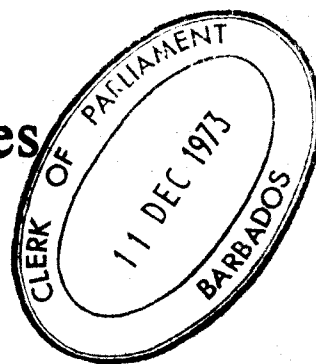


THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)



FIRST SESSION OF 1971 - 76

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 19th December, 1972.

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

PRESENT

His Honour N. G. A. MAXWELL, LL.B., (Speaker); Mr. R. St.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P., (Chairman of Committees); His Honour C. A. E. HOPPIN, (Deputy Speaker); Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, M.A., (Leader of the Opposition); 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 and Acting Leader of the House) and Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE, (Minister of Health and Welfare).

Prayers were read.

LOYAL ADDRESS RE CONGRATULATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF HER MAJESTY'S SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. SPEAKER: I have received from His Excellency the Governor-General a letter from the Private Secretary to the Queen which reads as follows:

Buckingham Palace

7th December, 1972

(My Dear Governor-General,)

Thank you for your letter of 27th November with which you enclosed for The Queen a Loyal Address from the House of Assembly of Barbados conveying its congratulations on the occasion of Her Majesty's Silver Wedding Anniversary.

The Queen would be grateful if you would inform the House of her and the Duke of

Edinburgh's deep appreciation of their loyal greetings and congratulations sent to them on this happy occasion.

Yours sincerely,
Private Secretary to the Queen."

RE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Mr. SPEAKER: Regarding the privileges of this House, further to my statement on 20th March, 1972 to this Honourable Chamber in respect of an alleged breach of privilege purported to have been committed on 7th March, 1972 by the Advocate-News Newspaper and the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation I intimated on the 18th April 1972 that I would refer the matter to the Director of Public Prosecutions he being the appropriate authority for reference of such matters.

I also initiated arrangements for the relevant copies of Hansard to be prepared so that the Director of Public Prosecutions would be furnished with the necessary documentary evidence of the relevant proceedings before this Honourable Chamber.

Now the relevant sections of the Legislature (Privileges Immunities and Powers) Act of 1963 provide that defamatory misleading or prohibited publications be dealt with by the Magistrate's Court. However, section 114, (1) of the Magistrates' Jurisdiction and Procedure Act 1956 imposes a time limitation of six months within which a complaint or information shall be laid.

Regretably as a result of certain administrative delays I have not been able to obtain copies of the official record in time to place them at the disposal of the Director of Public Prosecutions before the expiration of the Statutory six - month limitation period.

As a result the matter must now be left to die a natural death. This is to be regretted. If the

dignity and privileges of this Honourable Chamber are to be maintained; if we are to do the people's business with dispatch and efficiency there must be adequate machinery to deal with interference from within and without the walls of the Honourable Chamber.

I therefore urge members to display a little more enthusiasm and support for the existing select committee on Privileges of this Honourable House so that a set of practical and sensible rules may be worked out and any necessary Statutory changes implemented.

Mr. BOLDEN entered the Chamber and took his seat.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following documents on behalf of the Minister of Finance.

The Customs Duties (Corrugated Cartons Ltd.) order, 1972.

The Customs Duties (Elastic Webbing Limited) Order, 1972.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to amend the note to Item 9 of Head 35 – Ministry of Education (8) Scholarships, Grants and Subventions, in Part I – Current of the Approved Estimates, 1972–73, and to ask for permission to deal with this Resolution in all its stages at today's Sitting of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: If that meets with the approval of hon. members, permission will be granted to the hon. member to deal with the Resolution in all its stages today. (*Pause.*) There being no objection, permission is granted.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, of a Bill to provide for the raising or guaranteeing of loans from the Inter-American Development Bank by the Government of Barbados for the purpose of financing development projects in Barbados and for connected purposes.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to provide for the raising or guaranteeing of loans from the Inter-American Development Bank by the Government of Barbados for

the purposes of financing development projects in Barbados and for connected purposes be now read a first time.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY entered the Chamber and took his seat.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the suspension of Standing Orders Nos. 5, 14, 16, 18, 19, 40 and 45 for the remainder of today's sitting.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

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

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: 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 took the Chair.

A Resolution for the sum of \$142,772 was called.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1972-73, No. 23

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 9 stand part.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 16 stand part.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Chairman, I note that the Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Science and Technology is not in his place, but I think the notes quite accurately explain the reasons for the supplementary.

I beg to move that Head 30 stand part.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 35 stand part.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

2.45 p.m.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, the particular item I want to deal with is the question of the National Football Coach, and the note to it states that arrangements have been made in cooperation with the Barbados Football Association to engage the services of a trained and experienced football coach on contract for a period of one year with an option to renew for a period not exceeding two years.

The services of the coach will be available to the Football Association for their programme of development and the Association will be contributing approximately \$4,800 per annum towards the contract salary of the coach as well as providing a motor vehicle for his use in the performance of his duties. It goes on to state the full salary and the amounts are set out.

What has been concerning the members of this party for some time is that this is only a partial remedy to the need for a football coach in this country, and what we have suggested on this side of the House is that although we recognise the need to bring someone from overseas to coach in football and to assist the Football Association at the moment, arrangements should be made at the same time that when this person is here some officer of the Ministry of Sports or some other suitable person should be sent abroad for a period of at least two years to receive specialised training in coaching, if not we are going to be faced with a situation with which we were faced not so long ago, that everything went adequately so long as the overseas coach was here, but once he left, football as a whole and the coaching project fell back into the doldrums because the local coach, although a very able and efficient man, does not as yet

have the full international qualifications required to be an expert coach. We would seriously ask the Government not only to invest the sum of \$2,300 or whatever it is required to assist in the payment of this coach, but if you are going to make your sports programme meaningful and reach out to all the villages in Barbados, then you should at this stage take immediate steps to have someone sent overseas to be trained as a football coach. I see no objection myself to the present holder of the post in the Sports Department, although I believe he is only there on secondment or temporarily, being sent overseas for the required coaching. As a player in his day he served Barbados well and I think he has the basic knowledge that is required of a coach. I think the programme is such that the Government may find that there are at least two people who could adequately serve in this position as coaches, and I would seriously ask the Government to take immediate steps to have the officer sent abroad to get the specialised coaching so that he can come back here and at least for a year work with the qualified coach and then be in a position to take over and guide football in this country, because the mainstay of the stadium which the Government or the Jaycees built must in the long run be football, and if the investment is going to be meaningful, and not merely a question of \$2,000 a year for two or three years, then I think that steps should be taken immediately to have an officer sent abroad for training.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Chairman, I wish to thank the hon. member for his comments and speaking as he was on behalf of the Opposition, I would like to thank them for their support of this particular measure. In his contribution to this debate the hon. member for Bridgetown did state that it was a partial remedy. This of course is recognised by the Government and that is precisely why we have come here with this particular provision. We believe that expert coaching is necessary if the standard of football in the country is to be improved, and that is why when the Association made its request without hesitation the Government supported the proposal. Previously we had given similar support to the provision of Mr. Graham Adams as the football coach, and at that time when it was agreed, one of the conclusions arrived at was that suitable persons should be selected and given special coaching locally and then finally one of those persons selected for overseas training. The principle is accepted that there will be need for the recruitment or identification of someone, a national, who would undertake the training for this particular sport on an on-going basis, rather than placing reliance on the importation of these skills from outside the country.

Indeed, Mr. Chairman, I can say that Mr. Reggie Haynes who is an officer assigned to the Sports Department has been assigned as an under-study to the coach, and it is hoped that after a period of training here, should this be the recommendation he would be selected for training abroad. I think I have dealt with the particular point raised by the hon. member. He is concerned about the fact that some national should be chosen to give on-going services in this particular regard. The arrangement of the Ministry is that such an under-study should be provided, that Mr. Reggie Haynes has been allocated as that under-study and should the recommendation be made, appropriate arrangements for overseas training will be provided.

The question that Head 35 – Ministry of Education – stand part, was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head 36 – Ecclesiastical – was called.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 36 – Ecclesiastical – stand part.

Hon. P. G. MORGAN: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the Resolution for the sum of \$142,772 do now pass.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of one Money Resolution in Committee of Supply.

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

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

On the separate motions of Hon. P. M. GREAVES, seconded by Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE, the Money Resolution for the sum of \$142,772 was read a first and second time and agreed to respectively.

Mr. WALCOTT entered the Chamber and took his seat.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I move that Order No. 3 standing in the name of the Minister of Agriculture, Science and Technology be now taken as the instant Order of the Day. In the absence of the Minister, I seek leave to deal with the matter.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE NOTE TO ITEM 109 OF HEAD 30 – MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, at the time of the passing of the Annual Estimates a sum of \$147,164 was provided under Head 30, Item 109. The purpose of this provision was to purchase certain equipment. Among the things which it was intended should be purchased was equipment for the Central Livestock Station. This piece of equipment, which the Ministry of Agriculture had intended to purchase, has now been made a gift to the Government of Barbados, and it is no longer necessary to utilise some of the money in the allocation in order to purchase this.

It is now intended, Sir, to use this money to purchase equipment for the Yam Processing Unit. In order to do this, it will be necessary to amend the note. It is, therefore, sought under this Resolution to delete the note in that Item and substitute the following therefor:

“Provides for equipment for the Pathological Laboratory, Government Laboratory, Entomological & Pests Control Laboratory, Information Services, Soils Unit, the Economic Unit, Veterinary Laboratory, Sugar Cane Variety Testing Station and Agricultural Engineering Unit.”

Mr. Speaker, this is a very simple Resolution which I commend to this Honourable Chamber, and I beg to move that it do now pass.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 4 be now taken as the instant Order of the Day. It stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Finance.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

SECOND READING OF THE DEVELOPMENT (CANADIAN LOAN) BILL, 1972

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, it is not often that I have the pleasure of rising to ask the approval of the House for a Resolution of this kind. I do not think that I could let the occasion pass without saying that the Government of Canada has really extended a truly good-neighbour policy to the Island of Barbados.

3.15 p.m.

Their assistance has been timely and constructive and it is also the kind of assistance which has greatly added to the infrastructure of this country, so that we can go on to grow and develop. The reason why I say that is this, and I am not starting a debate on something which is irrelevant to the discussion or the debate upon which I have invited the House to support. Ever since the four Heads of Government of the Independent Commonwealth Caribbean countries expressed an intention to open diplomatic relations with Cuba for reasons which I do not have to elaborate on now, some of them are obvious, it has always been clear that the foreign policy of Barbados has never been a by-product of the excursions of the President of the United States of America to far off lands; we have always pursued an independent line in the United Nations, in the Organisation of American States and elsewhere, but there are a lot of people going around with a lot of false impressions about the status of this sovereign independent country. Why I want to draw the attention of the House to the very realistic and generous way in which we have been dealt with by a fellow member of the Commonwealth, in contra-distinction to the rapacious and arrogant way in which the United States State Department has tended to deal with countries like ours, is that I do not think any member of this House is faced or in anyway disturbed about the threat of the United States State Department that, according to the press reports which I know to be true coming from a high ranking member of the State Department, they are not pleased with the decision made by the Commonwealth Caribbean Independent countries, and they spoke about aid and that kind of business.

Now there is absolutely no aid programme from the United States to the Government of Barbados. They offered us \$3.5US million for housing about three years ago and we in our own turn turned it down because we could see it being beneficial only to the Government of the United States, or the capitalist entrepreneurs, contractors, I suppose architects, shippers and American banks and not beneficial to the working-class people of Barbados at all. When I was in Washington in 1968, the Secretary of State thought that I would have to bring back some great beneficence from the United States of America on my return home — that was not the purpose of my visit; I was invited and I went; I did not go to beg anybody for anything, neither did I go to bring back home any bacon which would have been a quality not readily assimilated by the inhabitants of Barbados in any event; we like Irish and Danish bacon and we do not particularly approve of their product; — so Mr. Dean Rusk, if I may call his name, said on the first occasion that now that Barbados has joined the Organisation of American States, the United States Government would be willing to provide the subscription, which we know what it is, several million dollars, for Barbados to join the Organisation of American States, and I changed the conversation. I did not even hear him. As far as I was concerned he had not even spoken, and the next morning I went back to the State Department and he said, I was trying to bring to your attention that the President is willing to recommend that Barbados' subscription to the Organisation of American States, be paid by the United States and I said, I heard you the first time, Mr. Secretary.

We have a saying in Barbados that if you cannot afford the subscription you should not join the club, and that was the end of that conversation. That was their form of aid that they offered at that time, because I was not going to in any way mortgage the vote of Barbados to the United States of America as mortgagee so that whenever we had to make a decision we would have to look over our shoulders. We have paid our subscription regularly from year to year which is more than the United States has done for the U.N. or the Soviet Union has done in regard to their subscription to the U.N., or a lot of Latin American countries have done in respect of the Organisation of American States.

Now it is official in the archives of Washington, seen by the Minister of Education when he was in Washington a few weeks ago, a statement to the effect that there is no aid programme from the United States of America to Barbados. There is no aid programme of any kind, neither loans, nor grants nor anything else. What they have here is something which the Nixon

Administration does not approve of anyhow, and that is in the Ministry of Education for some years now we have had the assistance of the Peace Corps volunteers, and so the salaries of these volunteers would be paid by the Peace Corps programme, but if you consider that aid to Barbados, and the only reason why we have solicited the assistance of the Peace Corps volunteers is that we have been unable to recruit people. It is not a question of shortage of money or Uncle Sam helping us with our budget. It is a question of our inability to recruit people at the salaries offered or any kind of salary because mathematics and science teachers particularly are in very short supply all over the world. We are very grateful for the assistance of the Peace Corps volunteers, and I want to stress this, not to the State Department, because it is a separate programme altogether, and it is part of the propaganda machinery of the United States of America.

I have no evidence whatsoever that the Peace Corps has even been used in Barbados as an extension of the intelligence services of the United States of America. It is very easy to say these things, and people frequently say that the Peace Corps is only an extension of the C.I.A., but all I can say is that the C.I.A. must be recruiting some very naive and inexperienced persons at this stage if they have to rely on Peace Corps volunteers, many of whom have strayed out of college and do not even know where Washington is far less the place they have out in Silver Springs. I just want to get it clear. There is no aid programme from the United States of America. We have never solicited any aid from the United States of America. They offered us \$7,000,000 for housing, we told them to keep it in very polite terms, they have given us a great deal of trouble on the question of imports into the United States from our manufacturers, and I do not want anybody who is resident here, who is a native born Barbadian or a visitor to Barbados to feel that Barbados is in some way or the other dependent on the United States of America for anything in connection with this Government. The only thing the United States could export to Barbados is bad manners and racial discrimination, and we do not want either one of those. I want to get this straight because when an official in the State Department comes out and makes a statement that they are not pleased, if he is not pleased, he can lump it. That is what we used to say at school. I am not even interested in reading in the newspaper that they are not pleased. I want them to understand what the position is, and they had better let all the visitors to Barbados know that we do not owe the United States of America any money whatsoever, not \$5.00. You cannot find anywhere in the Appropriations any money to be paid back to the United States of

America in respect of loans or otherwise from that Government to this country. Having got the records straight, I do not want to make this a debate on the attitude of the foreign policy of the United States, but there are certain things which have to be straightened.

3.25 p.m.

