

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION OF 1971-76

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 23rd November, 1971

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

PRESENT

His Honour N. G. A. MAXWELL, LL.B., (*Speaker*); Hon. C. E. TALMA, (*Leader of the House*); Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, (*Minister of Health and Welfare*); Mr. R. St. C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P., (*Chairman of Committees*); Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (*Minister of Agriculture, Science and Technology*); Mr. J. B. SPRINGER; Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, M.A., (*Leader of the Opposition*); Hon. F. G. SMITH, Q.C., B.A., (*Minister of Communications and Works*); Hon. P. G. MORGAN, C.B.E., (*Minister of Tourism, Information and Public Relations*); Mrs. G. L. EASTMOND, Hon. P. M. GREAVES, B.A., (*Minister of Housing, Lands, Labour and National Insurance*); Mr. H. deB. FORDE, M.A. LL.B., and Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE, (*Minister of Home Affairs*);

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: Hon. members will have received a copy of the Minutes for the 14th October, 1971 and they are before you now for confirmation. There being no dissenting voices, the Minutes for the 14th October, 1971 are duly confirmed.

Messrs. HINDS and MOTTLEY entered the House and took their seats.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Prime Minister I am commanded to lay an Agreement between the Government of Barbados and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Air Services between and beyond their respective territories.

On behalf of the Minister of Finance, a Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for seven months ended 31st October 1971.

And on my own behalf, the Report and Accounts of the Barbados Development Board for the period 1st April 1968 to 31st March, 1969.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW entered the House and took his seat.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Order, 1971.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Branchbury, St. Joseph, for providing a site for the construction of a Communal Bath and Latrine.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to authorise the advance from the Public Treasury of an amount not exceeding \$660,000 and to place it at the disposal of Government for the purpose of making advances of salary or wages to Government Employees as set out in the Schedule to the Resolution.

I will be asking leave to deal with this Resolution in all its stages today, because it is the customary Resolution for the advance of two weeks' wages or salary to the members of the Public Service of this Island. Also I beg to give notice of the following two Resolutions:-

A Resolution to grant the sum of \$1,260,450 out of the Consolidated Fund, and to place it at the disposal of Government to supplement the Estimates 1971-72, Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1971-72 No. 14, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

A Resolution to grant the sum of \$300,000 out of the Consolidated Fund, and to place it at the disposal of Government to supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part II - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1971-72 No. 15, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

I also beg to give notice of the following Bills:

A Bill to amend the Estate and Succession Duties Act, 1941.

A Bill to amend the Income Tax Act, 1968.

A Bill to amend the Public Loan Act, 1961.

QUESTIONS

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, to enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware that at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies there is no full course in West Indian Literature being currently offered?

2. Does Government realise that there could be no more pressing demand upon this Institution at this time than educating our young people to develop an awareness of ourselves as a people?

3. Will Government take the necessary steps to draw this state of affairs to the attention of the proper Authorities?

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware that our educational system is not producing satisfactory results - and, that underlying this is the fact that too often the term "teacher-training" has been taken to mean, include and involve none other than the teacher who teaches the children in the classroom?

2. Will Government set about immediately to evaluate the present "teacher-training" programme, and give definite guide-lines that will hasten all those who now teach teachers to become so involved that whether by in-training or otherwise, in college or university, they will seek and find in both depth and relevance the type of revitalization that our "teacher-training" programme so urgently and constantly demands?

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

Is Government aware that the present system of having some schools not being in direct communication by telephone with the Ministries of Health and Education is something to be deplored?

2. Will Government see to it that all Government Schools are provided with a telephone service without delay; and particularly so, those schools with a school-meals service?

2.55 p.m.

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware that the standpipe located at Pleasant Hall Road, St. Peter - opposite the entrance to the All Saints Boys' School - is situated around a very dangerous curve and should be re-sited?

2. Will the Minister give this matter the necessary attention and have this standpipe re-located at a safer and more convenient point near the said highway for the benefit of those persons who now make use thereof?

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware that intended passengers who assemble at Highway 1, Black Rock, - Near Gills' Memorial Church - awaiting transportation Northbound by motor omnibuses are exposed to grave danger, some mounting an embankment and others rushing on to the steps of the Church trying to avoid being squeezed by passing traffic?

2. Will Government take immediate notice of the inconvenience suffered by the many persons whose plight it is to be at this point daily, and seek to remedy the situation without further delay?

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

Is the Minister aware that in the Government's Primary School system there are headteachers who carry on the trade of bread, cakes and other light refreshment dealers on the school premises?

2. Has the Government granted permission to headteachers or any other teachers at any of these schools to trade in these or in any other commodities as part of the daily life of the school or otherwise?

3. Will the Minister investigate to find out if, as in the case of Hindsbury Junior School, children have been punished in the classroom for alleged disobedience, in that they purchased cakes from other bread-vendors and did not patronise the headteachers?

4. In view of the situation as at No. 3, would Government seek to accelerate the school-meals programme which was launched since 1963, and adequately serve, if possible, all Primary Schools before the end of the present academic year?

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

What percentage of teachers in Government Secondary Grammar Schools, Government-Assisted Independent Schools, Comprehensive Schools and Primary Schools hold degrees?

2. What percentage of the graduates in all schools are trained teachers?

3. What percentage of teachers in the several Government Schools and the Government-Assisted Secondary Schools are institutionally-trained?

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Estate and Succession Duties Act, 1941, be read a first time.

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

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

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Income Tax Act, 1968, be read a first time.

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

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

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Public Loan Act, 1961, be read a first time.

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

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

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1971-72 No. 11

A Resolution for \$10,400 was called.

Hon. P. G. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, the Resolution which is now before the Committee is a simple and straightforward one. It is consequent upon the establishment of a Ministry of Tourism, Information and Public Relations, and it seeks to provide funds to equip the Ministry in order that the Ministry may carry on its work during the current financial year. The Ministry is now in operation at premises previously known as "Savannah Lodge," The Garrison, and I should be glad to give details of this expenditure if any hon. member needs further information.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: I beg to second that.

