

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

THIRD SESSION OF 1966 - 71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 22nd June, 1971.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 2.45 p.m. o'clock.

PRESENT

His Honour Sir J. E. T. BRANCEFER, Q.C., F.Z.S.,
(Speaker); Mr. L. E. SMITH, J.P.; Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS,
J.P., (Minister of Trade, Tourism, Community Development
and Youth Affairs); Hon. J. C. TUDOR, C.M.G., M.A.,
(Leader of the House); Mr. J. W. CORBIN, J.P.; Hon.
G. G. FERGUSON, (Minister of Communications and
Works); Mr. LOWE, J.P.; Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS,
(Minister of Agriculture, Science and Technology); Mr.
C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P.; Mr. L. S. CRAIG and Mr. J. B.
SPRINGER.

Prayers were read.

*Messrs Hinds, Ernest Mottley, and H. B. St. John
entered the Chamber and took their seats.*

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, I beg to lay the Statement showing net Customs and Excise Receipts for two months ended 31st May, 1971.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the Report of the Public Utilities for the year 1970.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

(1) A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of Land at Baywoods, Orange Hill, St. James, for purpose of Highway improvement.

(2) A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Rock Hall, St. Thomas, for the purpose of Highway improvement.

(3) A Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Country Road, St. Michael, for the provision of educational, cultural and welfare facilities.

Also to give notice of a Bill to amend the Prisons Act, 1961.

Also, on behalf of the Minister of Labour, National Insurance and Housing, to give notice of

A Bill to provide for the making by employers of severance payments to employees who cease to be employed in circumstances amounting to redundancy and for matters incidental thereto and connected there with.

Also, on behalf of the Prime Minister, to give notice of

A Bill to consolidate and revise the laws relating to conditions of service of Governors-General and to provide pensions for such persons and their immediate families.

Also to say that the Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 191, asked by the hon. and learned junior member for St. Joseph, is ready.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 126, asked by the hon. senior member for St. George, is ready.

Also the Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 138, asked by the senior member of St. Thomas, is ready.

Also Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 157, asked by the hon. junior member for the City, is ready.

Mr. ADAMS entered the Chamber and took his seat.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: There are no Minutes available for confirmation.

RULING BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: At the previous meeting of this House, I undertook to give a Ruling on a matter which was specifically brought to my attention, and the Ruling reads as follows:

"At the sitting of this House on Tuesday 8th June, 1971, the Honourable Junior Member for Bridgetown gave notice of a Resolution.

2. The Honourable Leader of the House requested a Ruling as to whether such a Resolution may:-

(1) properly be given notice of by an Honourable Member;

(2) appear on the Order paper;

and (3) "appear outside this House," before I have given my Ruling.

3. I do not find that the Resolution as proposed by the Honourable Member contravenes any provision of the Constitution. I do not therefore - on that account - rule the Resolution out of order.

Attention is invited to the following:-

Constitution of Barbados Chapter V Part 2 p.39 Section 54 (3) (a) and (b).

Constitution of Barbados Chapter V Part 2 Section 57 (1)."
2.55 p.m.

"4. I do not find that the Resolution contravenes any Standing Order of this Chamber and, accordingly, rule that it has been "properly given notice of," and may "appear on the Order Paper." (Vide Standing Order No. 59 (1) (a) and (b).)

5. I am unaware that the Resolution has yet appeared "outside this House." Accordingly this aspect of the matter - as raised by the Honourable Leader of the House - does not at this stage require my consideration."

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, consequent upon your ruling, I beg to move that the Resolution be put on the Order Paper.

Mr. SPEAKER: In my view, such a motion is superfluous.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker,.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The matter is not now open for discussion.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: I want to make it clear that it can now be published. In the absence of the hon. junior member for Bridgetown, I would like to see a copy of the Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have given my ruling and there the matter now rests. It will appear in due course on the Order Paper.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, a Bill to amend the Prisons Act, 1961, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, a Bill to provide for the making by employers of severance payments to employees who cease to be employed in circumstances amounting to redundancy and for matters incidental thereto and connected therewith, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. J. C. TUDOR, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, a Bill to consolidate and revise the laws relating to conditions of service of Governors-General and to provide pensions for such persons and their immediate families, was read a first time.

QUESTION TIME

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Question Time and Question No 126 stands in the name of the hon. junior member for St. George.

QUESTION *re* STREET LIGHTING IN ST. GEORGE

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

To enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:-

Will the Minister treat as an urgent priority in his street-lighting programme the provision of street lights in rural areas of the country and especially (a) along the public road leading from Salters to St. George's Church; and (b) the public road leading from St. Helens through Market Hill to Jericho, St. George?

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:-

"The provision of street lights in all areas of the Island is receiving attention. Street lamps have been installed along the public road leading from Salters to St. George's Church. The installation of Street lamps along the public road leading from St. Helens through Market Hill to Jericho, St. George

has been included in the street lighting programme for the current financial year".

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 138 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas. 3.05 p.m.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, the question reads as follows:

To enquire of the Minister for Communications and Works:-

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?

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, the reply to the question asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas is as follows:

"Street lights will be installed in Fisherpond in the current financial year. The provision of lights for the two other areas is under investigation." -

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I am asked by the residents of Fisherpond to thank the Minister for having street lights installed last Friday, and to say that they believe that if they had to depend on his predecessor they would never have had them.

Mr. SPEAKER: No. 157 standing in the name of the hon. junior member for Bridgetown who is not now in his place. No. 191 is in the name of an hon. member who is on leave on official duty; that I will allow to stand over. I am not advised that there are any other answers ready, and if that is correct we may now proceed to Private Members' Business.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, we were dealing, I understand, with No. 17 on the Order Paper in the name of the hon. junior member for the City, and the hon. senior member for St. James was speaking on the last occasion we met. I understand the hon. senior member for St. Michael has a resolution dealing with National Insurance and there is an expert here now, so we would like to deal with that when this is finished.

Mr. ADAMS: I beg to second that.