On the other hand, my experience with the Government of Canada has been much more fortunate than any experience with any other Government in any part of the world. The Government of Canada has been very interested in our agricultural programmes, and the Government of Canada has given me the undertaking, which I will give to the House to approve when everything is ready, for an amount of approximately \$20 billion for the airport development at a rate of interest which is less than one half the rate we pay on Government bonds now, but I do not want to go into details. Not only have we had our loans for the improvement of our livestock industry — nothing like that have we had from the United States — we had a salesman coming down here to sell feed at a very high price, we had nothing from Britain, and I am not going to classify the United States of America or the United Kingdom as either friends or enemies, any number can play. They are neutral as to the position on the improvement of Barbados.

Our aid has been on a multi-national basis, we have put up programmes to the UNDP, to UNESCO, to the Inter-American Development Bank and to the Organisation of American States through the Inter-American Development Bank. Then on a bilateral basis, all the external assistance apart from experts from Israel, Venezuela, countries which are well disposed towards the nation of Barbados, the bulk of our financial aid programmes has come from what used to be called the Dominion of Canada. We have had a programme in respect of livestock, it must be in the vicinity of 1,000 cows imported into Barbados financed by the Canadian Development Agency. We have had loans in respect of the sugar industry, and the sum which we are now seeking approval to borrow is approximately \$3½ million E.C. for the sugar industry. I do not wish to go into too much detail for very obvious reasons. Members on the other side have been invited from time to time to see the experiments that take place, but we are on the verge of a revolution in the sugar industry in Barbados, we hope to have a very closely integrated scheme, not only with the extraction of sugar from the sugar cane but with the feeding of livestock. Obviously we have not advertised this a lot because we do not believe in sensationalism.

We have been very low key on this exercise because we do not want other people to steal our

idea. We have been working steadily towards revolutionising the sugar industry in Barbados and getting more out of the sugar cane, and we have been feeding and marketing animals with the sugar cane all through the year; we have been extracting confith from sugar cane not only during the crop season but right through the year, and we have been marketing animals, high quality beef animals, right through the year as a result of this project. Phase 2 which we are moving into now, we are going to set up the facilities for a factory on the borders of St. George and St. John, at Lemon Arbor, and we have reached an agreement with the Sugar Producers Federation on the kind of participation which should come from Canada, which should come from the Government and which should come from the Federation. Even the disposal of the assets we have finally reached agreement on with the sugar industry. The Barbados Government is going to be responsible for the loan, part of the loan is going to be recoverable from the sale of machinery and so on when the final plant has proved its usefulness, but the terms of this loan are exceptionally generous by any standards, because we do not have to repay until 1982, and then we have 40 years after that to repay something like \$3.4 million.

I do not think that the loan will impose any kind of strain on the finances of Barbados, but the benefits which will enure to the sugar industry and to the whole economy of Barbados as a result of the experiments which can now go forward as a result of the acquisition of this money, those benefits are in capital. Both in financial and sociological terms we expect the benefits in capital. I do not think that any one in the House can say that this is not a generous provision by the Government of Canada. We have had to do a lot of work to convince the Canadian authorities, and the only reason why I have spoken at length is to clear the air on some of the stupid pronouncement which you see from time to time emanating from people who are supposed to be responsible in the United States of America. As far as I am concerned, the closer we develop our links with Canada and with the Caribbean as a whole — I would like to say that this will not only extend to the Liberal Government, both the Liberal Government for two or three terms of office and the Conservative Government of Canada have always been responsible for the practical requirements of the region in general and Barbados in particular.

I therefore beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Before any member speaks, I wonder if the Prime Minister could tell us what the

sugar cane separation plant actually is. What type of plant is involved?

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: I thought that by this time the hon. member would have visited the site. I know when there is anything before the House like the Dental Registration Bill he visits the dentists and gets a lot of information.

If you are dealing with the sugar industry he can go to the whole industry because they are more or less opposed to the Government, so he should not have any difficulty in finding that out. We have never discussed the nature of the processing which is going on up there, but briefly if I may explain it, the present method of extraction of sugar from cane involves the chopping of the cane into small bits by a series of knives, and then the grinding between a series of rollers which produces the juice on one side which is called the raw liquor, and the bagasse on the other side.
3.35 p.m.

I am sure the hon. member knows the answer. I am not going to disclose patents and so on, but very briefly to tell him what goes on. The bagasse comes out in short lengths of fibre probably not more than a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch or a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length and the juice is ground out by pressure from the pith of the cane. Bagasse is never put back through the mill to extract as much juice as possible, and then the bagasse either goes out into the furnace or out into the field. The juice is then boiled. I do not have to go through this process of boiling and so on.

Under the present process the cane is split in lengths, say, 3 ft. or 4 ft. Let us take 3 ft. as an average because it is easy. The cane is cut at a very high speed by a machine that sounds like a jet engine. When the cane is split in two — I cannot prove that it is done in two equal halves, but I have seen it done — the pith of the cane is decorated and it comes out looking like granulated sugar. That is called confith, and it can be fed directly to animals with other supplements as was being done here at the Pine over the past two years. It has been fed to sheep, to cows, bulls and poultry within two miles of the Central Livestock Station.

There is a Plant there that works every day. The sugar-making process is done by a diffuser. Now, diffusers have been in existence in the sugar industry in places like Puerto Rico, Haiti and I believe in Cuba and some parts of Central America. the diffusion process is extraction, and it can take the juice and the sucrose out of the sugar cane without crushing it any further. It is done under a vacuum process. I am not an agricultural chemist, so I do not know much about that. I think the

hon. member for St. Joseph, probably, knows more about sugar chemistry than I do. Well, I cannot know everything, and he has to know a little of something. Maybe he will be able to elaborate on it when he gets up.

Now, the chemistry process I do not know much about, but by the diffusion process you can get a far larger percentage of the sucrose out of the sugar than you can get by grinding. Grinding, I think in 10 years' time, will be out-dated and become obsolete, because the cost of the machinery is considerably less than the cost of the big rollers you now have in the existing sugar factories. At Uplands Factory an additional shed will be built. The cane will be separated by this process, and the long fibre rind of the cane is what will be used for the manufacturing of building components. I have seen beams actually being made out of this. All wood is a combination of fibres, but having the long staple of, say, a 3ft-length of cane bonded together by the new resins that are available, this creates a much stronger kind of building component than even, let us say, greenheart or any of the natural building materials. In a nutshell that is the position.

A considerable amount of money has been put into this project by the Barbados Government, already by the Canadian Government in the Engineers by developing the process, and also by the large firm of Czarnikow who has also established a Plant and has spent over \$5 million in St. Kitts for the development of this process. There are only two places in the Western Hemisphere that I know that this is being done: one is in St. Kitts and one is in Barbados. Naturally, Barbados has the advantage of having a greater sugar production even in a lean year. We can have four or five times the sugar production of St. Kitts, so there will be several of these small Plants, we hope, scattered around on the country side.

I am not going into technical details, but the hon. member asked me a question and I thought that I should tell him as much as I know. I should also like to say that I am sure the Minister of Agriculture could arrange for any of the members of the Opposition, who would respect the patents of the inventors, to visit the project any time from today on and to see what is being done up there both on the nutritional side and the feeding of animals, and also the extraction of the pith from the sugar cane itself.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker.....

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

Mr. WALCOTT: I rise to speak. The hon. member has lost his right to speak again, because on the second reading speech you do not ask questions.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am going to allow the hon. member to speak again. You might speak, but the hon. member is going to speak again.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I want to make it clear that we have the Standing Orders and they have to be adhered to. If a member rises on the second reading of a Bill, he rises to make a speech. He cannot rise on the second reading to ask a question because that in itself is a speech.

Mr. SPEAKER: Point made.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: Two hon. members cannot be on their feet at the same time. The hon. member has risen to a point of order, will you kindly give way.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Has the Prime Minister made his final reply and, therefore, nobody else can speak?

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order! Two members cannot be on their feet at the same time. I have allowed the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to ply one question to the Hon. Mover of the Motion. This was irregular, and I will not allow it again.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I accept that. So long as I get it accepted that it is irregular for an hon. member to ask a question on a second reading. On a second reading you are only allowed to make a speech once.

Mr. SPEAKER: The point is well made. You have my indulgence.

Mr. WALCOTT: Let the Leader of the Opposition know the Rules. I am not opposed to the loan. On this whole question of the rationalisation of the sugar industry, I should like to say that this is still a private industry, and I should like the Government to make it clear to the people who operate the sugar industry that they must begin to become modern. There is the concept in Barbados that, when the sugar industry is in difficulty or apparent difficulty, everybody in Barbados must put up his hands in the air and come to the rescue of the sugar industry to rehabilitate an industry for the purpose of private people continuing an industry in the same old

fa-tion. Whether or not they can get labour, they will come and say they cannot get labour and they want the Government to amend the immigration policy to enable them to bring cheap labour from St. Vincent, St. Lucia or wherever the people come from, but they never operate on the basis of....

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I just want to get the position straight. The Government has never allowed any cheap labour to come from any place outside of Barbados. People who come here are paid the same wage rates as Barbadian labour and the hon. member knows that. He would be in dereliction of his duty as General Secretary of a union, if he allowed a Government to do anything like that.

Mr. SPEAKER: Point of explanation!

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, the Barbados Workers Union cannot prevent the Government from allowing people to come here. The only way we can do that is to go on strike when they come here, but if they come here to work — all I am saying is that the labour is cheaper in St. Vincent than it is in Barbados, and they will be able to get them to come here. I say that to say more, because I am satisfied that the sugar industry rationalisation programme must be buttressed with an understanding that in Barbados they have to get modern.

3.45 p.m.

There is another aspect of the sugar industry, and I will say this to the Prime Minister: the Government has inaugurated an Agricultural Development Corporation. I am not a believer in names; I am a believer in performance, and I feel that if you have an Agricultural Development Corporation, the Minister and the Government must see to it that it is an ultra efficient organisation and more efficient than even the organisation we came and found, and not to operate and drag behind them. I am going to give some examples of this rationalisation programme. You cannot run a programme from reading a book, and you cannot run a changed programme by theory. You have to run it by getting right into the expertise of it and seeing what it produces.

In these areas where they are producing more and using more machinery as this programme is going to utilise services and equipment and machinery, one of the problems we find, Mr. Speaker, is that the sugar industry is a little bit loathe to face the real problem that if you are going to import machinery, if you are going to rationalise, you cannot rationalise and think that you can pay the same rates. Fewer people are going to be in the industry, therefore you must make up

your minds that the kind of wages that you associated with an agricultural worker must change. You cannot expect that \$30 or \$40 that you indicate as an average wage for a sugar worker to be the wage if you are going in for a rationalisation programme and mechanisation. You have to make up your minds that you have to pay out wages, because you are paying fewer people.

What I have found here in Barbados is that we have a real job in getting people in the sugar industry to understand that they have three times as much earnings as they did before and they are not using anywhere near the people they once used, and therefore you are not asking for too much, but you are asking for a redistribution of the income in the industry. As an example, they are using cane cutting and cane loading machines. They are still experimenting with them, but we still have a job to impress upon these people that if you put in a cane loading machine or a cane cutting machine, you cannot tell us that it costs money. We know it costs money, but do not make us believe that you have to write off the cost of the machinery, you have to replace the machinery and therefore all the savings you reflect are to replace the machinery; but when we tell you you have to pay the people who work in the industry twice or three times the amount, it looks as if we are opposed to this rationalisation programme. I say this because on this same question of rationalisation — and rationalisation does not only mean one aspect, it means a broad aspect — we in the Union feel that the rural development is part of the rationalisation programme. What provision are you going to make for the workers in a rationalisation programme? How are you going to utilise the land that is not as fully utilised for sugar cane for people to live, and to what extent are you going to make other social provisions?

We are satisfied that any rationalisation programme must as a matter of course take into account the social position and social consequences of the worker, and we have expressed our views that there should be rural redevelopment within the sugar industry in order that the people who live in the sugar industry would have a better way of life as part of this programme. This has received a foolish rebuttal as if we want to take away somebody's land or want to take over and run the Government. I do not know if there is anything wrong in saying how a Government should be run in the country in which you live. Unless you are a total idiot, I do not see anything wrong in saying that, and if by saying how we think things should be done it is going to be said that we want to take over the Government, they can go on saying that. That is not going to prevent us from saying what we have to say, because we do not believe in that

sort of stupidity. We in the Union are satisfied that a rationalisation programme must be based not only on technical efficiency, but it must also be associated with what technical efficiency can provide, a reassessment of the industry in a manner that life in the sugar industry becomes more constant and not as irregular as it has been in the past where a man or woman looked upon the sugar industry as something they should not go into.

We feel, Mr. Speaker, that the sugar industry can be made to attract young men and women in Barbados to enter it, but that can only come from the policy of the people who own and operate the industry to make the people who enter it feel that they have a stake in it, and that it is not an industry only for digging yams or selling potatoes and getting cane plants done, as you are aware of in your own constituency where there is a big run around as to what they will pay for planting canes, and if you are going to have an A-class or a B-class man, although for planting canes it does not matter if you are an A-class or a B-class man, you are paid a rate for so doing; but you get all these means of circumventing these things. I will say more on another occasion to show the attitude of the people in the sugar industry, because legislation was passed guaranteeing people a five day week, but the people in the sugar industry that this is going to help are trying now to circumvent this legislation by the circuitous route of not wanting to reclassify all the people, and if a man was an A-class man before, they now by their own prescription want to define him as a B-class man. Some of the operations an A-class man would have done before are memories, and therefore they want to redefine. A B-class man works for less than an A-class man, and instead of giving A five days a week which is equivalent to so much, they want to say now that it will be three at A and two at B, or two at A and three at B. These are things I have lived with for twenty-five years and am aware of. That is why I feel that any programme of rationalisation of the sugar industry must be faced very brutally.

I can say this, Mr. Speaker, because I have a vested interest in the sugar industry on the basis that the workers must get the maximum out of the investment. That is where my interest resides. I am therefore going to offend a lot of people because I do not believe in this idea that the sugar industry should still be run by private people. Now that the Government has established diplomatic relations with Cuba, I bet you that none of the sugar barons in Barbados would go to Cuba to see how the programme runs. They would send officials; but I want to see Mr. Robinson, Mr. Ward and all the people who own plantations go to Cuba. (Mr. BOLDEN: Do you want me to go?) You would not

go to Cuba because you are more conservative than the ones I have called, because when you get people who have not been accustomed to money getting near to money, they are worse than the people who were born with money because they want to grabble on to it as though they believe it is going out of fashion and would shoot anybody who comes near to their boundaries. So the hon. member for St. Joseph is more conservative than Mr. Robinson and the other people I have called, because he is at the stage now where he wants to be in their position, and he has found that labour is not as cheap as when they started and he never had the head start, and therefore he would regard what is going on today as something to prevent people like him from travelling as fast as he would like to travel.

3.55 p.m.

Mr. BOLDEN: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, I thought the hon. member was discussing plantation owners and sugar barons, I do not know how he has changed the subject so suddenly.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, I am talking about the barons and he is pushing in his head asking if I mean him.

Mr. BOLDEN: On a point of order, the hon. member seems to have lost track of what he has been saying; he said he does not want to see the sugar barons sent to Cuba.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member is so wrong, he gets up on a point of order and says the opposite to what I have said. I said that I am glad but I wonder if I would find these people going and not officials, and that is why I made the point because the system which is operating in Cuba I know would not suit the sugar barons here, because they do not believe in that economic system that still operates on the sugar plantations. For that reason I would say I hope some of them will go and see because some of them like to copy some of the experiments that are carried on in communist countries, but they want to get the experiment that you will get from the sort of investigation you can only carry out in a socialist state but they would like it transplanted from a private economy that is used from another economy to suit their own purposes.