Mr. FORDE: Mr. Chairman, I should like to take this opportunity to say that it is necessary, if this Ministry is to be equipped to function properly, that adequate provision should be made, as the Minister should recommend to the Cabinet, for the role of this Ministry to be properly performed. On this side we consider it is very vital that the work of the Govern-

ment should be seen to be done, so that when criticisms are levelled they would also appear to be justified.

We take this opportunity, particularly, in inviting the Minister to use his new office and his new opportunity for laying down for his Ministry certain important guidelines. I think whilst it is important for the Government to give as much publicity as possible to its work, it should be done as objectively as possible and that the Ministry should be considered as performing the function of Government as that word is properly understood and not simply the function of a partisan political party. For this reason, provided we are satisfied that these are the type of guidelines that are intended, the Opposition has no objection to the Resolution as it stands.
3.05 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, there is one matter that I should like the Minister quite early - and I see he has been holding chats with the press - to direct his attention to. The time is well ripe in this community where we should recognise that journalists have performed a vital function of educating the public as to the functions of Government, and as to the work which they have performed. Sometimes they have done this under severe criticism from both sides of this House; sometimes they have done it under criticism from many persons outside of the House, but I think the profession of journalism so far as information is concerned is too important that it should be subjected to carping criticisms from people who are not being objective about it. I think the other side would not need us to say that the time has come, for instance, when the contribution of a man like Clennel Wickham to this Island's history and the role which he has played should be properly recognised, and I hope the Minister will see fit in due course to establish some sort of scholarship in the name of Clennel Wickham so that at least we will find in future that journalists can get some recognition. Why I say this, Mr. Chairman, is the fact that very often we tend to forget in our country's history that it is not only the politicians who have made a contribution per se, but other people, and one of the things we would like the Minister when his office is functioning properly to advert to again is the question of amending the libel laws of this country to bring them up to date with a better standard of what is expected in the country, particularly in keeping with developments in the Commonwealth, so that freedom of the press.....

Hon. F. G. SMITH: On a point of order, I am objecting on the point of irrelevance to the Resolution which is before this Chamber. There will be plenty of opportunity for the hon. member to deal with what are his pet themes, but I respectfully suggest that the Resolution is to fit out a Ministry which has nothing to do with the libel laws of Barbados.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: No point of order.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: I am on a point of order. I think the hon. member is completely and

utterly irrelevant, and furthermore that he must be very embarrassing to the Leader of the Opposition to call the name of Clennel Wickham in this House. During the past ten years he would have seen what we have done in that regard.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: No point of order. I do not feel that what the hon. member has said is directly irrelevant. We are dealing with a Resolution for the sum of \$10,000 for Public Relations, and anything relative to communications must be public relations. The hon. member may carry on.

Mr. FORDE: Mr. Chairman, I was making the point, and I accept your ruling on the matter, that for the proper functioning of the Ministry, not only must adequate moneys be provided, but when provided they should be used as a guideline for policy; and one of the points we are making on this is that in looking at the libel laws of the country, one of the functions so that the Ministry can function adequately is to make sure that the freedom of the press which is contained in the Constitution gets some sort of teeth in it so that we can have a much better system, and in fact journalists could become much more objective than they have been, and without fear of intimidation in the country.

Mr. Chairman, I believe that on this side of the House certainly we would be quite prepared to co-operate with the Minister in this respect and to give him any assistance that he can take from us or that he should wish to take from us or that we can offer so that his Ministry can function properly. We consider information very important, but what we would not like to see is that information is being promulgated in the country which is slanted, biased and lacks objectivity, and on these points we will support this Resolution when it comes to the vote for it being passed.

Hon. P. G. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, I would like to thank the hon. member for Christ Church West for his offer of co-operation in all the various matters which he has managed to hang on to the furniture; but the one thing which does seem relevant to me was the question of what he seems to imply is some sort of propaganda machine.

Now, Mr. Chairman, you know how small children are when they fall and graze their elbows or knees; they bawl when they take a fall, and you bring them to you and try to clean them up and then you reach into the medicine cabinet for the iodine, and as soon as they set their eyes on the iodine they start to bawl again. Hon. members opposite need have no fear. In my house we use mercuriochrome and it does not sting, but it is just as effective, and this question of propaganda as it was so delicately put by the hon. member for Christ Church West will not arise.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, this is a new House and at the very start of the new House I think it important that new members and members who perhaps have sat in the Other Place or have sat in here before but have forgotten or never understood what

it really means to be members of the House of Assembly, should get certain things right. I am glad to see that you were obliged to allow a breath of commonsense to blow through the so far short debate on this Resolution. This is a Resolution dealing with the Ministry of Tourism, Information and Public Relations, Item 1 - General Expenses, and let me tell the hon. members for Christ Church North-Central and St. Michael South-Central that that means that every aspect of the Department's work may be discussed on a Resolution such as this; that every aspect of the Minister's fitness for his position, if that were in question and I am not suggesting it is, could be discussed, and if it is thought that the dissemination of information in Barbados is unreasonably hampered by the libel laws, then I am absolutely sure that you would rule again as you have already ruled that they may be discussed.

I myself have perhaps rather less complaint about the libel laws than my hon. and learned friend the member for Christ Church-West. I tend to think that the libel laws in Barbados are extremely lax. Nowhere else do I know where you can accuse a man of treason and then you can put out a half-hearted apology without paying a penny in the Court. That is only by the way and that is between lawyers.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order, I think the hon. member now is completely and utterly out of place, and furthermore, whether you correct me or not, I will draw his conduct to the attention of the judiciary of this Island. A matter which he knows to be *sub judice* he is commenting on on the floor of this House which is something which is completely beyond the permissible conduct in this House. I have never in my life come across such a disgusting display of a flagrant disrespect for the rules of the House and even of decent behaviour.

Mr. ADAMS: Am I hearing correctly? To whom is the Prime Minister going to report that he told a lie in the House the last time that we met?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: I have asked you to rule, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am asking both hon. members to take their seats. I once again am making a ruling. We are discussing a Resolution for the sum of \$10,400 relative to expenses for Public Relations, and I am asking the hon. member for St. Thomas to desist from going over anything with respect to the libel laws in this Resolution. Since it has been brought to my notice that some matter is *sub judice* and it might prejudice justice one way or the other, I rule that nothing more should be said about it.

