
THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

THIRD SESSION OF 1966-71

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 2nd March, 1971.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 2.45 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*); Hon. G. G. FERGUSON,
(*Minister of Communications and Works*); Mr. R. St. C.
WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P.; Mr. J. B. YEARWOOD,
(*Chairman of Committees*); Mr. W. C. B. HINDS, Mr.
H. B. St. JOHN, Q.C., LL.B., (*Leader of the Opposition*);
and Mr. ELLIOTT D. MOTTLEY.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the meeting of 3rd February, 1971, I understand have been circulated, and unless there is any objection, they will be confirmed.

Hearing no objection, I declare duly confirmed the Minutes of the meeting of Wednesday, 3rd February, 1971.

The Minutes of Tuesday, 9th February, have, I am informed, been duly circulated and unless there is any objection, I declare those Minutes duly to be confirmed.

There being no objection, I so declare them.

In respect of the Minutes of Tuesday, 16th February, 1971, which I am also told have been duly circulated, in the absence of any objection, I will declare them duly confirmed.

Hearing no objection, I declare those Minutes confirmed.

Hon. K. N. R. HUSBANDS, Hon. N. W. BOXILL, Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS and Mr. BOLDEN entered the Chamber and took their seats.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, I am commanded to lay the following:-

The 1969 Bednights Survey of Hotels and Guest Houses in Barbados.

On behalf of the Hon. Prime Minister, I am commanded to lay the following:-

The Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) Order, 1971.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am Com-manded to lay the following:-

Report on the Probation Service of the Island for the period 1964-69.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:-

Report and Financial Statements of the Barbados Agricultural Development Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 1969.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I am com-manded to lay the following Statement regarding the Revision of the Laws of Barbados:

STATEMENT

During 1962 Professor O. R. Marshall, then of the University of Sheffield, agreed to undertake the task of revising and consolidating the existing Laws of Barbados, in collaboration with three other persons, Mr. W. H. C. Alleyne, Q.C., Mr. K. W. Patchett, and Mr. N. J. O. Liverpool. At the same time Messrs. Eyre and Spottiswoode Ltd., were awarded the Contract to print and bind the revised laws in six volumes.

2. The stage of progress of the Law Revision exercise is that Eyre and Spottiswoode have all but completed the printing and binding of 3 1/2 volumes, and it is estimated that the new Revised Edition of the Laws with Index, will be ready for publication within the next few months.

3. The Law Revision exercise has taken a longer time than expected by Government and the main reason can be said to be as follows:-

- (1) Mr. Alleyne and Mr. Liverpool gave up their assignments at an early stage, while Professor Marshall and Professor Patchett were both recently appointed to senior posts in the University of the West Indies, Professor Marshall as Vice Chancellor in April 1969 and Professor Patchett as Dean of Law in May 1970. The demands of those positions resulted in considerably increased incursions even before appointment, upon their research time;
- (2) the Law Revision exercise was expanded to embrace not only a standard revision and consolidation of the existing law but a wide area of law reform. In consequence, from time to time proposals have been put up and reform legislation enacted in relation to -
 - (i) criminal law, electoral offences and controversies, family law, civil law, land law;
 - (ii) in addition there are now before Government at present draft Bills on Registration of Title, Administration of Estates, Law of Property, and Trustees.
- (3) the Law Revision also coincided with what can be considered the most prolific period in the legislative history of Barbados. Not only has there been an increase in the number of statutes passed, but many of these have been major pieces of legislation capable of affecting much of the other legislation in the revision. An attempt has been constantly made as a part of the revision exercise to bring as much of the new legislation as possible into the Revised Laws.

4. Government is aware of the urgency of having the Law Revision exercise completed as soon as possible, and to this end has arranged for further legal assistance to be given to Professor Marshall and Professor Patchett.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Prime Minister, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:-

Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) Amendment) Order, 1971.

On behalf of the Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice of the following:-

Resolution to authorise the Minister of Finance to borrow from any bank or banks amounts not exceeding 10% of the estimated current revenue of the Government, in any financial year.

I also beg to give notice of the following:-

A Bill to amend the Registration (Births, Baptisms, and Burials) Act, 1891.

A Bill to amend the Affiliation Proceedings Act, 1963.

I also beg to state that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 141, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, is ready.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 140, asked by the hon. senior member for St. Thomas, is ready.
2.55 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 154 asked by the hon. junior member for St. Joseph is ready.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

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

WHEREAS the residents of Dunlow Lane, in St. Michael are in need of a playing field and a recreation centre;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House calls upon the Government to purchase land in the Dunlow Lane area to be used as a playing field and a recreation centre (pavilion) for the above mentioned residents.

QUESTIONS

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for Bridgetown, his question *re* the development of the Church Village area.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Will the Minister state what, if any, is the official Government policy, in relation to the future development of the Church Village area in the City of Bridgetown?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his question *re* Identity Cards.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware of the fact that as a result of the floods in October, 1970, a number of persons lost their Identity Cards?

Will the Minister state whether duplicate Identity Cards can be obtained and if so, what procedure must be adopted, to obtain the duplicate Identity Cards?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Peter, his question *re* recruited staff failing to take up appointments at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

How many Barbadians doctors, nurses, technicians or other staff recruited overseas between December, 1961 and November 1968 for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital failed to take up the appointment? Of those taking up the job, how many did not remain to complete the period for which they were contracted or engaged?

2. What was the total sum involved in the overseas recruitment from the placing of an advertisement to the arrival at the Institution?

3. Of those at No. 1 above, who did not remain to complete the assignment, how many were dismissed?

4. What were the reasons for dismissal in each case?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his question *re* improper housing for residents of St. Peter.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware that there are several working-class residents of the Parish of St. Peter who are improperly housed because of limited finance and other reasons?

2. Does Government intend to establish a Housing Scheme in this parish in the very near future with a view to relieving some of the distressed and other cases, by providing housing on a low-rental basis, or in any other manner which would enable tenants to become owners of the houses, they may rent under the scheme?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his question *re* inability of residents to obtain title deeds and conveyances.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware that a number of persons who took advantage of the offer of the Barbados Housing Authority to purchase the homes in which they had lived on a weekly-rental basis, have not been able to get the Title Deeds and necessary conveyancing documents, although they have completed the purchases outright and paid all expenses assigned to them?

2. What steps does Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his question *re* food supplied to patients at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware that at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, fruit cake, which was left in a broken-open press, and exposed to ants, flies, cockroaches and dust for three days, was subsequently fed to patients at the Pay Wards on instructions from a dietitian attached to the said Hospital?

2. Will Government investigate this matter with a view to ensuring that in future, nothing that is unclean and unfit for human consumption is fed to either patients at the Pay Wards or General Wards?

3. What action does Government propose taking to show its disapproval of such conduct as is complained of at No.1 above?

4. Who gave instructions on 2/1/71 to break open the press which contained the cake securely and had maintained it in a fit and proper condition since 25/12/70?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his question *re* Extra-Mural Centre at the Pine.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker.

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware that the Extra-Mural Centre at Pine, St. Michael is no longer entrusted with receiving fees from students or others who are desirous of participating in Extra-Mural Classes?