Mr. Speaker, I feel one of the needs to transform our agriculture is technology plus a social reorientation, and the social reorientation is that if we are accepting machinery and technology in our age, which we must, we have to accept that there must be a complete rethinking about the

people who work in the sugar industry and not the old fashioned idea that it is a hoe and basket concept still prevailing and they want the same wages. Conditions of employment, living in a tenantry behind a lot of canes and keeping a cow, and having a society where you can have a mass of people living in the country and walking barefooted and waiting until the cow reproduces, that is the sort of concept we have. I hope that we will have the inroads of telling the sugar industry what we expect of them and not demand of them, because the sugar industry still believes that the Sugar Rehabilitation Fund is something for them alone.

Some weeks ago they came to the Union and asked us for some bogus scheme that they wanted us to finance the new factory system that was a mechanised system, saying they would have given us the same price but we must take \$1.3 million in cash from the Price Stabilisation Fund to capitalise this new scheme. Some people believe that if your father did not have money you do not know anything about money. My father did not have any, I do not have any, but I know something about how things should be financed, and I told them no and they cannot understand how a man like me could tell them no to money; as soon as they are talking over \$40 a week, they believe I cannot understand. I told them I would not give them this money and if the Government wants to give them they could, but so far as the Union was concerned we would not give them. We are not going to lend money to be used as part of working capital where you use less labour and you are asking us to lend you the money to use as research. I am a fool, but you can call labour saving devices research and you will be selling the product you will be getting. These are the things we have to tell the people in the sugar industry, because they have the idea in Barbados that unless your grandfather was a plantation owner you would not understand these things. Mr. Speaker, I agree with this and I hope that the Government is aware of these things, but these are my views on this matter.

Mr. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I would like to make a few points on this question of the rationalisation of the sugar industry in Barbados. I think this is something which has been engaging the attention of those who have an interest in the sugar industry for some time. I think that if one were to look through the history of the sugar industry one would realise that it is an industry which has been faced with ups and downs, and one of the things which history has taught us is that the people who controlled the sugar industry in the past, each time the industry ran into difficulties had not only the attitude that the hon. member for St. Michael West has mentioned, that is, that everybody must help

it, but they also displayed the attitude that as soon as sugar ran into difficult days they must get some kind of compensation from the British Government. I think that what we have heard here today is a clear indication of the Government's intention to give some leadership in this area. From what has been outlined I think this can be considered as a breakthrough and as an attempt to face the challenges which the sugar industry faces from time to time. This to our way of thinking is a very forward looking step, and I sincerely hope that it will move from success to success.

The question of rationalisation is one which is a broad concept, and I know that in the Objects and Reasons of this Bill it talks about matters connected with the improvement and the rationalisation of the sugar industry, but we think that in an attempt to deal with the rationalisation of the sugar industry we have to deal with it on as broad a basis as possible. The Prime Minister in introducing the Bill made mention of the fact that this breakthrough is going to have social implications for the people who work in the industry, and indeed for the entire country. I would like to make the point that we think that one of the important areas to which consideration has got to be given is the welfare of the people who are working in the industry. It is all right for us to talk about new developments of techniques and of the various labour saving devices which might be invented and which might be put into operation from time to time without giving some serious consideration to the welfare of the people who work in the industry.

4.05 p.m.

Now, it is a fact that the owners of the sugar industry have, in the past, regarded the workers in the sugar industry as people without any consequence, or people who really do not matter, without realising that it was as a result of the labour of these people in the industry that the industry was able to survive. We feel that, in the present situation where the labour force has dwindled somewhat, if the industry wants to continue, mechanisation is going to be important, but the machines cannot work themselves. They will still need manpower to operate them, and we feel that a very serious attempt has to be made to study the various problems which the workers in the sugar industry encounter.

We see, for example, that the industry has to give some consideration to making life in the sugar industry much more meaningful for the people who are working in the industry. Not only meaningful at the management level as we have had to point out here only last week, but meaningful to the people who are not that fortunate to be in

managerial positions. One would like to suggest, for example, that the industry has to think in terms of establishing a broad medical and health service for the people who are working in the industry. Thought and consideration will have to be given to the kind of housing programme which will develop for the people who work in the industry.

Of course, as the member for St. Michael West has pointed out, serious thought will have to be given to the wages and conditions of employment which the workers in the industry are experiencing at present. We think that any improvement in the technique must necessarily mean an improvement in the wages and conditions of employment for the people who work in the sugar industry. This we consider to be of extreme importance. One must realise that the industry, to my way of thinking, is still an important one in the country. The industry is not going to survive and be as effective as it can be unless the kind of social consideration that we have been talking about is given to the people who work in the industry, because, after all, these are the people who are the backbone of the industry.

One of the things which always bothers me about the sugar industry is the fact that the owners of the industry have adopted an attitude that when it comes to matters of welfare, matters relating to people who have served in the industry for a long time and have reached retirement age that this is something which the Government has to deal with. They have done nothing about this and they, probably, do not consider that this is a matter which should be of concern to them.

I feel that this question of rationalisation has to be looked at on as broad a perspective as possible. We should not be concentrating in one area, because when you develop one area you also find another area just as important or more important that has to be dealt with. I am sure you will agree with me, Mr. Speaker, that in the area where human beings are concerned, it is of tremendous importance.

One hears often about some research which has been carried on, for example, in the development of sugar cane varieties which are suitable to the Barbados situation. One hears about research in a number of areas, but as far as my memory serves me I do not think that any research has been done, for example, into the labour force in the sugar industry. There has been a complaint, and I think it is a fact, that the industry cannot get the amount of labour required in Barbados, and that is one of the reasons why it was necessary to go overseas to get the labour the industry requires.

No study is given to the reason why people are not going into the sugar industry or the reason why workers are leaving the industry, and I would suggest that this is an area in which an examination is needed. We must concern ourselves with the question of why people are leaving the industry and why people are not coming into the industry. The conclusion will be that the industry is not making itself as attractive as it should be either to retain the workers or to recruit workers into the industry.

I hope that this break through in a particular aspect of the sugar industry will augur well for the future, and will lead to a complete look at the rationalisation of the industry.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I am at a loss to put together the statements made by the last two members in respect of this particular Bill. First of all, most people like to flog any horse which appears to be a whipping horse without looking to see why the poor horse is not doing what some people think it should do. I do not intend to defend the barons of the sugar industry, neither do I intend to criticise the institution which represents the workers. I am looking at this from a rational point of view in respect of the developing situation.

The sugar industry started in this country years ago after trials of cotton, arrowroot, and many other things. Sugar when first introduced in Barbados was used simply as a refreshment by the squeezing of the juice; then we had the old press mill; then we moved to the windmill of which certain structures are still standing as monuments to the history of the sugar industry; we moved from there to the first steam Plant which was an adaptation of something which was not actually meant to press sugar; then we had the old factories with the donkeys going up and down; you had a long bar with a bowl at the end to skim the mud, and then we had the centrifugals. Every stage of the work involved the worker.

Now, the worker is the man who makes the profits for the owners of the industry, but he is the last to receive any of the profits. It is human nature that if you own something, regardless of how hard the workers work you will hold on to as much of the profits as you possibly can until there is some reason for you to give some of it to the workers in the industry. Why is this so, Mr. Speaker?

4.15 p.m.

Every time you move from one particular operation to something more modern, is the worker prepared to move as fast as you or in conjunction with you? This is the whole bugbear in

the industry today. When I came into this Chamber in 1970 I first said that one of the problems in agriculture was the lack of training. There is no doubt that in the sugar industry the average age of the worker is somewhere in the vicinity of fifty years. There are no young people going into the sugar industry today or in agriculture as a whole. Why is it? As a country progresses nobody wants to be seen going into Jon Jones' five acre patch or any of the plantations with a hoe over his shoulder or a fork under his arm doing the work his grandfather did in 1920. He wants to be as modern as the man in Bridgetown who drives to work in his motor car, wears a white shirt and can come out at 4 o'clock on evenings with clean hands and a white collar.

I said in 1970 that we had reached a stage in our development where the agricultural worker can be so dressed and enjoy a salary on par with any white collar worker in Bridgetown and live as comfortably, but he must be adequately trained to take his place in a technological era. How many schools or institutions have been set up either by the Government, by the workers' representatives or the owners in order to train tractor drivers or the various operators of the new equipment which is gradually creeping into agriculture in this country? None whatsoever. I think this is where the problem lies. Until the Government decides that it is going to take a step or say to the owners or those involved in the industry that they must now make the necessary provision to train the people who are presently employed in the industry so that they can take their place and demand a salary or wages commensurate with the work they are going to do and the profits they are going to produce, we are not going to get any place. This is what I have been saying long ago.

You have in the industry a new cane loader. This year you are going to see at least seven new cane harvesters in operation in this country, and up to now this country is faced with the problem that you cannot get on a telephone and call anybody and tell him that you have a tractor that needs something being done to it, send a man or get a man. The few people who are dealing with the equipment will only employ a limited number of staff and therefore, Mr. Speaker, we will always be saddled with the problem that we have in agriculture, we are looking to reduce the \$38 million in food which we are bringing into this country, we are looking to effect our balance of payments by the export of sugar in relation to the goods we import, and we can only do it if we have the local labour who can push us in that position, and it means technological training.

I heard the hon. member for St. Michael West talk about bringing people in to do cheap labour. I say openly that I am against bringing people into Barbados to be involved in the sugar industry, because my concept is that if you have got the Barbadian worker who is going to plant the canes, he is going to manure it and then you have to bring somebody from outside to reap it, you have to pay him money, and anybody who looks around the cane fields when you have imported labour will find that they operate by themselves. I have heard one man say that they scarcely cook, but they are going to take their money out of Barbados, and it is money which should remain in Barbados. If you are going to have mechanical instruments to do the cutting of the cane, I say that right now you should have the necessary training programme to produce the mechanics who will be skilled in repairing all the various instruments we bring, the operators who will have the basic training and who will constantly be trained in the use of this equipment and the use of modern day practices in relation to modern agriculture. I do not see why people keep beating agriculture thinking it is something that is going out of date; it can never go out of date no matter how you look at it, but we have to equip ourselves to meet the new challenge which is coming along.

We talk about the loan which the Government is seeking to acquire. I knew about the plant for some time, but this raises another issue. The Government has got to learn to take the Opposition into their confidence when they are dealing with matters of this nature which affects every Tom, Dick and Harry in this society. I saw the plant in operation only because I was bold enough to go and look, but when I went and said I am Lindsay Bolden, nobody knew why I should be there. I heard the Prime Minister say that the Minister of Agriculture will arrange for anybody who is interested after today. I think one of the members on this side has already raised the issue of some form of identification for members of the House; I am not talking about members of the Opposition because as far as I am concerned, if you do not want me to see, I am not going. But there should be some form of identification so that members of the Government including the Senate who have got an interest in seeing what Government is doing in its particular avenues should be able to go and say that he is a member of the Government and would like to see what is going on. It is not good enough to be telling the Leader of the Opposition that he should have gone and seen it already. This raises an issue which I think the Government should look at seriously.

The next question is that I heard the Prime Minister say that they are going to set up part of this operation at Uplands. Has the Government

considered whether or not it is time for both the Government and the workers' organisation to take shares in any of the modern development which is going to take place in the sugar industry? That is the only way in which the worker will be able and be in a position to demand as a right what is due to him. In the same way that the Government has shares in the Port, if we are breaking into a new technological era in respect of the sugar industry, and if the Government is going to be responsible for the loan which will set the industry on a new footing, it is but right that the Government should sit down and decide what is its status today in respect of the sugar industry, because it is said that sugar and tourism are the two main factors on which this country will rely. If sugar is one and the Government has now reached the point where it can take a hold in the sugar industry, it will already have had its grip in the Port, it will have its grip on sugar, two of the most essential factors to the every-day life of the members of this community, and then nobody could say that the worker is not getting a sufficient share of the benefits for the work he has put in the industry.

The Hon. Prime Minister said that we do not get any grants ect. from the United States of America. I have raised it privately with the Minister of Agriculture and I have raised it with the Prime Minister who is also Minister of Finance that if this is so, there is still under the Customs Act a 5 percent duty charge on agricultural equipment which comes from the United States of America. Why can't he remove that and give us the opportunity of taking the best we can get from whatever source we can get without being penalised? The industry needs a fillip to it and it is those who are interested in the industry who must pull the thing out and make sure that it moves from the doldrums it is in, because as I have said, the industry has reached such a stage that when you look at the workers in the field, you see men who are long past 65 years and are due for retirement. These are people who should in my opinion be no longer out there. They should be withdrawn and should be provided for by some method, and Government should have a hand in deciding how you are going to provide for the aged who have been in the sugar industry all these years. We should be providing the benefits at Herbert House, but here again, Mr. Speaker, one finds that people who have retired for six and seven years cannot draw what is there for them. They have to go fifteen and sixteen times and still get nothing.

4.25 p.m.

I raised in this House already the fact that the Government should amend the Act or make regulations so that if a man works at a plantation and he can say after he has retired that he worked

there within the required period of time he should get paid. There are still some managers today who would not sign the forms because they say they do not know if the people worked there or not. The Government should make regulations to control this sort of behaviour, and at the same time it should set up the necessary training scheme to encourage young people to come into the industry with the idea that they will be adequately trained so that they can work like the farmer in the United Kingdom, the United States and the European countries, and be considered as technocrats rather than go in the plantation yard with a hoe or a fork. After the basic training is provided I feel that the industry would not only be revived but it would be revived on such a footing that it would become an honourable profession like law or medicine. You have genuine farmers all over the world, you have workers who are proud to say they are farm workers because they work with machinery, and that is what I think should be done.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, the Objects and Reasons of this Bill state that the Government of Canada is prepared to make a loan of \$1,650,000 to the Government for the purposes connected with the improvement and the rationalisation programme of the sugar industry of Barbados. One of the things which we must face in this country is that the attitude of the Government to agriculture as a whole and to sugar in particular has led to the erosion of the position of sugar in the minds of the public of this country.

I do not want to advert to any special speech made by any person, one can recall the number of speeches made by the various members of the Government who attempted to degrade agriculture not only in the minds of certain sections of the community, but indeed in the minds of the entire community, and that is why the Barbados Labour Party in thinking about this matter and putting something into print as we did in our Manifesto, recognised that sugar was still a large contributor to the resources of the country, and we stated then that we would advocate the rationalisation of the methods of its continuance, and here today we find the language which is set out in the Manifesto of our Party is the very language which is set out in the Objects and Reasons of this Bill. We went on to state that our objectives were that among other things, the introduction of mechanical planting and harvesting wherever necessary, subject to the safeguards of existing workers, to determine the manpower needs in the mechanisation of the industry and provide for the training of the required personnel and to encourage co-operative associations of small cane farmers, to provide the same facilities for production and marketing as large estates.

Looking at the Economic Survey for 1971, it is stated that the sugar production fell to 135,000 tons in 1971, 19,000 tons below that for 1970. The factors contributing to this low production level can be cited as prevalence of cane fires, the production of the stale cane, inadequate cane supplies, adverse rainfall distribution during the wet season, and it is clearly stated that the average tonnage of cane per acre yield and the average tonnage of sugar per acre fell in one instance by 13.5% and in the latter instance by 10%. It is interesting to note that during that period of time, 1970-71, over 1,000 acres on which previously canes were planted were taken out of sugar production. I do not know the specific reason for this, but this may very well be due to the present practice of the Government of allowing agricultural land to be divided up into two-acre lots or four-acre lots and sold for house spots. If this is the reason, it is time that this practice is stopped before it becomes too late. We on this side of the House stated that there must be a new approach to farming in this country, because we feel that, as we stated in our Manifesto, farming must be a dignified operation and that we envisage the farmer of the future as an all-round full time professional working on his own economic holding, aided by workers who will include agricultural technologists trained in all aspects of the economical operation of farming equipment.