The question that No. 17 be the first Order of the Day was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Mr. SPEAKER: When the matter was previously discussed the hon. senior member for St. James was addressing the Chamber when the time for Private Members' Business expired; that hon. member may now proceed.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, at the last sitting of this House I observed the Hon. Minister in charge of Community Development was a bit concerned about this Resolution, and I myself was a bit concerned as to whether the Hon. Minister would have supported this Resolution. One of the things with which I was very concerned - and I do not think the Hon. Minister understood me very well, I do not know what his state of mind was at the time - but it was very simple because the Government in their Manifesto of 1966 made it very clear under Community Development "that the Party therefore pledges itself in the next period to provide more community centres, playing fields, as well as better recreational facilities. Among the numerous projects competing for Government's attention, the Party will give priority to the construction of a National Stadium." Thanks to the Jaycees this was done, but not to the Government. They also pledged to establish a national theatre, but five years have passed and this is still to be seen.

When I was critical of the Government, I pointed out that many, if not all, of the young people of this country became frustrated because of Government's attitude towards them. That was my whole argument, and I am sure that when the junior member for the City brought this Resolution in here he was not asking for anything that Government did not have in their Manifesto, he was asking Government to provide for the people of the New Orleans district a playing field and better recreational facilities. I dare say that the Hon. Minister of Communications and Works whom I am told lived around that area for a number of years probably realises the dire need for recreational facilities in that area. That is not all, when I said in here that the community centres do not serve the real purpose they should serve the Hon. Minister told me that the community centre in Speightstown is opened at night, and I went into Speightstown and looked for this community centre and I have not yet found it, I saw a T. V. on the Esplanade and a group of young people looking around, but when I asked about the community centre they told me to go and look by the old Fire Station. Only last Tuesday I was told on the Bay Pasture where they have a little hut the caretaker calls a halt to any activity at 6 o'clock in the evening because he says he has to go home. Right outside Gall Hill where you find the cream of the Island - I am sorry the hon. junior member for St. John will not be able to have the benefit of the facilities there because he will no longer be with us. There is nothing in Christ Church that one can safely look around and say that it is something worthy of Christ Church. There is something in Sargeant's Village which was built by the Barbados Labour Party several years ago. I have heard the hon. senior member for Christ Church calling on the Government repeatedly in here to do something for the large area up there.

3.15 p.m.

Now, in St. James there is one at Trents built before this Government came into power; it was

that is the type of negotiation we want to hear about. I wonder if the Hon. Minister who has just given us this wonderful knowledge of the negotiations can tell us if the Attorney for the Estate concerned has been approached in this matter, because we have information on this side as to what has gone on.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: It is simple.

Mr. SPEAKER: A point of order?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, we instruct Civil Servants to do their jobs and we establish policy. The policy for the establishment of a playing field at Boscobelle has already been approved by the Government and instructions have been given to get the machinery in action for acquiring the land. I am assured that the Ministry of Home Affairs is doing something about it.

Mr. HINDS: I am glad for that, we can now say St. Peter is getting its first playing field. Secondly, on this question of playing fields, there is the Farley Hill National Park at St. Peter and up to the moment there are no recreational facilities there. This Resolution, as you will observe, is asking for recreational facilities at New Orleans but I am pointing out where there are no recreational facilities at Farley Hill, and that is a National Park. I think I am right in saying that it was the Prime Minister who was forced to the point of admitting in this Hon. House that an attempt had been made and negotiations were in progress for acquiring land from Welch Town Plantation for an extension of the Farley Hill National Park, and it is then that we tried to find out from the Ministers, and especially the Minister of Sport who ought to be in a position to tell us, if in trying to acquiring the land for adding to Farley Hill we are going to have a playing field, tennis courts, cricket pitches and the type of things that the young people of St. Peter are crying out, praying, begging and beseeching us for each and every day when they see us. There is a little boy in one of the districts of St. Peter who told me one day after I told him that a Resolution had been passed for acquiring the land for a playing field at Boscobelle that he wants to have a swimming pool there as well.

Mr. Speaker, nobody in our view would seek to deny the people of New Orleans or any part of this Island an opportunity for relaxation, an opportunity for enjoying facilities during hours of recreation, because we very well know, Mr. Speaker, that it is in the absence of these facilities that we find an increase in our birth rate. It is a case where we have got to put all these matters that are related one with the other, and we will find that where our people work they are badly housed for the most part, they go home and with nothing to engage their minds constructively during the hours of 6 to 10 p.m. they throw themselves one upon the other and the net result is that our poor relief bill is rising; the numbers of delinquents and unwanted are all problems with which we are faced in the long run. In establishing these centres whether at New Orleans, whether at Boscobelle, Farley Hill or wherever they

might be, we have got to set about to create an entirely new image.

I have heard from the hon. senior member for St. James that mention was made of a community centre at Speightstown in St. Peter. There is an old hut there which lacks proper ventilation and is unfit for any sort of recreation except when the hon. senior member for St. Peter is handing over the keys of the parish. What is being held out in this House as a community centre at Speightstown is a shocking disgrace to the parish of St. Peter.
3.45 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, it makes us understand how some people look at the people in St. Peter. They make us feel that the people in St. Peter do not need anything better. Let us look at the matter this way: our Welfare Officer ought to be in a position to tell us how many young people between 16 and 25 years of age are seen going to the Community Centre in Speightstown. We would like to know how many young people between those ages are seen going to the place called the Community Centre in Speightstown. What we should concern ourselves with is that in setting up Community Centres and asking that recreational facilities be provided here and there, we are inviting Government to do so not merely for political purposes, but for the purpose of assisting the people to educate themselves during their spare time. We want to see Centres with the type of activity from which the people can benefit.

You will find some people playing draughts, checkers, dominoes and so on in one part of the building, while in another part of the building another type of activity is being carried on or played for money. We do not want to see gambling promoted in these Community Centres. We do not want to see the type of activity that can detract from the purpose of establishing these Centres. I am urging upon hon. members that the population of New Orleans more than warrants immediate action. There is too much pressure upon the people; there is too little to be done after work, and there is nowhere for them to assemble.