2. Will Government cause an investigation to be made in view of the inconvenience caused to prospective students and other seeking to avail themselves of Extra-Mural facilities?

3. If the change is because of administrative convenience or to perfect efficiency, will Government seek to discover why it has taken U.W.I. authorities over ten years to discover this?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his question *re* a drive-through roadway from Mount No. 1 to Mount No. 2.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

In view of the scenic importance of Mount Stepney, St. Andrew and its proximity to the St. Peter boundary, would Government take steps to enhance the panoramic viewing which the said Mount Stepney affords and take steps to provide a paved drive-through roadway from Mount No.1 to Mount No.2?

2. In view of the long suffering of the residents of the district, would Government treat as an urgent priority the provision of adequate water supply and electricity for the said area?

3.05 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his question *re* a native of Antigua receiving free secondary education at Girls' Foundation School.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware that a native of Antigua, who is by no means entitled thereto, is currently receiving free secondary education at Girls' Foundation School in this Island, thereby depriving a Barbadian girl of her rightful place in the said School?

2. If the answer to the above is in the negative, will Government investigate the right, if any, of one Cleo Athill, to a place in the said school?

3. What were the circumstances which led the Headmistress and/or the Governing Body of the Girls' Foundation School into making a decision to admit the said pupil as at No.2 above to the said school?

4. Will Government act immediately so that a Barbadian girl, who has been denied admission to the school through the presence of this native of Antigua, will be allowed to enrol without delay?

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his question *re* establishing rural public paying telephones.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

In view of the increasing importance of the telephone as a means of communication, would Government consider as a matter of some urgency, requesting the Barbados Telephone Company to institute a programme of establishing rural public paying telephones on an Island wide basis?

2. Would Government direct the company's attention to such densely populated areas as may have made application to the Company in the past for subscribers supply services, as in the case of a number of persons residing at Boscobelle, Baltic, Risk, St. Peter - and any such like area with a view to having such area first served in the programme to be initiated provided it is convenient to the Company?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for Bridgetown, his question *re* the placing of street lights in the Dunlow Lane area.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Will the Minister give the necessary instructions for the placing of street lights in the Dunlow Lane area, in the parish of St. Michael?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Thomas, his question *re* money spent in establishing the dairy in St. Andrew.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the Minister of Agriculture:-

How much money was spent in establishing the dairy in St. Andrew operated by the Agricultural Development Corporation?

How many cows were imported?

How many cows have died?

Is the dairy now a viable unit?

How does the performance of this dairy compare with that of other dairies in the Island, Government and private?

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Registration (Births, Baptisms, and Burials) Act, 1891, be now read a first time.

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

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

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Affiliation Proceedings Act, 1963, be now read a first time.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: It is now Question Time. Question No. 140 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas.

FLOODING OF HIGHWAYS

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the Minister for Communications and Works:-

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?

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

"1. Yes, Sir.

2. The problem has been aggravated by -

- (a) the current building and development boom which has caused increases in the volumes of surface and drainage water and domestic water;
- (b) the construction of new roads and macadamising of others;
- (c) the construction of the Bridgetown Harbour above the level of Fontabelle and Lakes Folly which has caused a rise in the water table in city areas."

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, as a supplementary question

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I cannot hear the hon. member. (*Asides.*)

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry that the hon. junior member for St. Thomas is being heard louder than the senior member for St. Thomas.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. There is a lot of bad behaviour in the Gallery. The Marshal has asked somebody to leave the Gallery, and he has refused to do so. That is what I am talking about, and I am asking that the Marshal be granted the assistance of the Police to put out that person.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Marshal is well aware that he is entitled to the assistance of the Police, and he does not need the Chair to tell him that.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member could have adopted a different procedure. He cannot draw attention to one person in the Gallery.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: What do you know about it? Why do you not sit down?

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker must rule one way or the other. I am asking if there is a proper way of doing it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am saying that the Marshal is well aware of his duties, and I have confidence in the efficient manner in which he will perform them with the assistance, if necessary, of the Royal Barbados Police Force.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister state if he will lay down new specifications for road and pavement building and re-instatement as asked in my question? (*Asides*)

Mr. SPEAKER: Members not addressing the Chair will please observe the relevant Standing Order. I want to hear only the hon. member for St. Michael, the Minister.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, for the information of the hon. senior member for St. Thomas a request has been submitted to the United Kingdom Government for technical assistance to carry out a comprehensive survey of the Island's drainage system.
3.15 p.m.

The terms of reference in respect of the drainage survey are as follows:-

- (a) To review the urban drainage system of Bridgetown and submit recommendations in relation to -
 - (i) The main storm water drainage from the South-Western area which forms tributaries into the Constitution River which is the main outlet into the sea. Division of this storm water drainage into outlets other than the Constitution River should also be investigated.
 - (ii) The large outfall drain on the edge of the Harbour Industrial Area connected to the Pump House at Princess Alice Highway which receives storm water from the Emmerton and other tributary drains.
- (b) (i) To investigate and make recommendations for the canalisation of all outfall drains from Speightstown in the West and along the South-West and South Coasts up to Oistins;
- (ii) To design "sea heads" to prevent or alleviate the blocking of these outfall drains with sand from the sea (when rough) and with the tide at flood.
- (c) To investigate the beach erosion around the coasts of Barbados and to formulate

proposals for the siting, and design of groynes or seawalls to counteract this erosion.

- (d) To investigate and make recommendations for the siting of re-charge wells which would not only assist in storm water drainage, but also augment supplies of ground water aquifers.
- (e) To submit alternative proposals if it is considered that the above-stated problems may be solved in different ways.

Mr. ADAMS: I thank the Minister for his answer and for all the assistance he has given over the last two years, when we personally discussed this problem, and may I assure him from our side that in due course we would be glad to put the Commission's recommendations into effect.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid that the supplementary was so subtle I could not appreciate it.

Anyhow, Question Time has expired and we now proceed to Private Members' Business.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: May I have an intimation from the Hon. Leader of the Opposition that which it is sought to be proceeded with first, under Private Members' Business.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, there is a matter which affects the employees of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank. As far as we are concerned, it is non-controversial, and I wonder if we could do that first. It is No. 12.

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1971

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 12 stands in the name of the hon. senior member for St. Joseph, and it is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1943.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, this Bill is noncontroversial and all the members are acquainted with its contents, and so I respectfully beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. St. JOHN: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on the Bill. (Asides)

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, this is a public Bill which has been printed.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, this is an amendment to a Bill. It is a public Bill and it has not been the custom to send such Bills to Select Committee. If the hon. member has not said it, this is an amendment to a Bill which is already in existence and he is doing this on behalf of the establishment.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, as Minister of Agriculture, it may be well for me to advise the House that I am currently looking at certain aspects of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, and I think that what amendments are contemplated could be discussed when we are doing this Bill in Committee and have one approach to the amendment to the Act at the same time. I would suggest that the Bill go to Select Committee and have one bite at it rather than having two bites at amending the same Act in the same year.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be sent to Select Committee.

Mr. St. JOHN: I beg to second that.

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

3.25 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would invite the following hon. members to serve on this Committee:

The hon. senior member for St. Andrew
The hon. junior member for St. John
The hon. senior member for St. Philip
The hon. junior member for St. Andrew
The hon. senior member for St. Joseph
The hon. senior member for Bridgetown
The hon. junior member for St. Joseph.