Our agricultural policy is based on a new outlook, new belief in good wages and working conditions, and it is interesting to know after listening to the speech of the member for St. Michael West that he virtually echoed the sentiments expressed in the Manifesto of the Barbados Labour Party. When you look at the Manifesto of the Government you find no such sentiments expressed as you find expressed in the Manifesto of the Barbados Labour Party, but on the question of agriculture we must appreciate that it is fundamental to our development effort, and that it is still indeed one of the largest employers of labour in this country, even though it may be said to be on a seasonal basis, and if we are going to ensure — and if we talk about rationalisation of the industry in such a way that what acreage is used, will have to increase the present output at the present level of the labour productivity, and the cost of production maintained at perhaps the same level.

4.35 p.m.

We must appreciate the fact that if the cost of food in this country is high, then it will have repercussions right through. If the cost of food is high then, automatically, you will find that the cost of wages will have to be increased to meet the ever-rising cost of food. As the last member has

stated, it would appear that the efforts at agricultural diversification on the part of the Government are not as effective as they really should be. Perhaps the difficulty in agriculture in this country today is the attitude of people to the agricultural sector of the economy.

I think, without casting blame on any particular individual, that the Government as a whole must accept this. It is true that tourism has been good for this country; the Government has placed great emphasis on the development of the tourist industry, but I remember hearing many speeches in this House by the former Leader of the Opposition criticising the Government for placing all its eggs in one basket by putting all the emphasis on tourism and at the same time allowing agriculture to be run down.

I know, Sir, that when we talk about a new idea and a new type of farmer in Barbados; when we talk about mechanisation and an agricultural technologist, I believe that the Government benefited from it. At the last election campaign the Government took a stand, and, rather than adopting a mature attitude towards it, the Government went throughout this country saying that we want to put the people back to the old plantation days. Perhaps, it may have proved effective, but certainly the Government must now come to grips with its own attitude to agriculture and find that it is sadly lacking.

As the hon. member for St. Joseph has said, people prefer of necessity to live in the metropolitan area; they prefer jobs in other sectors, but I think that an attack should be made through public propaganda and through our educational system to raise the standard of the farmer in the social strata of this society, because so long as the small farmer continues to farm three or four-acre lots and to eke out a mere existence, then you cannot in those circumstances hope to attract any young people into the agricultural industry in this country. It may very well be that one of the things that will be needed here is something that was suggested some time ago. It will be necessary to increase the size of the farm. People who farm five-acre lots should be encouraged to join together and form co-operatives. This is one of the main things set out in our Manifesto, because we recognised that the small cane farmer with a five-acre lot was at a disadvantage.

Sir, we feel that if the attitude to agriculture is changed; if people can feel that agriculture is no longer as the hon. member for St. Michael West has said, cutlass and hoe, but is now in the technological age that is the only manner in which we can hope to attract young people back into the agricultural industry of this country.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, members have taken the opportunity upon this second reading to mention one or two points about the sugar industry in particular in Barbados, and I hope that the House will bear with me if I add one or two remarks in that direction as well. Before I enter upon that, I should like to join with the Prime Minister in saying that we, too, on this side appreciate the attitude of our fellow commonwealth member, the Dominion of Canada, which it has shown to the Government and people of Barbados since we have become independent. At a purely social and personal level I sometimes had occasion to notice that the Canadian Representatives in these parts, perhaps, do not know that there is an Opposition, but I will acquit them of any hostility to Barbados, since the Canadian Government, whether Liberal or Conservative, as in the past and I hope in the future, will continue to be always extremely generous in its attitude towards Barbados.

I am quite satisfied that this loan like the earlier loan for waterworks development in Barbados and like the perspective loan for the Airport, which I daresay will be carried out with Canadian technical assistance as well as financial assistance, and all of these point to the help which the Northern Dominion had given us. I should also like to urge on the attention of the Minister of Home Affairs and all of his predecessors the very great assistance which Canada has given Barbados in the generosity of its immigration provisions which only now — after Barbados has led the way — are being a little restricted in so far as they apply to the many Barbadians who have found working opportunities in Montreal, Toronto and other great cities in Canada.

Certainly, we in the Opposition, if we have anything to say that is critical about this Bill, it will not be a criticism of the Government of Canada. This loan, as I see it, is a very excellent piece of aid by the Canadian Government, and all sides of the House, I am sure, will appreciate it. However, Mr. Speaker, the Government's late conversion to the question of the rationalisation of the sugar industry in Barbados, I am going to suggest to hon. members, is insufficient.

Now, we have heard the views of a wide cross-section of members of the House. We have heard from the "High Priest" of the anti-sugar movement of a few years back in the guise now of a proselyte at the gate telling us that we must rationalise the sugar industry. It comes better from him than from anybody else, and, if for no other reason, we appreciate it. We might not have been in this condition if years ago remarks like "there should be no more cane blades in Barbados" had

not been made. I am glad to see that they have been regretted by implication if not explicitly. It is a pity that, in all its circumstances of this being an agricultural debate, we do not have the benefit of either the Minister or the Parliamentary Secretary to assist us upon this occasion.

4.45 p.m.

In many ways I believe that the Prime Minister can explain the policy of any Ministry more efficiently than the Minister in charge, and I certainly think this is true of the Ministry of Agriculture. He would certainly explain it without any individual axe to grind. I regret the Minister of Agriculture's absence because there are one or two things I have to say which may be thought to be critical and which I regret he is not here to answer.

First of all, Mr. Speaker, we have to give some weight to the recent comments made by the Sugar Producers' Federation about the future of the sugar industry in Barbados. This has been mentioned in the Prime Minister's speech and it has been mentioned in the speech of the Shadow Minister and the hon. member for Bridgetown who has just sat down. Nonetheless it has to be dealt with in greater depth than any member of the Government has so far shown willing to deal with it. If you want a sugar industry and advice is available from our experts on the optimum minimum price, you have to take steps to keep that sugar industry in being. Some years ago when the former senior member for St. Joseph, Mr. Lloyd Smith, moved his Resolution to call on the Government to reduce the size of the smallest unit into which agricultural land could be cut for resale, this Resolution received very general support on all sides of the House including mind. We were not to know, Sir, that in no case can it be shown that the two-acre lots into which plantations may now be divided have been used for useful agriculture and no other purpose. It has proved over the years what one or two critics said in muted voices at the time was perfectly true, namely, that people were going to buy the two-acre lots for no other purpose than for housing. The fact that a few people buy the two-acre lots and keep pigs and grow alfalfa grass or keep a few cows or indeed keep six holes of canes and water them every morning and manure them once a week for the Exhibition, does not alter the fact that the cutting up of plantations into two-acre lots is a way of removing the land from agriculture; it is not a way of giving peasants land on which they can grow things. I say it without any fear of contradiction at all that the expert's original advice that four, five, six and eight acres were the economic units has been proved to be true. We have let the cutting up of plantations come in by the back door. Nobody at the time in the House of Assembly said anything about cutting

the lots so that middle class people who cannot afford to buy land at 75 cents a square foot would be able to buy it at 20 cents perhaps further out in the country if they bought two-acres. All we heard about were the poor people in Horse Hill, Sugar Hill and Cambridge who could not afford to buy four or six acres of land, and all of us accepted it. In fact, I repeat, that it was only a way of taking land out of agriculture.

One of the first beneficiaries at a personal level was the soon to be appointed Minister of Agriculture because I believe that Sandford Plantation which the Minister had come into the House and stated that its debts are his debts because he laid a letter on the floor of the House showing that he owed nearly \$300,000 to the Bank in respect of a company of which inspection of the records of the Registration Office will show own Sandford Plantation, was one of the first, if not the first, to be cut up into two acre lots. Some agriculture was carried on there on the unsold lots, but the lots which have been sold at Sandford as again an inspection of the records of the Registration Office and an inspection of the land itself would reveal, have been sold to be taken out of agriculture to all intents and purposes.

Now the experts tell me that this is land which was marginal anyhow and you should not complain too much about that. Suppose you accept that. I also accept what the experts say when they write in the journal of the sugar producers journal that valuable agricultural land in Christ Church, St. George, St. Philip and St. Thomas are also being taken out of agriculture by means of this cutting up into two acre lots. I do not want to name these plantations; but there is one well-known plantation in Christ Church, a plantation which is situated on the Christ Church ridge, is flat land, easy to reap, has an equitable rainfall, and has long been known to be a profitable plantation in Barbados. I believe myself that before the application was made for a subdivision of that plantation that the owners — and I am not accusing any politician in this respect; if any politicians are in it, they have managed to cover their faces very fully, and this is why I am selecting this one so that no hon. member would feel that this is going to make a political football — deliberately managed that plantation in such a way that they could show accounts to the Minister of Agriculture and the Town Planner to show that it was no longer valuable land. Why should this plantation surrounded by valuable plantations in Barbados, surrounded by land that is accepted as valuable sugar land suddenly turn out to be worthless which can be released from agriculture?

I am not saying this to stop land owners in Barbados from making a few dollars where they

could not make it by agriculture. I am not at all interested under our present system of preventing people from making money out of spite, but there is a necessity for the continuance of sugar cane. How can we reconcile two governmental decisions such as these? How can you reconcile a decision reducing the statutory acreage that must be planted in vegetables on the grounds that you need greater sugar production, and at the same time allow valuable sugar plantations, of an acreage exceeding all that you show by reducing the statutory vegetable area, to be taken out of agricultural production altogether? All over Barbados the plantations no longer have to plant one-seventh of their arable acreage in vegetable production, but at the same time you allow plantations with more than the one-seventh of the arable acreage to be taken out; so what have you done? What you have taken away with your left hand, you give back with the right. How can the two decisions be reconciled? Recently I have observed in the Subsidiary Legislation that very great powers have been given to the Minister of Agriculture to decide when agricultural land should be released for subdivision or not be released for subdivision. I say that these released should be supervised by the Prime Minister.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: I do not want to interrupt the hon. member, but I just want to point out that he is fulminating against the land use policy. We are working on a land use policy, but it is the sugar industry itself which has decided that they prefer to live off the interest than go on cultivating the land. I was not present during that debate on the two-acre lots, and as the hon. member said, all members on both sides supported it at that time, but the only reason for my intervention now is that I may have to leave for a short time and I just want to take up the hon. member on this. The question of whether land continues to be used for agriculture having been subdivided will have to be a question of regulations and control, and I agree that a lot of people seem to be moving out of the urban areas because it is cheaper to buy land at say \$5,000 or \$6,000 an acre and buy two acres of that for \$12,000 than to pay \$12,000 for a quarter acre of land. We cannot afford baronial mansions in Barbados, and I think that this is a question now for inspection after the land has been subdivided, and we also need some programme I think whereby we can assist true agriculturists — I am not talking about peasant farmers, but the agricultural workers themselves — to acquire land, and encourage them in productive farming and so on. I am not against land going out of sugar cane provided it is going to help us with import substitution in growing catch crops.

4.55 p.m.

Mr. ADAMS: I much appreciate what the Prime Minister has explained, but I also have to regret that sensible though the explanation undoubtedly is it does not conform with what is actually going on in the Government. Mr. Speaker, I see the former Minister of Home Affairs there whom I think I can safely absolve from having being any party to encouraging the urbanisation of country plantations. I hope the Minister will not disagree with me on that, because I have always absolved him from that. He can give assistance on the question of town planning. The advice that has always been given to the buyers of the two-acre lots is that any man if he is going to be an agriculturalist can build a house on his land and live on it whilst he works the land. I have seen some of the permissions that applied to these plantations, and I remember inspecting very carefully the permission that was given to the same Sandford Plantation which I have mentioned by name. There were all sorts of restrictions which would effectively prevent Sandford from being turned into a middle class or upper class housing area. I am admiring these restrictions, I think they were imposed in the time of the hon. member for St. Michael North West. For one thing, in the old days when permission was given to cut up plantations you could not increase the roads, you could not lay down such a road system as would allow you to make the place into a housing area; there were always restrictions against that.

(Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and Mr. Deputy SPEAKER took the Chair.)

You could not lay in what were obviously supplies of domestic water on a global scale, in other words anybody who wanted to build a house would have to lay in water pipes of his own, he was not allowed to use other people's water. All these different things effectively prevented these permissions from being permissions very generally speaking, but are those restrictions still in force today? Are those restrictions being employed by the Town Planner when he grants new permissions to subdivide? I do not believe that any of this is so. What follows from all this? Experts are quite unified in saying that if Barbados' sugar production were to drop to 100,000 tons per year that this would be the minimum or just below the minimum that a viable sugar industry could carry, it would then become the smallest sugar industry in the world. There is no sugar industry that operates successfully as is at present known where within or without a guaranteed price and production agreement on a production of less than 100,000 tons per year. We have seen the West Indian Islands which produced less than 100,000 tons per year one after another go out, and we are seeing St. Kitts in very great difficulties. We are told that it

would take \$40 million to put the Antigua sugar industry back in a viable position, back to where it would produce anything approaching 50,000 tons a year, and I do not believe that would be viable.

With the present trend of affairs in Barbados this is the direction in which we are travelling. Sugar production fell to a level last year that no one could possibly have anticipated. I think that all hon. members who followed the agricultural industry were appalled when they saw it. Many steps have been taken to rectify the state of affairs that has arisen, but I also want hon. members to look at this, the particular rationale of this Bill before us. You can investigate the rationalisation of the sugar industry of Barbados from all standpoints, from the standpoint of keeping it profitable — in other words, keeping it alive — and you can investigate it from the standpoint of making more sugar. The two things do not necessarily correspond at all points. The step of allowing plantations to reduce their statutory vegetable acreage is a direction in favour of making sugar production more profitable. Re-negotiation of the Commonwealth sugar price, a step which is obvious once Britain enters the Common Market, the Common Market has never been a threat to our agriculture, but it is obvious to anybody with two eyes in his head as I have been saying now for ten years that the Common Market would not allow Britain to have cheap sugar any more whether from the West Indies or anywhere else. The re-negotiation of the price is a step in the direction not really of making sugar more profitable but of improving production of sugar and keeping the industry at such a level as in the long term sense would continue to keep it viable, but the Government at the present time, I am suggesting Mr. Deputy Speaker, does not know which direction it really wants to go in. The initiative can come in these matters from the sugar producers, the representatives of sugar workers and the Government. As far as I am concerned, I see the initiative coming only from the sugar producers; I have not seen anything during the years I have been in this House which suggests to me that initiative and imagination are coming out of the Ministry of Agriculture that is advancing sugar production in this country.

I believe there are some good agricultural economists whose advice is not always heeded in the Ministry of Agriculture, who can deal with food crops. I do not believe that the marketing side of the business is supporting them fully. I believe the Ministry of Agriculture is more efficient at organising the production of food crops than the Barbados Marketing Corporation is at organising their marketing, but at no level do I really see the ideas coming from the Ministry of Agriculture. As

as I am concerned, the Barbados Workers' Union has not now for twenty years put forward a useful idea where the production of sugar in this island is concerned. If they put forward idea after idea which is either totally unacceptable to the workers or totally distasteful to all decent people, this is the language used by the hon. member for St. Michael West, they put forward the windfall to put the workers' money into the hands of the Union, an idea which the workers totally rejected. The one idea of the Barbados Workers' Union is what may be called actually the basis of trade unionism to make sure that the workers' wages keep pace with their requirements and with the industry, but the ideas which should come from the workers' representatives to give the workers a more satisfactory share and to give the workers a feeling of doing something important in their industry, I have never seen one of them come from any representative of the Barbados Workers' Union. All they have done is to perpetuate the class war in the sugar industry; they are fighting the battles of 50 years ago. It is obvious that there is a division of interest between the owners of sugar plantations and the employees. To my mind, however, there need be no division between the class of professional managers and a class of agricultural technicians as workers. It is clear that the sugar workers have been under paid. I am not here to put in any word for the sugar estate managers or overseers, they have their own union to do that and they have their own spokesmen to deal with that, but to my mind everybody in the sugar industry is underpaid. Because a manager's house carries a certain prestige and the position of manager carries a certain prestige based on plantation days, the owners of the sugar estates are able to underpay even the managers. I remember some years ago a wage scale that I saw which was agreed between the managers and salaried staff association and the owners on a payment of \$900 a month for factory managers. I do not believe anywhere in Bridgetown that anybody at that time would have worked for \$900 a month managing a place with scales of \$10 million, or even \$5 million, and that is the output of many sugar factories in Barbados.