Mr. Speaker, there are many other areas where you will find populations as thickly placed as in New Orleans, and it is high time that Government come here with something concrete in respect of all of these areas. Let us look at the situation in St. Peter. We have a Senior or Chief Sports Officer, and I am asking the Minister in charge of Sports to deny that Officers have made suggestions from time to time about recreational facilities for the Parish of St. Peter, and the Chief Sports Officer has turned a deaf ear on every occasion.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: Mr. Speaker, I do not deny it, but I do not know that that is so.

Mr. SPEAKER: Point very succinctly made.

Mr. HINDS: If the Minister does not deny it and his reason for not denying it is that he does not know, then what did he rise to say? To make his presence in the House felt!

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS: On a point of order, Sir. I rose to say that I could not support it.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, for the Minister to support it, it would be something beyond his knowledge. How could he support something he does not know about? He should sit down. Mr. Speaker, it is a fact that the Chief Sports Officer has had suggestions made to him time and time again about looking into the Parish of St. Peter and providing recreational facilities there as well as promoting games. (Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: "Were you present?") Mr. Speaker, I heard the Minister say, "Was I present?" That is exactly why the Chief Sports Officer can behave as he has been behaving. He would not say that in my presence, but we still have officers who are honest enough to make suggestions to the Chief Sports Officer and, when he refuses to do something that should normally be done, not to carry it about in their breasts for fear of victimisation, but to let somebody, who is interested in the Parish of St. Peter, know that recreational facilities - cricket and other games - are not supported by the Department in St. Peter not because suggestions have not been made to the Sports Department. The Sports Department get gear from the United Kingdom at a cheaper rate than if they had to buy things locally. Why is it that some of these things cannot find their way to St. Peter? What is wrong?

You will find that the Minister who is responsible for Sports is the hon. senior member in the House of Assembly representing the Parish of St. Peter. That is the awkward position in which we find ourselves. We still have to call the hon. member, at least, for the next few weeks, the Minister responsible for Sports. Another side of the picture presents itself. The Minister responsible for sports has just said he does not know, or he did not know of the accusation that I had laid. If he did not know before, he knows now. I am wondering whether he will be fair enough to investigate the matter. That is what we want done. Let the Chief Sports Officer know what has been said; let him know that we in the House of Assembly know how he has been behaving towards the Parish of St. Peter, and ask him for an explanation. Why is the Parish of St. Peter not being treated as other Parishes have been treated?

3.55 p.m.

The equipment is there and your office is ready to work. Some of your sports officers have more than a passing interest in St. Peter. It is quite different from some of the people who would like to be politicians.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, some of us in here have more than a passing interest in the people of St. Peter.

Mr. HINDS: I must have more than a passing interest, I was born there. I am not a "now come person" bringing down bundles of shingles to put on people's houses with elections around the corner. You bring along two carpenters and your shingles and nails and put them on the houses.

Mr. Speaker, let us be serious. This is a Resolution seeking to have established for the people of New Orleans certain facilities for their enjoyment and future existence, because one has got to bear in mind that when people work and can then relax they live longer. They can work better and do more the next day. You will appreciate, Mr. Speaker, that a community centre with the type of cultural activities that can uplift the people can save many a home from going on the rocks. There is some wise chap who is at home and things are not the best a particular afternoon, but some games are going on down the street and instead of remaining at home to be annoyed by somebody in the house, he goes and spends four hours at the community centre, and by the time he returns home all the fire that was blazing has died down and he can retire to have a rest.

We need a number of mini parks in Barbados. We can do, I am sure, with six mini parks in St. Peter. You do not need large areas of land, but small enclosed areas, because land is becoming scarce as you very well know in Barbados. You want small areas of land wherever available to provide swings, schutes and joy-rides so that the children from these areas can be channelled there, and you might accommodate 75, 80 or 100 children at a time. We do not have to have an area like Queen's Park with over 30 or 40 acres at all times. We have the Farley Hill National Park, but in a district like Ashton Hall you can set up a mini park, and also in Speightstown at Gill's Terrace as I have suggested where the people who live at Church Street Gardens and Church Street proper can assemble on evenings and have their fun. It would not be far from their homes, the parents would know that the children are just next door and are carefully watched and can run into little or no difficulty, and that in itself can make for the happiness of the home and for the general promotion and welfare of the children. That is the type of thing that would have to be looked into in the not too distant future.

We appreciate, Mr. Speaker, the anxiety of the hon. junior member for Bridgetown, because for many years the people of New Orleans have been denied an opportunity, and what makes this matter with respect to New Orleans one of such import is that lands have been available there and offered to the Government time and time again. Members of the present Government had given their word that they would have bought some land just to accommodate these people, and the land is there begging Government to come and take it and provide the necessary facility so that the people can live and enjoy themselves. Whatever we do, however we look at it, they are the people of New Orleans, they like their fun and they are entitled to enjoyment like anybody else in any other part of the country. They are poor people who are badly housed. We have got to look back at the fact that there was the Princess Alice Playing Field, people have been denied the use of it, but what have they been given in exchange for this? Their priority is A-one. They should have been given a playing field and recreation centre many years ago.

We are hoping, Mr. Speaker, with the passing of this Resolution we do not wait to hear that after one or two or three years negotiations have gone into progress the week before. We want to see something done now, because we feel on this side of the House that Parliament owes it to the people of New Orleans. Mr. Speaker, if one were to go through the New Orleans and see the housing conditions of some of these people, it would move some of us to tears and we would move quicker than Government proposes action in a matter of this sort to see that they are given an opportunity. It is still obtaining in this Island and the New Orleans is no exception that some of the houses are so small and congested and in such bad condition that some of the occupants have to be walking the streets at night or standing at the corners and carrying on conversations with others while the others are inside trying to get a nap. The size of the houses cannot accommodate everybody at the same time, and hon. members on that side have every right to know that that is still a fact, and we are asking, Mr. Speaker, that hon. members on that side of the House give this Resolution all the support they possibly can for it is one that is very much deserving of the consideration of each and every one of us.

