. I have a little more information, and if anyone on that side of the House doubts for one single moment that Carlton Brathwaite and Bob Jones are not connected in some way, I say this now. I am in real estate and a cheque was given to me for a house by the name of "La Rosita" at Weston in St. James to be rented for Mr. Bob Jones and Bajan Seafoods. The cheque was signed for $1,600 by Robert C. Jones and Carlton Brathwaite, so if there is any doubt that there was something between Carlton Brathwaite and Bob Jones, that is clear cut evidence. I go further, Sir, I cannot understand why for the past five years three industries in this country flopped.
3.50 p.m.

Prosan Limited and a man called Cassius hoodwinked the Government, again, of almost $1 million from the taxpayers of this country. Barbados Seafood was closed down; the processors, the shrimpers, the mechanics and the fishermen are by the wayside. In Trinidad you have Mr. Bruce Procope, the master-mind - his name should be Mr. Manson and not Mr. Procope - who master-minded the industry in this country, and yet he is a friend of the Prime Minister. He is the Prime Minister's Legal Adviser or one of his Advisers. He master-minded the plan. It would appear to us that Barbados Seafood was pushed out and a contract was given to Bajan Seafood which never existed. Procope was a Director of Barbados Seafood in 1969, and he is a Director of Bajan Seafood in 1970. There is also Senator Maurice King... *(Asides)* I refer to the Legal Adviser to the Barbados Marketing Corporation.

Now, let us watch the whole hot bed: Greaves, Procope, Johnson before, the now Minister of Agriculture, the Prime Minister, Carlton Brathwaite and all of those people are mixed up. When you look around, when there is not a Mafia there is a Procope. If you examine this Resolution carefully you will notice that, after having notice for several months, when we challenged the Minister who crossed the floor in here from this side, an old man now, the Minister of Youth, he said on the floor of this House: "Not one single person is going to lose a single day's

pay in the take over." We said that there was no truth in this statement, because we knew that the Company had only three boats and the numbers were being painted over. If they went out with 1,2,3, 4 and 5, when they came back you would see Charlie 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12. The Captains were instructed to paint over the numbers to convince the Barbados Marketing Corporation that they had several boats.

Now, Sir, if Mr. Brathwaite was not an enemy of his own, he would have advised the Prime Minister that there was something wrong. Let us assume that the Prime Minister was advised, I would like to know if the Prime Minister himself had advised the then Minister of Agriculture as to what was going on and what steps had been taken by the Government in the matter. Absolutely nothing was done. This evening the Leader of the House is appealing for light and asking us not to start the Resolution. He said: "Do not start it, because we are not ready." They had notice of certain questions for months, and if they wanted to know the answers they could have asked Carlton Brathwaite, or members on this side. The Hon. Minister should have advised the Cabinet that Bajan Seafood was a company made up of a Chicago lawyer, Shultz, another man who came down here and had a heart attack, and a man called Fletcher Baker, who went away - *(Asides)* - the hon. member says with $100,000 in his brief case. I can tell the hon; member what Mr. Shultz told me when I tackled them about the two months' rent that was not paid. He said: "Craig, if I could only get a gun, man, you would not have to ask me about Baker, because I am sure I would be able to pay from his insurance."

Mr. Speaker, I do not believe that there is any Government in the Caribbean that has ever attracted more foreign racketeers than the present Government. You only have to go on the industrial site and see the amount of old machinery people are bringing here, and then the Government is advertising in a magazine called "Bee Hive" that there is a 98% literacy in the country, and you can take advantage of the low wages. I challenge the Government to say that that is not mentioned in the magazine called "Bee Hive" and published by the I.D.C. How can you say that you are a Socialist Party working in the interest of the people? How can you be working in the interest of people, when you have several men and women walking up and down the streets with nothing to do, after you had an industry working for seven years? Without asking a single word, the Minister blindly acceded to the wishes of Procope, Carlton Brathwaite, and I believe the Prime Minister, too.

Nobody can tell me that, if the Prime Minister of this country is the Minister of Finance, when money is borrowed from a Development Board, and he heard of certain things, he would not have taken stock of what was going on, and therefore the Government would not have found itself in this position today. Of course, the Government benches do not have to care, because they have their money made up out of the same foreign racketeers.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member cannot say of any member of this House that his money is made up out of foreign racketeers. Let the hon. member withdraw that.

4.00 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I heard the hon. member make the remark and I ask him to withdraw and proceed.

Mr. CRAIG: I said "foreign". I challenge you, Mr. Speaker, to get the report.

Mr. SPEAKER: An hon. member may not challenge the Chair. I can have the words as taken down read.

I am informed that the Official Reporter has merely the word "racketeers", but there is this great problem with the Official Reporter and the noise of the air-conditioners. He can hear that sound more clearly than he hears hon. members. I will warn the hon. senior member for St. James that if the hon. member says he said "you all", he could only be addressing the Chair and he has included the Chair in whatever other expressions he is using in the same sentence. Under the circumstances, as one has always to be given the benefit of the doubt and the official record is of no assistance - it is of very little assistance now nor may be of assistance on another occasion, and so it can happen on both sides - I will ask all hon. members to observe the relevant Standing Orders and do not, in respect of any member by a comprehensive expression "you all" or "you" when they are upstanding and addressing the Chair, indulge in any such unparliamentary expression or phrase as that one to which exception is taken, and the one phrase which the Official Reporter was able to take down. Let the hon. member proceed with the debate.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, on the other side they are telling me to wet you. You would not understand what is going on. What I would like to remind you of is that Mr. Speaker gave a ruling that if a sentence begins with "you", that the person is not addressing the Chair. However, Sir, I am going to accept your ruling, because some people believe they are inconsistent.

Mr. Speaker, I have to pay respects to a dear friend, a constituent's mother, and it is like coming to the end of a happy road to travel, yet I regret that I cannot continue. I am sure however that I am one on this side who is going to look forward with anxious eyes and keen ears when the vote on this Resolution is taken, because a vote against this Resolution is a vote for more support for corruption. I am more than anxious, and I hope I will be in my place when the reply from the other side is given, if a reply is going to be given, because we are all well aware of the replies you get from that side - water-washed, dog-eared replies, and nothing at all that would probably be relevant to the Resolution or to prove to this House that this Resolution and its contents are not authentic. I know, Sir, that there are some brazen members on the other side who would have the

gumption to get up and defend this. If I were in the Minister's position, I would defend it with two sentences and dismiss it: "we regret that we did not answer the questions and we are well aware of our incompetence."

Mr. SPEAKER: The Leader of the House has caught my eye. Before replying, I will ask the House to excuse me for two minutes.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this would not detain Your Honour. I was only going to move that further consideration be postponed, because we propose to put in an amendment and to continue the debate next Tuesday.
4.10 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I rise to second the proposed motion that further consideration be postponed, but I would like to reserve my right to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: That does not arise.

The question that further consideration be postponed was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be suspended for a quarter of an hour.

Mr. St. JOHN: I beg to second that.

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

4.10 p.m.

On Resumption:-

Mr. SPRINGER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to draw to your attention that there is no quorum.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am much obliged to the hon. member; let the bell be rung.

The bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, before we commence Government Business, again I want to draw the attention of the House, and especially you, Mr. Speaker, to what I consider gross misbehaviour in the precincts of this Chamber. Just now when this sitting was suspended it was the duty of everyone in here, no matter how big or small, to stand up when you were standing up. I have to do it and I am a Minister who was elected, and I expect people who come in here and listen to debates to do likewise; if they want to come in here and disrespect you as a man that is a matter for you and them, but as Mr. Speaker they should respect you in the Chair. I would like you to draw it to the attention of the masses, but I myself will have no hesitation in letting them understand that if they come in here to listen to debates they should not carry on one themselves.