5.05 p.m.

The agreed salary for a manager then was \$900 a month. I do not say that because that was the agreed minimum that they were paid that amount. There are factories of different classes. They could be paid less than that in the smaller factories. If you pay the manager that, then you can imagine how they are going to underpay the worker. The whole problem in the sugar industry at the personnel level, to my mind, needs rationalising.

Now, I see here that this loan is going to be used for a rationalisation programme. I must say,

Mr. Deputy Speaker, that what I am seeing here strikes me, again, as a move towards increasing the profitability to owners. I am not really qualified to deal with what the Prime Minister explained: this new system of cutting up and depithing the cane, but I should like — for the sake of putting everything on the record — to mention briefly that the experts to whom members on this side and I listen do say that it takes 9 tons of cane to make one ton of sugar. It used to take even less than that thirty or forty years ago, but different varieties of cane are being planted now, and it takes a little over 9 tons of cane to make one ton of sugar. Therefore any economy that you can effect in the field has 9 times the ultimate effect on productivity than on any economy you effect in the factory, but it does often appear that when you effect an economy in the factory you give a greater profit margin to the factory owners. Many of the factory owners, it is true, are the same as the factory owners overall, and it may be easier to say: Well, if I spend \$X million here, I can improve grinding; I can bring in the new chemical extraction process and use it instead of grinding and receive 12% or 15% improvement in sugar output, and this is going to be reflected immediately in the factories profitability figures. I just mentioned that as one of the technical considerations, which I am told is important. I am told it is more important in the light of the labour shortage to improve the reaping and loading of sugar than to improve conditions at the factory. I just throw this out to the technicians to turn over in their minds. I do not know.

The hon. member for St. Joseph mentioned one or two things. I have been very impressed by the very capable young man at Edgehill. I have only known him recently although I have heard one or two things in the past, and I am very satisfied that efforts to overcome the labour shortage in a way that it will be dignified to the remaining labourers are proceeding well. I am satisfied that efforts are being made to work on cane-cutting machines which will cut cane efficiently in the circumstances of Barbados. I know that the cane-boil loader of which there are twenty-nine or thirty in Barbados at the present time is proving to be an efficient loader. I also believe that social conditions in Barbados are improved.

Where you see, as in one plantation in my constituency, the owner wakes up at seven o'clock on a morning, puts on his khaki pants and khaki shirt, gets on the tractor, drives the tractor in the field, connects up the loader and load the canes behind the cane-cutters and work until dark, I believe he will get on better with his workers when he shows them that he is the same worker as they.

They are plantation managers who put on a cork hat, stand on the verandah, and ride around on a horse all day. I believe so and I hope so, and that is what the Barbados Labour Party meant when it said that it wants to see farmers working on economic units and not exploiting the people who work on them. That, Sir, is an aside.

What I want to see is an understanding on the part of those to whom it is important that, if you are going to continue a sugar industry in Barbados, you cannot speak with one voice through one Minister and with another voice through another Minister. It is a question of two Ministers each speaking with one voice. We have a Minister of Agriculture who himself speaks with two voices. On the one hand, he is the signatory. The Minister of Health who had to sign the release for a plantation in my own constituency — I do not regard him as a contributory of taking land out of agriculture. I hope he understands that I am not blaming him for that in any way. I am talking about the Minister over whose signature most plantations — as far as I know all but one — have been released for cutting up. How can he be satisfied upon the basis of some phoney accounts that are produced to him, that a plantation is not making money? How can he be satisfied of that, and let its owners cut it up into two-acre lots so that it is no longer a plantation? After he has done that, the very next week he says that we must produce more sugar in Barbados, so you do not have to plant the statutory minimum any more. This is really signing one thing with your left hand and signing another with your right. I do not think he signs very well with either hand.

Now, there have been one or two consequences of this confusion of policy. Again, I am told that there is a definite shortage this year of ground provisions and that prices have risen. Hon. members, no doubt, are more familiar with these things than me, because I very seldom buy yams or sweet potatoes. I eat them, but I do not go to the supermarkets very much. I buy liquid when I go into the supermarkets, not solids. This is a direct consequence of a lack of supervision of an approved policy. You approve a policy that you can reduce the statutory acreage upon the grounds that modern methods of cultivation, manuring and so on will yield the same amount of ground provisions on a smaller acreage, and yet no modern methods are applied anywhere. All that happens is that the plantation plants the yams the same distance apart under the same conditions as it has always planted them, but it plants less yams or sweet potatoes. Naturally, there is going to be a shortage and the price will rise.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, if you insist and supervise by using Inspectors, lay down a figure, if

necessary. If you know that ground provisions can be more efficiently grown than are grown at present, then lay down Regulations as to how they should be grown. If you know that they can be planted closer together than 2½ feet, then say that they should be planted 18 inches apart. You have Regulations about all sorts of things in the Scotland District. If you know these things, then insist on them. Do not just say it can be done to justify a policy. If you recognise that Barbados needs locally produced foodstuffs; if you say that you can grow the same amount of vegetables on a smaller acreage, do not just say that it can be done. To say it can be done and it will be done are two very different conditions indeed. It is at the moment more profitable for plantations to plant cane than ground provisions or vegetables.

Obviously, if the price has gone up by 50 per cent, any man with common sense knows that you are producing a product and the price suddenly goes up by half, he will do everything possible to become interested in that product. If the Minister of Agriculture knew that vegetables could be grown in the same quantity as before on less acreage, then he should have seen that this was done and the Government has failed the people of Barbados in this respect.

I do not want to say too much about the cost of living, Sir, but I just want to mention a little bit. We hear a lot in here, from time to time, about how our cost of living goes up, because of rises in prices outside Barbados. Mr. Deputy Speaker, I listened with great interest on December 2, I think it was, or December 1 to market analysis of farm prices in the United States of America — I was over there — that came over on television.
5.15 p.m.

It pointed out that for the third successive month food prices had fallen in the United States and were continuing to fall, and their only argument was, will we bring them down by the end of the year below the level that they were at the previous twelve months. One speaker was saying it is not enough just to say that in October prices were lower than in September or August; what you want to see is that at the end of the year you have controlled food prices and made sure that they have not risen for a year. Does anybody in this House believe that with a fall in farm prices reflected in a fall in food prices in the United States which are lower than in Barbados, that anything is going to fall in Barbados? How can it when you have a Ministry of Agriculture whose policies bear so little relationship to the facts; when in practice we see that all the theories of the Ministry of Agriculture are as far apart from the realities of life as the typical basket of goods is

in the pockets of the workers at the present time?

Sir, we in the Opposition are supporting this Bill and we thank the Government of Canada for its help. We only wish that the Ministry which is administering this loan, the Ministry which is responsible for the so-called rationalisation programme of agriculture in Barbados was more efficient. It says here rationalisation programme of the sugar industry, and the Government is not going to fail to seek to take credit and put it as a rationalisation programme of the Government in due course. (*Asides*). It is not the Government's initiative; it is the sugar industry's initiative; so don't try to make things difficult. It is the Government's initiative to finance the project from Canada, but the programme came out of the sugar industry's own research mechanism here in Barbados. The Prime Minister said so. We only wish the Ministry was more efficient.

Just to wind up, Sir, let me repeat that this excellent document the Manifesto of the Barbados Labour Party for the general election of 1971, an excellent document even if the people were beguiled at the time, said "The Barbados Labour Party recognises that sugar is still a large financial contributor to the resources of the country and will advocate a rationalisation of the methods of its continuance."

Mr. Disraeli, the late Earl of Beaconsfield, placed into the mouth of one of his characters, commenting upon the change of name of the Tory Party to Conservative said "Ah yes, they are calling us a Conservative Party now; that means Tory men and Whig measures". I regret that the present journalistic profession in Barbados, barring at least one of its older practitioners, is lacking to find words which could similarly describe how carefully, how methodically, how completely the Democratic Labour Party Government is going through our Manifesto page after page, consciously or unconsciously, and putting what we have suggested into force.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, if we were to look at the Objects and Reasons of this Bill, we find that the Government is embarking on a scheme whereby from a loan from the Canadian Government what is termed as the rationalisation of the sugar industry is to take shape. Now we have heard from the Introducer of the Bill, the Hon. Prime Minister, that some experiments have been in progress from time to time, and the point has been reached whereby we will see at Uplands and other places various sections of the work introducing the various materials that are to come out of this rationalisation programme. But as we go

through the whole gamut of things, and I have listened to hon. members who have spoken from time to time, our thoughts must go back and we must wonder if this sugar industry is the same one which we know is associated with the cane blade, or if this is an industry which has no cane blade, because so much emphasis has been placed on not seeing another cane blade grow in Barbados that we must shudder when it now comes from the mouth of the Prime Minister that this loan from the Canadian Government is to do so much for the sugar industry in Barbados. We are glad for all of this; but it brings us to the point where we are satisfied that he has turned tail in his agricultural policy.

Now much has been said about the division of land and we must enquire — I quite agree with much that has been said by other hon. members — how the present division that is taking place is going to fit in with the Government's policy if it is intended that the revitalisation of the sugar industry should really take place, because we cannot for the life of us see that the industry must be given a fillip at any point and the land which must produce the canes is being used for other purposes. I am particularly concerned because I represent an agricultural community in the parish of St. Peter and one of the things that worry us and will continue to worry us for some time I believe is that the point was raised by I think the hon. member for St. Lucy as to why it is that workers are quitting the sugar industry, or you do not see more recruits remaining in the industry. I cannot proffer any particular reason or give any excuse for it, but one thing that must come to the mind of any hon. member is that the worker in the sugar industry does not enjoy anything called security of tenure. In other words, a worker in the sugar industry, and we have a common expression for it, can work for so many years at a job, and he is just knocked off like a hoe from the stick when the time comes.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER left the Chair and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

We find, Sir, that some of these same sugar workers, even those who have reached the age of 65 or 70 and should have long retired and gone home, cannot afford to retire and go home, have been renting plantation lands.
5.25 p.m.

Some of these people have been renting the plantation lands, they continued to rent the lands that their parents and grand parents have been renting, but nevertheless you will find perhaps in a family generation more than 100 years of actual rental in that generation of the plantation lands,

but still at no point would you find one or two-acre lots becoming the property of those workers although they might have been giving all their years to that plantation. We must admit, and it will be said, that the sugar workers were paid for the labour that they gave, but what were they paid? This raises the point where we are prepared to argue that while we find the Trade Union movement coming to life in very recent days and seeking to ensure what we might call a better deal for the worker in the sugar industry, we are still not satisfied that enough is being done or has been done, and not only in the sugar industry can blame be attached to the workers' organisations in this respect, there are other industries which are presently being carried on in Barbados.

I remember when International Scientific Limited was to be established in Barbados. I attended a Press Conference when the company was being introduced to the public, and at that Press Conference I heard that the Government was going to spend \$126,000 to put up a building to house this company. I learned the value of the equipment these people were going to bring into Barbados to establish this business, but I tried to enquire then what would be a minimum wage they would pay the workers and a representative of the IDC felt that I was trying to embarrass a new industry which was to be set up in Barbados, and that is still the attitude that the Trade Union is allowing to be adopted throughout the industries here.

Mr. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order, I think that the hon. member is either displaying a lack of what is going on or he is displaying ignorance.

Mr. SPEAKER: What is the point?

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I would ask the hon. member to withdraw his remarks.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not think there was anything offensive in his remarks.

Mr. HINDS: That an hon. member is deliberately telling lies?

Mr. SPEAKER: If the hon. member used those remarks I will ask him to withdraw them.

Mr. GREAVES: I would like to withdraw that and to substitute that the hon. member is misleading the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Please withdraw that also.

Mr. GREAVES: I beg to withdraw it.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, it would seem that some hon. members have come into this Chamber not to hear or appreciate what is honest and what is true.

Mr. SPEAKER: Would the hon. member get back to the Bill?

Mr. HINDS: That is exactly what I am doing, Sir, because I have given an illustration of exactly what took place and merely went on to urge that so and so should not be done, that is all. The Bill before the House in its Objects and Reasons tells us that the loan of \$1,650,000 (Can.), the terms and conditions attached thereto will be embodied in an agreement to be entered into between two Governments, the Government of Barbados and the Government of Canada. The Prime Minister was at pains to tell us that the loan, if I were to use his own words, will not impose any strain on the finances of Barbados. Really and truly, those words mean a lot to all of us at a time such as this.

We are glad that the Canadian Government is making the loan to us for the purposes which we understand, but to tell us that no strain will be attached to the finances of Barbados gives us a little cause for concern. As you know, Sir, you might have heard, you represent as I do a constituency where some of the workers in the various Government Departments live, and I was stopped on the way here and anxieties were expressed resulting from non-payment of monies earned in many of these Departments. I am really sorry that the Minister of Finance is not in his place because undoubtedly he would be in a position to throw some light on a matter such as this.

5.35 p.m.

If the workers' fears are justified, one can very well feel that if a worker, whether in the sugar industry or in any industry, has given up his service and is expecting his earnings, or has been promised that he would be paid on a particular day and the money is not forthcoming, he would have to make inquiries from his paying officer. You will understand that when the workers are told that the Government does not have money; that Barclays Bank has refused to carry a further overdraft for the Government, it must cause some concern to any worker. However, we are hoping that we will be able to tide over these things shortly, and that this loan will not cause any sort of strain, undue or otherwise, on the finances of this country. The question of whether there are finances to be strained is an entirely different matter altogether.

Now, we come to this question of aid in our programme for this factory which will be set up. I do not know if this question has been asked: Who

ing to own the factory when it is set up? I think we ought to address our minds at this point. What is the true value of the sugar industry to Barbados? In trying to carry out an assessment of this matter, we should be able to determine what is its value to the workers in the industry as a whole.

One must appreciate that sugar producers and others who operate the industry have their vested interests to look after. The Government will be putting money into the industry, because the Government is underwriting the loan and borrowing the money. The workers put in their blood and their sweat, and we feel it is high time that an assessment of the whole industry be made so that we can determine what portion of the industry is rightly going to the workers, what portion the Government needs to seek to protect, and leave the sugar producers to look after themselves as they usually do.

Sir, the question has been raised, and I think the Hon. Minister of Finance made mention about assistance to agriculturists. He speaks of the small man in this case, and he mentions the growing of cash crops. Sir, it is all right for us to say, as we have been hearing for a very long time, that we are going to diversify this, we are going to rationalise that and so on, but at this very moment there are certain cash crops that are grown in the parish of St. Philip by farmers. The farmers had estimated that they could have received an average of 20¢ per pound for certain crops. The Barbados Marketing Corporation cannot accommodate them any more and today the farmers are glad when anybody comes along and offers them 4¢ per pound for some of those crops.

You will find, Sir, that there is a limit to the growing of some of these cash crops, because the market has not been sufficiently developed for relieving these farmers. On the other hand, the farmers have not been given the technical advice necessary with regard to production, the time to plant and so on. That has resulted in a glut. In the circumstances, we have this situation before us. You will, therefore, realise that if a farmer had a loan, he might have put a certain amount of dependence on particular crops with a view to making repayments, but when his crops fail what is he to do? No farmer will continue to grow crops if he is growing them at a loss.