4.05 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, we on this side do not deny the fact that New Orleans is a very densely populated area, we do not deny the fact that in these densely populated areas recreational facilities are to be provided for our citizens. What we however, are concerned about is that when Resolutions are brought here before this Chamber on matters such as these, no attention is drawn to the fact by the other side, no credit is given by the other side to the fact that the Government has actually improved recreational facilities in the country, and that this Government is responsible for the establishment of lots of recreational facilities. One listening to the address given by the hon. senior member for St. James would think that this Government is the most wicked Government and that it gives no consideration to the provision of recreational facilities; this is where I take issue with the other side.

Setting aside the fact that what funds are available for recreational facilities and rural amenities have got to be distributed in various directions, I would like to draw the attention of this House to certain facts. Contrary to the impression which hon. members on the other side, and one hon. member that is right now disturbing me from behind, the hon. senior member for St. James, contrary to what impression he wanted to give, I would like to draw to his attention that during the term of office of this Government we have gone to the densely populated district of Grazettes and established a playing field and community centre, we have established another playing field and community centre in another densely populated district, the Pine Housing Area, we have acquired land for the establishment of another community centre and playing field at Gall Hill in Chirst Church, we have acquired land and we have

constructed and established there a playing field and community centre at Gall Hill in St. John, we have established recreational facilities at Bath in St. John, we have acquired 14 acres of land at Blenheim in St. Michael and established there a pavilion and two cricket pitches, two football fields, facilities for netball, basketball, etc., we have acquired land at Welchman Hall, St. Thomas, and have begun work on the establishment of a playing field there, we have acquired land at Farmers and have begun work on the establishment.....

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I observe that the Minister's speech is just like a song, "we have established, we have established, we have established....."

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: But the Minister, Mr. Speaker, talks sense. The Minister will not have to get up here and abuse or refer to people as being the set aside, the castaways and that sort of thing, but he talks sense and he talks facts, therefore it is factual for the Minister to say that land has already been acquired by this Government to satisfy the densely populated area in the Welchman Hall district, and I think that the hon. senior member for St. Thomas will be very pleased about this.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, would the Minister like to tell me where the playing field at Welchman Hall that was promised three years ago is?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member really used to represent his constituency the way he ought to represent it, he would know where the playing field is, he would know that the playing field is opposite the Holy Innocents Church, and the land has been levelled. He would be able to see that there was a large outcrop of stone after pushing off some of the mould.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, the only playing field opposite Holy Innocents Church is the Church Cemetery, the hon. member has been mistaking the activities of the grave digger for the activities of the bulldozers.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, I can only conclude that the hon. member is misleading the House, because he stated that there is a playing field opposite Holy Innocents Church and the hon. senior member for St. Thomas has stated that the only thing there is a cemetery.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The hon. senior member for St. James just will not mind his own business. He came in here the other day asking questions about St. George when he does not know anything about that parish and now he is talking about St. Thomas. He is a jack of all trades and a master of none, therefore he knows nothing about these parishes. (Mr. CRAIG: I know something about St. Andrew though.) He knows nothing about St.

Andrew either, there is a song which says "you are wasting your time" and that is what he is doing in St. Andrew; he will soon be running back to St. James asking for holes.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member for St. Thomas could only be joking because he knows that work has already begun on the playing field on the other side of the road to Holy Innocents Church, he knows that the land has been levelled, he knows there was an outcrop of stone and that blasting had to be done to get it levelled, but he might have been trying to find out how much I know about St. Thomas. I know so much about St. Thomas that I know he will have to fight very hard if he is to succeed in St. Thomas again.

Mr. ADAMS: Can the Hon. Minister say why it is the playing field at Bagatelle remains not levelled, why there is no water supply to allow the clubs that use it to prepare a pitch for cricket? In fact, St. Thomas has no viable playing field at all.
4.15 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order, but a series of supplementary questions out of Question Time.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, this is the first time that I have heard the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, who is supposed to be representing St. Thomas, come to this House to make representation about the deterioration of the playing field at Bagatelle. I would have thought that the hon. member, having been here for almost five years, would have made such representation long ago. Perhaps, he might have been able to bring pressure upon those in authority to do something about the matter.

Now, the Community Centre was no use; it was worm-eaten.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, can I help him? I drew to the Government's attention that the pavilion was in a bad way in here, and I believe that the hon. member participated in the debate. I was talking about Bagatelle Playing Field for four years, and the only answer has been to take away the pavilion. From the day the Welches old scholars would not invite the hon. junior member for St. Thomas to address their Annual General Meeting, he wrote them a stinking letter and sent.....

Mr. SPEAKER: This is absolutely nothing which, even remotely or vaguely, approximates a point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is aware of the fact that the pavilion at Bagatelle, just like the Community Centre at Bathsheba, was a worm-eaten building. It was a wooden building and it had served its purpose. It has been removed, and plans are afoot to have a proper Community Centre, etc., provided there. The hon. member spoke about the levelling of the land up there. It is extremely difficult to level that Playing Field

and the hon. member knows that. You will be asking too much to level that Playing Field. The hon. member is not fair enough, and he does not display that amount of honesty of purpose to say that the Government has done a lot for the improvement of recreational facilities in this country.

Mr. Speaker, there was the acquisition of land at St. Patricks for Playing Fields and Community Centres. There was the improvement carried out at the Bay Pasture by the establishment of a proper pavilion for the people in that densely populated area. Look at the assistance given to the people at Trents - the Centre was there before - by this Government in establishing a pavilion. The hon. member does not give credit to the Government for it. (Asides) He should give credit where credit is due. (Mr. CRAIG: "It is an old house".) The hon. member talks about an old house. An old house can be made new.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, Sir. The Hon. Minister said that the Government built a pavilion at Trents, but that is untrue. It was an old house that they had on Combermere Pasture and they took it to Trents. There was no pavilion built there.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order, for the Chair to determine.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, where was he when that was carried to Trents? What did he know about it? He is merely saying what he heard; he does not know what funds were spent on the pavilion at Trents; he does not know that, although it was a wooden building, the wood in some parts of it was better than the new wood we get today. The hon. member is not honest enough to tell this House that if you went and examined that pavilion you would find that it is a stronger pavilion than you could build out of new wood today. The existing wood which was placed on that pavilion needs replacement and the old wood is still sound. I say that the hon. member should give credit where it is due. It is dishonest to say that this Government did nothing in respect of the disabishment of recreational facilities; indeed, we have done more than they have done.