Mr. ADAMS: With great respect, I am not talking about any case.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have ruled.

Mr. ADAMS: I am not talking about any case; I am talking about Section 6 of the Libel Act, 1906.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I have ruled. (Hon. F. G. SMITH: You know you are lying!) I have said already that I am not prepared to accept that type of behaviour. I will ask any individual in here to leave this Chamber.
3.15 p.m.

I am not hearing anything relative to the libel law one way or the other.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, with great respect, I and my colleagues are making speeches and in the course of these speeches a reference is made. The Prime Minister gets up and says he has never heard such disgusting conduct; that is an improper remark:

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, I never said anything like that, and if the hon. member is not careful I will write to the Chief Justice and report him and I will send a copy of that letter to the hon. member as well.

Mr. ADAMS: The Prime Minister knows that the Chief Justice will regard him as just another witness because he has been told already in Court that he was a liar.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I will tell both hon. members that it is not my intention in this Chamber to hear anything about libel in this debate.

Mr. ADAMS: If you please, Sir, I will say this. I have not been in this House a long time but these last five minutes or so I believe I have got more angry at the unnecessariness that has gone on than anything I have ever seen in here.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Let us go on with the Resolution and we will deal properly with that at another time. (*Asides*) I would like the hon. member for St. Michael South-Central to read Standing Order 29(6). I am asking this much and you will give me this much in this Chair or I will do what the Standing Orders permit me to do, that is to ask you to leave the Chamber. Get this straight, do not let me speak all the time. The hon. member may proceed with the Resolution.

Mr. ADAMS: Sir, I think I understand some of the reasons for the exchange of the last few minutes. To discuss it I will have to refer to a case, therefore I will go no further. It took me a little bit by surprise, but I understand now and I will make every allowance for the Prime Minister; he is a little bit upset today.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order, the only thing that will upset anybody is that the hon. member is in public life in this Island at all. Even the people in his own Party deplore it because he has carried the standard of public conduct in this Island right down. I would like to tell the hon. member something else, that I have never been paid in my life to spy on students anywhere.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I do not want to hear this at this stage.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: If he thinks I am ready for him I have a whole long recital for him. He is not going to get away with what he got away with in the last session.

Hon. R. B. CADDLE: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I would like to submit that hon. members are now indulging in a lot of irrelevance and I would move that the question be now put.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, there is no provision for moving the closure because of irrelevancy, there is provision for moving the closure because of repetition.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: In my estimation I do not see that it should be closed. We cannot make tomfoolery of the business of the people, it is my intention to hear both sides of this Chamber.

Mr. ADAMS: Sir, the Resolution calls for \$10,400 for the general expenses of the Ministry of Tourism, Information and Public Relations. We have seen even in the last couple of weeks that there is a greater expenditure of time - and I am not in a position to know if of money as well - by officials of the Information Service. We believe this is all to the good, and it will obviously affect any politician whether a member of this House or out of this House or on whatever side, if a vote such as this were to be used for the purpose of propaganda briefly adverted to by the hon. member for Christ Church West and replied to just as briefly by the Minister of Information. These propaganda vehicles have a way of being used against members of their own Party just as much as against the Opposition or members of the other side.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: At this stage I would like to bring to the notice of hon. members that in this Resolution there is absolutely nothing about propaganda.

Mr. ADAMS: The Minister discussed it, the member for Christ Church West discussed it, and I am agreeing with both of them, but obviously there is tension in the House today and we could as well sit down. The Prime Minister has come in here to behave badly, and under great provocation I am behaving well. Other hon. members are feeling the tension of what is going on, but Christmas is coming and we have a Resolution to discuss dealing with Christmas money for the Public Service. If we are not careful we will not have as good a day as we had on the last occasion, although a former Minister had to reply to the Prime Minister in an issue of the *Advocate-News*.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: This is absolutely not in the Resolution.

Mr. ADAMS: This is a Resolution about the general expenses of the Ministry of Information,

and we are asking the Minister not to use the taxpayers' money for political purposes, to disseminate information on behalf of the Government Party, and that they put out the point of view of the Government. I would like to thank the Ministry of Information because they recently sent around to the Leader of the Opposition and asked him to set out certain biographical information. That does not mean that I am entirely in agreement, but at least it shows that somebody has a conception of projecting the constitutional structure of Barbados other than the Barbados Labour Party.

This is a good thing, and I hope very much that this will continue and that it is not thought that an increased vote will be used as an increased vote for whatever word Your Honour will permit me to substitute for propaganda by the Government Party. That is all I am saying, Sir, I am just joining my words to those of the two members who have already spoken, and hoping that the Ministry will run along the general lines of selling Government to the public and not as a system of outdoor relief for the causes of the Democratic Labour Party.

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

3.25 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1971-72, No. 12

A Resolution for \$75,151 - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the notes are fairly explanatory.

I beg to move that Head 1 - Governor-General - stand part.

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

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

Head 16 - Prime Minister's Office - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I think the notes are explanatory, but, if there is any additional information needed by any hon. member, I am prepared to give it.

I beg to move that Head 16 stand part.

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

Head 18 - Economic Planning Unit - was called.

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

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

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

Head 22 - Public Relations - was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the notes are explanatory.

I beg to move that Head 22 stand part.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, what is the relationship of Head 22 to Head 28? They, obviously, come under the same Ministry. Should there not be a transfer of the vote? I cannot think that Public Relations will be spoken for with two voices! Should not these two items be voted for under Head 48?

Hon. P. G. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, I am not quite clear what is Head 48, but I will tell the Leader of the Opposition that these items refer to the Government Information Service.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, Head 48, is the Head for which the Hon. Minister, who has just got up, is responsible. He is not quite clear what Head 48 is, but it is his Head and his Ministry. I am glad that we can give Hon. Ministers some assistance in their departmental duties, Sir.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, Item 16A - Utilities. The provision of \$50 in the Current Estimates has proven to be insufficient owing to the increased use of electricity. As a result of the increase in recording units: camera units, projectors, etc.,..... (Asides) I am dealing with Item 21. Provision has been made in the 1970/71 Estimates for the installation of a Sound Mixer Tape Deck, but owing to the proposed resiting of the Department the equipment was not installed and the funds lapsed. It is now proposed that the sum of \$1,000 for installation of the equipment be revoted in this financial year when it is anticipated that the resiting of the Department will be effected.