I am going to make a suggestion that the House employ two Constables to remain in the Gallery in order that order may be maintained. Too often people seem to treat their own people with scant respect, and if the others feel to stand for it because they are trying to get political favour I am not, at my age I am not looking for any friends. I have to respect everybody and people outside this Chamber must have respect for this Chamber. This is the last time I hope I will have to bring it to your attention, and the last time I will have to admonish the people in the Gallery. I have said already that I am afraid of three things only; retribution, old age and poverty. I am glad to see people in here listening to the debates because they can hear for themselves, since the *Advocate* does not print what people say, but they should come in and listen and wait till they get outside and air their views. If this happens again I will ask that the whole gallery be cleared.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am grateful to the Hon. Minister for bringing the matter to my attention, and I will see that the Marshal exercises his rights with the assistance of the Police.

Mr. HINDS: I merely want to say that I do not rise in the defence of anybody in the Gallery, because I feel that anyone coming here will certainly obey any indication given by the Marshal or any such appointed officer if they were called upon to stand on any special occasion. If an indication is given to the people in the Gallery to rise when Your Honour is vacating the Chair, I am sure they would respond and there would be no need for any special Constables or any other sort of Constable. I am sure that any member of the public who comes in here except a madman, would be willing to co-operate, and if they are asked to stand they will do so when the occasion requires.

Mr. SPEAKER: The publicity which I hope will be afforded in various sections of the Press to the remarks of the Minister and the hon. junior member for St. Peter will prevent a recurrence of this lack of respect, and I am grateful to both hon. members.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: I would remind hon. members that the Hon. Leader of the House moved that the Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Baywoods, St. James for the purpose of erecting a communal bath and latrine do now pass. This was seconded by the hon. junior member for St. Michael; the hon. senior member for St. James, the hon. junior member for St. Peter and the hon. junior member for Christ Church completed their addresses, and the hon. and learned member for Bridgetown was speaking.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, when the point of interruption came I was dealing with the statement of the Minister of Health and the excuse that one has heard so often that because of cane fires there is no money to carry out certain social amenities in the districts. I will endeavour to make the point that this is but a flimsy excuse, because if

one were to look at the money which the Government has spent on other schemes, one would realise that the Government is not really planning adequately, because certainly the provision of social amenities in any district must be one of the priorities of the Government, and merely to say that you will rely on the Labour Welfare Fund and then to say that somebody misadvised you and expect the people of this country to suffer as a result of the bad advice of your adviser is a lot of nonsense. Even in the Capital Estimates when one looks at the amount of money that is being spent in External Affairs, as well as the amount under current expenditure, one would see that some of this money should be diverted and used in the provision of social amenities. They have now got to decide to go to the Consolidated Fund to get money to build communal baths and latrines, but I think it is time when the people of this country should know and appreciate the extent to which this Government is wasting the taxpayers' money.
4.50 p.m.

I do not know whether many people would know, but I had the privilege of being one of the critics of the Government spending money in purchasing houses overseas, and I had the benefit of going into one of those houses. I think it is disgraceful to see how the taxpayers' money is being spent in the U.S.A. You arrive at a house in a motor car, and before you get out you are stepping on carpet and all through the house there is carpet. This country cannot afford these things. The Minister says that we do not have money in the Labour Welfare Fund. If the money that was taken to buy houses in Washington, New York and London was spent properly in Barbados, then the Minister would not have to make an excuse that he does not have money for social amenities. This is due to inadequate planning by a Government which calls itself a Socialist Government. It finds it far better to spend money on external affairs than to provide social amenities and other things for the people of this country.

Mr. Speaker, when you go into the various districts of this country and even in Bridgetown and see the conditions under which some people live - I refer to places like Dunlow Lane and Scotts' Tenantry - you will find that street lighting is abominable; yet, you will hear that there is no money in the Labour Welfare Fund because of cane fires. It is obvious that this Government has now found itself incapable of proper planning to suit the needs of this country.

While on this topic of Communal Baths and Latrines, I would like to find out from the Minister who was responsible for closing the Communal Latrine in Cumberland Street. This Latrine was provided in the Lower Green Bus Stand for many years to serve the people who use the Lower Green Bus Stand.

Mr. SPEAKER: I appreciate the hon. member is making that point as an aside, but I will advise him not to labour it as we are dealing with the Baywood side.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: With all due respect to you, Sir, I do not have any argument with you. When the hon. senior member for St. Philip was dealing with Penny Hole or Gemswick he was not in the Baywood.

Mr. SPEAKER: But two wrongs never make a right.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I believe that any latitude extended to a member in this Chamber should be extended equally to me.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is why I did not stop the hon. member referring to Cumberland, but I ask him not to dilate upon it as this is something substantially to do with the Baywood.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, this is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Baywood for the purpose of erecting a Communal Bath and Latrine. I want to know from the Minister when he will take steps to replace or re-open the Communal Bath and Latrine that was provided in Cumberland Street to serve the people in the Lower Green Bus Stand. It is rather strange that the Communal Bath and Latrine operated there for all of these years, but as soon as Kirpalani opened a big department store it was closed down. Something must be wrong, as the Calypsonian says.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Sir, if the hon. member will give way.

Mr. SPEAKER: Have you concluded, or have you given way?

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I give way, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member says that he gives way to the hon. member making a point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I must intervene at this point; I am not going to accept this. The hon. member had finished his speech before the Minister got up; he sat down, and the Minister got up and said "On a point of order". I intended to speak. The hon. member cannot justify it now by saying that he gave way to the Minister. This would be dishonest.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am objecting to those remarks. Mr. Speaker, you asked me if I gave way, and I said I had not finished my speech. He is saying that if I said so I would be dishonest. I object to those remarks.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member said it would be, he has not said it is dishonest.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Sir, he has to withdraw those remarks. He said it would be dishonest.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member said it would be; he did not say it is dishonest.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Sir, if you do not rule that those remarks are dishonest, then you are being dishonest now.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member must withdraw that.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I am saying that if you do not rule that the remarks are unparliamentary, then you would be dishonest, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I cannot be one way or the other.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: You cannot be dishonest, but I can be dishonest. Neither you nor he can attack my character, Sir, and I am not going to withdraw the remarks unless he withdraws the remarks that I am dishonest.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for Bridgetown told the House.....

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that the hon. junior member for Christ Church rose on a point of order.....

Mr. SPEAKER: There can be no debate; I am speaking now. The hon. junior member for Bridgetown sat down; I am not looking two places at one time; I was looking in the direction of the speaker; I saw him sit and simultaneously I heard the hon. junior member for Christ Church say: "On a point of order." I asked the hon. junior member for Bridgetown then if he had concluded, and the hon. junior member for Bridgetown said "No". I just wanted to know whether he had given away to the hon. member who was seated opposite him and who, presumably, he could see and whom I did not see. The hon. member said "No", so I have to accept his word, because I cannot read into any hon. member's mind. That is the present situation. The hon. junior member for Christ Church, so far as I am concerned, having said "On a point of order".....

Mr. SPRINGER: Mr. Speaker, I do not want to get into the argument; that is the position up to a point. What is the position with regard to the withdrawal of statements?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, you would not allow me to speak, and you are allowing the senior member for St. Michael to speak. Why?

Mr. SPEAKER: Nor am I allowing the hon. senior member for St. Michael to speak.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: Just let me finish this point. The hon. junior member for Bridgetown said, *apropos* a remark made by the hon. junior member for St. Thomas, that if the Chair ruled in a certain way, the Chair would be dishonest. I am asking the hon. member to withdraw that.