Mr. Speaker, we have just got the A. D. C. to donate about four or five acres of land to a newly formed club in Shorey Village where they can establish a Playing Field. They are establishing this area by way of self-help. Hon. members ought to be aware of the fact that two weeks ago instructions were given - (Asides) Mr. Speaker, I am being disturbed by the hon. member sitting behind me. Send him outside.

Mr. SPEAKER: I ask all hon. members to listen carefully to the hon. senior member for St. Andrew and not infringe upon the Standing Order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, that is why they come in here and talk so much nonsense. They come in here and say that this or that was not done because they will not listen. When they are being educated for the first time in their lives they do not

listen, and then they come in here and talk nonsense. They are saying today that the Government have not done this and that. If the hon. member had been listening all along, he would have known that provision was made for a Playing Field at Bourne's Tenantry in Christ Church. Only two weeks ago instructions were given to a Government Department that operates bulldozers and tractors to level the land at Bourne's Tenantry for the purpose of a playing Field in that area. It is near the new St. Christopher School.

I will go further. I have already said that instructions have been given to the Ministry of Home Affairs to acquire two portions of land in St. Peter; One portion at Boscobelle and another portion at Ashton Hall. Two portions of land are to be acquired in St. Peter to provide Playing Fields, and this will be done this year. I am sure that the hon. junior member for St. Peter will not only have a mini Park at Ashton Hall but a maxi Park. He will be very happy when he goes down to Ashton Hall on afternoons to see that he can relax in a maxi Park.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Sir. Let the hon. member know that St. Peter belongs to me, and I can relax in any part of St. Peter.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.
4.25 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The hon. member forgot that whereas his party allowed discrimination to continue in this country for years in the use of the tennis courts at the Savannah, it was the Democratic Labour Party that took over the tennis courts from being operated in a discriminatory manner and opened them to the public. There is no racial discrimination in respect of the operation of the tennis courts at the Savannah today. Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is not honest enough to state that it was the Democratic Labour Party Government that spent thousands of dollars providing hard courts at University Row at the Harbour where the general public could go and play tennis night after night under flood lights.

(Asides) It was not a question of who monopolises them; it is a question that the Democratic Labour Party has made that provision for the people of this country who are interested, and no one is denied the right to go there and play tennis.

Mr. ADAMS: Can the Minister say when these hard courts on the Exhibition site at the Deep Water Harbour were constructed? Can he give us the date?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I do not remember the exact date but they were constructed during the time I was Minister of Community Development before the last election which was some time in 1964. (Mr. ADAMS: They were there before that.) Of course not. I am not talking through my hat, I dealing with plain, unadulterated facts this afternoon, because I am not here to abuse.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, the Minister is speaking as Minister, but is there any possibility of the Minister having his facts checked on this matter? I am under the impression that the courts were there but might have been opened during the Minister's time.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: No, Mr. Speaker. Money was voted in this Chamber during the time that the Democratic Labour Party has been running this country. I came here and asked for money as Minister of Community Development for the establishment of these courts at the Harbour site.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid the time for Private Members' Business has expired.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended for fifteen minutes.

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

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: On a point of order, before you suspend the sitting,.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I have already indicated the end of Private Members' Business.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: You cannot ask for a suspension and have a Resolution of this magnitude to do. If you want to vote against it, vote against it. What I am saying is if you are not going to do Government Business, I do not understand the suspension of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Private Members' Business has been concluded and the Hon. Leader of the House has moved that the sitting be suspended for fifteen minutes.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: I thought Your Honour had decreed the end of Private Members' Business..

Mr. SPEAKER: I have so decreed.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: And I move the suspension of the sitting for fifteen minutes.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Before you agree to the suspension, I am suggesting that this Resolution could be put to the vote. You can carry on for another fifteen minutes.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I have not completed my speech and I have a long time to go.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is.....

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Before you put the question, I am on my feet.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is out of order.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: If your Honour rules, Sir, I will sit, but this is a means of denying the hon. junior member for Bridgetown. . . .

The question that the sitting be now suspended for fifteen minutes was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.

On resumption:

Mr. YEARWOOD: Mr. Speaker, I observe that there is no quorum, and ask that the Bell be rung.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thank the hon. member. Let the bell be rung.

The Bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the Hon. Minister indicate what he seeks to proceed with.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Item No. 3 be taken as the first Order of the Day under Government Business.

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

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

RESOLUTION re ACQUISITION OF LAND AT St. GEORGE

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 3 is the instant order of the day, and it stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Flat Rock, St. George, for the purpose of constructing a Communal Bath and Latrine.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, this is a proposal to acquire 5,000 square feet of land for the purpose of erecting a communal bath and latrine at Flat Rock in St. George. I do not know if there are any questions hon. members wish to ask, if so, I will try to answer them.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, whenever there is anything to assist residents of any area, I am one who always likes to give it my full support; but it is now five years that I have been asking Government to acquire a piece of land at Fitts Village. The Minister of Health, a Town and Country Planning Officer, Mr. Shepherd, Mr. Lionel Harding and I went down to Fitts Village on three occasions and for over five years I have seen no Resolution to acquire any such land at Fitts Village. I am told that it is the Ministry

of Communications and Works who cannot find their labour force to build the communal bath. Fitts Village is on Highway 1, there are approximately eleven fishing boats, and there are approximately 2,000 residents in that area. The Leader of the House gave me the assurance nearly every year during the Estimates that they would do something about it. There is land going south which the Government looked at, plans were drawn up and the Minister said there were funds available, but I cannot understand why they would not do this. Quite a number of communal baths have been built now and again, and there are Resolutions to acquire land in areas. I am going to support this Resolution because whenever there is something of this nature I am always willing to support it, but I must protest most vigorously that the Government has not been fit to honour the obligation which they gave almost five years ago. This is Highway 1 which is a very busy highway and where people pass all the time, and it is sad to see young men and women using the beaches for reasons for which they should not be used because they have not got these facilities. From what I have seen it seems as though the House will be prorogued and Government would not honour their undertaking. This is my final appeal to the Minister, and I would be grateful if he would say that there are plans in the final stage for the erection of these facilities. If you cannot give them the fish shed or a mini park, you should provide them at least with the communal bath because people go to the sea or wait on the beach until the fishing boats return.