Those hon. members, I gather, are willing to serve on this Select Committee, and I hereby declare them appointed.

Mr. ELIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Item No. 16 be the next Order under Private Members' Business.

Mr. HINDS: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: When debate on this matter was adjourned, the hon. senior member for St. Andrew, I gather, had completed his address.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, ...

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Peter caught my eye.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Is he seconding the amendment?

Mr. SPEAKER: As I said, the hon. junior member for St. Peter had caught my eye. I fully appreciated that an amendment has been made.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, ...

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment has been moved but has not been seconded.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for our part it might never be seconded, we are not interested in that.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member may.....

Mr. HINDS: We do not have to give way for that amendment to be seconded.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Peter did catch my eye first but that does not, and I so rule, prejudice the seconding of the amendment.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to hear the point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Am I to understand from your ruling that I proposed an amendment to the Resolution and now the hon. junior member for St. Peter has got to speak before the amendment is seconded? On what is the hon. member going to speak now?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member will speak only on the original motion.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: And then he can speak again on the amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is correct.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am young in this Chamber, 10 years old, and it is within my knowledge that this is the first time that this has happened in this Chamber. I am saying what is within my knowledge, I am not concerned with what is within somebody else's knowledge.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member continue with his point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The point is that this is the first time this has happened; ever since I was in here, any time an amendment was made to a particular resolution it was allowed to be seconded and any further speeches were made on the amendment to the Resolution and not on the substantive Resolution.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, if the amendment never got a seconder, nobody could carry on the debate on the Resolution; that is a joke. Mr. Speaker, they are wasting Private Members' time.
3.35 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I am submitting that this Amendment ought to be seconded. I remember distinctly that the hon. junior member for St. Lucy gave way to me to move the Amendment, reserving his right to second it. I submit that Mr. Speaker ought to allow the Amendment to be seconded. (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: "Mr. Speaker, do something!") Mr. Speaker, I wait your Ruling on my point of order.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to take one point of order at a time. I am taking the hon. senior member for St. Andrew's point of order. It is my Ruling that the hon. member who caught my eye first, after I had looked in the direction of the hon. senior member for St. Andrew and inquired whether he had completed his speech and he intimated that he had - was then sitting over there - I looked across and the hon. junior member for St. Peter caught my eye and, accordingly, he is entitled to speak.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House has risen on a point of order. I will hear him, and then I will hear the hon. senior member for Bridgetown.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, are you not going to give me the same method of Ruling as you have given the Leader of the House?

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, my point of order is that this Motion was moved by the hon. and learned senior member for Christ Church on the 26th January, and it was seconded by the hon. senior member for St. James. When time had expired I moved, seconded by the hon. Minister of Agriculture, that further consideration of the Resolution be postponed. When we resumed on 2nd February, I gave way to the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, reserving my right to speak. The hon. Minister of Agriculture has concluded his speech, and I am asking whether Your Honour should not first call on me to take the place which I had reserved for myself before the debate continues. That is what I wish to know from Your Honour.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member reserved his right to speak, and he is thereby entitled to speak, having reserved that right. The hon. member did not catch my eye before the hon. junior member for St. Peter, but the reservation of his right to speak stands.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: I had promised the hon. senior member for Bridgetown that I would hear his point of order after I had heard the Hon. Leader of the House's point of order.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: I am hearing the hon. senior member for St. Andrew. I will hear his point of order, and immediately thereafter I will hear the point of order of the hon. senior member for St. James.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am asking for guidance as a result of the Ruling of the Chair. If an hon. member moves a Motion during the debate on a Resolution that the Resolution be amended, does not that Motion take precedence over the substantive Motion? I see nothing in the Standing Orders governing that point. The reason I ask for guidance is that if an hon. member, who does not propose to second the Amendment, is allowed to speak, then it means that he can speak on the original Motion and speak again when the Amendment is seconded. Let us look at the farce in that. The hon. senior member for Christ Church moved the substantive Motion ...

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

Mr. SPEAKER: Let the hon. member complete his point of order which, I assume, is near conclusion.

Mr. CRAIG: That is nonsense.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. senior member for Christ Church would be in a position to speak three times on this Motion. 3.45 p.m.

If the hon. senior member for Christ Church has the right of reply and then the right to speak on the amendment, he would have had three opportunities to speak, and this would be breaking new ground and creating a precedent in this House. I want to know what May's says on a matter like this.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, you have ruled that I caught your eye.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have given my ruling on this point.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I am not questioning your ruling.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will also give the undertaking to the hon. member and to the House that I will put it in writing before we meet again.

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

Hon. N. W. BOXILL and Mr. HINDS rose.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. James has risen on a point of order.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, you have ruled that I caught your eye and I am going to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. James has risen on a point of order.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, at our last sitting, the hon. senior member for St. Andrew gave notice of a Resolution. It has not been tabled neither has it been circulated. I am going to ask Your Honour to give a ruling on this. I am confident it could not have been seconded because it has not been circulated and therefore we cannot debate it.

Mr. SPEAKER: My ruling is that it is entirely debatable. (A VOICE: What is debatable?) The amendment can be debated when it is seconded.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: That is the whole bone of contention. The whole bone of contention is that we are saying that we ought to second our amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not saying that that could not be done or should not have been done, but the hon. member who first caught my eye is entitled to speak.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, I have been in here for quite a long time and whenever an amendment is moved, I think it is the duty of the Chair to see that it is seconded at the earliest possible moment. It could not have been seconded while the member was speaking, but he should have given way and allowed it to be seconded with the member seconding reserving the right to speak. This is a contentious matter which is being debated for many long weeks.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, why don't you rule and let me address the Chair? It is nonsense now.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I am just trying to assist. Whenever an amendment is moved, I think it is the duty of the Chair to see that it is seconded as quickly as possible, and have it regularised, otherwise we will have confusion. Unless this is done, Your Honour will not know whether a member is speaking on the original motion or the amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not concur with the hon. junior member for Christ Church that it is the duty of the Chair to await a seconder. Normally the seconder catches one's eye almost before the hon. mover has sat down. I have given my ruling and I have undertaken to give it in writing fully before the next meeting of this House.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: On a point of order, I just want to clarify something. Am I to understand that if the hon. junior member for St. Peter speaks now he is entitled to speak again on the amendment? If

you were saying that the answer to that is "yes", I am saying that the answer is "no" because if you look at Standing Order No. 26 (17) you will see that a member who has spoken may speak again when a new question has been proposed by the Speaker, such as a proposed amendment or a motion for the adjournment of the debate or a dilatory motion. If the hon. member has not spoken already, he can only speak on the amendment; he cannot speak on the substantive Resolution and then speak on the amendment. The only two persons who can speak would be the Leader of the Opposition and the hon. senior member for St. James.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I am begging you to stop hon. members from making a mockery of the Chair.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, this seems to be a very controversial issue, and I do not think that in the interest of goodwill it should continue in this manner. I therefore beg to move that this sitting be suspended for twenty-five minutes so that.....

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: On a point of order....