In addition to the funds for the installation of the Sound Mixer Tape Deck, provision had also been made in the sum of \$1,000 for the purchase of various pieces of equipment including one 16 millimetre Hot-Splicer; 3 Rewinders and one Bulk Eraser for magnetic tapes. These items did not arrive before the financial year 1970-71 had closed and, consequently, the funds lapsed. It is proposed that the sum of \$1,000 be revoted in addition to a further provision of \$1,484 to meet the certified cost of the items. The original estimate of \$1,000 was too conservative. That is the full explanation regarding the two items.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I believe that the Minister would be in a position to tell us if the spending of this money for equipping the Information Office, or the Ministry of Tourism which includes the Information Office, is going to effect a saving. I understand that the developing and processing of certain types of films had to be done overseas, and the Department also had to rely on the use of C.B.C. at

times. Surely, the Minister would have some idea as to the number of man-hours that would be saved as a result of embarking upon an expenditure such as this.

Another thing that we would certainly like to be told is from where the equipment would be coming. Is it the American type of equipment, or the German type? There are people in this Island who, I think, have been in the field for a very considerable time and could give Government assistance as to the quality of lenses and the source from which the better quality of lenses can be obtained with a view to rendering the best type of service in an exercise such as this.

For instance, the Minister said that they intend to obtain Bulk Erasers. Now, a member on this side, who, I believe, has a considerable amount of experience in this business, said that he did not like the use of Bulk Erasers. This is the type of thing that one has to look into. By comparing the views of other people we might eventually arrive at the best that can be of service to the community in a case such as this.

It is good, Sir, to find that the Ministry is now engaging itself in making ample preparation for the recording of sound and putting it over. That is something which it could not do on its own in the past with any degree of clarity, or without the assistance of other Departments.

3.35 p.m.

Such we feel is something to be commended as with the Sound Mixer Tape Deck. Surely the Minister would be in a position to let us know if there is something more than not deciding at a particular moment to locate the office here as against there that has prevented the Sound Mixer Tape Deck from being in a state of readiness. I am sure the Minister has it in his files and we would certainly like to hear what he has to say about it.

Hon. P. G. MORGAN: Mr. Chairman, I will endeavour as best I can to answer the hon. member for St. Peter. I am always pleading that I do not pretend to be an expert at hot splicers or bulk erasers. Now the whole purpose of this new equipment is to make the Government Information Service a more efficient service and to make it possible for the Service to give service to the people of Barbados better than it has been before. The largest item, for example, in this Supplementary provision is for the Sound Camera, and this is so that the Government Information Service cameraman can go out into the market place, as it were, and take pictures and communicate better, therefore, with the man in the street. Prior to this there was an ordinary camera but no sound camera, and if the Government Information Service wanted to interview a variety of people on a particular subject, they would have to bring them all to the studio and do the work there which of course is not the same and is not as effective, and you cannot do as good a job. This camera is an Arriflex camera. I am afraid I cannot tell you what

country that is manufactured in, but I will find out and will certainly let you know if it is of great interest.

With regard to the camera and other equipment here, the hot splicers, rewinder and bulk eraser, I really feel that this is why we have expert people to advise us. They have others with whom they can consult in various Government Departments, and I am assured that they have chosen the best equipment at the best price and the best people to do the job. As to the Sound Mixer Tape Deck, the reason for the delay in installation of that is that the Government Information Service will soon be moving from its present place in the old Hospital compound to new premises next to the Government buildings on Bay Street. These buildings are nearly completed and in order not to install this equipment and then take it out and re-install it, it was not purchased as had been planned; so this would be installed for the first time in its eventual home which is to be in Bay Street near to Government Headquarters. I hope that answers the hon. member's questions.

The question that Head 22 - Public Relations - stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of \$75,151 do now pass.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative with out division.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1971-72 No. 13

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is for the sum of \$174,976 and it is in the name of the Hon. Minister of Education. I think the hon. member would like to deal with this personally.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Chairman, at the Eyrie at Howell's Cross Road there is a property of approximately ten acres which has been allocated as the campus for the Barbados Community College, and there is currently under construction on that site a building which will house the division of technology of the Barbados Community College. Within that building it is expected that programmes leading to the technicians diploma in building, civil electrical and mechanical engineering will be pursued. Some sixty pupils in these various sections will be enrolled in October next year and in the following year another sixty students would be enrolled leading to 120 students approximately in the division of technology of the Barbados Community College.

The sum of \$174,976 is required in order to permit the completion of the construction of that building. The Ministry of Communications and Works originally estimated that the building to house the division of technology would cost approximately \$286,000 and this sum was included in the 1970-71 Estimates. However by the end of that particular

year only a sum of \$68,024 was expended, and in the current financial year 1971-72 a sum of \$175,000 has been provided. The Ministry of Communications and Works, as the Addendum states, has now revised its estimate which is now placed at \$418,000, and this increase has been brought about by increases in the cost of materials, labour, and the size of the building has also been increased by approximately 10 per cent. It is therefore now necessary in order to be able to complete this building for the sum of \$174,976 to be provided.

I can say at this stage that there is currently enrolled at the Barbados Community College some 825 young Barbadians who are gaining an education at this particular level. We are viewing technical and vocational training at three levels: at the craft level which is carried on. We have instituted the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic in order to provide training at the craft level. At the University level, training at degree level is provided, and the programmes at the Barbados Community College will provide training at the technician level which provides the middle level, which is so very necessary in this Island.

I therefore, with those remarks, beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: I beg to second that.
3.45 p.m.

Mr. E. E. GREAVES: Mr. Chairman, just before this Resolution is approved, I would like to crave the indulgence of the House to make a few comments on the Resolution. I am particularly happy that the Government is pursuing its policy of bringing about a revolution in the educational system by providing technical education for the young people in this country. I think that this is of extreme importance, particularly since we are moving away from the traditional structure of our economy and we are moving into the area of industrialisation. It therefore means that in order for our industrialisation programme to proceed at the rate which would be a reasonable one that the bottlenecks which normally would occur through the absence of technicians to deal with the various technical problems which arise, will be removed. It is very good that the Division of Technology is being established at the Barbados Community College. I would hope that this again is a further step in providing what should really be provided in a developing country like ours as far as education is concerned, that is, as comprehensive an education as possible, and one would therefore hope that the technical aspect of our educational system would be extended at an even greater pace at the other schools in this country.