5.00 p.m.

Well, you could only be referring to the Chair. I am asking the hon. member to withdraw that.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I would withdraw the use of the word "you" and say that if you rule that way it would be dishonest.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is not entitled to say that a ruling would be dishonest without implying that there was dishonesty in the person who ruled.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I am quite prepared to withdraw. I want to hear your ruling.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member must withdraw any aspersion or implication that the ruling by the Chair is dishonest, because it implies dishonesty in the ruler.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Right, Sir. You said that if I say it would be dishonest, it is implying dishonesty to you, and therefore I should withdraw. Sir I withdraw those remarks. Now I would like you to call on the hon. junior member for St. Thomas who said that if I said I had not finished my speech, it would be dishonest. I want him to withdraw the same remarks because it is implying dishonesty to me.

Mr. SPEAKER: Exception has been taken to the words used by the hon. junior member for St. Thomas. I will get the exact words.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I have warned repeatedly that this vacillation on the floor of the House must stop.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I object to certain words used by the hon. junior member for St. Thomas. He will either withdraw them or no debate will go on.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am just awaiting the exact words used by the hon. member.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I am objecting to the hon. member making a speech unless he withdraws the words.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, you have already made a ruling. You made that ruling saying that there was nothing which I had said which I must withdraw.

Mr. HINDS rose.

Mr. SPEAKER: There can be no speech making at this stage. I will await the official record.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, if you want me to withdraw the words, I beg to withdraw the words.

Mr. SPEAKER: The words are withdrawn. Let us proceed with the debate. The hon. junior member for Christ Church had risen to a point of order and the hon. junior member for Bridgetown had given way.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, before we go on, I must have this point straight. I am not giving away on this. The hon. member had completed his speech. You do not want me to say the same thing again and withdraw.
5.10 p.m.

I said if he did not say he had completed his speech it would be dishonest to say that, and I am saying again.....

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: On a point of order, Sir,

Mr. SPEAKER: This is my ruling on this matter. I saw the hon. junior member for Bridgetown sit, and simultaneously I heard the hon. junior member for Christ Church say "on a point of order". I enquired of the hon. member for Bridgetown if he had concluded his speech. I was not looking in the direction of the hon. member for Christ Church when I heard his voice, and the hon. member can bear that out, but when I heard "on a point of order" I asked if the hon. member had concluded his speech or if he had sat down because the hon. member said "on a point of order". That is my ruling.

Mr. HINDS: The hon. junior member for Christ Church is so old a Parliamentarian that one must accept that when he says he was rising on a point of order, that he had seen the necessity for saying "on a point of order".

Mr. SPEAKER: I have ruled that he rose on a point of order which he so said and which I heard.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member rose on a point of order because he had already spoken.

Mr. SPEAKER: That was no point of order. Time and again I have to remind hon. members of both sides.....

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I would break this House up right now.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will allow the hon. junior member for Christ Church to make his point of order.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, the communal bath and latrine at Cumberland Street has been temporarily closed for repairs which are very urgent, and it has not been closed to cater to anybody. It is just that the building is in a very bad state of repair, but we have no intention of closing it permanently.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, what I would like to ask the hon. junior member for the City is if he has ever used the bath and the latrine that he talked about with the people in the bus stand. He is saying that the people who go in the bus stand use this latrine, but I am asking the hon. member if he has ever used it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that is not a point of order.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I refuse to stand up and speak when the hon. member cannot keep quiet.

Mr. SPEAKER: Every member is quiet now, even the hon. member who has risen to address the Chair.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am glad that the Hon. Minister rose and said what he did; I hope he has given this House the assurance that this latrine would be re-opened shortly.

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE TO Mr. MICHAEL SIMMONS OF A PARCEL OF LAND AT THORNHILL, St. JAMES

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this Resolution is to lease to Mr. Michael Simmons an area of land near the sea at Holetown to be used as a beach facility. The proposal is to lease this bit of land to Mr. Michael Simmons at a rental of $150 per month for a period of 25 years with a revision of the rent every five years. It appears that the lessee considers constructing an apartment hotel and to use this as a car park and a beach facility. The Crown Solicitor and other authorities have advised that the terms of the lease are favourable, and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I remember some time ago in this House we had a Resolution dealing with a lease of Government land on which Holiday Inn is now situated; we also had a piece of Government land leased to Mr. Richardson upon which a beach facility is now erected, and the policy of the Opposition was consistent in relation to both of those leases. I also say this, that except the Government could prove there was the exceptional need to lease this land, our view was that land butting and bounding on the sea in Barbados was so scarce that the Barbadian public should not be deprived of the traditional accesses which were acquired by previous Governments unless there was very, very good reason for the same, and unless there was adequate access to the beach in the areas in which the land was. Secondly, we felt that the Government was giving away this land to Holiday Inn, giving away to Mr. Richardson, and now we see that this is a giving away again.
5.20 p.m.

There is a Plan which is circulated, and I would say that it is the most confusing document that could

possibly be circulated and it would hoodwink many people if they were not accustomed to looking at such documents. Why did they bring in here a Plan which was drawn in 1936 telling me about one Thornhill, deceased, as the boundaries? There is no Thornhill, deceased, who owns land there now. Give me modern, up to date boundaries, so that I would be able to identify where the land is, I know that it borders on the sea and it borders on a street.

We are dealing with St. James. Let me tell this House that the areas and the access to the beach are very restricted in St. James, because there is considerable pressure arising from the development of Sandy Lane. I refer to Sunset Crest and the other areas. I cannot see how the Government can lease their land providing access to the beach, unless there is a very good reason. I want to know the reason. I want to know the reason. I am going to be bluntly critical of the people who circulated this Plan. If they can treat the members on the other side like this, it does not matter to me, but it matters to me as a member of this side. This Addendum says absolutely nothing as to the purposes to which the land will be put. *(Asides)* The Addendum says that the land is to be used as a beach facility for the Lessee's proposed apartment hotel and will be landscaped and developed to include a public car park and public right of way to the sea. Are you telling me that the person leasing the land will pay you money to provide for a public car park? If he leases the land, he will have exclusive possession, otherwise there would be no lease. Is he going to provide a public car park on land of which he has exclusive possession? You really cannot fool me with that!

Mr. Speaker, this is not the Plan which is supposed to be circulated with this Resolution. Give me the hotel's plan; give me the perspective of the hotel drawings; show me where you are siting it. I called for these things when we were dealing with Holiday Inn, and I am calling for them now. Are you telling me that $1,800 a year is adequate remuneration for this land? Land in St. James on the sea brings between $5 and $10 a square foot; multiply that by 9 and you will get $45,000 a year. Now 5% of $45,000 a year is $9,000. Are you telling me that you can afford to give away the taxpayers' land at a rental of less than 1%? Not in here. *(Asides)* At 2% is not good enough for me; it is not good enough for this House.

Mr. Speaker, the previous Government have bought the land that we have on the seashore of this Island for the use and benefit of the public of Barbados. If people want to build apartment hotels, then let them go and find other land and pay the economic price for it, but do not reduce the people's assets. I am not voting for it; I did not vote for Holiday Inn; I did not vote for Richardson, and we are not voting for this either. This is a very bad policy. Instead of Government leasing the land they have, they should be going around acquiring more land to provide more assets. The next thing you will hear is that somebody wants to lease the land at Dover, Christ Church, for an apartment hotel. I do not represent St. James, but I know that if they try to do that at Dover, I will lead the riot.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution is for permission to lease an area of land, 9,072 square feet, at the rate of $150 a month. In the Addendum they tell you that this is going to provide a car park and a public right of way to the sea. Who is the Government trying to fool by saying that a man is going to pay $150 a month for the use of land for the service of his hotel and his guests, and tell me that the public, dressing as they like, would be able to pass along there going to the sea? Mr. Speaker, what is the Government now trying to do? To take away the rights of the people; give them to somebody, and then ask the person to permit them to enjoy their rights again! What stupidness is this?