4.55 p.m.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I would like to find out from the Minister in charge what is being done relative to the erection of a latrine and bath at Branchbury, St. Joseph. The land has been lying idle for a very long time.

Mr. HOPPIN: Mr. Speaker, I am very glad that the Government is acquiring this land at Flat Rock for the construction of a communal bath. This has been done through the efforts of its representatives, and the people there will be very glad to have it, but one of the things I would like to know is how soon it will be built because very often some problems arise with the construction of these communal baths. The Government has decided to build some and some have been given out to contract, but I am hoping that this one will be done by contract because I feel that giving it out to contract will mean that it will be done much quicker than if it has to be built by the Ministry of Communications and Works. This communal bath will be sited in an area where most of the people work at plantations, they do have water around there but these communal baths in some areas are very heavily used and I do feel it is a good thing when we can prevent big men from exposing themselves on early mornings under the pipes with bathing trunks and cakes of soap. It is regrettable to see them exposing their bodies because of the lack of a communal bath, and there are some instances in the rural areas where this still exists and I hope that this will be cut out completely now that the baths are being erected. We hope that we do not see these men

exposing themselves, it is a disgrace to the community, and when this one at Flat Rock is built - I understand there is a master plan for the building of communal baths and latrines - if it is to be given to contract this master plan will have to be had from the Ministry of Communications and Works because there are many more to be built, and I hope that this plan will be made available and the statistics shown in the Press so that those people who want to submit tenders for the construction of these baths will do so and the residents of Flat Rock will get their bath in a short time.

Mr. SPRINGER: Mr. Speaker, it is very difficult to speak against the erection of communal baths especially in a society like Barbados where people have almost got accustomed to them and look forward to having these baths. I am in an awkward position in that although I do not like this system of communal baths and latrines in a day like today I have to support this resolution because at the moment the Waterworks Department has not been in my opinion doing the type of studies which it should be undertaking. I am satisfied in my mind, Mr. Speaker, that in about 15 years from now most of these communal baths and latrines are going to be dotted white elephants throughout this country, at the rate this country is progressing, even with the new middle class, not even the old middle class to which Your Honour can claim membership, looking forward to toilets and baths in their bedrooms. I think this idea of putting communal baths to accommodate certain people has got to stop at some stage, and I know of two baths in St. Michael which are very rarely used, one at the Turning and one in Layne's Gap, Brittons Hill, and the reason is that since the erection of these baths people within the area are now enjoying higher standards of living and no person is going to leave pipes in their yards and go to the communal baths.

I would advise the Government that in future when they plan to put communal baths in areas to get the Waterworks Department to do a study, and very often I am satisfied that a 3 inch main is quite sufficient to service an area, or a couple of hundred yards of 2 inch pipe in the area can accommodate those people at almost the same cost. You go in an area and put down a bath to accommodate about 100 houses and I think you are better off to advance loans to people at \$500 each and carry the same water to those people's houses. We are not prepared for this kind of thing, but I feel that in the year 1971 we have got to erase this communal bath idea from people's minds.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, as Minister responsible for Communications and Works under which most of these utilities fall, we are now providing for 12 new communal baths and latrines which are needed urgently. To do this it will take too long for the Ministry to carry out all of this work; only yesterday afternoon I had a meeting with my technical officers and we are putting out to tender for seven of these baths and latrines while the

other five will be built by the Ministry, so that within a short space of time they will be finished.

I do agree with the hon. senior member for St. Michael that the day will soon be here when there will be no need for these baths, but until that time we still have to make a certain amount of provision for them. In 1961 the average amount of water consumed in this island was something in the vicinity of 11 million gallons per day; today it is over 19 million gallons per day.

5.05 p.m.

That is due to the standard of living in the country and the amount of people who are using water. One of the things that are very surprising, Mr. Speaker, is that the average amount of water consumed by persons not having services right in their homes is about fifteen gallons per day. Within the same house, if services were provided, the average person would use about ten times as much water or 150 gallons per day. (Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: "Repeat that.") the average amount of water used by a person without services in his home is about fifteen gallons per day. If the services are carried to that person's home the average amount of water used would be increased by 10 times per person per day, that is, 150 gallons per person per day. I was very, very surprised as a Minister when I discovered this. In other words, if a home with 4 people living in it had to go to a standpost to collect water, 60 gallons of water would serve the 4 persons per day, but if the services were taken to their home they would use 10 times as much water.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. That would only be if they had the necessary modern services: a water-borne system, sewage, etc.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: If you had to go to the standpost to get the water, you would use fifteen gallons per day, but if you had the services in your home you would use 150 gallons per day per person. We have to be very careful about this matter. Another problem is the question of controlling the sewage system within certain areas in Zone 1. There are certain areas in this country where building has been restricted. We have to be very careful about this matter until plans have been decided for the entire sewage disposal in this country. We could find ourselves in a very serious position in this country in the case of an epidemic, if we allow the coral formation where the formation is permeable and water loaded with pollution filtered its way into our drinking water. P.A.H.O., W.H.O., and other organisations are considering this matter carefully. We have to use all the aid we can get from them before we can decide on a complete system for the entire Island. There is the Zone 1 area where we have to be very careful. I refer to areas close to the Belle and My Lord's Hill where we have had to restrict building in order to protect the health of the people living in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I think that the maximum amount of water we can produce in this Island is 35 million gallons, and we have to watch the position very carefully. (*Asides*) The maximum will be 35 million gallons per day, and that will be the full potential of the Island's resources. Another thing we have to be very careful with is the amount of reservoirs to receive the water. Between 1961 and the present moment we have built several reservoirs and made provisions for the storage of more millions of gallons of water than we have had before. In certain areas the pressure had to be looked after.