I would also like to suggest that what we should be concentrating on now is to ensure that there is a massive recruitment of teachers at the Secondary School level so that the Division of Technology will be ensured that adequate numbers will be coming from the schools to take up the positions which are available. This is something we have to be careful

about and we have to make sure that this policy is pursued. I would also like to suggest that probably in the area of aid when it comes to recruiting people from the various agencies which offer teachers from time to time that a great deal of emphasis should be placed on the recruitment of people to teach these technical subjects. We have to make sure that our work force is equipped to fill the role which it has to fill.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, earlier we asked for leave to deal with the Resolution for the sum of \$660,000 in order to make advances to casual employees and other categories of workers at Christmas time, and I think we may proceed with it now subject to the approval of the other side.

Mr. ADAMS: We agree that it may be done now.

ADVANCE OF SALARIES AND WAGES TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, this is a Resolution for the sum of \$660,000 to be advanced from the Public Treasury and placed at the disposal of the Government for the purpose of making advances of salaries or wages to persons in the employ of the Government on the terms and conditions set out in the Schedule. The Addendum says that it is proposed to make advances of salaries and wages to Government employees to assist them in meeting the additional expenses of the Christmas season. These advances are to be repaid by 31st March, 1972. These are the regular Christmas loans which this House has seen fit to advance since 1962, since this Government came into office, and this scheme has been going on since then. At the 30th September, 1971 the total amount remaining outstanding or not repaid against advances made since the inception is \$29,813.20 broken down as follows:-

1962-63		\$ 724.46
1963-64		\$3,242.23
1964-65		\$2,459.88
1965-66		\$ 72.24
1966-67		\$2,193.70
1967-68		\$6,696.80
1968-69		\$3,176.50
1969-70		\$5,292.72
1970-71		\$5,954.67

In some of these cases some of these employees might have been laid off not necessarily for any dishonesty, but it is the sort of Resolution which goes according to the regular pattern. There are no innovations as such, it is on the similar terms and conditions under which loans have been granted since 1962, and I think that most hon. members if not all are very anxious to see that casual employees and members of the unestablished staff in particular are given the opportunity of having an

additional loan at Christmas time in order to enjoy the festivities of the season more than normally. I do not think I need say much more because this is a Resolution which meets with the approval of all members of the House, and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, nobody I think in this House would want to object to this Resolution or to the idea behind it of making these advances because it is to bring in some measure Christmas cheer to these workers, but the Minister has attempted to give us some idea of the arrears outstanding. If these advances are made according to the strict terms laid down here, how is it that we are having these arrears annually? We appreciate the fact that somebody will die, there will be the odd case, but when in any one year you can have as much as \$5,000 unpaid something has got to be wrong. We do not want Government to find itself encouraging in any way or appearing to encourage in any way this type of behaviour on the part of any segment of these workers. The Officers who make the recommendations for the loans or certify these workers for the loans ought to be Officers who have the interest of the Department and the taxpayers on the whole at heart. They must be familiar enough with the Department as to see to it that these people who have the loans are kept employed for as long as possible, at least to see that they have an opportunity to repay the loans. That is very important.

3.55 p.m.

Now, the Minister told us of these arrears, but what would be of some interest to us is whether the Minister could tell us if the greatest offenders happen to be amongst those whose salaries exceed \$150 a month, or if they happen to be amongst the unestablished or casual workers who have to get two weeks pay so as to help him through this particular period.

Mr. Chairman, we have to look at the arrears, and the amount that has accumulated over a period of years is a very serious matter. We would like to see the amount liquidated as quickly as possible. We appreciate that a lot of what is now outstanding will have to be written off, but do not let us make additions to this if we can possibly do better by applying stricter rules and seeing wherever possible that those to whom you lend at Christmas time are given work so that they cannot say they did not have an opportunity to earn enough to make the repayments.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I am indeed touched by the concern of the hon. member for St. Peter for a paltry sum of \$5,000 in terms of a budget of \$120 million. I thought the Hon. Leader of the House had explained the matter. Every person who is a casual employee, or who has worked with the Government, is entitled to a loan. My Ministry is one of the greatest employers of labour in the country. I cannot guarantee that, after workers have received the loans in December, they will be employed

until March. It depends on the level of employment and the amount of work to be done. Certainly, it would be stupid to keep on a worker and pay him \$40, \$50, or \$60 a week for him to pay back \$75 over that period.

Now, when you consider the number of workers involved and the number of workers who are entitled to borrow, then the sum of \$5,000 or even \$7,000, in my view, shows the basic honesty and the commendable behaviour of those who borrow this money. What happens is that between January and March for reasons of money, for reasons of jobs coming to an end, it means that some people are not employed either in the Ministry or where they have been working before. This happens and it is inevitable. Unemployment in Great Britain has just risen to 970,000 people. If they had to repay loans the amount would rise, too. If unemployment rises for one reason or another, then the people who have to repay the loans are unable to do so. There is no magic about this matter.

As a member of this Government, I feel that when you lend out \$660,000 and you are only short of \$5,000 when the period ends - you can work out the percentage, because I am no mathematician. If the Resolution is for \$660,000 and \$5,000 has not been repaid, can anybody get up in this House and ask that stricter measures be taken or try to find out who are the offenders? If you are working with the Government you will have to repay the loan. If you are not working with the Government, you may not be there for a multiplicity of reasons: there may be no work; you may go to England, to America, to St. Lucia or to Her Majesty's Prison. For a multiplicity of reasons you may not be working with the Government and you are unable to repay your loan from the Government. If the Government can provide employment for you the money will be paid back, because it will be deducted from your wages.

What is the reason for this big questionnaire as to who are the greatest offenders and who are not the greatest offenders? No stricter measures can be taken, because the money is deducted from the wages of the worker if he is employed with the Government. We cannot guarantee that all workers will be employed especially when projects are coming to an end of the financial year and funds are running out. I say that of a total of \$660,000 when only \$5,000, \$6,000, or even \$10,000, is not paid back, any Government that calls itself a Socialist Government should be proud to write off that figure.