Mr. SPEAKER: I want it to be perfectly clear that I have given my ruling as to the present issue; but I have promised hon. members that I will give it in writing for future guidance or otherwise or for future reference or otherwise before the next meeting of this House. I have given my ruling that the member who first caught my eye is the member who is entitled to speak.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I was on a point of order and I was making a motion.....

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, ...

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am on a point of order, and I am making my point.

Mr. HINDS: Another eight days will make a year

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Nothing can stop me from making my point.

Mr. HINDS: in which I drew to the attention of the Honourable House on motion for the adjournment

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

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order,.....

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker,.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Andrew is making a further point of order. May I hear that point?

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am not questioning your ruling, but I am stating the facts as

they are. I have been present in this Chamber on more than one occasion

3.55 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. senior member for St. Andrew has made his point; I appreciate that he says he is not questioning my ruling, but I am pointing out to the hon. member that he has made the point and it is not a point of order. It is not a point of order to make a speech or an address as to precedence of what has happened before in one's recollection or experience.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, Sir,.....
(Loud Asides)

Mr. SPEAKER: Let me hear the point.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: The point I am making is that you can determine whether it is a point of order or not after you have heard my point.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have ruled that the next person entitled to speak on this is the hon. member who caught my eye.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: But, Mr. Speaker, I am on a point of order. Whilst I do not question or would not attempt to question your ruling on a particular point, the people of St. Andrew put me in here and the only people who can move me, are the people of St. Andrew. (Loud Asides.)

Mr. SPEAKER: Hon. members not addressing the Chair must please observe the Standing Orders. I would remind the hon. senior member for St. Andrew that Standing Order 36(1) states: "The Speaker or the Chairman, after having called the attention of the House or of the Committee to the conduct of a Member who persists in irrelevance or tedious repetition either of his own arguments or of the arguments used by other members in debate may direct him to discontinue his speech." I fully appreciate that it may be said that the hon. member rose and said "on a point of order", but the hon. member, I am afraid, is making a speech. I cannot rule but otherwise.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I got up on a point of order and before I could make my point, hon. members on the other side told you to make me sit down.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will give the hon. member a moment to take the point but not to make a speech.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, let us take a hypothetical case where I got up and moved that this House be now suspended for half an hour. (Loud Asides) This has happened on several occasions.

Mr. SPEAKER: I cannot accept the motion on a point of order.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, three weeks ago when the hon. member moved that further

consideration of this be postponed, he got up on a point of order and so did it. I have seen in here any time that the House is to be suspended or a motion is moved in here it is moved on a point of order that the House be suspended. The point I am making is that if I got up on a point of order and moved that the House be suspended, what would be the Speaker's position? Would he enquire if somebody seconded it or would he go on with the debate?

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has made his point, but as for now my ruling stands that the hon. member who caught my eye is entitled to speak.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, another eight days will mark one year on which I took opportunity to draw to the attention of this Hon. House the state of affairs as they then existed between the Barbados Marketing Corporation and the Barbados Seafoods Limited, and particularly with reference to some 300 odd workers who were employed by Barbados Seafoods. It was the plight of the workers that caused me to take the action I took then on the motion for adjournment, but, Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have had it from the mouth of the hon. senior member for St. Andrew who has been at pains to put his point, and he tried his best to lay it on in the way he thought that he should; I do not blame him. The hon. senior member for St. Andrew tells us that shrimping in Barbados.....

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, the hon. member just referred to the speech I made in here on the amendment to the Resolution; how can you allow the hon. member to refer to my speech on the amendment to the Resolution if you do not allow the amendment to be seconded?

Mr. SPEAKER: It is out of order to refer to anything other than the original motion at this stage, and that is the only motion now before the House. The only way any hon. member may refer to the amendment is if he gives way for someone to second the amendment, and that person to whom he gives way reserving the right to speak.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, one salient point comes to my mind, and it is that Mr. Schofield has been made out as the villain of the piece.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is referring to what I said on the motion for the amendment to this Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is not entitled to refer to the amendment.
4.05 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: It has also been said that Mr. Schofield treated black people like dogs.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. It is obvious that the hon. member is replying to the speech I made in moving the Amendment to the substantive Motion. Everything that the Opposition says now will have to be in respect of the

Amendment. This is the situation in which we now find ourselves. The point is that opportunity ought to be given to members on this side of the House to reply. (*Asides*) We do not want to stifle any debate.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, is this a point of order?

Mr. SPEAKER: I appreciate the point that the hon. senior member for St. Andrew has made. There can be no reference - I want to make that perfectly clear - but I cannot prevent any member addressing me on the Motion which is before the House. If a member tries to get around my Ruling that the Amendment may not be discussed, he has to do it very, very astutely. He must make no reference at all to the Amendment, or to any of the terms or sections or contents of the Amendment, but he is entitled to speak on the Motion which is before the House.

May I add this point, too. In fairness to everyone, I shall not conceal that I regard this Motion before the House as one where under Standing Order No. 27 there is a right of reply wherein -

"A Minister may conclude a debate on any motion which is critical of the Government, or reflects adversely on or is calculated to bring discredit upon the Government or a Government Officer."

I have considered this matter in anticipation and, if the question arises as to the right of reply, my Ruling will be, and it is fair to all hon. members on both sides to understand what my Ruling will be, if I am alive and here, and it is that I regard this as reflecting adversely on or calculated to bring discredit.....

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, you are Ruling prematurely; you have not heard both sides of the story.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not Ruling; I am pointing out and saying that I regard this as a Motion which comes under Standing Order No. 27 (2). I am not Ruling; the question may not arise.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, let me continue my address. Mr. Schofield, it has been said, is a Negro-hater. I want to tell this Honourable House that there is no person in this Island who has been closer or who has enjoyed a healthier association with Mr. Schofield than one who, we know, has never been ashamed of being called a black man or a negro. I know he is proud of it, and I speak with reference to the hon. junior member for St. Michael.

Now, my reason for saying that, is that all of this talk about Mr. Schofield being a Negro-hater is merely a red herring. I have carried out some investigations for myself in this matter, and it is known that herrings and shrimps do not stay together.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. You have sat in that Chair and listened,

and I think you have done so attentively as it is your duty to do, to the address which I gave on the Amendment to the Resolution. The hon. member is, tactfully, trying to get around replying to my address, and I feel that he ought to do it in the right manner. I moved the Amendment and spoke on it. What the hon. member is referring to, is part of the contents of my address.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, how often are you going to allow the hon. member to obstruct the business of the House?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not conceding that there is an obstruction, but I am pointing out that, so long as there is no reference either to the Amendment or to any of the terms of the Amendment, a member may proceed. I would counsel the hon. member to concentrate on the substantive Motion as if he had never heard the Amendment.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, what I am saying is that the Barbados Seafoods Limited operated in Barbados from.....

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, may I draw your attention to the fact that we do not have a quorum.

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

(The bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.)

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, we understand that the Barbados Seafoods Limited had been operating in Barbados for approximately five years. One thing has happened and it is that the hon. junior member for St. Michael was regarded by the workers at Barbados Seafoods Limited as their shepherd, and had there been any room for complaint at any time, the relationship that existed between the hon. member and a fair percentage of the workers employed by Barbados Seafoods Limited, any grievances they had, would been known to the hon. member. Is it not strange, Mr. Speaker, for us to find that, after five years of operation, it is at an hour such as this that we hear all sorts of things being said about Barbados Seafoods Limited?