Sir, if we are going to assist these farmers with an 8-acre plot, a 10-acre plot, or a 12-acre plot or even smaller plots, then there is a certain amount of assistance apart from the loan that they should be given. They should be given marketing advice, marketing assistance and much more if they are to get full benefit from their crops. I make my

last point on the division of agricultural land. I remember some time ago the Prime Minister mentioned the Panama Estates in this Island. I wish to God that something could really and truly be done in this matter. The Panama Estates for the most part are agricultural plots. Where they have failed as agricultural plots was due in many cases to faulty management occasioned by the rightful owners not being in a position to assert any sort of influence and to assist themselves in ways which you or I, Mr. Speaker, might be able to do for ourselves.

5.45 p.m.

These few remaining estates which belong to poor Barbadians in Panama.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not wish the hon. member to dilate too much on the Panama Estates; you might tend to get away from the main thing.

Mr. HINDS: I am speaking, Sir, with regard to the division, and one point I am trying to make is with respect to Trents Plantation in St. James, and this Honourable House would be doing something if it moves at this stage to stop the division of Trents in St. James. They would be doing this country and maybe doing even the Minister of Lands the greatest good in the whole world, and I am sure the Minister knows why I say so.

I would like, Mr. Speaker, to lend my support to this Bill because all of us appreciate the good that can come from it if the scheme as a whole is conducted in a way that all of us on this side of the House would like, and that workers at every stage get their full benefit; and we too support the idea of training and equipping people to take their place whether it is in the sugar industry, the garment industry or whatever it is, but if you train people for any industry, you should see that they get wages that correspond favourably to the type of training they have received.

Mrs. EASTMOND: Mr. Speaker, I would just like to say a few words. I am very pleased to see that the Government of Canada is prepared to make such a loan to Barbados especially for the purpose stated in the Bill. I am so pleased about this because when I attended the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Seminar in April and Parliamentary Procedures in May, I spoke very strongly to the Canadian representatives of the C.P.A. I was very adamant as regards the help and aid they gave to Barbados. Barbados, I told them, for several years had been spending more and more dollars with them through the importation of foodstuffs and other items from Canada, and I appealed to these gentlemen. There were two Canadian M.P's on the first seminar and two on the

second and I appealed to their consciences to go back to their Government and let them know that Barbados has poor people and needs financial assistance. There are several people who will be trying to get credit for this Bill. I am not seeking any credit, but I would say that my Government sent me out as an ambassador and I did my part in speaking to these people, and only today I received a postcard from a Canadian M.P. stating that he had regained his seat and had spoken to his Government about my pleas at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. This is all I have to say, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, much has been said on this Bill. Quite honestly I do not think there is much more to say. The debate resolved itself into a criticism. We have had many deviations and digressions and criticism of the Government's land use policy which had nothing to do with the Bill itself. Rationalisation of agriculture has nothing to do with the bill.....

Mr. SPEAKER: That is a personal opinion.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Of course that is what I am expressing. In fact, the Bill merely seeks a loan from the Government of Canada to deal with the sugar industry. It is not only a matter of personal opinion; it is a matter of fact that a lot of what has been said had nothing to do with this Bill. What has the Bill to do with potatoes and yams that we heard about? The Bill talks about a loan to assist the sugar industry. However, I must admire the latitude given to hon. members because I think it can assist the Government from time to time in their policies, but I want to assure this House that the Government is not unaware of some of the things which have been said on the other side that could be regarded as criticism. I do admit that the Opposition must say things because they form the Opposition and things like producing the Manifesto to lay claim that the Government is now taking action on things they themselves projected is nothing but political propaganda. This has to be recognised, but one thing that must be said is that what is important is that agriculture must have an integrated policy, and the Ministry of Agriculture has been doing a considerable amount of research in a number of products.

As regards sugar, it cannot stand by itself without a market. In fact no product can stand without a market. Sugar is what Barbadians know; it is the only product that Barbados is able to make some kind of success of, and unless we have the markets, no amount of sugar we grow is going to help agriculture in this country. The only market we have is the United Kingdom, and if we were to produce sugar and try to sell it on the world

market, I think it is generally well known that the production of sugar per ton in Barbados far exceeds the world market price, but that does not mean that we must abandon sugar, because that is what we know and perhaps this is what our soil is suited to produce, therefore we must seek ways and means of reducing this high cost of production so that if the assured market of the United Kingdom is at any time threatened as appears to be now the case with Britain entering the Common Market, we might yet be able to sell our sugar on other markets. This is the problem we have to face, and this is the reason for this loan. The sugar that is produced from sugar cane is only one product of the sugar cane. There are other uses for the sugar cane and perhaps, who knows, Mr. Speaker, we may yet be able to find some profitable use to which we can put our sugar cane apart from sugar or to supplement the use of sugar.

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

On the motion of Hon. P. M. GREAVES, seconded by Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill. Mr. LOWE took the Chair. 5.55 p.m.

The clauses of the Bill were called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. P. M. GREAVES, seconded by Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee. Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of Hon. P. M. GREAVES, seconded by Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE, the Bill was read a third time and passed. Its title was agreed to.

RESOLUTION RE GRANT OUT OF THE PUBLIC TREASURY THE SUM OF \$30,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING A LOAN TO THE BARBADOS CRICKET ASSOCIATION (INCORPORATED)

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 2 be now taken. It stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Education.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, the purpose of this Resolution is to provide the sum of \$30,000 to be granted from the public Treasury and placed at the disposal of the Government for the purpose of making a loan to the Barbados Cricket Association (Incorporated) for the improvement of the pavilions at Kensington Oval.

a result of a request from the Barbados Cricket Association the Government considered that request and has proposed this particular Resolution for consideration by this Hon. Chamber.

The Association has been considering the development of the facilities at Kensington Oval in order to maintain those facilities at a level in keeping with the buildings there as a centre for international cricket. The Association has represented that it has a very heavy programme of cricket scheduled for early next year and in 1974. The programme as set out includes a visit by the Australians, it includes Shell Shield matches in 1973 and a visit by the United Kingdom team in 1974. The Association has felt that the immediate needs for the development of the facilities there call for an improvement of the covered accommodation, and to this end they propose an extension of the stand which is to the south of the existing Kensington Stand. To cover that particular stand which would provide covered accommodation for some 1,500 spectators is the aim of the Association. The Association is convinced that cricket in this country depends upon the spectators coming to watch the game, and when they come to watch they wish to do so in comfort, hence they propose to cover this particular stand. In order to carry out this improvement they have requested assistance from the Government either by way of a grant or by way of a loan on the most favourable terms, and the Government having considered the particular request and knowing cricket to be the national sport of this country has decided to accede to the request of the Barbados Cricket Association by providing the funds on the following terms: That the loan could be provided for the Barbados Cricket Association and that it should be on an interest free basis and should be repaid over a six year period, and that the outstanding amount of a former loan should also be incorporated in this particular loan and paid back over the same six year period.

Mr. Speaker, I do not think that it is necessary for me to give any further information on this particular matter unless members request additional information. We, like the Leader of the Opposition, like to watch cricket. I therefore know that this Resolution has the support of the members of the Opposition. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. P. G. MORGAN: I beg to second that.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I was wondering whether it was not time for a grant to be made to the Association for the particular capital purpose of improving the stand accommodation at

Kensington. Kensington is not a good enough ground as it stands at present to accommodate international cricket comfortably. In these days there are a lot of motor cars in Barbados and there is grossly inadequate car parking facility at Kensington. Anybody who has been to the recent 40 over matches that were played there a number of Sundays in the past, and anybody who has gone there will know that cars are parked down by Lands End, they are parked by the entrance to the Polytechnic, they are parked throughout Fontabelle, a number of people have been kind enough to let their yards be used as car parks, and even in Herbert House this was done.

6.05 p.m.

The Association needs money for the acquisition of land for car parking. That is point number one. I think that the whole wall to the east of Kensington should be pushed right back and a stand built there. In this day and age nobody, to my mind, should be asked to sit or stand in the tropical hot sun to watch cricket. This is all very well for people in Australia and in the West Indies years ago, but it is not now in keeping with what people expect from a cricket match.

The Association should be given an opportunity to furnish the ground properly with covered accommodation. As far as I know, no stadiums for the watching of football or cricket are built anywhere in the world today with uncovered accommodation. The trend throughout is to cover every stand. Kensington needs covered stands, it needs car parking, indeed, it needs more facilities for the players and the members, but I think that is legitimately a matter that you can ask the Cricket Association to furnish, because the funds from long-term members go to the Association and, therefore, the Association should be prepared to provide the necessary facilities. But if it has to be scratching all the time, financing unsuccessful tours, because the Barbados Cricket Association has to finance Barbados' cricket and pay a share of West Indies cricket whether the tournaments it promotes make money or not. It has to be prepared to underwrite Shell Shield cricket and a lot of touring cricket which may or may not be a financial success.

I am suggesting, dealing with it at arm's length like this, when it is known that the Barbados Cricket Association is always in financial trouble and always finds difficulty in repaying these loans, that it will only put the Association in more trouble during the six years when this loan is repayable. Now, \$30,000 without interest over six years will amount to a grant of about ten thousand dollars in theory. That is what it actually comes to when you consider that there is no interest

involved. I am suggesting that the Ministry should discuss with the Association what it needs. Do not encourage it to put up little, half-hearted schemes for covering a pavilion here and a pavilion there. It is clear that it needs car parking; it is clear that it needs the eastern wall moving in order to improve the facilities on that side; deal with it once and for all, and if necessary let the Government acquire the land — I think the Association is having difficulty with the adjoining owners — no matter whose friend's land it is that is wanted. Let the Government acquire the land and give it to Kensington, and give it a grant to rebuild the wall at the far end of the land and put up what pavilion space it needs.

I am sure that everybody who likes to see cricket would like to see cricket played under good conditions. When he first spoke the Minister adverted to the conditions under which you have to get refreshments at Kensington. All of those are matters which need improvement down there. Those are things which should be dealt with. The Barbados Cricket Association is not a money-making Association; it does not put money in anybody's pocket. Quite recently, as those hon. members of the House who are also members of the Barbados Cricket Association will know, there has been a lot of talk about the life members of the Association being levied on; closing life membership or increasing the subscription for life membership to a very high figure and so on. The Association makes efforts to make money and at the same time keep cricket cheap for spectators in Barbados.

We see things very cheaply here, Mr. Speaker. We get our sports very cheaply indeed. We have not got a proper boxing arena as yet and, therefore, you cannot expect people to pay great sums of money to watch boxing. If any one of us wants to go to Jamaica to watch the heavy weight boxing fight he would have to pay \$100 Jamaican (\$200 BWI) for a ring-side seat. We get things very cheap here, indeed, when it comes to sporting occasions, and part of this is due to the fact that the Barbados Cricket Association is prepared to let people see high-class cricket for \$5. That is the most expensive seat in Barbados to see cricket. As far as I can recall, the cheapest reserved seat at Lord's 12 years ago for a Test Match — I do not mean if you got into the ground and found an open seat — was 16/- and that was in a bad stand at the back on some hard board. You could rent a cushion to soften the impact somewhat, and that was many years ago. I repeat that it is cheap to watch cricket in Barbados. I think that the Government, bearing in mind that the Barbados Cricket Association gives facilities of this sort to the public, should be prepared to be generous to the Barbados Cricket

Association. We cannot rely on private firms all the time. I believe that too much a reliance on those firms is a bad thing.

Mr. Speaker, I had long wanted to say something about Rothman's, but people tell me how they do a lot for West Indian cricketers and I should not say anything. Rothmans, despite what you may read in *Time Magazine* about its owner Mr. Anton Rupert, is owned by an African nationalist who, some years ago, was fortunate enough to obtain damages from a newspaper in England for saying that he ran his companies for the benefit of the Nationalist Party of South Africa and the support of apartheid. The English court said that the newspaper went too far. But it is owned by a South African Company and its owner is well known to be the largest single contributor to the finances of the Nationalist Party of South Africa. I myself, no matter how many companies he may have set up in the West Indies or in England, would feel ashamed to take Anton Rupert's money to support West Indian cricket. I observe that a lot of people do it, and Rothman's is one of the great names in cricket today. I just sit back and laugh at it, but the owner of Rothman's is the greatest financial contributor to the South African Government. His cigarettes sell freely here; his money is taken freely to finance cricket and so on; the Government will get up and say that they do not import things from South Africa and Portugal, but the money which ultimately goes into Rupert's pocket is allowed, because Rothmans has a factory in Jamaica and a factory in England from which indirectly the funds come here. That is what you can get from depending on a private firm. I think it is an unsavoury business. No matter how much Rothman's has helped West Indian cricket, I feel that is his way of buying black people to continue to buy his products. He buys the goodwill which allows his products to sell, and I do not think it is a good thing. I would prefer to see the taxpayers supporting cricket than ultimately Mr. Anton Rupert. This is why we welcome this, Mr. Speaker, and wish it had gone a little further.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I agree with the Leader of the Opposition when he says that in this day and age people should not have to stand in the hot sun to watch cricket. While all of this is true, Sir, I think that the Barbados Cricket Association should make a greater effort to ensure that proper seating capacity is provided at Kensington. As I understand it, Sir, this \$30,000 will be used to cover the existing extension to the Kensington stand, but I think that the Association itself should make efforts to erect other stands.

Now, I am surprised to see that the Government can find \$30,000 to lend, without

next, to the Barbados Cricket Association for the purpose of providing accommodation at Kensington, while just a few yards away there is need for a playing field and a pavilion in the Emmerton Lane area. We will be told by the Government, when speaking on the question of priority, that there is no money to do this. It seems strange that you can lend money to the Barbados Cricket Association without interest, and yet at the same time you cannot find money to provide sporting facilities for the under-privileged people who live not too far away.

6.15 p.m.

I am not going to vote against this, but it does seem strange to me that with one breath you say you have not got the money to do something, and yet in another you can find money for the benefit of a middle-class Association like the Barbados Cricket Association to do this. If the Barbados Cricket Association really wants money, I can tell them where to get it. They can get money from another Association in Barbados for which they may have to pay interest, but there is one other Association in Barbados which has about \$60,000 from which they can lend the Cricket Association money. I know some members here have been pressing for pavilions for various districts besides Chapman Lane.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Look! You are going a bit too far. Come back to the Resolution.

Mr. MOTTLEY: How do you mean "look"!

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not mind a little digression, but there has to be a limit.

Mr. MOTTLEY: That may be true, but I do not think the proper manner to address an hon. member is to say "look", with all due respect to you, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The apology is accepted. What I am saying is that you find that on the question of projects the Government says you have to go by priorities, and they have placed as a priority the lending of \$30,000 interest free before the building of a pavilion for the residents in New Orleans. I am just comparing the two. They have given this greater priority than providing a pavilion which would cost less in New Orleans.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, if I may deal with the points raised by the last speaker first, I am really wondering if the hon. member wishes to make a political speech and walk on a

tight rope, he should say so openly. Why doesn't he come out and say that he is against this particular Resolution?

Mr. MOTTLEY: On a point of personal explanation, I made that absolutely clear. I am not against the Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I said a point of personal explanation.

Mr. SPEAKER: Personal explanation made.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: I think when we are dealing with matters at this level there are certain occasions when we should not try to squeeze in and push in by the back door that type of point. It is a very difficult matter on which to do it. I believe the hon. member is a life member of the Association. Why doesn't he come out and say that the grant should not be given, but instead it should be provided for the construction of a community centre or playing field at some area within the city of Bridgetown.