Of course, the Opposition cannot get behind this because it was the thinking of the Hon. Prime Minister who started it. Barbados did not begin to exist today. Barbados has existed for hundreds of years, but it took the Democratic Labour Party under the leadership of the Prime Minister to institute this very measure about which the hon. member for St. Peter can be asking these high-powered, searching questions!

Mr. FORDE: Mr. Chairman, I think what the Government Minister should bear in mind is that the

Opposition is entitled to ask various questions about the expenditure of public funds, and that anybody querying the expenditure of public funds and how it is being accounted for is entitled to a fair answer. We sometimes get the impression that, if the Opposition asks a question or makes a criticism, some Ministers feel there is a fight going on.

On the other hand, you get a Minister like the Hon. Minister of Tourism, Information and Public Relations who has been very helpful in the attitude he has taken at short notice in giving a reply, or the Hon. Minister of Education who has given such a satisfactory explanation on the grounds on which he has brought his Resolution that the members of the Opposition are satisfied. They feel that both sides of the House are carrying out the public's business.

The hon. member for St. Peter began by saying that each member of this Honourable House would want to think that, at Christmas in particular, people have that little extra that is necessary. Let me re-state the position so far as the members of the Opposition are concerned. We are voting with the Government for the Resolution. (*Asides*) We do not have to do anything, Sir. The position is that, having asked the Minister for information, all he has to do is to civilly give us the information which he has. It might even direct his attention to looking in future at the priority of employment, as the hon. member for St. Peter mentioned. It might even direct his attention to come into this House and ask that the Government be authorised to write off the amount, because the people are in straitened circumstances and unable to repay it.
4.05 p.m.

This is all we are asking. Isn't that fair? Nobody is attacking the socialist principles of the Government or throwing remarks at the failure of somebody to introduce a measure. The Prime Minister is not the first person in this House who has ever introduced the only Resolution for the benefit of the country. There have been other hon. members including the Hon. Minister of Communications who have introduced worthwhile measures; so do not flaunt the matter every time. What we are asking is that you give some information so that we can get on with the job. I think I can tell the Government that it will find many of us highly co-operative and willing to co-operate. Some of this could be given in further Addenda to the Resolution and further explanations can be given to us so that instead of taking up the debate in acrimony we can get on, and that is why whenever I see an explanation as is given by the Minister for Education or the Hon. Minister for Tourism, Information and Public Relations, I am happy to see that, because it is an effort in doing the public's business instead of a fight across the floor. We fought out the elections; let us finish with that. They have won the elections. Nobody is begrudging them their places, but we are going to make sure that we ask sufficient questions and get sufficient explanations that the public at large can have the explanations, and if it means that we must come in here and agree with the Minister to write off or authorise the

Government to write off the money, we will do so; but I would not like the Minister to get the impression that we are getting up and merely querying positions for the purpose of wasting time. We want information. It is with good intentions we come and we expect to receive a civil and proper answer.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, I listened to the hon. member for St. Michael South-Central carrying on. I never suggested for a single moment that Government should pursue anybody who has not repaid the amount of money, or that Government should take any measure by way of carrying them before a Court or anything of the kind; but, Sir, in the Schedule which is here before us, Clause (a) tells us that all members of the unestablished staff and casual employees who would normally continue to be employed by Government to the end of the financial year on 31st March, 1972 are the people who are entitled to apply and get these loans. That is what I am basing my argument upon, Mr. Chairman, I have heard the hon. member's reply. I have heard some of the reasons he gave why some people may not be able to repay. One of the reasons struck me, and I say that for some reason or other a person does his own bit here in Barbados and might not be able to repay but when he goes abroad and has to run back here for some unknown reason, he stains the name of Barbados abroad. Others will know later. I say nothing more.

The question that the Resolution for the sum of \$660,000 do now pass, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA seconded by Hon. P. M. GREAVES, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of four Resolutions in Committee of Supply and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Hon. C. E. TALMA seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, the Resolutions were read a first and second time and agreed to.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 3 be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

THE AIRPORT SERVICE CHARGE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1971

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 3 stands in the name of the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, and it is to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the Airport Service Charge Act, 1967.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, this is a very short Bill amending the Airport Service Charge Act, 1967. Under the Airport Service Charge Act an impost of, I think it was at the time, \$2 or \$3 was put on every person departing Seawell International Airport in this country for the purpose of raising revenue which is one of the proposals which was made to increase the revenue which we got from the

airport. Certain exemptions were made in respect of members of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, members of Government travelling on Government business, and so on, and diplomatic representatives of countries abroad were also granted immunity from the payment of this charge. But since that time the United States Airport and Airway Revenue Act, 1970, was enacted in that country and it imposed taxes on all personnel including diplomatic representatives in consular offices of foreign Governments. We conduct our diplomatic relations on the basis of reciprocity, and the Government of the United States cannot expect from the Barbados Government any more than the Government of the United States is willing to concede to the citizens and people of this country. I want to make that clear. In some respects, for instance, we had to make representations about pensioners having to travel back to the United States and more recently we have granted concessions in respect of income tax on U.S. social security pensions, having served notice on the United States Government that the Government of Barbados expects similar treatment in respect of her own pensioners.

4.15 p.m.

Our Act anteceded and antedated the United States 1970 Airport and Airway Revenue Act and the United States Government was aware at that time that we granted immunity to diplomats and Consular personnel of foreign countries, including those of the United States, and the Government of the United States made no attempt to put in a special dispensation in respect of those countries who granted concessions to its own diplomats. My favourite text in the Bible - which I do not quote very often - is that we brought nothing into this world and it is for certain that we take nothing out. The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh. The purpose of this Act is to take away that which was conferred on the diplomats of the United States Government. It is as simple as that, and I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

On the motion of Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. LOWE in the Chair.

The Clauses of the Bill were called and passed.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Item No. 2 standing in my name to move the

second reading of a Bill to amend the Ammunition Act, 1919 be the next Order of the Day.