Mr. Speaker, this is the taxpayers' land, so to speak. There is already a public right of way, so what is the Government trying to do with the people? The Government is going to lease the land to somebody, and then ask the person to allow the people to pass over the land! Are we novices in this House? I know that we are coming to the end of time, but I did not know that those on the other side had burnt out everything they had in them.
5.30 pm.

Mr. Speaker, this undoubtedly is a very serious matter, because one very well knows that there are not many areas where the public.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that the Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition are making it impossible even more so than the air conditioners to hear the hon. junior member for St. Peter.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, there are not many areas after we leave Bats Rock going north except for the entrance at Prospect and the one at Sandy Lane at which the public can really claim access to the beach as such, and this area is a definite point where the Government has no accepted policy. In other words, the Government is making us to believe in one breath that they would like to know that the public have access to all of the beaches, but where the public now has access, the Government is willing to sell it for money to give away that right and then to allow the public to become mere trespassers so to speak. We cannot be expected to lend our support to a Resolution of this sort. *(Asides)* You ask if I am not ashamed? Do you mean because Michael Simmons is black? I am now being asked if I am not ashamed because I say I am not going to support this. What is all this? Where is the plot? We want to know from the Leader of the House, the Introducer of the Resolution, how much beach frontage there is to this land. (A VOICE: 54 feet.) Here it is we are taking up a plot of land with 54 feet of beach frontage in Holetown, St. James, and renting it out at $150 a month. Are you making fun? The hon. junior member for Bridgetown can tell you that land at Fitts Village on the sea fetched something in the vicinity of $9.50 per square foot not very long ago. You are taking away the taxpayers' right and doing what with it?

Mr. Speaker, the Government is undoubtedly treading on dangerous ground and certainly do not know what they are about. I would not like to accuse them of trying to extend a favour and trying to accommodate Mr. Michael Simmons at the expense of the public, although that is exactly what they are doing. We have had experience here where other hotels just off the same Holetown border on the coast where they do not have any private beach as such and coloured people are not allowed to go on the beach next to their hotels. They sent to Holetown and one Corporal Holder went and ordered the people to come out of the sea. That is recorded in the Holetown Diary. Corporal Holder went to the hotel, listened to what the Manager had to say and ordered the people out of the sea because the hotel manager did not want black people bathing amongst his guests. Worse than this is going to happen because Mr. Michael Simmons is going to tell you that he is paying $150 a month for this and he is going to pay that amount for it and he does not want you to trespass. We want to save our people from all this. It is theirs now. Let it stay as it is. Let Michael Simmons go somewhere else and build his hotel. He can make money elsewhere. Do not trespass on the taxpayers' rights like this; do not take away what is theirs and give to your friends.

We have seen, Mr. Speaker, that the Government, as the hon. senior member for Christ Church has said, has been making too many attempts at leasing out plots of land here, there and everywhere to accommodate people. Somebody goes in St. Peter and buys an area of land which he wants to develop next to the Police Station. There is an area there that they can negotiate with the Government for and get to carry out their development. These things are not right. Before they purchase they ought to have known exactly what they wanted. There is something fishy about this, and as the hon. senior member for Christ Church has said, this is an old plot from 1936. How does the Leader of the House feel being exposed in a matter such as this where a plot from 1936 is pushed into his hand in the year 1971 to pilot a Resolution through this House and is caught out with it? Are you not exposed? (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I did not draw it!) I see your point. However, Mr. Speaker, we feel confident that the Leader of the House is satisfied as to the feeling of this side of the House on the matter and that he would seek to let us have the relevant information before proceeding any further on a Resolution such as this. We want to warn the Government to have due respect for the rights of the public because people's rights cannot be tampered with and must not be trifled with. It is not fair to the taxpayers. It is their own land and Government is seeking to take away the right that they own in this land and lease it to somebody else, then to ask the lessee to let the people enjoy some part of the right that was formerly theirs.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, it would appear that a legal luminary in the person of the Leader of the Opposition has apparently missed the point, because the whole point of this proposed lease is that the area of land in question will be leased subject to the existing right-of-way and also for the provision of a public car park, so that the rights of the citizens of Barbados will not be taken away. In any case, what will be done is that greater facilities will be provided for the people of Barbados in that it is leased subject to the existing right-of-way and subject to the provision to put a public car park.
5.40 p.m.

Mention is made over and over again of the rights of the people.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Sir, is the Minister talking about a public car park on an area of land for which Mr. Michael Simmons is going to pay $150 a month?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: That is one of the conditions of the proposed lease. The land is now open land and the people who are in the habit of using it as an access to the beach will continue to do so and they will have better facilities. Mr. Michael Simmons is a national, and all sorts of assistance have been given to foreigners, and if Mr. Michael Simmons is a national he should be given assistance as well.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, this is the kind of racket we want to stop.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I am merely saying that the concessions granted to foreigners should be granted to nationals quicker and even on a better footing, so if the Government is now granting a lease to a national subject to the right of way and subject to the car park, it means that the public is not losing anything but getting more. The question of a development in the area will provide employment facilities in the area and help the tourist trade, so I see no reason why Mr. Michael Simmons or anybody else who is a national should not be given a lease in this respect. There are many other points, but I do not care to go into detail, the Leader of the House will do that.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, in 1961 when the Democratic Labour Party came into power I was in England. When I came back in 1964 I was fortunate enough to see a copy of the Manifesto which I would presume captured the imagination of the public of Barbados and which helped them to win the Government. One of the things set forth in that Manifesto was that if that party had come to power it would build beach houses for the working class people of the community; now here after ten years, in 1971, the Government finds itself in possession of 9,072 sq. ft. of beach land, they do not come in here and ask for $20,000 or $30,000 to put up one of the beach houses they promised so faithfully in 1961, but they come in here to rent it out. They are not using the land to provide beach facilities any longer, they are going around this island and every square foot of beach land they find they are finding somebody to let it to and tell you the public will have access to the sea.

I do not agree with the policy at all. As a practising lawyer I know of incidents which have happened

on the St. James Coast, and you, Mr. Speaker, live in St. James and would be well aware of them as well. There is a particular ex-policeman who was the champion of the resort owners in St. James, and every time somebody went into the sea the telephone at Holetown Police Station would ring and two policemen would go up there to throw people out of the sea. I have known of cases before the very Court where people were brought in for passing between two houses to get to the sea and they were charged for wandering and loitering. If the Government in its wisdom can find land to let to a national and it borders the sea, and there are adequate facilities and areas good enough, do it, but let us look at what the Minister of Health has just said and let us ask two questions. Look at the Addendum which says that the land is to be used as a beach facility for the lessee's proposed apartment hotel and will be landscaped and developed to include a car park and public right of way to the sea. How much of the area will be used for a car park? How much of the area will remain for free access to the sea? Will the public find themselves in a position that when they are passing over the lessee's car park a policeman from Holetown can hold them for loitering near somebody's back yard? That is what I want the Minister to answer. He talks about free access but he does not know what is happening on the St. James coast today. Anybody from St. James will tell you that to get on to the sea now the people's dogs attack you on one hand, and on the other the Police arrest you for loitering so that however you go you are being kept away from the sea.