Mr. Speaker, if I may deal with the substantial points made by the Leader of the Opposition, and may I also state that sometimes I wish that instead of each member of the Opposition getting up to speak after their leader has spoken, it would pay them to listen to the measured tones.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Would the hon. member please come to the point of reply.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: That is exactly what I am coming to; I am coming to the point made by the Leader of the Opposition made in measured tones, and I would wish to make this point myself, that the Government is not going to tell the Association what to request. The Association has made a request of the Government; the Government has considered that request and responded to it. The request placed before the Government was not in respect of any car park, or in respect of bringing the cars from down by the polytechnic or up by the Cheapside Market into Kensington; it was precisely in respect of the provision of funds for the construction of a cover for a stand at Kensington Oval and this is precisely what we have done in this Resolution. We are always prepared to consider requests, and in the light of prevailing economic circumstances to deal with each request on its merits. Anyhow as I said, I am very glad for the support of the Opposition for this particular matter. We are all agreed on this except for the member for the City of Bridgetown.

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

THE DENTAL REGISTRATION ACT, 1972

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 5 be the next Order of the day.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, this Bill seeks to repeal the Dental Registration Act, 1923, and to make certain provisions for the practice of dentistry in this Island. The plan for the revision of dental registration goes back to 1970 when this Government invited Canadian dental legislation experts to come here and advise the Government on the necessary legislation. Mr. Curwen came here and held a series of discussions with members of the Ministry of Health and also with members of the Dental Association, and on the 12th January, 1971, he submitted a report to the Ministry of Health. The consequence of this report is that a Dental Registration Advisory Committee was set up and on this Committee were four dentists, the Chief Medical Officer, one person from the Attorney General's office and two other people from the Ministry of Health, and these held a series of meetings to decide on what should be put into the Dental Registration Act. In 1972 alone we had six meetings with members of the Dental Council. Bargaining has been very hard on both sides. The dental people wanted certain provisions in the Act, but the Government having to bear in mind the interest of everybody in the country had also to make certain demands, and at some stages compromises had to be worked out.

There are certain new elements introduced into this Dental Registration Act. One is that interpretations are in this Act whereas in the previous Act none was listed. In addition provision is being made for the registration of dental auxiliaries and dental hygienists, and also to license certain people to perform specified dental tasks satisfactory to the Dental Council.

The concept of dental auxiliary is one borrowed from countries such as the United Kingdom and New Zealand, and the reason for this is simple. There is a shortage of dentists all over the world and Barbados is no exception to this shortage. The facilities for training people to become dentists are not as elaborate qualitatively

or quantitatively as those provided for the training of doctors, and even in the area of doctors there is a world-wide shortage, but the shortage is even more acute and greater when one thinks in terms of dentists. Because of this, other provisions have to be made to look after the requirements of people as regards dental attention. New Zealand started this by bringing into action dental auxiliaries and dental hygienists, the United Kingdom has accepted the same, and Barbados is not the first Caribbean country to try to follow suit. I think Jamaica was the first.

The dental auxiliary is not a full-fledged dentist; he is limited to practise certain skills, and these skills are: to extract teeth and to cater to the pre-extraction and post-extraction care; to apply anti-cancer material to the mouth of people; to remove scales and polish teeth; to take x-rays and develop x-rays; and also to teach people about health in relation to their teeth.

6.25 p.m.

The Dental Hygienist is restricted even more severely and he can only do three things, which are, scaling and polishing of teeth, health care and one more which I do not recall at the moment. In Barbados we are trying to introduce this because we realise that there is a very severe shortage of dentists in this country. On the average there are about 13 practising dentists in Barbados and this works out to one dentist to every 22,200 persons in the island, and this ratio is very high, which means that many people cannot get dental attention when they require it. In fact, one consequence of this shortage of dentists in Barbados is, as I have been told, that when you make an appointment dentists insist that you pay the appointment fees well in advance although your appointment may be many months hence. With other dentists, if you are given an appointment and you do not appear at the appointed time they still send you a bill for appointment fees. This is an indication of the state of affairs which exists in Barbados due to the shortage of dentists. Now we are trying in the health services to look after the dental requirements of children, and this has forced the Barbados Government to adopt the experience of the United Kingdom and New Zealand, and therefore we are seeking by provisions introduced in this new Act to make use of dental auxiliaries and dental hygienists in the dental services of Barbados.

I would like to point out here to the hon. members of the Chamber that the dental auxiliary, being not a qualified dentist, has to work in close association with or under the direction of a dentist. It does not mean that he is under the direct supervision of a dentist because that would be defeating the purpose of having a dental auxiliary,

at all times he had to be under the direct supervision of a dentist, but very often the work which he does would have to be delegated or in some way supervised by a dental person. Furthermore, dental auxiliaries will be confined to work in the Government service and will not be permitted to go outside and set up practice and compete with other dentists in the Island. This is a concept which has occurred in New Zealand and the United Kingdom, and we are following it here. As I said earlier, bargaining is very hard and there have been a number of areas in which we had to make compromises, maybe not to the total satisfaction of each other, but one of the areas in which there may be some concern on the part of the dentists of this country is the registration of what is generally referred to in loose language as quacks. There are different views on this, and one of the things is that we would expect the dental people not to want licensed people referred to as quacks because they are professional people and they have responsibility towards the public at large, and they would want to ensure that dentistry in Barbados is brought up to the highest standard as compared with that in many other countries, but when we are looking at this we also have to look at the other side. One of the other sides which I am concerned about as Minister of Health is that while we are spending a large amount of money on health services in this country we have not yet been able to ensure that the health services provided reach each and every person in the country, and there are many reasons for this but it is not my intention to go into the reasons at this stage. I am saying, and I may be supported by other members in this Chamber, that in Barbados with the shortage of dentists in this country there are many people who would not be able to get some form of dental treatment were it not for the people who are generally referred to as quacks.

I am not in a position to comment on the quality of the treatment which these people give, but one of the points which has been stressed very often by the Dental Association is that they are not satisfied that the quality of the treatment given by these people is anything, in fact they are not satisfied that these people are doing a service to the country. They have not gone any further, they have not produced any facts to substantiate this statement, but at the same time one has to bear in mind that even accusations have been made against people who are qualified and registered as fully fledged dentists. We hear many reports about the quality of treatment given out by people who are considered to be fully registered dentists, but as I said that is a point for debate and I have said, also that total satisfaction has not been reached one way or the other on that matter.

If you look at many other aspects of this Bill you will find that apart from bringing in interpretation sections and bringing in other sections providing for the registration of dental auxiliaries and dental hygienists, you find that the Bill is a lot more comprehensive than the one which preceded it, and we believe that by having this Bill we will be able to regulate the practice and also improve the standard of practice within the dental profession of Barbados. We are hoping that we will in future be able to attract many other people to practise dentistry in Barbados, because one of the short-comings of the previous Bill was that only people who were qualified in the United Kingdom and Canada were able to come into Barbados and practise dentistry, but under this new Bill this scope is extended and it will be left to the Dental Council to register any person whom they consider to be fully qualified and eligible for registration in Barbados whether they come from the United Kingdom, Canada or any other country in the world, and in this respect the Bill has gone a far way.

We feel that when this Bill is passed we may be able to advertise in many other countries which we were hitherto prevented, and we may be able to attract many other dentists to this country. One of the strong points made by the Dental Association has been that the Barbados Government should take steps to increase the number of dentists in this country, but as I have said in my opening remarks there is a shortage of dentists all over the world and we are competing with countries such as the United States, Canada and many other countries in the recruiting of dentists and medical doctors, and I think since we have to compete it is easy to assume that we may not be able to compete on the same footing as the United States, Canada and some of the more highly developed countries. Although it is worthwhile to try to attract dentists from other parts of the world it is quite unlikely that we will be as successful as we would like. We have also accepted the contention of the Dental Council that more scholarships should be provided, but we have to point out that while we are providing more scholarships in dentistry it takes time to train a dentist and in the interim the service has to be carried on and these factors may be worthwhile to consider when one thinks in terms of whether you are going to allow people who have been extracting teeth for maybe ten years or more to continue doing so or to be prohibited from doing so overnight when this Bill is passed. At some stage in the consideration of this Bill I will be moving an amendment to 13 because it has been pointed out that agreement has been reached that this section need not be included, but perhaps due to an error by the draftsmen it has been included. I do not intend to say much more

on this, but I am prepared if necessary to divulge any additional information that hon. members may request. I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, it is good to see that following in the footsteps of the Bill to fuse the legal profession and to set out for the practice of the legal profession we now find a Bill setting out to deal with the dental profession in this country. I understand the Minister has said there is a section which will be amended and I am not quite certain what section it is. An amendment has been circulated but I don not think it deals with section 13.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, I am extremely unclear as to what is going on. Both speakers are saying something about section 13, but that section is all right and if it is to be amended it will affect the content of the speeches on the second reading. Is the Minister saying that section 13 is no longer to be included?
6.35 p.m.

Is he saying that at the appropriate occasion Section 13 will be deleted? If that is so it will be a different Bill from the one which is circulated, Sir.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, something has been circulated to members of the House dealing with page 9. I need some clarification on this point. There is a cyclostyled copy of the Bill circulated, and there is also a printed copy of the Bill circulated to which an amendment was circulated to members on this side of the House dealing with page 9.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have here the amendment which was circulated.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, I will try to explain the matter. I was also confused, because I received something which it was not my intention to deal with. The paper which should have been circulated should have at its head "8" referring to page 8 in the draft from the Ministry, and we are dealing with Section 13(1), (2), (3) and (4) only on that page. If the wrong paper has been circulated, I would apologise for any wrong information given.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, this is very important. Page 9 was circulated to us, but Section 13, page 8, has not been circulated.
(Pause.)

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the hon. member ready to proceed?

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, I am reading the amendment which has been circulated.

Mr. SPEAKER: Perhaps you can allow somebody else to continue.

Mr. MOTTLEY: I do not want to move that further consideration of the Section be postponed. We welcome this Bill following closely on the Bill to regulate the legal profession in this country. It is refreshing to hear a member of a profession introduce a Bill in this Chamber without launching any recriminations against the profession. Now, the part of this Bill that causes some concern is the question of the right to license certain persons and have them registered to perform certain work.

Originally, in the Bill as circulated, any person other than a dental hygienist or dental auxiliary who had performed dental services for a period of 10 years immediately preceding the presentation of this Act, provided that he was a person of good character and is competent to perform dental services in relation to which he seeks to be registered could be registered under the Act.

The amendment which is circulated, as I understand it now, does not require any period of qualification of 10 years, and grants that person a licence to do certain specified dental work. I am not quite certain what is meant by the words "to perform dental services in Barbados". This is a very wide term, and I do not know whether it is intended under this Section to deal with the dental technician. I note that they have dealt with dental hygienist and dental auxiliary and everything is specified under the Act, but they have not dealt with dental technicians. I do not know whether it is the intention of the Minister that dental technicians should come under this Section.

To me it appears that some difficulty will arise under this Section, Sir. If you license people to perform certain dental services, how are you going to check on these people to see that they are not exceeding the conditions laid down in the licence granted to them? In those circumstances, it seems that difficulties will arise in the operation of this Bill. The Bill provides for the change in the conditions, and it provides for extending the conditions under which those persons are entitled to perform dental services, but it does not provide for limiting the conditions. I do not know if it is intended to deal with them under the general Regulations for disciplinary conduct. There is

morning in this Act which states that if a person goes outside the conditions laid down he is guilty of any professional misconduct. I do not know if it is the intention that he should be covered by this Section, if he goes outside the conditions that are laid down.

Sir, to me, it would seem that it is a practice that should cause some concern. If you were to grant a licence to a person to do certain dental services, it is going to be important to ensure that the person is going to perform the dental services for which the permission has been granted and those dental services alone.

6.45 p.m.

It is so easy that you may provide for a person merely to extract a tooth or something like that, but it is going to be difficult to see that person not going over the borderline of his conditions once he gets into that person's mouth and starts doing something else. I think that the Minister when he replies should be specific in dealing with this section to say whether this is intended to cover dental technicians only, or whether it is a round-about way of putting on to the roll of practising dentists people who, though not having the basic qualifications as is required by this Act, have in the past been practising dentistry as defined under the Act.

One other point comes to mind and it is the question of the dental auxiliaries and dental hygienists. As I understand it, the Minister mentioned that the practice has come from England and New Zealand, and the practice in England as regards dental auxiliaries is that before they can actually perform the functions that are described under Section 17 dealing with dental auxiliaries, that is, the scaling, cleaning and polishing of teeth etc., the patient must have been examined by the dentist and instructions in writing should be given to the dental auxiliary. There is no provision here that requires the dentist to give to the dental auxiliary his instructions in writing. As the Minister has said, this provision has come from England, and the English provisions do provide that dental hygienists can only work with a dentist after the instructions have been given in writing, and it distinguishes the position between that of the dental hygienist and the dental auxiliary.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: If the hon. member would give way, I would like to point out that if he goes through the Act he will see that the dental hygienist has to work under the direct supervision of a dentist whereas the auxiliary is slightly different. The auxiliary not only carries out the instructions of a dentist, but he is confined to Government service and works on children only.

Mr. MOTTLEY: The dental hygienist as set out in the definition is a person who performs dental services under the supervision of a dental practitioner, whereas a dental auxiliary is a person who works on a full time basis in the public service to perform dental services on children who have not attained the school leaving age.

Now dealing with the question of dental hygienists, as I understand the provision of the rules in England, the dental hygienist can only perform his functions after the patient has been examined by the dentist and written instructions have been given. If there is some reason to depart from this, perhaps the Minister in reply can tell us. It is unfortunate that in the case of the dental auxiliaries who are employed on a full time basis in the Public Service, the need to add that they must act under the supervision of a dental practitioner was not included.

Sir, on the principle of the Bill as a whole, the point that causes some concern is the question of the registration of persons to perform dental services. I know that in 1923 when the Bill which this Bill seeks to repeal came into force that a number of persons were placed on the register who had not had the required academic training, but who had served their apprenticeship, and for that reason they were placed on the register and performed the functions of a dentist. The Minister has spoken about the shortage of dentists throughout the world, and I believe that in the last two or three years we on this side have been calling on the Government to see that a number of national development scholarships go towards dentistry, and the fact that this Bill makes provision for dental auxiliaries and dental hygienists makes us enquire of the Minister whether he would be so kind as to state what training is going to be provided by the Government, or if any scholarships are going to be provided for dental auxiliary and dental hygienist training.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, this Bill provides for dental auxiliaries and as has been made quite clear to us, these auxiliaries will be assigned to practise on children in the various schools. Now I think what is necessary for us at this stage is not for us to have the present system whereby the children are more or less dragged into this health scheme. It is good having the teeth extracted, but to my mind the parents' permission ought first to be sought when the teeth are to be extracted. I believe that we are now paving the way for some parents to bring an action against some one.

6.55 p.m.

There are no two ways about it, the dental auxiliaries are going to have the children to attend

to and they will treat them as if they are guinea pigs to experiment on. We believe that enough has not been exercised on the part of Government to attract dentists to come to Barbados, and it is within our knowledge that dentists in Norway and Sweden time and again have offered their services to this Government. Their applications or letters containing their intentions were forwarded to the Ministry of Health and as usual nothing more was heard of them. I think we have 13 registered dentists at the moment, but only 10 are practising. We agree that those of us requiring dental services cannot be adequately served by these 10; as a matter of fact, I believe it is safe to say that they are trying to avoid being over-worked, that is, they are all limiting themselves to seeing so many people in the course of a day and no more, but this is something that Government should have done not today but long ago, and incentives could have been given to encourage others.