I agree with the hon. senior member for St. Michael that the day will come - there is nobody who will hope to eliminate these services greater than any of us on this side. I do not believe in communal baths, but we will have to make some sort of provision in the meantime. I hope it will be very soon when everybody in this Island will have a toilet and bath and nobody will have to go from where they live to a communal bath. There is still a certain amount of degradation in the society when one has to do so, but we have to live with it until we can do better. I hope to see the day when we will have in all houses toilets and baths and the necessary amenities rather than people having to leave their homes to go to them.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, a very bright day is foreshadowed for all of us, after having listened to both hon. members for the parish of St. Michael. Let us be practical, Mr. Speaker. The hon. junior member for St. Michael told us of the Island's water resources. The hon. senior member for St. Michael told us about communal baths and latrines, and told us to get rid of them or words to that effect.

Mr. SPRINGER: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I never said that. What I did say is that we cannot forever be promoting this idea of communal baths in areas, and it is time that the Government examines the situation and see if there is not a possibility of putting in mains in some of these areas to carry water to the people's home and eliminate the communal bath idea.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, get rid of the idea. That is what the hon. member said. We must get rid of the idea of these communal baths and latrines. (*Asides*) Mr. Speaker, the hon. senior member for St. James is always very humorous; he is almost as humorous as the Prime Minister at times, because he now seeks to remind me that a communal bath and latrine is better than no bath at all. He remembers that cheap labour is better than no labour at all. (Hon. J. C. TUDOR: "Is that not true?")

Mr. Speaker, when will this time be? We have heard about the improvement in the standard of living and so on when we are discussing Flat Rock, St. George, Fitts Village, St. James, and the situation at Six Men's, St. Peter. I know that in the Fire Services as well as in the Waterworks Department there is something called a female cupling and a male cupling. In the parish of St. Peter there is a male standpost

as well as a female standpost. At Six Men's the young men tell you that they leave the one that is further South for the young women to bathe under, and they bathe under the one that is further North. That is the type of situation that we are having in St. Peter. One standpost is used by the males and the other is used by the females.

5.15 p.m.

We have to be practical as I have said and ask ourselves why it is that the people of Six Men's and of Road View in the parish of St. Peter have not been provided with a communal bath and latrine. (*Asides*) I will hear a lot about Black Bess, but what progress has been made at Black Bess? Mr. Speaker, for a very long time we will have to provide these facilities. If we were to examine the cases of neglect, we would see that for us to be called upon to fulfil these gaps now, it would be too heavy a burden, and in that case we might find it more convenient to take the \$3 million that might be called for to lay new mains in certain areas. Time and again I have seen in St. George young men and women bathing under a standpipe just a few yards before you get to Redland Plantation house, and this is seen at other places, and rather than having communal baths and latrines erected as quickly as possible, we are being told that we have to get this idea of providing communal baths and latrines out of our heads.

As for the maximum supply of 35 million gallons of water per day that is the limit of our resources how long will that last us if we started using that amount? What is more, are we doing all?

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I mentioned the amount of water consumed in 1961 as being in the vicinity of 11 million gallons, and the amount used in 1971 as being over 19 million gallons. I have also said that the full amount of water that the Island would ever be able to supply as a maximum is within the vicinity of 35 million gallons. I have mentioned that 15 gallons per day is about the average amount used by a person without the services in his home, and it is about 150 gallons per person; so this is strictly dependent on how fast services are required, and I think the hon. member is a good enough mathematician to be able to work that out.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to the Hon. Minister. What we have got to look into is that our maximum supply is 35 million gallons per day, but for how long nobody apparently knows. Have we done or are we doing all that is necessary to bring the water to the surface of the earth? In other words, our big job in Barbados as the geologist Dr. Alfred Senn has told us - and we have had other surveys by other people and it is time now for another survey - is that all we need do is to pump the water out of the belly of the earth. Those are the geologist's own words.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: On a point of order, when I said 35 million gallons, I did not mean 35 million gallons on the surface, but what the shelf

would be able to produce and we would have to pump it up. We had a survey carried out a few years ago by Dr. Tulstrom, and since then we have had other surveys carried out in which we had areas plotted as Zones 1, 2, 3 and 4. To get 35 million gallons on the surface, you would have to pump it up and have reservoirs for holding it. Just as you have 19 million gallons being used today, the maximum you would ever be able to supply would be 35 million gallons per day having the reservoirs and the necessary apparatus for pumping it up. If we went over that, we would have to resort to desalination or some other means of finding water other than from the earth.

Mr. HINDS: That brings us to the point about the reservoirs. We have reservoirs at Ashton Hall in St. Peter, and residences a stone's throw away from them have got to put up with an intermittent supply of water. What purpose are these reservoirs serving? How is it that in an area where you have a reservoir, it is not properly served? What are you doing? Something is wrong with the whole engineering and mechanical set-up in the Waterworks Department, and it is time for a new survey.

As regards the question of zoning, it is time that we have the whole matter reviewed and see if we cannot relieve ourselves and ease some of the people of some of the distress they are now subjected to through zoning for over twenty years. We do not want, Mr. Speaker, to endanger the Island's water system. (*Asides*). We are discussing the purchase of land for the erection of a communal bath and latrine and we are concerning ourselves with the question of water that is used in the communal baths and latrines as against having it run directly into people's homes. The Minister brought to light the problems that arise in certain zones and made mention of Zone 1, and I am discussing the problem of water in Zone 1 and whether you want it for baths or whatever purpose.

Mr. SPEAKER: But I would still ask the hon. member not to go too far afield in this Resolution which is limited.

Mr. HINDS: I will reserve myself by the reservoirs.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: On a point of order, I would like to assure the hon. junior member for St. Peter that at present there is a team of experts in the Island looking over the entire matter of not only the Waterworks Department, but the re-organisation of the offices from management right down. It is looking into the question of Bills, etc., because there has been great pressure over the last ten years without any development even in the offices. People receive wrong bills, get their water turned off and there are complaints all the time. There is also the question of people working in the offices being abrupt and unmannerly to the clientele, and we are looking into the question of re-organisation of the entire Department, moving the offices, collecting bills and taking disciplinary action against people because it is needed.