On a 9,000 square feet area the Government, instead of building a beach house, let out the land to somebody else. As the Hon. Leader has said, the markings on the plan were made in 1936 and I am sure that if we were to cheek the land next to it from a recent copy of the plan you will find that there is somebody close enough next to it that you would be stepping off on somebody else's property, and you will find yourself not being able to pass through the hotel car park because the security guard or the watchman at the hotel will tell you, you cannot pass there and the Police can hold you for loitering. You cannot get across the next man's land and you cannot get to the sea any longer. I would like to ask the Hon. Leader of the House if they will put a provision in this lease that the Government can revoke the lease if it is proved that people are prohibited from passing through the car park to get to the sea.
5.50 p.m.

These are the problems you will have to look at when you are leasing the beach land of Barbados. They say that Barbados has the four s's: the sand, the sea, the sun and one s. If you are going to lease this land, then St. James will be an area of hotels and nobody will be able to get access to the sea. If you start from low down to walk up, somebody will tell you that this is private property and you cannot cross it. You will not be able to get in one way or another. Previous Governments have acquired the areas of land which now abound the sea for the use of the population at large, and I am one who is against the leasing of this land, or any beach land, to anybody whether he is a national or non-national.

Mr. Speaker, I have been involved in a matter of the development of certain lands in St. Philip, and the Town Planner said that it was the Government's principle that 20 ft. of land must be left off on a hill top with a 40 ft. drop to the sea before you reach the beach. He insists on a 20 ft. reserve, because he says that the public should have free access to the sea. Here it is, the Town Planning Department is carrying out one set of rules, and the Government is coming to the House approving another set of rules for the very beach land. Where are we going, Mr. Speaker? There is no coherent policy in this matter, and I cannot accept this as being true and correct today.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, now that I have heard particularly the speech of the junior member for St. Joseph as regards what he was told is the Government's policy with regard to the development of land, I am somewhat fortified in my belief that we are seeing in Barbados a Government that is governing this country in the interest of its friends; a Government that is based on friendship, and no longer has the interest of the people of this country at heart.

We heard earlier today of certain things for people who are friendly with the Prime Minister, and they can do as they like in this country. Now there is this lease for this gentleman, who I have no doubt is a card-bearing member of the Democratic Labour Party, and it is for this very reason - (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Is he?) He is one of the people you wanted to run against me at the last by-election. We now find that this Government is so reckless in its attitude to beach land that it is going to rent out land at 20¢ a square foot. It is 20¢ a year, Sir. This is disgraceful, and it is only being done because the gentleman in question is friendly with the Prime Minister and the members of the Democratic Labour Party. Do not come to me with this idea that he is a national of Barbados. Of course he is a national of Barbados, but the policy of any Government must be to preserve the beach lands in this country for the benefit of the entire country and not for the benefit of one or two people who may be friendly with the Prime Minister and others. I think it is disgraceful at this stage.

Mr. Speaker, the Government established a Beaches and Parks Commission. Has this matter been referred to the Beaches and Parks Commission for their advice on it? If you were going to rent out beach land, I would have expected that, having established a Beaches and Parks Commission, you would go to the Commission before coming here with this matter and ask them for their recommendation. You could say to the Commission: "Do you think this is in the interest of our general policy on parks and beaches to rent out this land? Is it in the interest of the people of this country?" You have not done that, and I can only come to the conclusion that there is something wrong.

Mr. Speaker, there is a general feeling in this country that there is a lot of corruption - corruption in the Government and in high places. There is also a general feeling in this country that there is a new low in political morality brought about by the Democratic Labour Party headed by the Prime Minister. All of the Ministers and all of the back benchers in that Party are equally to blame.

Mr. Speaker, what do we find? The Government has come here with a plot drawn in 1936. The junior member for Christ Church got up and spoke about legal luminaries, etc. As one who has done a lot of conveyancing, he would know for a fact that if he was drawing a conveyance he would never accept a plan drawn for a beach in 1936.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Sir. The plan will have to be checked. Plans have to be checked every 10 years. The plan is good, subject to being checked.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Is there any indication that this plan has been checked? No. You, in your private capacity, would not accept it and you would check it, but you want members on this side to accept it without checking it! This is because you have in this country too much government by friendship. Sir, it is well known that there is accretion to seacoast land. You live on the sea and you will know that. I believe that very near to you a man had a property which he sold, and at the time he sold it he had almost twice as much land as when he bought it. Dover in Christ Church is an example of accretion. Rockley Beach is also an example of accretion to beach property. You cannot come to us and say that this is 9,072 square feet of land on a plot drawn the 12th June, 1936, and then ask us to say today that the land that goes right on to the sea is the same amount of land. How can we be sure of the amount of land? The junior member for Christ Church says it must be checked, but the civil servants do not think it is necessary to check it.

Mr. Speaker, the junior member for Christ Church said that the lease would contain the existing right of way.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I am quoting from a letter written by Mr. Michael Simmons, the proposed lessee, dated 6th July, 1969. This matter has been pending for quite a long time. In support of my statement just now, I will read just a short relevant part of his proposal:

> "The existing public right of way to the beach and sea will be retained, but it is my opinion that it should be a width of about 20 ft. thereby increasing the area of land which can be used for beautification in parcels (a), (b) and (c), etc. It is also planned, with Government's permission, to surface with Barber Green the said right of way."

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Will the Minister repeat that part. Let us hear about (a), (b) and (c).

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the lessee is suggesting that a 20 ft. right of way increasing the area bordering the right of way, which would be beautified in parcels (a), (b) and (c). The right of way would be surfaced with Barber Green and would provide a proper entrance to the sea.
6.00 p.m.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, it is clear that there are plans in connection with this piece of land, otherwise the Hon. Minister could not be speaking about a, b and c. There are other plans in the files which have not been shown to the Opposition, and we would suggest that they be shown to us so that we know what a, b and c mean, and then we would see where the 20 foot right of way will fall.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I do not understand what is happening. When we accuse the Government of things, they will say that we are unfair, but obviously the Government is not being clear and honest with the Opposition. How can the Minister get up and refer to proposals a, b and c? I would like to give way to the Minister if he would tell me what are proposals a, b and c.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: The hon. member would know that in order for hotel construction to take place at all, it had to go to the Town Planner, and this matter has been pending since 1969. Do you want me to bring the plan from the Town Planner down here? (A VOICE: Yes.) Do you want the plan for the hotel here? (A VOICE: Yes.) Well, that is a different matter. There is another old plan here which would not help.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: We do not want the plan for the hotel. We are not concerned with that. We want the proposed plan and the buildings to be erected on this particular portion so that we will know. The Leader of the House started this debate and he did not tell us about the 20 foot right-of-way. Government is not being honest with the Opposition. They are holding back from us.

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I have not finished. I thought the Minister had asked me to give way.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for Bridgetown gave way for the Hon. Minister.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: From whom did you understand that, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. SPEAKER: Because that was clear to me.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I thought the Minister would have replied.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: But, Mr. Speaker, this is not a Court room where somebody is questioning somebody. What kind of nonsense is this? A man speaks and then gets up again. You do this in Com-

mittee, not in the House. A member cannot speak twice.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member was giving way to the Minister. He has been doing that several times. He gave way again. *(Asides)*

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: You will talk that when you get home, not in here. When you are in here you are no better than anybody else.(Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: I do not have common-dog ways.) You are not as good as a common dog, because some people keep common dogs in the house, but they have to put you under the cellar.

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, it is really shocking that the hon. junior member for St. Thomas earlier could complain about behaviour of people in the Gallery and is behaving like that.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would advise the hon. member to proceed with his address on the land at Holetown.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: On a point of order, I would like the hon. member to know that that is my privilege. When you put your foot on the desk as you are doing now, that is your privilege despite the fact that it is bad behaviour.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I was not aware that bad behaviour was the privilege of anybody in this Chamber, but it seems to be the privilege of the hon. junior member for St. Thomas.