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

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

A BILL TO AMEND THE AMMUNITION ACT, 1919

Hon. C. E. TALMA: As the Objects and Reasons set out, Sir, this Bill would amend the Ammunition Act, 1919 (1919-4) in order to transfer to the Minister responsible for Home Affairs the functions assigned to the Minister responsible for Trade under that Act.

The position is simply this, that originally the power was vested in the Cabinet, but then under section 3 of the Ammunition Act, 1919 it was stated that "no person shall import into this Island any ammunition without having first obtained a licence from the Cabinet". Under the existing law as set out in the Proclamation Order No. 2, 1967 the power was vested then in the Ministry of Trade, and with this amendment now the power will be vested in the Minister of Home Affairs. It is a very simple amendment, and I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

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

The Clauses of the Bill were called and passed.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Item No. 4 standing in the name of the Hon. Minister of Housing, Lands, National Insurance and Labour be the next Order of the Day.

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

RESOLUTION FOR THE COMPULSORY
ACQUISITION OF LAND AT
KENDAL, ST. JOHN

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, as Your Honour so rightly observed, this Resolution is for

the compulsory acquisition of 6,000 square feet of land at Kendal, St. John for the purpose of constructing a communal bath and latrine. It is a very simple Resolution, there is no dispute between the Government as purchaser and the owners as vendors, the very reasonable price of 20 cents per square foot has been agreed upon, the notices required by the Land Acquisition Act have been duly published and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I think we on this side of the House always welcome Resolutions like this which would provide some sort of communal amenity for the people of various districts. I believe that when the Government is acquiring land we on this side of the House are usually provided with some sort of plan of the land the Government proposes to purchase, and I wonder if the Minister would be so kind as to show the members of the Opposition the plan of the proposed area of land.
4.25 p.m.

I wonder if the Minister would be so kind as to show the members of the Opposition a plan of the proposed site, Sir? (*Asides*) If the Minister of Communications and Works has anything to say he should stand on his feet and say it. Whether it is 6,000 square feet or 1,000 square feet of land, as long as the Government proposes to buy the land, I should like to see the plan.

Secondly, I hope that, now the Government seems to be in the mood for providing public baths and latrines, they will pay attention to the fact that there are a number of areas within the Bridgetown area that are in need of these things. I should like the Minister to give attention to these areas, Sir.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, very briefly on this Resolution parish-pump politics is a feature of the House of Assembly and we have to prime the pump occasionally, but I am very glad to see the Leader of the House who I know knows about this matter - it refers to the provision of public baths in the Porey Spring and Rock Hall area of St. Thomas. Originally, as the Minister may recall, it was the intention to put a bath at Barker's Corner to serve both districts, but better counsel prevailed and it was appreciated...

Mr. SPEAKER: I would inform the hon. member that this is a Resolution dealing with the compulsory acquisition of land situate at Kendal, St. John. That has nothing to do with a bath at Porey Spring, or in St. Philip North, which needs a bath.

Mr. ADAMS: Sir, I would be glad to put the case for St. Philip North for you, if you so wish.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will not compromise; I will not allow you to put the case for Porey Spring now.

Mr. ADAMS: With great respect, Your Honour, it may very well be that the strictest possible con-

struction of the Rules would say that when you talk about one public bath you should never mention another, although I believe that there is a school of thought that says you can argue against the Resolution on the ground that you should not be acquiring land in St. John and you should be acquiring it somewhere else for a bath. I believe it has always been the practice of the House to permit pursuit of a Resolution along those lines. I can say that I am objecting to this Resolution, because I do not think the money should be spent in St. John and it should be spent in St. Thomas.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have heard you at great length, and I would ask you to stick to the Resolution: the compulsory acquisition of land situate at Kendal, St. John.

Mr. ADAMS: Sir, you have put me in a quandary. Normally, if a Minister had said that I would vote against the Resolution to mark my disapproval of the Minister's attitude. I do not want to vote against the Resolution, Sir, because I believe that the people at Kendal should have a bath. All Barbadians are entitled to a bath. I am only going to ask the Minister to say something which, I believe, he is well capable of saying. What has become of the situation to which I referred earlier? I have said that better counsels have prevailed in certain directions, and they are putting a bath in St. John. I really do now know what to say, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have heard you at great length.

Mr. ADAMS: Not on the bath at St. John, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will you address your mind to the bath at St. John.

Mr. ADAMS: Yes, Sir. I am trying to address my mind to the bath at St. John. The business of the House of Assembly may appear to be speeded by my talking about the bath in St. John. If I am prevented from saying what I want to say and what the Minister wants to answer, then it will mean a Resolution might have to come in Private Members' time to take up the time of the House and...

Mr. SPEAKER: I really cannot allow this. I have made a ruling. If the hon. member has finished speaking, will he take his seat, please.

Mr. ADAMS: This seems to be a warfare day for the Opposition, Sir. I am glad that the people in Kendal, St. John, are going to have a bath. I only wish that the people in other parts of Barbados could have the same facility. I believe that there is a place called Rock Hall in St. Thomas and the Minister wants to say something about it. I will speak to him privately about it afterwards. The business of the people have to be done no matter what matters may be placed in the way by the raising of ignorance, and I use the word in its widest and not its pejorative sense.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, in seconding the Motion for the acquisition of this parcel of land

at Kendal, St. John. (Mr. MOTTLEY: Are you now seconding it?) I understand that it was seconded already. I am speaking on the Resolution, Sir. I am very *au fait* with this particular matter in that I was the Minister at the time when all of the negotiations were made and the site selected. The acquisition will take place, and the bath will be placed at the site selected by us many months ago.

The Leader of the Opposition wants to hear something about the bath for St. Thomas. If he would have a word with the appropriate Minister, probably, after this sitting is ended, then he may get further information. The point is that it is the policy of the Government to provide these Communal Baths and Latrines on an Island-wide basis. The site in St. Thomas was selected, and the matter will be dealt with in the same manner as the others.

Mr. C. L. BOLDEN entered the Chamber and took his seat.