5.25 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: Now, Sir, I wonder if the Minister can tell us if there are any geologists on the team of experts, because the Minister says they are examining from the roof to the deepest depth at the Waterworks Department. If there are no geologists we are making fun; it might be they are only looking after the administrative end of the Waterworks Department. The Minister is a good Minister and I do not want to embarrass him or anything, however we are in support of this resolution and we hope that all that has been said here will be taken into consideration, and we would like to know that not only at Flat Rock, St. George, but that Government will take into consideration the recommendations that they have had. For instance, Town and Country Planning officers have been requested in years past to carry out surveys as to the requirements of these communal baths and latrines in certain districts, and since money was voted for the purpose I would be glad to see that greater consideration be given to this matter of providing these baths and latrines communally and seeing to it that the people are served.

We have not yet reached the stage where we can refrain from doing these things, it is more incumbent upon us now to try to measure up, to fill the breach and to blot out those instances of past neglect by letting the people be served.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I will say that there is a great temptation to take this debate further than it should go, but I will say that in a couple of week's time we are coming with a very large supplementary for water, light and roads, because the programme.....

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, light for Boscobelle and Six Men's?

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: There will be ample opportunity for hon. members on both sides to put their hands in the particular pockets and pull out whatever they feel will be theirs. As Sparrow says, Mr. Speaker, everybody will get, so that on that occasion when we are providing the money for the extension of these services to study very carefully the whole water problem, but I think that what this debate has done is that it has clarified the dividing line between the Parties. Both Parties are agreed on the necessity for erecting communal baths and latrines, and whereas we on this side, as spoken by the hon. senior member for St. Michael, look forward to the day when we will not need them, the other side is telling us that we should need them for quite some time yet. I would just like to say that there is no question that at present we should provide them, and we are providing them.

In the present plan there are 36 which should be provided altogether, 12 of them in this phase and the rest perhaps in the next financial year, and these 36 will cover the most necessary places. I cannot guarantee that most of them will be finished at the same time, because in this matter as in other matters you

always have this business of choosing the site, acquiring the land and then even when you see no difficulty in choosing the site or acquiring the land you have to submit the proposals to the Town and Country Planning Office to see that their own specifications are complied with, so it is a tedious business.

Let me come to the specifics; it would be wrong of me to tell the hon. senior member for St. James that he is going to have that communal bath just there in Fitts Village, I know however a decision has been taken about it and the delay is caused by having to decide where in the general area of Fitts Village it can be sited.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, I would just like to remind the Minister that the Minister of Health along with Mr. Arleigh Shepherd said they have selected a site; all we need is action.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: You need a bit more than action because while they selected a site, the Town Planning authorities have had second thoughts, so we will have the bath somewhere in the area but not necessarily at the same place they have selected.

Mr. CRAIG: On the second occasion they went there they agreed on a site.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: One Town Planner can appoint and another one can disappoint. There is a final decision to put it in that area but not necessarily on that site, and discussions are now going on as to alternatives; I cannot put it fairer than that. The hon. senior member for St. Joseph asked about the bath at Branchbury; the decision is to construct the bath there, and I may tell the hon. member that it is one of the seven going out to tender. I am told by my colleagues of that Ministry that this will be done within the next month or so.

5.35 p.m.

I may also tell the hon. member that we have had a little difficulty. What Mr. MacMillan, a former Prime Minister of Great Britain, used to call a little local difficulty in that particular project in that representations were made to the Government not to put it on that side, but to build it somewhere else. (*Asides*) That is a fact. I know that Mr. Cox did not want it at Branchbury for some peculiar reason. (*Asides*) If the hon. junior member for St. Joseph has also made representation, I am not in a position to say. I know that Mr. Cox had made representation to the Government not to build it at Branchbury, but to take it somewhere else. The Government did not feel able to comply with Mr. Cox's request, feeling that the requirements of the people at Branchbury should be paramount; therefore, it will be in Branchbury that it will be built. I am afraid that this is all I can say on that matter.

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

COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT CHARNOCKS, CHRIST CHURCH

Mr. SPEAKER: We will now proceed to Item No. 4, which likewise 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 Charnocks, Christ Church, for the purpose of constructing a Communal Bath and Latrine.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Resolution do now pass.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, we have come to the end of Government Business for today's sitting. Hon. Members will, of course, know that I am not at this moment proceeding with the Condominium Bill, which has only been distributed to hon. members in one case, I understand, as late as today, and in most cases very early yesterday. (*Asides.*) An hon. member tells me that he has not even got his.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, did I hear the Hon. Leader of the House give notice of the Budgetary Proposals today? I know that they usually bring them in late May or early June, and I was under the impression that I heard the Hon. Leader of the House give notice of.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I cannot give any idea of what any hon. member heard another hon. member say.

Mr. CRAIG: I am asking the Hon. Leader of the House if he gave notice of the Budgetary Proposals today, Sir. That was my understanding.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I gave no intimation, but, if the hon. member is waiting for the Budget, may I tell him that whenever it does come I hope he enjoys it, because sometimes when God wants to punish us, He answers our prayers.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, that is not the case with the St. Lucy nominations.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, before I move the Adjournment, would any hon. member indicate whether he has not received his copy of the Severance Pay Bill?

Mr. CRAIG: I have mine, but this was in our Manifesto since 1966.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Do not mind what was in your Manifesto; you must mind who is doing it now and who got the first jump. We are hoping that hon. members would study the Bill during the course of this week, because we would like to start the Debate on the Second Reading some time next week.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, am I to understand that the Government proposes to start with the Condominium Bill next Tuesday? In view of the technical nature of the Bill, will the Government consider the possibility of sending it to a Select Committee?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Yes, I myself would describe it as a lawyer's Bill, and I would certainly accept a Select Committee with the proviso that if we did send it to a Select Committee, the Committee would meet and report back to the House within a week or at the most two weeks.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, our experience is that, when these technical Bills are considered in a Select Committee, one gets through them faster in the House.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until ten o'clock next Tuesday morning. We have a lot of work to do, and we should like to start at ten o'clock.

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: How can you rise on a point of order, when I am moving a Motion?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, next Tuesday the Prime Minister will be making his Budget Speech.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until ten o'clock on Tuesday next.

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

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

5.45 p.m.