Now, Sir, it is not satisfactory merely to come here and tell us that you will have a public car park and a public right-of-way to the sea. If it is going to be a public park and if there is going to be a right-of-way, why is it that the Government cannot vest this land in the Parks and Beaches Commission and let them erect the public car park so that the entire public of this country can use it? How do you mean you do not know? Let Mr. Michael Simmons' guests have a right-of-way to the sea like the public of this country. That is the way you should do it, not give the land to Michael Simmons because he is a member of the Democratic Labour Party. I hold no brief for anybody. Nobody gives me work, and I think it is wrong, disgraceful and dishonest, and is sheer rank dishonesty for the Democratic Labour Party to be giving away the beach land of this country. If Mr. Michael Simmons had to buy this land, he knows he could not get it for less than $90,000, that is $10 per square foot, and you are prepared to rent him for 20 cents a square foot per year. Do you not expect the people of this country to believe that the Government of this country is dishonest in its dealings? Do not tell me it is because he is a national. National or no national, you are being dishonest in your dealings in relation to the taxpayers of this country, because if you took the same 9,000 square feet of land it would cost you $90,000, and if you allowed a return on that of 6 per cent it would be $5,400 which would be three times the amount of rent, you are agreeing to let Michael Simmons have this land for.

I am going to vote against this because I do not feel it is right. I feel that one of the fundamental mistakes made by the Democratic Labour Party in the development of the tourist trade in this country was to allow people to build hotels right on the sea and to deny Barbadians the right of using the very beaches that belong to the people of this country. This is one of the things that the people of this country will never forget the Democratic Labour Party for, because you develop tourism but you allowed tourism to develop you, and you did not develop tourism in the manner in which you wanted it to develop. You allowed people to come and build right on the beaches and prevented them from using the beaches. I am not in favour of this Resolution and I intend to vote against it.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY and the Hon. N. W. BOXILL rose.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Thomas first caught my eye.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the former Leader of the Opposition once said that Barbadians have a short memory. Little did I know when he said this that he was referring to members of his own Party. The things which I have heard in here this afternoon dealing with the Resolution have me flabbergasted. I believe that members on the opposite side either did not read or if they read the Resolution they did not understand what they read. The hon. member who has just sat down and other hon. members before him had the temerity to tell this House that we on this side are trying to do something for our friends, referring to Mr. Michael Simmons.
6.10 p.m.

I will say this to you now, if you cannot do something for your friends when you are in power you cannot do it when you are out of power. We are not doing anything for Mr. Michael Simmons because as they say he is a member of our Party; I categorically deny that he is a member of the Democratic Labour Party, but I will go further. When members talk about dishonesty, there was a gentleman by the name of Mr. Elridge Morris who ran in the St. Peter election against Mr. Frank Walcott and failed to gain a seat, and a post was created for him in the Legislative Chamber as Minister without Portfolio. He was the first Minister without Portfolio.

The next point is, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member seems to have forgotten that when Sandy Lane was sold out there was a big rumpus in this Chamber because to begin with, the road was bad, and secondly you had to get the microscope at Jodrell Bank to find out the entrance to the beach.

Mr. St. JOHN: I challenge the Hon. Minister to mention the width of the right of way.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is no point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: You cannot challenge me, I am a Minister of Government.

Mr. St. JOHN: On a point of order, I know he is a Minister and I expect he would speak the truth.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The width of the right of way is about 8 inches. There is also a big stone placed in the centre of the right of way so that black people cannot pass through there. *(Asides)* I am being interrupted, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is the biggest heckler in here.

Mr. SPEAKER: Even if he is the hon. member cannot do it now.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I heard the hon. senior member for Christ Church talking about Mr. Michael Simmons and referring to him as a capitalist.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I did not say that on the floor of this House, and I am interrupting here on a point of elucidation; the hon. member is not entitled to say that I said something which in truth and in fact I did not say, so he will have to quote the words that I said.

Mr. SPEAKER: Point made.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member not only said it, but he implied it. The hon. member ought to be the last person to come on the floor of this House and accuse anybody of being a capitalist; the hon. member himself is a capitalist. I do not like to see wolves in sheep's clothing fooling people that they are socialists when in truth and in fact they are conservatives at heart. *(Asides)*

Mr. SPEAKER: Please let me hear only the hon. member for St. Thomas until he concludes his address.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The hon. member ought to be the last person to make the statements he has made. The next point I am going to raise was mentioned on the floor of this House. Mr. Simmons is a Barbadian; I am not saying because he is a Barbadian that this Government or any other Government has the right to take up what are the rights of the people and give them away, this would be nonsense, but the sort of argument which the hon. members on the opposite side is putting up tends to make one feel that the moment you are a Barbadian or the moment you have associated yourself with anybody of this Government you are the biggest thief, the biggest swindler, the biggest crook or something of the sort. The hon. member just shouted across the floor that it is not true, but Junior tends to forget Britain. Junior-fails to understand that when the senior member for the City was in power the senior member had his friends and some of his henchmen too. The hon. members on the opposite side must see things in their true perspective; if this young man is adventurous enough that because he has seen some fallow land and has the initiative to invest his money and he applies to the Government for help, I do not see why the Government should be criticised for helping him.

6.20 p.m.

The point is that if this man has the initiative to invest his money, and he applies to the Government - he cannot apply to the Opposition; the only place in the world where the Opposition want to run the Government is in Barbados. That cannot happen as long as I am on the side of the Government. All of this ranting and raving you are getting on with in here will not help you. When you are on a political platform you are an individual, because everybody will be struggling for himself. You will then see how much man you are. *(Asides)* I have been through two elections already and was successful, so I have 100%. *(Asides)* There is a time for every man; even Christ had his time. What I am trying to admonish the Opposition on is - *(Asides)* I am using good words; I am using them in their right places, and I know how to spell them.

Mr. Speaker, when we came here last week with a Resolution to amend the Hospital antiquated Act, it was said that we were doing something for the benefit of our friends. *(Asides)* This is no imposition, or a court room, where you can question me. Do you ask me who said so. It was said in this Chamber, and I got up and said that I was appalled to hear the statement. I have a photographic memory and you do not have a memory to remember your first name *(Asides)* If that is an indication that we did something for one brother at one time and we are doing something else for another brother at another time, then when we gave Eric St. John the school to build and he did not build it to specifications we could have said that we were doing something for "Bree" too. If I were as spiteful as the Opposition, he would have been in trouble. The hon. senior member for Christ Church knows about this, but let us drop the question of personalities. Let us get down to serious business.

Mr. Speaker, we are all Barbadians, and I have always said on the floor of this House that you should not bring the house down if you are going to stay in it. As I have pointed out to you already, there is nothing unethical in this matter. The hon. junior member for St. Joseph made a very pertinent point to the effect that a Clause should be written in that if people were barred or restricted from going to the sea, something should be done about the matter. *(Asides)* Of course it is pertinent. Perhaps the hon. member does not understand what is pertinent. Perhaps he thinks it is impertinent. The hon. member should send outside and get a dictionary in order to follow me when I am speaking. *(Asides)* I am speaking to the senior member for the City as well as the junior member for the City.

Mr. Speaker, let us forget personalities and start dealing with things as they really are. The

members on the opposite side, as I said before, seem to have a very short memory. I remember some years ago, when I was in Curacao, reading in the *Advocate* that the Barbados Labour Party had given permission to the Electric Company to run a pipe into the sea. *(Asides)* Why did not they run the pipe out by the Hilton?