4.15 p.m.

One of the things that has not been made publicly known about the Barbados Marketing Corporation is that the lawyers who were employed to advise the Barbados Marketing Corporation how to negotiate out, Barbados Seafoods were themselves forming a company to negotiate in, with the Barbados Marketing Corporation. In other words, if negotiations had gone on with Barbados Seafoods until this very day, there could not have been any satisfactory conclusion for the simple reason that the lawyers employed by the Barbados Marketing Corporation to advise them how to get the best for the Corporation were themselves acting in a manner not to get the best for the Corporation but to get something for themselves as lawyers, because they were forming a company and doing the undermining work. That is why you will find that Senator Maurice King who was employed.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I will remind the hon. member of Standing Order No. 26(9) which says "The conduct of members of either House of the Legislature, Judges, or the performance of judicial functions by other persons shall not be referred to except upon a substantive motion. The hon. member has spoken of a Senator which implies a member of the Legislature. The hon. member must not make any further reference to any member of the Other Place except on a substantive motion.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I cannot challenge your ruling, but it is merely a matter of Your Honour reading a Rule and understanding and interpreting it, and Your Honour is an equal representative with hon. members on the question of interpretation, because this Rule only tells us that we cannot refer to the conduct of a member of the Other Place, which simply means that you cannot refer to his conduct as a legislator.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not so interpret it. I interpret it to refer as generally as it is written. The conduct is general and not specific. I will ask the hon. member to discontinue.

Mr. HINDS: It so happened that the lawyers who were to advise the Barbados Marketing Corporation were themselves setting up a company to oust Barbados Seafoods so that they could not get any further in Barbados.

Now, Sir, it has been represented that local captains did not get equal pay with the foreign captains, but my own experience about that is many Barbadians had been recruited to work on these boats, and they foolishly and ignorantly said that shrimping was a dirty business. They expected to go out shrimping and come back in with clean hands, but the foreign crew jumped into the business because they wanted money out of it; so that when their pay-off time came one would find that the crew which had worked harder got better payment than those who said it was dirty business. These are things which must be made known in the whole exercise where Barbados Seafoods is concerned.

Sir, the strange thing about Barbados Seafoods and its bad handling of business, bad treatment of workers and all that is that even until just a few months ago the Directors of the Barbados Marketing Corporation attempted to carry out further negotiations with the same badly operating Barbados Seafoods. This is a bad company, it did not pay the Barbados Marketing Corporation enough money, it did not do anything, but what we do know is that it loaned the Barbados Marketing Corporation

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, the Barbados Marketing Corporation carried out further negotiation with Barbados Seafoods after they were assured by the principals of Barbados Seafoods that they would have got rid of Schofield.

Mr. SPEAKER: Point of order succinctly made.

Mr. HINDS: Now, Mr. Speaker, what we have got to say on this matter is simply that all in all, it has now been established world-wide that however well laid or well established any business might be in Barbados, its foundations stand shaky and threatened as long as the Prime Minister of this country and his friends want a hold of that business. That is what has come to light from Barbados Marketing Corporation and Barbados Seafoods Limited, Bajan Seafoods Limited and this whole dirty and messy exercise.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: On a point of order, the Opposition is always claiming that you are to protect the Opposition. Here it is you are sitting there and allowing the hon. member to impute improper motives to a member of the Chamber and you have not drawn it to his attention.

Mr. SPEAKER: Would the hon. member tell me the words to which he has taken exception?

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The words to which I am taking exception are that the hon. member said -and I use the word "Honourable" advisedly - that as long as the Prime Minister and his friends cannot get a half share in some business, people are suffering under some sort of trepidation. How can you allow the hon. member to say that?

Mr. SPEAKER: If the hon. member said that, I rule that this is a contravention of Standing Order No. 26 (7): "No Member shall impute improper motives to another Member." I will ask the hon. member to withdraw that.

Mr. HINDS: Withdraw what? I made no imputation.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will get the exact words. 4.25 p.m.

The words are as follows: "Mr. Speaker, what we have got to say in this matter is simply that all in all it has now been established world-wide that however well laid or well established any business might be in Barbados, its foundation stands shaky and threatened as long as the Prime Minister of this country and his friends want a hold of that business." It is my ruling that these words in so far as "well established any business might be in Barbados, its foundation stands shaky and threatened as long as the Prime Minister of this country and his friends want a hold of that business", specifically contravene Standing Order 26 (7) and I ask the hon. member to withdraw those words.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, am I to withdraw those words if I mean that the Prime Minister and his friends want to take hold of that business for the benefit of the country?

Mr. SPEAKER: I ask the hon. member to withdraw the words as they stand. He may go on to clarify his meaning, but the hon. member must withdraw those words.

Mr. HINDS: I will withdraw those words.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid the time for Private Members' Business has now expired and we will proceed with Government Business.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Private Members' Business be extended for one hour.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I beg to second that.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: That motion can only be entertained if the appropriate Standing Orders were suspended earlier in the day.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is my ruling, that has been my ruling, it is my ruling and it has only been an exception if both sides, Government and Opposition, have agreed and the matter had not been contentious.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Am I to understand that that motion can only be put with leave of the House?

Mr. SPEAKER: This is now time for Government Business.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: They cannot move a motion in Government Business, that can only be done by Government.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, my motion has been moved and seconded.

Mr. SPEAKER: That motion is not in order. I promised the hon. junior member for St. George that he may give his question at the end of Private Members' Business; I gave the hon. member that assurance (*Loud Asides.*)

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: On a point of order, Sir, ...

Mr. SPEAKER: This is an established precedent that if an hon. member asked leave of the Chair to give notice of a question - and I have done so in the case of members of both sides - and I gave the hon. member my word and I stand by my word.

Mr. HOPPIN: Mr. Speaker,

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Is Government aware that due to the location of the existing recreation centre and playing field at Ellerton in St. George and the great request and outstanding claim by numerous Sports Clubs, that the youth and sports participants of St. Augustine, St. Helen's, Flat Rock and Bourne's Village are handicapped because no such facility exists for them?

Will Government purchase from Locust Hall in St. George six (6) acres of land ideally suited for a playing field and within easy access to the above mentioned district and construct thereon a recreation centre which would satisfy this deficiency?

2 To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware of the unsatisfactory condition of the drains and gutters leading from St. Augustine's Church on to St. Helen's in the parish of St. George?

Will these gutters and drains be weeded out and waste matter removed so as to prevent the breeding of mosquitoes and flooding when it rains?
4.35 p.m.