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

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY (REHABILITATION,
PRICE STABILIZATION AND LABOUR
WELFARE) ORDER, 1971

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the next item is a Resolution which stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Science and Technology. It is a Resolution to approve the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation) Price Stabilization And Labour Welfare Order, 1971. We are asking for leave to deal with this Resolution in all its stages today owing to the fact that it is dependent on this that the bonuses are paid at Christmas time. It is a regular Resolution that comes before the House every year after the crop season and after the whole crop has been assessed and all the figures are in. It cannot be dealt with until the end of October normally. As we are meeting every two weeks instead of every week - over the last month we have been meeting fortnightly instead of weekly - we would certainly like to see this Resolution dealt with, because it would be a means of making payments to most deserving categories of workers and peasants in particular. The Hon. Minister will explain matters further, if necessary.
4.35 p.m.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Opposition, we are in agreement with dealing with this Resolution in all its stages today because we are aware that it is on a vote from this House that the sums involved must be paid.

THE SUGAR INDUSTRY (REHABILITATION
PRICE STABILISATION AND LABOUR
WELFARE) ORDER, 1971

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, in moving the passing of this Resolution, I should just like to point out that it is a customary Resolution. There is little or no change. Provision is made for \$4.80

per ton to be levied in respect of the Rehabilitation Fund, \$4.80 in respect of the Sugar and Fancy Molasses, and that the levy for the Sugar Industry Price Stabilisation Fund should be \$2.60 on 100 tons of sugar and 290 wine gallons in respect of fancy molasses. It is set out quite clearly in the Schedule and the Addendum is as explanatory as I can make it.

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

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, this concludes Government Business for today's sitting. But before moving the adjournment, I am asking leave to give notice of a Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking leave to give notice of a Resolution, and unless there is any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted the hon. member.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to place the sum of \$30,174 at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part I Current as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1971-72 No. 16 which forms the Schedule to the Resolution.

THE ADJOURNMENT

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

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 7th December, 1971, at 2.30 p.m.

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

Mr. ADAMS: I would like to say something on the motion for the adjournment.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am afraid the hon. member is out of order. I had no notice that there would be a matter being raised on the motion for adjournment.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, there is a motion before the House and the hon. member can speak on the motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: Leave is granted.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that the Opposition came here today with the intention of expediting the matters of Government Business which are before the House. This is a reason why we can finish so early and why we can have perhaps such a long adjournment and not have to come back on Friday to pass one or other of the

Resolutions which we dealt with in all its stages today. We came here, accepted fully the principle so clearly enunciated by the hon. member for the Michael North-East, the honourable lady, at the last meeting that the people's business must be done, and where it is non-controversial it should be done with despatch. Now we ask members on the opposite side to recognise that the Opposition has as much of an interest in having the country governed as they do and that at certain times all of us are fully aware of the fact that we are Barbadians as much as anyone else, and I therefore on behalf of the Opposition would like to say that I am extremely disappointed and distressed at the few moments of bad temper and accusations, many of which would be actionable in the Courts were not the Parliamentary Privileges and Immunities Bill in existence, that have been made here today. We are genuinely disappointed and distressed, and Sir, I am going to say this with the greatest possible respect. I have never before heard a Speaker try to stop the Leader of the Opposition from speaking on the adjournment and suggest that I am out of order. I would with great respect suggest that you are a new member of this House and the function of the Clerk is to advise you. Do not be too proud to take advice. The Clerk is there for that purpose.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.....

Mr. SPEAKER: While I will admit I am a new member, I will not have my rulings questioned. I will ask the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to withdraw that remark. This is not a question of being proud. I find that remark most offensive. I ask the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to withdraw that remark immediately.

Mr. ADAMS: Can Your Honour tell me exactly what remarks you would like withdrawn? Perhaps the Shorthand Reporter will read out that portion.

Mr. SPEAKER: Reference that I am too proud to take advice from the Clerk. I want that remark withdrawn immediately.

Mr. ADAMS: With respect, Your Honour, I have asked Your Honour not to be too proud. I have not said Your Honour is too proud. I would not suggest it. I am just suggesting that all of us must show humility before God and the rules of this House; and all of us can take advice. That is all I am saying, I am not suggesting that Your Honour is too proud, and if the words are read, I am sure Your Honour will find I have not made such a suggestion. Any hon. member who has been in the House with me will tell you that I respect the Chair at all times.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member please take his seat. I will ask the Shorthand Writer to read

back that particular passage to which I take very strong objection.

4.45 p.m.

The translation is as follows: "With the greatest respect, I have never before heard a Speaker try to stop the Leader of the Opposition from speaking on the adjournment and suggest that I am out of order. I would with great respect suggest that you are a new member of this House and the Clerk should advise you and the function of the Clerk is to advise you. Do not be too proud to take advice, the Clerk is there for that purpose." I will ask the Hon. Leader of the Opposition not to commit a breach of the rules of this House. I am prepared to say, looking at these remarks very closely, that no offence is meant, but I would ask again not to infringe the spirit of the Standing Orders.

Mr. ADAMS: Let me apologise. Your Honour thinks that my remarks may have been couched in a spirit that may in the circumstances perhaps infringe to some extent on Your Honour's conception of the dignity of the Chair, but it is a serious point, because I have argued in this House for a long time that some of the most spectacular examples of bad behaviour have arisen because of the Opposition's misunderstanding or misconception of the rules of relation to the Presiding Officer's understanding and conception of them. That is a fact. Equally as Your Honour may have been offended by the tone in which I spoke, I must ask Your Honour to understand that I was also offended when I got up to speak to be told I was out of order, and I am appealing to all hon. members, the Field Marshals on both sides - to use the phrase of the Prime Minister - to let us try to conduct the business of the House of Assembly with decorum and trust. That is essentially important, that members who should know better should not break the rules. If hon. members on that side were prepared to give to us the trust to act as members of the House of Assembly, according to the rules and in the proper spirit, in the same way we give the Ministers the trust, that they will conduct the affairs of their Departments in the interest of the people of Barbados; if these two mutual trusts can be exchanged across the floor of the House we will get on much better.

I am not coming in here to break the rules of the House, and if I break them, and even when I do not break them, I am prepared to apologise for any discomfort which remarks of mine may have caused. I am told I have a bitter tongue and I try to suppress it. If everybody does that we might get along better in the House of Assembly.

The question that the House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 7th December, 1971 at 2.30 p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.

4.52 p.m.