Mr. St. JOHN: That created the most famous spot in Barbados.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am not speaking about the ' Pot''. The diameter of the pipe was about 10 inches and it was in the sea. *(Asides)*. The hon. member must remember that he was born in St. John and I was born in Dayrell's Road and lived on the beach. I remember the present Prime Minister came to the floor of this House and..... (Mr. BOLDEN: You said that the *Advocate* does not report correctly.) Tomorrow morning you will look in the *Advocate* without seeing anything I have said, but you will see what the Opposition has said about the Government. *(Asides)* It depends on what the hon. junior member for the City is judging my sense by. If he is judging what I have to say by his sense he would say that I have not said anything intelligent, but if he judges it otherwise he will realise that I am saying something intelligent. It depends on what standard you are judging my speech by. Let me know what criterion you are using. If you are taking yourself as a yardstick you will not understand what I have said. The hon. members are forgetting that the Barbados Labour Party gave permission to the Electric Company to run a pipe into the sea at Graves' End Beach. *(Asides)* It never came on the floor of this House, so why do you want this to come on the floor of the House?

There is another pertinent point. During the time the Barbados Labour Party was in power - at that time people like me could not go on the rifle range - we were prevented from using Graves' End Beach when people wanted to shoot on the range. It is only since the Democratic Labour Party came into power that everybody has free access to the beach.

Mr. St. JOHN: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Are you saying that the Barbados Labour Party made a lease with the Barbados Rifle Association?

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: They did not stop them from shooting down there to discommode black people, but the white people were allowed to bathe as they liked. The people you represent could go there and bathe at the time, but the people like me could not go there and bathe. When the Barbados Labour Party was in power, what did they do with the riparian rights of the people? Are you a lawyer? Do you not know what the word means?

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I am unaccustomed to this layman's pronunciation of hallowed expressions.

6.30 p.m.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Black people were not allowed to walk on the beaches during the Labour Party's regime.

Mr. St. JOHN: On a point of order, would the hon. member give us further and better particulars of this beach? Which beach in Barbados could you not walk on after 1951?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid I cannot order from the Chair further and better particulars.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: I am a historian. You could not walk between where ''The Pot'' is now and where the Aquatic wall is. (Mr. St. JOHN: Nonsense.) Maybe you could because you are Miller Austin's grandson, but I was only Ernest Dear's son.

Mr. St. JOHN: It is obvious that the hon. member had an inferiority complex and did not want to risk it, but anybody else who did not have such a complex could walk there. That is the very land you have leased to Holiday Inn.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: We have leased it to Holiday Inn, but they cannot stop people from going on the beach as in the Barbados Labour Party's time. There was a big, ungainly negro at the Aquatic Club by the name of Mess Around, who the moment you put your foot on the beach, used to run you with vengeance; so the hon. member does not know what he is talking about. You are talking to somebody who lived on the beach. (A VOICE: That was 1928.) This is no joke. Let me tell you something. Do not argue with me that it is not so. (A VOICE: The Speaker was a member of the Aquatic Club in those days.) Do you not see that he looks like an Indian? I know of two prominent black lawyers who had to carry their wives there and go back home and wait. Ask the hon. senior member for Bridgetown.

Mr. Speaker, getting back to a more serious element of the debate, I want hon. members to know that they made their points, but they must be realistic. I know that election time is coming up and everybody wants to stroke the pump. My pump will be flowing more water than a lot of people's. However, hon. members must not in these debates try to give the impression that we on this side are so devious and dishonest, because whenever they finish speaking, all they have done is to cause other people to laugh at us. That is why we do not have any respect from the other people, because we do not respect ourselves. If you are going to get in here as a member of this Legislature and accuse other members of all sorts of misdemeanours, then you have left no room for other people to say anything. Honesty and fear go hand in hand. I do not know if there are any honest people in the world; it might be fear that people suffer from and not honesty. People may not steal because they are afraid of retribution. If you are sure you get away with $1 million, I am sure you would take it like anybody else; so do not get in here and besmirch other people's names and character with this kind of thing, saying that we are doing this because of somebody. I am categorically denying that the gentleman who has made this application for the

piece of land is a member of our Party. The hon. senior member for Christ Church is supposed to be an intelligent young man, and I expect him to conduct himself in that way.

Mr. Speaker, I would like when we are debating to do it on a higher plane than we are doing. We all have to remember that if this gentleman were a foreigner whom we did not know, coming here and renting this land, these things would not have been said; so I am appealing to hon. members on the other side to let us hold the debate on a higher plane. We have really been denigrating ourselves and other people. If people feel that "A" is dishonest and "B" is the same colour or is the brother of "A", they will feel that "B" is dishonest. We are all in the same boat; do not let us rock it. Peace and love! And do you know what that means? Piece on the side.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution seeks to lease all that certain piece or parcel of land situate at Holetown in the parish of Saint James in this Island containing by admeasment 9,072 square feet or thereabouts Abutting and Bounding on two sides on lands now or late of one Thornhill, deceased, on the Public Road and on the sea or however else the same may abut and abound.

The Lease is to be for a period of twenty-five years at a rental of $1,800.00 per annum payable in advance with provision for review every five years.

First of all, I do not understand this because there is no lease before us, and if the applicant is not successful, a review can mean to lower it from $150 a month to $50 a month or to raise it. Now it goes on further in the Addendum to say that the land is to be used as a beach facility for the Lessee's proposed apartment hotel and will be landscaped and developed to include a public car park and public right of way to the sea.

The Government has put before us a plan dated 1936 which does not show the description as set out in the Resolution, because it says on one side of Thornhill, a street and the sea. I think the House of Assembly is entitled to know more about this. To begin with, this plot was made on 12th June, 1936. Mr. Michael Simmons acting for me, you or anybody else would not accept this plan under any consideration especially dealing with beach land. No one would accept a plan as the Hon. Minister of Health and Community Development has said if it is not checked every ten years. This plan is nearly 36 years old. I am saying, if I must impress you with this, that the late Premier of this Island had some property, and the Minister of Community Development knows as a fact that land at Worthing which was bought at one time for a certain amount of money was sold for nearly three times as much, and this same thing happens in St. James where there is beach land.
6.40 p.m.

I have had the experience of over 30 years dealing with property in this country and I have been successful in dealing with property in this Island, so I know something about it. I am not going to waste time with this Resolution, I would suggest to the Government to postpone further consideration of it. If you put me to it I will show you now that if you were to sell off this amount of beach land in this area, this 9,072 square feet of land at $10.00 a square foot would be $90,000 and this amount invested in any Bank in Bridgetown at 7% would bring you more than $6,000 a year. When you were renting the land down there at the Deep Water Harbour the first thing you did was to arrive at the value of the land and then you arrived at what you would get for it in the Bank. This works out at 20 cents a square foot, and in my opinion I would advise the Government, while I am very much in favour of seeing nationals develop for themselves - although I listened very carefully to the Chairman of the Hotel Association, when he gave his warning about these apartments, and I will say this, I hope the Government is taking heed of it because it is time they realise they should not lend any more money for developing because people will not be able to pay back the money. I am not going to work out these figures now because what is really necessary is a new plan; maybe when you come back with a new plan you will see less beach land.