Hon. J. C. TUDOR: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Item No. 2 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.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE
TO MR. MICHAEL SIMMONS OF LAND
AT THORNHILL, St. JAMES

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 2 stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House, and it is to resume debate on a Resolution to approve the lease to Mr. Michael Simmons of a parcel of land at Thornhill, St. James. When this matter was last discussed, the hon. senior member for St. Thomas had spoken, and the hon. senior member for Bridgetown resumed his speech with leave, and the hon. senior member was speaking when he moved, seconded by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, that further consideration of the Resolution be now postponed. The hon. senior member for Bridgetown may now continue his address, if he so desires.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, it is so easy to have copies of this plan made and circulated among hon. members. *At this stage a copy of the plan was handed to the hon. member.* Mr. Speaker, I visited the site, and, from the sketch of the plot of land shown here, I am beginning to feel, contrary to the Government, that the Government are charging too much money for this land. I honestly feel so, and I am satisfied that the Government are not losing any money in this matter. If I were leasing this land, I would have bargained for a lower price. I am going to support the passage of the Resolution, although it is my opinion that, instead of \$1,800 a year, it should have been \$1,200 a year. The land will be enhanced in value, and he will be the person spending the money on it and so on. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: "On the last occasion they said that we were not charging enough, and we were giving the land at cheap rental to our friend!")

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I visited the site on Monday last.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, is the hon. member making a speech? (Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: "I gave way".)

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I am now enjoying my right and privilege to speak on this Resolution.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member said that he gave way.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not listen to asides.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I visited the site on Monday last and, although there was no rain, that particular area was swampy. The point is that the land does not reach as far as the Public Road; it is in the back. Another thing is that there is a drainage system and a pipe runs adjacent to the land. There is also a sort of right of way in the area. I am in agreement with the hon. senior member for the City that, if I had to rent that land, I would not have paid that sort of money for it. It is not worth what we are charging for it. He is one of the most efficient and knowledgeable valuers in this country. I feel, personally, that the man is being robbed.

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I cannot allow this Resolution to pass on, so easy today. To begin with, this Resolution was postponed for the purpose of giving us an opportunity to see the plan, because there was a possibility that the land would have been more than 9,072 square feet.
4.45 p.m.

This Resolution was postponed to see an up-to-date plot because there was a possibility that the land would be more than 9,000 square feet. Now the person who asked for this plot has told us today that the Government is robbing this man by charging too much.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I object. The hon. member must take that back. He has accused me of improper motives. I may have said that, on another occasion but not on this occasion. I said it is not worth the amount of money.

Mr. SPEAKER: To what has the hon. senior member for Bridgetown objected? Is the hon. senior member for St. Joseph accusing the hon. senior member for Bridgetown of robbing somebody?

Mr. SMITH: No. I did not. Sir, if I charge you too much for a job, I am robbing you.

The Addendum says that the land is to be used as a beach facility for the Lessees proposed apartment hotel and will be landscaped and developed to include a public car park and right of way to the sea. Sir, this land is not to build a hotel on; it is for a car park, and I feel that the Government should do everything possible to keep the land value of this country down. I agree with the hon. senior member for Bridgetown that when you charge Mr. Michael Simmons so much for a car park, he would have to charge rates to suit his expenditure. I am not a hotelier, but it is said that the hotel rates are too high in this country, and we would get a lot more tourists coming to this country, but the rates are

too high. The Government should do everything possible to encourage a project of this sort.

Mr. Speaker, I take it that Mr. Michael Simmons is a black man, and he should be congratulated for trying to push his nose in between the big shots in St. James. Very soon you will not be able to get one square inch of land in St. James, and the Government should try to keep the price down by setting an example here today and not going by the Opposition. The remarks of some members of the Opposition are trying to press Government into believing that they are giving away this land to Mr. Michael Simmons. I was made to believe that the Government was giving this land away. This is one of Lizzy's black children trying to poke himself between the big shots. In other words, the Opposition is saying that this man has no right between the people down there putting up an apartment hotel, and wants the Government to wipe him off the map by charging him more money for this site. We should encourage projects of this sort so that any one of Lizzy's black children can go there and have a time like the big shots from overseas who pay \$U.S. 200 per day. You are either encouraging this man to go out of business or to fleece the people as usual. (*Asides*) So long as you have something to save, you are a conservative. When I hear these nonsensical crackpots talking, it does not worry me. This is the time when Government should encourage more black people to come into this business and put up these apartment hotels in order to bring down the price. I do not think that any one of us in here apart from you, Sir, and the hon. senior member for Bridgetown can go down there and take a room in St. James even for an hour because rates are so high. I would take it that Mr. Michael Simmons would be coming into the business to show the big hoteliers in this country that they can bring the rates down and encourage more people to come into the country.

Sir, the price of land is too high in this country. You have rock land and grassland bringing more money than land that is productive, and nobody is saying anything about it. Here the Opposition is saying that this land is too cheap, because you are renting 9,000 square feet of land for \$150 a month. A poor man in this country cannot get a piece of land, and Government should set an example by making this as reasonable as possible so as to encourage other people to buy land, set up apartment hotels and do business like anyone else. I am sure that land that was bought at \$500 per acre a few years ago is today bringing \$1.00 per square foot. This is high class robbery. Today one has to pay \$12,000 for a quarter of an acre of land that formerly cost \$200 or \$300. The Opposition is saying that \$150 a month as rent for 9,000 square feet is too cheap. The man is not even buying it; he is renting it for a car park for my car and your car. However, there are land sharks looking for all the rab land and rock land at five shillings and \$2.00 a square foot to sell at exorbitant prices and I hope the Government will bring in land valuers and stop this land racket. It suits the real estate people because their commission will be very large.

4.55 p.m.

I am sure that if the Government will do its duty now as far as fixing the price of land is concerned, and send in valuers, they will have to come up by me and help reap the crop, but it is this big thing that has the real estate men begging people to sell stone. How on earth could you sell stone at \$2.00 a square foot? Here today you are telling us that this is 9,000 square feet to be leased for a period of 25 years at a rental of \$1,800 per annum which is \$150 per month; if the Government is getting that, the Government cannot say anything if I have a piece to sell and I charge \$1.20 or \$1.50 per square foot. The cost of living today is too high; the Hon. Minister tackled the cars, let him tackle the land now. A man was telling me, he was only too glad to sell out his land and he was told that he cannot sell less than four-acre lots. This is not good enough, not many poor people will be able to buy four acres of land at the same time, but I know they might already have enough tucked away under the bed that would buy a quarter of an acre. Sell that to them, Lizzy's black child wants a piece of land too, so let us go and buy a piece at Atlantic Shores or anywhere else and let Lizzy's black child get up there too.

This is a black Government; I have not even heard the black power men saying anything about this land value, because the black power men want money too and will rob and cheat and do anything for a dollar bill. I say the black power men will rob; if you are one I would tell you too. (*Asides*) Mr. Speaker, the majority of black power men are growing beards, you are not growing any, I am not growing any, the hon. senior member for the City is not growing any. Mr. Speaker, I am getting a lot of interruptions from hon. members who are trying to throw me off my stride; I am alone and I need your protection.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member will get it; hon. members not addressing the Chair should not make the hon. member addressing the Chair unable to hear himself.

Mr. SMITH: We have had such a long debate on this Resolution that I am wondering if after all has been said and done, the hon. senior member for the City made a point and was right, and I would like to know if it is only because it is Mr. Michael Simmons that we had such a long and strong debate on this Resolution. I would like to know if it was a white man, if there would have been so much debate on this Resolution for 9,072 sq. ft. of land at \$150 per month; if it was my land and I was getting that amount for it, I would feel happy, and I would have to utilise the same land, put a building on it, spend not less than \$40,000 on it and then rent it out for the same \$150 or \$200 a month. This is the land alone, and then one would have to use up the same bit of land, put a building on it; in other words, his capital cost might be about \$50,000 and then to get \$200 or \$150 per month for the entire building, so in my opinion Mr. Michael Simmons is getting hit hard with this price. It is the example the Government has set, and the Government must be so afraid of the Opposition that they pushed the price up here knowing what

would happen by the Opposition saying that, but I would act according to my conscience and not by the Opposition.

When the Hon. Minister in charge of this Resolution replies, I may be told that the Government did not have any say in the matter, that was the offer Mr. Michael Simmons made. He knows he wants to do business like anybody else, and rather than these people coming from all over the world and setting up businesses in St. James, Mr. Michael Simmons would like to do big business too, and that bit of land would be an asset to his business. I think we should do everything to help Mr. Michael Simmons, and Government should even give it to him at a pepper corn rent and let it be known that we have some black people here who can do business instead of every minute you can hear a big company and outsiders setting up their businesses here. If the people here do not invest their money we cannot help that, but if we have some who are willing to help themselves let us help them rather than try to break them up. It is my opinion that it is only because it is Mr. Michael Simmons that we had so much debate on this 9,072 sq. ft. of land. I am sure that the Government has leased out land at other places and I did not hear so much said about it.

5.05 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, the hon. member on my left is interrupting me.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sure that that must be a matter of inadvertence, but I would ask the hon. member even inadvertently.....

Mr. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I am referring to the hon. junior member for Bridgetown. The hon. senior member for St. Thomas is keeping very quiet, but he may be telling the hon. junior member for Bridgetown what to say. That is my point relative to this Resolution, and I cannot see where \$150 a month for this land is too little. I feel that it could be less, but be that as it may the Government and Mr. Michael Simmons will know their business. I do not know anything about it; I am not in the hotel business; I do not know what a hotel can make and what it cannot make. I suppose that Mr. Michael Simmons may see his way to pay \$150 a month for the land, but I know that every person who rents an apartment will have to pay for that land.

I think we should endeavour to keep down the rates of these hotels in order that we may be able to get a bigger flow of tourists coming to this Island. Some tourists come here who are poorer than I am, and they merely want to see Barbados. They have to borrow the money from a bank and pay it back on their return. All tourists are not big shots. Some tourists come here to see what Barbados looks like and they want to remain for one week. It is that type of person that we want to encourage to come to this country.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I would have thought that, after a long lay off, I would have heard something much more interesting this afternoon from the hon. member who has just sat down. I do not believe that any political head-blows could have driven the hon. senior member for St. Joseph back to his childhood, and I really thought that he would have bowed out more gracefully than by making himself a parliamentary puppet this afternoon.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would ask the hon. member to deal with the Resolution.

Mr. CRAIG: Do not let us go wrong; I am leading up to my debate, Sir. Before I can open my mouth, you are telling me what to deal with! I am dealing with the Resolution; I am leading up to my debate, so do not tell me when to arrive at it. I say that I thought the hon. senior member for St. Joseph would have given Parliament this afternoon a better picture, knowing that he has gracefully been forced out of public life, than what we have heard from him. No one on this side will oppose a black man in Barbados becoming rich. We do not even oppose the hon. senior member for St. Andrew. What members on this side of the House were concerned with at all times was the plot.

Mr. Speaker, this new plot has revealed that there is a latrine and a fish shed which were not on the original plot. We ask that it be reviewed every three years instead of every five years. What the hon. member, who has just sat down, fails to understand is that in St. James you have Buccaneer Bay owned by black people, and the rates are still the same.

Now, the senior member for St. Joseph made an attack on a man called Mr. Richardson and opposed a Resolution which the Government had brought down asking that a piece of land at Graves' End be leased to Mr. Richardson. The hon. member attacked the Government then, and he wanted to know why Mr. Richardson should have the land at that rate, but this afternoon we are hearing a different story. We are all well aware of the hon. member's inconsistency; we know the hon. member well; what nonsense is he talking about Mr. Michael Simmons?

Mr. Michael Simmons has asked the Government to lease him a piece of land. Government have decided to lease the land to him at \$1,800 per year. What the members on this side are concerned with is that the plot which was produced in Parliament was made in 1934 or 1936. Now, the Government has brought in a new plan which reveals that a latrine and fish shed are on the land. In the interest of the parishioners of St. James, it is my bounden duty to find out what provisions are going to be made for the people in that area so far as the latrine and the fish shed are concerned. I know that after this land is leased to Mr. Michael Simmons the fish shed and latrine will have to go. I merely want to know what provisions will be made by Government for these people, and that is all with which I am concerned.

I have listened to the nonsense mentioned by the hon. senior member for St. Joseph. He was putting up a case for the Government when the members of the Government are not with him. It is a way for them to get him out, and they have destroyed the hon. Gentleman.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member is well aware of the fact that the fish shed is not used for the purpose of a fish shed. It is not being used other than by people who go there to relax. It is the policy of the Government to establish recreational facilities, communal latrines and baths throughout the Island, and Hometown will have its share.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I observe that the Hon. Minister who has just sat down has been the Government's spokesman on all subjects, and there are times when I ignore what he has to say. When one person can speak for eight hours and say absolutely nothing, then I would imagine that in one minute he would have said nothing whatsoever. I really have not heard him. I am expecting the Hon. Minister, who is in charge of this Ministry, to let me, as the representative of that parish, know what they are going to do about the latrine and the fish shed.
5.15 p.m.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, I would like to advise the hon. member that the Ministry with which he is dealing is the Ministry of Lands and that Minister does not sit in this Chamber, therefore his case has got to be put by another Minister.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, I asked the Government Ministers what is going to become of the latrine and fish shed on the existing site.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: I am a Government Minister and I answered. What is wrong with that?

Mr. CRAIG: You have answered. You will be a pope before you are finished. Brathwaite will beat you, and Bolden will beat his son. They cannot get the nomination before you, Sir, in St. Lucy; Evelyn Roach told me that.

Sir, I beg to move an amendment to this Resolution to read as follows:-

"Resolved that the House of Assembly approve the grant of a Lease subject to a term that the said rent be reviewed every three years."

No one is concerned with Mr. Michael Simmons putting up ten apartments because I know the people in St. James would get more employment. I am happy for this, but what you have to decide on, is how efficient the hotel will be.

Mr. Speaker, I therefore beg to move that the Resolution should read as follows:

"Resolved that the House of Assembly approve the grant of a Lease subject to a term that the said

rent be reviewed every three years to Mr. Michael Simmons by the Minister charged with the responsibility for the Subject of Lands of a parcel of land described in the Schedule to this Resolution, etc."

A VOICE: Nobody can second that.