I do not accept this because you are saying that there is a piece of land which, according to the scale which is 40 feet to an inch, is 54 feet wide; do you believe that I accept that somebody leasing land from you which is 54 feet wide is going to take off 20 feet for people to drive unto a beach? This does not go down with me. I understand the Hon. Leader of the House has that information, and he can only go by the information he has in hand. I move that further consideration of this Resolution be postponed and that the plan be checked. If the Government would show how much would be used up for the car park and the specific development of this area which the Town and Country Planning Office has permitted already, maybe we will see that it is reasonable, but on the face of it, in truth and in fact if you are taking off 20 feet down to the sea, you are not leasing 9,000 square feet, so come with a proper plan. I beg to move that further consideration of this Resolution be postponed and that the Government bring in the necessary information which we would like to see in this matter.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I not only second that motion but I readily accept it. I want to make it clear further that I am accepting the postponement of this not on any grounds issued by the hon. junior member for the City nor the hon. junior member for St. Peter but on the points raised by the hon. member who just sat down, the hon. junior member for St. Joseph and of course the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. We do regard the request as a valid one and we will reconsider the terms of the lease, and we do regard the examination perhaps in financial terms as valid. On those three grounds, but principally on the checking of the land, we want to accommodate the suggestion.

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

A BILL TO AMEND THE BARBADOS HARBOURS ACT, 1960

Mr. SPEAKER: The next Order of the day stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works, and it is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, this Bill would amend the Barbados Harbours Act, 1960 (1960--29) to provide, *inter alia*,, for an auction sale to be held of unclaimed goods in the possession of the Port Department and for the proceeds of such sale to be applied in the discharge of Customs duties and of any expenses incurred in the sale, obviating the requirement that such goods should be entered for consumption before sale. In 1961 the Bridgetown Harbour was opened with three transit sheds; the amount of cargo in those sheds today has more than increased twice the amount over the number of years. These sheds were not made to be used as warehouses but just for the storage of cargo for the immediate landing from ships and should be taken away within a reasonable time. The time, Mr. Speaker, was five days, and after five days then the dues on storage per ton rose considerably. This has been done, not as a money making concern, but as a penalty charge so that at no time people would use these three sheds for storage purposes.
6.50 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, the law relating to the Harbours Act allows two months before the Port Manager can take steps to have cargo removed from these sheds, except in the case of perishable goods. This Bill is now to amend the Harbours Act to such an extent that it will give the Port Manager authority to take action after one month.

Mr. Speaker, just a few weeks ago and around Christmas time there were several tons of unclaimed cargo in these sheds. Some of the cargo in these sheds had been landed here for over eight or ten months. Besides being a menace and a nuisance in a Harbour by way of breeding rats and weevils and other insects, when such cargo remains in the sheds the rats and insects will contaminate new cargo coming in. The time limit has been reduced by half, so that the Port Manager will have a better chance of keeping the sheds clear, and to provide better accommodation for fresh cargo coming in where the sheds are used as transit sheds rather than a warehouse. There will also be a quicker turn around of ships. We have had ships out in the Bay for long periods. I am not saying that this is the only reason for the ships having to wait. We definitely need more sheds, and preparation is being made for the extension of sheds, but, in the meantime, this will alleviate the position of having sheds overcrowded.

Mr. Speaker, the amendments will be -

(a) To provide for auction of goods before payment of duty, but that a time limit of fourteen days after the auction should be set for the preparation of the Customs entry and the payment of the duty to the Port Manager;

(b) To provide for disposal of goods put up for auction; to reduce the minimum period within which the Port Manager can sell unclaimed goods from two months to one month.

As it is now, Mr. Speaker, it is two months before the Port Manager can take action, and we are asking to reduce the time to one month.

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

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, any matter relating to the Bridgetown Port must, at this stage, be expected to provoke considerable discussion for very many reasons. In the first place, the Port was built at considerable expense and, perhaps, sacrifice of the taxpayer, and we have it on record from the present Minister that were it not for the presence of the Bridgetown Port the cost of commodities imported into this Island would, perhaps, be very much higher than at present.

I do not want to say anything by way of praise for the far-sightedness of the Barbados Labour Party in building the Harbour at the time. It is a fact that the Harbour was built and much credit is therefore due to the people responsible for building it. We are very much concerned with one fact and it is that the time has come when the Government ought to be coming down with a very comprehensive plan for the extension of the Harbour and its facilities. We have heard the Minister say that the present sheds are inadequate for the housing of imported commodities. Perhaps, that might be one of the reasons why Mr. Carlton Brathwaite, just a few days ago, was able to go into the Customs and drive out a Jenson motorcar without having any regard for the Customs Officers on duty and without having their authority to do so.

Mr. Speaker, one must wonder how is the Minister concerning himself with the control of Customs. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: He has nothing to do with the Customs.) Carlton Brathwaite apparently, Mr. Speaker, is running the Customs nowadays. No Minister is responsible for the Customs, so Carlton Brathwaite can go there and drive out his motorcar, but the merchants in Bridgetown who would be glad to get out their goods are unable to do so.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, Do not make that statement if it is not true. I represent the people in Bridgetown, and if it is true that Carlton Brathwaite drove out a $48,000 car from the Customs without permission that is not right, and the appropriate Minister should take steps in the matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.
7.00 p.m.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: They will accuse people over here of making accusations.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has made his submission, but I do not deem it to be a point of order. Let the hon. member proceed.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, we are concerning ourselves with the limited facilities in the sheds at the Port for housing imported commodities. I am saying, Sir, that perhaps it was due to the limited space that enabled Mr. Carlton Brathwaite to totally disregard Customs authorities and Port authorities and walk into the Customs and drive out a Jensen motorcar which had arrived in Barbados consigned to him. The documents I understand for the car had not yet arrived, he did not go to the Bank to get a Bill of Indemnity, and he just flouted any advice from any Customs Officer and drove his car out. It was his car that he had imported into the Island and he would have no directions given to him from any Customs Officer or anybody concerned with the Port.

Now, Mr. Speaker, what action would the Minister take if a merchant in Bridgetown had imported a quantity of commodities and he saw that by his goods remaining in the Port it would increase the price to the consumer and had taken action similar to the action that Mr. Brathwaite had taken for his personal benefit? The merchant would have taken action to relieve the consuming public, that is, that the price of the commodities would not be rising above the reach by having them remain in the Port. But Mr. Brathwaite on the other hand drove out his car so that he could flaunt and swank about in a car such as we do not have on the streets, he and his Mr. Barrow.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would draw to the attention of all hon. members including the hon. member who is speaking that it is now 7 o'clock p.m. and Standing Order No. 5 (3) provides for an automatic suspension of the sitting.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, not anticipating that the House would be here until this time on Government Business, I did not give the necessary instructions for ordering dinner. In the light of that I do not see how I could reasonably expect the House to continue, in which case I think I had better move the adjournment. First, it would be in order to move that further consideration of this matter which we are now debating should be postponed, and then move the adjournment.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that further consideration of this matter be postponed.

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

Mr. HINDS: And I am hoping that on resumption the Minister will have a full statement to lay before this House with respect to Mr. Carlton Brathwaite taking a Jensen motorcar out of the Customs without permission of the Customs authorities.

The question that further consideration be postponed was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 2nd February, 1971. We have a tremendous amount of work to do in Committee of Supply of which notice has been given, and hon. members always like to say they wish their full time to discuss matters when the House is in Committee of Supply; therefore I am suggesting that we meet earlier.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: I am sure the Hon. Leader of the House has not consulted the Leader of the Opposition on meeting at 10 o'clock. 12 o'clock noon would be more like it.

Mr. St. JOHN: If we adjourn until 9.00 a.m. or 10.30 a.m., you know it will be very difficult to get a Speaker and a Deputy Speaker. Let us meet at 11.00 o'clock.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I beg to amend the motion to 11.00 o'clock a.m.

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

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: I am moving a further amendment to 12 o'clock noon.

The question that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 2nd February, 1971, at 11 o'clock a.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

7.07 p.m.