Mr. St. JOHN: I can second it.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: On a point of order, the hon. senior member for Christ Church has already spoken on this Resolution and he cannot now, except with the leave of the House, speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: This is my ruling. If an amendment is duly moved and seconded, any member who has already spoken may speak again.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I ask Your Honour what is my particular position in this matter. Contrary to what is published in the Order Paper, I did not finish my speech last week, and I was not called on again when the debate resumed today. Sir, the Order Paper will be of no assistance to the hon. senior member for St. Peter, the hon. senior member for St. Andrew, or indeed to the hon. junior member for St. Lucy, because the Order Paper does not reveal that when I was speaking the Prime Minister got up and asked to postpone the debate and the date was set, and he said he would bring back the questions which we had outstanding. I have not raised this point yet, but it is the first thing that struck me when I read the Order Paper.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am having a check made from the official record.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member spoke, sat and then there was a question as to whether the hon. senior member for Bridgetown should speak, and this was discussed and the hon. senior member for Bridgetown spoke with leave after the hon. senior member for St. Thomas had completed his speech.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, let me just explain even that. There was a long exchange. There were constant points of order and I sat down and let the hon. senior member for St. John and the hon. senior member for Bridgetown argue. If it appears on the Order Paper that I sat and the hon. senior member for Bridgetown resumed his speech by leave, it could only be, that I said to allow him to resume his speech, because I was speaking and the hon. senior member for St. John and the hon. senior member for Bridgetown argued and argued a good deal with me trying to put in my bit sometimes, until I eventually sat and let them get on. Even if it appears in the Minutes, I submit to Your Honour that it should be verified. (*Asides*) I could never say the things about the hon. senior member for St. Peter that the Prime Minister said.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am informed....

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, what I am saying is that the Minutes will obviously reveal what I say. What I am asking should be called for, is the record to show what was said by me and by others when I sat down, because the Minutes have not yet been confirmed and they can be challenged, and if challenged, will be challenged on the basis of what the Official Reporter has taken in his notes. I will respectfully submit that Your Honour cannot rule on a matter based upon unconfirmed Minutes.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will ask the Clerk what the Minutes disclose.

Mr. CLERK: The Minutes disclose that the hon. member spoke.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes disclose that the hon. senior member for St. Thomas spoke, thereby that he concluded his address.

Mr. ADAMS: With respect, suppose next week when the Minutes come to be confirmed they reveal that the notes of the Clerk were wrong. How can a decision be taken exclusively on the basis of unconfirmed Minutes when the record of the House is going to be available to show what I said when I sat down?

Mr. SPEAKER: I am informed that the Minutes for that date have already been confirmed.
5.25 p.m.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I do not want to seem as if I am questioning your ruling, but I remember a few weeks ago when I questioned the Minutes of this House as to what had taken place during a discussion in Committee, it was ruled and was accepted by you also that in spite of the fact that the Minutes and the Clerk had advised yourself and the Chairman of Committees of one thing, it was not accepted and the House went back to the record to ascertain what really happened. That happened three weeks ago. On the 2nd February, while we were in Committee discussing a point, the question arose as to whether a Head had been passed or whether it was postponed, and in spite of the fact that the Clerk said that the Head had not been passed, the Chairman said he remembered that it had been passed, and the Clerk of the House informed the Chairman that it was not so recorded in the Minutes and that was not accepted. The Chairman got the record and went by the record, and you, Mr. Speaker, will remember we were dealing with the question of discrepancies in the Treasury; when we came back to the House the question was also taken and as a result of your ruling it had to be debated on the second and third reading of the Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am grateful to the hon. member, but in this particular case I am satisfied that the Order Paper is correct according to the official record and the recollection of the Clerks-at-the-Table, and I rule that the hon. and learned senior member for St. Thomas has spoken.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am not questioning your ruling, but are we going to have some sort of consistency?

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a point of order, I am submitting to Your Honour that the Mr. J. M. G. M. Adams who is referred to in those Minutes is not the hon. senior member for St. Thomas because nowhere is it recorded that he was in the House on that day. His presence is neither mentioned as among those present nor that he entered the House, but the only reference to Mr. J. M. G. M. Adams other than this spurious Mr. J. M. G. M. Adams is that Mr. J. M. G. M. Adams was not in his place to ask question No. 142, and there is no reference to the fact that Mr. J. M. G. M. Adams entered the House at all, and if that is so I could not have spoken if I was not here. You will find "Mr. H. B. St. John entered the Chamber and took his seat", you will not find it recorded that Mr. J. M. G. M. Adams entered the House on that day and I could not have spoken, so I am submitting that the Clerk is mistaken.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: It does not say that Mr. J. M. G. M. Adams was in the House, but apparently he was in the dining room.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am satisfied, though there may be no mention to say when the hon. member entered, that there is no such thing as a spurious Mr. J. M. G. M. Adams.

Mr. ADAMS: At some stage I will have to ask to reopen the subject "Minutes".

Mr. SPEAKER: These Minutes were amended, although they have not apparently been reprinted, unless the hon. member has not received a copy. The amended Minutes merely state "Hon. A. DaC. Edwards resumed his speech, Mr. J. M. G. M. Adams entered the Chamber and took his seat, Mr. J. B. Yearwood entered the Chamber and took his seat, Mr. Ernest Mottley entered the Chamber and took his seat...." and so on.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I believe I am right in saying that when I consulted you on this Resolution which is before the House you indicated that the only motion you thought we could move would be to move that this Resolution be read today six months, and I do so move now.

Mr. SPEAKER: Not by an hon. member who has already spoken.

Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, you did not tell me so when I asked you.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Not by an hon. member who has already spoken.

Hon. N. W. BOXILL: Mr. Speaker, I am moving that they have been wasting a lot of time and that the question be put.

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: On a point of order, Sir.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. junior member for St. Thomas has already spoken. (Hon. N. W. BOXILL: The question should be put).

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I am asking for the leave of the House to speak again. When I spoke earlier the plot which was distributed to this House was not the same as the one distributed today.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is a certain amount of difficulty in hearing what is being said, but what I understand the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to say is that he is asking the leave of the House to speak again.
5.35 p.m.

Mr. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I am asking for leave to speak again on the grounds that the plot which was circulated at the time when I was speaking is a different plot from the one which was circulated today.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: We object to that.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: There was no valid seconding of that Resolution, because I Ruled that the hon. member who had purported to second it had already spoken. That is my Ruling on that point.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, the point which the hon. junior member for Bridgetown has just made is a valid one. In future, unless all of the information is put before hon. members, we will not discuss any Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has made his point.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker,

Mr. HINDS rose - -

Mr. SPEAKER: What is the next Order of the Day? (Asides) I have already declared that the Resolution is passed. All hon. members have already spoken on the matter.

Mr. HINDS: I was on my feet when you put the question. Why was the question put while I was addressing the Chair?

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

Mr. HINDS: Let us all walk out of here.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member take his seat.

Mr. ERNEST MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I have been in here a long time.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, you have just ordered me to sit down, and you are now allowing another member to speak. (Asides)

Mr. SPEAKER: It seems to me manifest that the disorder is grave. (Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: "As long as you are in the Chair, it will be grave.")

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member withdraw that.

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY: I will withdraw it; I am sorry to say it.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: On what has the hon. senior member for Bridgetown risen?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I was making the point that the Resolution..... (Asides)

Mr. SPEAKER: There appears to be grave disorder.

Several HON. MEMBERS rose - -

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SPEAKER: There are four hon. members on their feet; I cannot deem that other than grave disorder and, accordingly, I adjourn this House until next Tuesday the 9th March, 1971 at twelve o'clock noon.
5.45 p.m.