There are some Barbadians who have gone abroad and are studying dentistry, but we believe there are some of them who could have been encouraged to come back home, and I think too that some are doing so well that if they came back here the University of the West Indies might some day be encouraged to have established there a chair of dentistry because some of our sons have certainly excelled in the profession. The auxiliaries then will go on and practise, but there is one thing that we see the Bill stipulating, that is, that they will engage in filling which does not involve the exposure of the dental pulp. I have been advised — and I believe I can say on excellent authority in this Island — that over 60% of the filling that is done involves exposure of the dental pulp, and if this develops when these auxiliaries are functioning, the Bill prevents them from engaging in this, what is going to be the position with your child or mind? Is the auxiliary going to leave the child in that position and set about to summon a dentist? We have a problem before us, we have got to find ways and means of dealing with it. The Government has set about to bring in dental auxiliaries and dental hygienists and is trying to provide ways and means of giving licences to others who have been trying their best for over 10 years in this Island.

We will agree that the time has come when the members of the Association of Dentists in this Island will be asking themselves if their profession is something substandard and if it is now to be considered as inferior to the medical profession. When will this be done to the medical profession, that you give licences to every quack about the place? That is the question the dentists are asking. At present I think that Government employs a lady whose prime business it is to carry on in the

profession of dentistry in this island, and who undoubtedly can give Government some measure of advice in this matter. What one sees at the outset in the composition of the Dental Council is how is this officer going to function?
7.05 p.m.

The dentist, the registered dentist, the dental auxiliary, the hygienist and the licensed person will all be clamouring for representation at some stage or other. Now, in this business of the dentistry profession, we know that from time to time we have chanced upon some people who have been rendering the public very, very valuable service. It has been said that some who are qualified and whose names appear on the present register of dentists have been known to be causing the profession some concern over the quality of the service that has been rendered from time to time. All of these things must be taken into consideration when we come to debate a Bill such as this.

The hon. member for the City of Bridgetown raised the question regarding a dental hygienist who will be given permission to perform a limited number of services or a limited service. The question of policing that service is very important, because already in this Island there is evidence that the quacks in dentistry and the quacks in medicine have not been policed as they ought to have been policed. That is well known, but we will not go into further details on this. All of this must form some sort of a background against which the Government, in bringing a Bill such as this, must build its case.

Now, what could have happened to have caused the Government so suddenly to bring this Bill? The question is how many trainees do we have abroad at the moment? How many Barbadians are now abroad studying dentistry? How far have they progressed? What invitations have been sent to them? What scholarships are now being offered? I believe that we have to do much more than this Bill is attempting to do. No one would do anything to check the expansion or the extension of the health services when we see that Government and even private concerns are moving in the right direction.

Sir, this is a case where the Government must move with a very considerable measure of care. We do not want to see a crisis created in the profession; we do not want to see the suffering of the many now added to, and it would be well worth while if the Minister has at his disposal the figures of the number of children in schools that are presently awaiting dental attention, and the numbers awaiting attention at the various clinics as

ell as at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. All of this information would enable us to arrive at a decision and to appreciate Government's haste in trying to have this Bill dealt with today.

Now, the dental auxiliary has to deal with the processing and the developing of X-ray films and things of that nature. Mr. Speaker, this is not a casual exercise.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think you have made that point enough.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, this is the first time that I have mentioned anything about X-ray. I know how Your Honour must feel sitting in the Chair for some time.

Mr. SPEAKER: Carry on.

Mr. HINDS: That is what I am doing, Sir. We know that there are a number of dentists who have offered or who could be attracted to come to Barbados on an exchange basis, and it is within Government's knowledge that some have offered to come over on an exchange basis for as long a period as three years. It has been pointed out that, whilst some dentists will be in the Island practising and relieving our situation, then those who are brought for three years will be undergoing training in an effort to become qualified with a view to returning to the Island at a later date. I think that the Government should have taken all of those things into very careful consideration in the drafting of this Bill which is now before us.

The question of how those people who have been practising for 10 years will be able to satisfy the Council — whether they will be called upon to sit an examination or what test is applied — is a matter which is presently engaging a certain amount of attention. We would like to hear what the Minister has to say on these points.

7.15 p.m.

Mr. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I will try in my speech not to repeat what has been said by other hon. members, but I think that in this Bill there are certain principles to which one should advert, and I would like in particular to talk about the provisions dealing with licensed persons and also with the provisions dealing with disciplinary proceedings. I think, Mr. Speaker, it is well recognised that the organisation of the dental profession both in the United Kingdom and in Barbados has only occurred perhaps in the last 100 years or less than 100 years. Indeed in 1921 the first composite Act was introduced in the United Kingdom and very soon afterwards in 1923

Barbados as usual followed behind England. In this case, in respect of this particular Bill, in 1957 the Dentist Act in England was updated and modernised, and now some fifteen years afterwards we follow behind England, not adopting in all respects the English provision.

I think there may be some reasons why we have not taken all the English-provisions perhaps because in our country we have not the same facilities as exist in England for training dentists. I am glad to see that this Act will now place on the Council and the Minister particularly the obligation to establish suitable training programmes for dental auxiliaries and dental hygienists, and I trust in due course also for dental practitioners *per se*. It seems to me correct that as soon as possible in the West Indies we should move to the establishment of a Chair of Dentistry at the University of the West Indies. We are, as the Minister quite correctly said, faced in the world today with a shortage of dentists as a whole. We must not expect that we are going to receive undue consideration from foreign Universities when it comes to training our own people in this respect, and I think it is therefore incumbent upon the Government to emphasise at the appropriate meeting of the appropriate body of the University of the West Indies this shortage of dentists in the area and to try as soon as possible to see that we are taking steps to train our own dental practitioners.

The para-dental services I think we can take care of not only on our own, but perhaps in conjunction with our neighbours, and I hope that the Minister in this respect will, when he is meeting with his Ministers from the other Commonwealth Caribbean territories — I think the Commonwealth Caribbean Ministers of Health — will try to set up a programme for training para-dental persons in this sphere. I think we can eventually set out a proper dental team composed of the dental practitioner as leader, the dental auxiliaries, the dental technicians, the dental hygienists and the dental surgery assistant. I think we have to look forward to this day and I trust that this Act is one of the stepping stones towards that ultimate goal.

There is no doubt, Mr. Speaker, that it would be a grave mistake to completely prohibit from practising some of the dental services persons who are at present not qualified in any University, but who have by virtue of experience and by some other qualification at technical colleges acquired some knowledge of dentistry; and it is I think in this respect that I regret very much that the draftsmen of this Act and perhaps the Ministry did not spell out in a better form what is a licensed person under Section 2 of the Bill. Section 2 of the Bill spells out the services and functions which can

be performed by dental auxiliaries and by dental hygienists, but it does not spell out the services which can be performed by licensed persons. It therefore leaves to the dental council the duty to prescribe these services.

Now I am a bit apprehensive about this. I think it is an open secret that professionals, and particularly in a closed shop profession and in an Island where there are such limited numbers of persons, are absolutely jealous of their rights. It is an undoubted fact that each dental practitioner of this Island has more patients than he can humanly treat at a reasonable rate without detriment to his health, and perhaps without detriment to the patient, and were it not in fact for the unlicensed dentists, if I may call them so, who practise, I think this Island would have been faced with a dental crisis, and I think the Minister should reserve to himself some influence in prescribing the services to be performed by the licensed person, and I should hate to think that the Council would take a very limited view of this matter and try to restrict these people by making it a very stringent test for them to get on the register of licensed persons.

If I may by comparison and without digressing too far cite the instance in another legislation, the Legal Practitioners Act, where we have allowed persons who are registered conveyancers to attain the title of Attorney-at-Law, I think that some scope and latitude should be given by the Dental Council, and although the Minister will permit the Council to function as much on its own as it can, I hope he will issue them some directives on this point so that they do not overnight disqualify people from practising as licensed persons.

Mr. Speaker, there is another provision of this Bill, as I said, which give me cause for concern, and this is the disciplinary provision. For a long time I have been bothered about legislation on the Statute Book which seeks to create outside of the Courts of this Island special administrative tribunals, if I may call them so, with powers of disciplining people, giving them the right to say whether you can work or not work. It is not contrary to the Constitution to do this, but I think that when Parliament sets out to create special Courts, Parliament must be sure that those Courts can recognise their duties and will exercise their discretion properly in accordance with the fundamental provisions in the Constitution.

Now in Section 22, Mr. Speaker, is set out a list of functions which give rise to disciplinary proceedings. The Constitution of the Dental Council in the Schedule of this legislation provides

for the Chief Medical Officer or his nominee, a dental practitioner appointed by the Minister and two dental practitioners appointed by the Minister on the nomination of the Association of Dental Practitioners approved by the Minister. Now, Mr. Speaker, nowhere in those provisions is there any provision for nominating a member of the public. I have said before that professional bodies serve the public. The present thinking and the better thinking is to bring on to such bodies members of the public particularly when we are dealing with disciplinary proceedings setting up the standards of conduct and doing matters which affect the public; and it seems to me very short-sighted indeed that we should as a Parliament omit to make this provision simply because we are copying what happened in England in the 1950's or indeed in the 1940's.

7.25 p.m.

In other progressive countries — and I am sure the Minister would like to hear if I may add in parenthesis — in other progressive socialist countries, the public has a larger stake in saying how these matters should be conducted. I do not for one moment believe that the profession should be averse, although I differ from my colleagues on this point, to having members of the public on their bodies. I make a further point, Mr. Speaker, it seems to me that the conduct of this tribunal is not properly provided for; we would have expected according to common law to follow the rules of natural justice, but it is indeed a pity that the procedures to be followed on the trial of persons for disciplinary proceedings are not laid down in the Act. You are well aware, Sir, being not only an hon. gentleman but a learned gentleman as well, of the Frank's Committee in the United Kingdom, and as a result of the Frank's Committee the United Kingdom passed the special Tribunals Enquiries Act of 1958. Barbados has not got that Act, and as a result every time we are setting up a special tribunal we have no corresponding legislation to guide them on how to act when they are acting as a Court. For instance, there is nothing in this legislation which places an obligation on this tribunal to give reasons for its decisions. Indeed it is doubtful whether it has to give reasons at all; there is nothing which tells the tribunal how it must proceed, whether representations will be made to it only in writing in which case according to common law it would have conformed with the rules of natural justice, or whether in my view much more properly it should permit people who are being subjected to disciplinary charges to be represented before it by Counsel and witnesses to be called. Nothing at all. In the United Kingdom when dealing with dental auxiliaries there are certain safeguards giving counsel power to have with him sitting a Solicitor, and I think under our

3 Act when the Association sat in those days it sat with a body of assessors one of whom was a legal practitioner.

I am really deeply concerned, Mr. Speaker, and I believe that neither the Dental Association nor indeed the Government has adverted to this point, and I should not like to see legislation continually coming before this House without making adequate provision in this respect. I am also concerned with section 22. For instance, if a Dentist is convicted of motor manslaughter which is an indictable offence and which is completely unrelated to his professional conduct, if he is convicted of such an offence he can be brought on a charge of misconduct and disciplined. This is short-sighted thinking in these circumstances. The new legislation in England and in other countries says that the indictable offence must be the type of offence which is related to the conduct of his profession or which says that he is lacking in some standard of integrity which one would expect of a professional man. Any one of us could be involved in motor manslaughter without lacking in integrity; maybe we fell asleep at the wheel, we were over tired or something of the sort, and there is no disrespect to our professional standards which would result from this sort of circumstance. I am very concerned about the failure to look at this in a wider context, and I hope that the Minister will bear these points in mind. It seems to me that he is anxious to have this legislation on the Statute Book before the year ends, but I hope that he will consider the points I have made with his legal advisers and in due course introduce certain amending legislation on this point.

He may also commend to his other Cabinet colleagues introducing legislation to regulate the procedure of these disciplinary bodies and the Special Courts which we are from time to time establishing. In fact this Parliament in the National Insurance Legislation has set out a model as to how a special tribunal should act and be constituted and should proceed, and there is already this precedent available for the legal draftsmen if they choose to take the time to look at it. I hope when they are advising the Government in future they will draw this to their attention. Mr. Speaker, I look forward to a higher standard of dental care in this Island. I do not like to introduce personal comments into legislation, but I recall all too well when I was in class 2 at the Christ Church Boys' School having had extracted at one sitting nine of my teeth, and I am not sure I should have praised the dentist who did this in a schools' programme or whether I should indeed have criticised him, but I know that it built up in my mind a fear for dentists. In those days dentists were remunerated according to the number of teeth they extracted, and I

should hope that this is not being pursued any longer in this service.

I am glad to see that the Government is looking towards dental auxiliaries and dental hygienists. I see nothing in this legislation dealing with dental technicians. They are a very important body of professional men in this country, they are very important to the dental team, and I think that they should be encouraged. Indeed one of the skills we should encourage among our people happens to be the possession of auxiliary skills to the main professions. It is one of the greatest assets of Barbados that we have always exported our people, exported them in the way that they are not lost to Barbados, they come back home better qualified and in the meantime they earn for us a good reputation and part of our invisible trade balance by remittances from abroad. I think we can do this, and I hope Barbados will become the leader in the para-dental and para-medical fields. The Bill is to be commended in that it is a step in the right direction; it is not as comprehensive as it should be, it is not as satisfactory in its provisions as it should be, and I am sure that before long when the Minister has had another look at it and has seen it working for a while he will think it fit to come again to this House to ask for improvements. In fact, the process of improving this Bill should be going on now.

In a land of scarcity of dentists, we have to think of the licensed person. We may be moving from that situation to better qualifications and I am sure that with his colleague, the Minister of Education, the Minister of Health will make sure that we devote a larger proportion of our national development scholarships in this respect. The people should be bonded to return to this country as I believe Barbados Scholars should be bonded to return to the country in order to give some help in this field.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, the hon. members for Christ Church West, for the City and for St. Peter have all made reference to this question of training and scholarships, and I would merely wish to set the record straight. This Government as part of its policy has made provision for the training of people at the professional level; that is why in 1970 we made the announcement of the award of National Development Scholarships, precisely to develop our resources at this level, and in particular the field of dentistry was given consideration for the training of our nationals. Indeed three National Development Scholarships have been awarded in the field of dentistry, three out of the 30 scholarships available at present, and I would like to assure hon. members that consideration of this

particular profession will continue to play a major part in the allocation of National Development Scholarships.

7.35 p.m.

I may add also that only this year I approved the award of an enabling grant to a Barbadian studying in Michigan for a doctorate in dentistry. We are well aware of the need for training in dentistry. I believe that the hon. member for Christ Church West was speaking in all sincerity when he referred to National Scholarships. It is part of the policy of this Government to award scholarships, because we want people to come back here and work.

As far as training in this country for dental hygienists and dental auxiliaries are concerned, it is my view that more training at the technician level and at the para-professional level should be available here and, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, we have given consideration to this particular aspect of training at the Barbados Community College. Already we are training in certain areas, and we hope to get into the medical or para-medical field, or allied health professions as the more modern term seems to be.

As far as training for dentistry at the University is concerned, I should like to state that this matter has not passed the Council of the University unnoticed, and a joint Committee is considering the matter. It is hoped that training in dentistry will be available at the University of the West Indies in the not too distant future.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I do not want to comment too much about the Bill. What I want to comment upon is the question of obtaining the necessary qualified persons for filling the particular categories of persons whom we now require in this country.

It is sad to see letters appearing in the daily newspaper time after time of persons who have left this country, went abroad and obtained the necessary training, received certificates or diplomas, and have either written to the Government or returned home and made applications for jobs. After several months they write letters to the newspaper stating that they hold certain qualifications; they have applied for certain posts which are, apparently, vacant and have had no reply.

I know from personal knowledge that there is a particular school in New York where there are at least 20 Barbadians being trained in dental technology or allied technology of the dental trade. Quite recently I have been told that every one of them who qualified has been employed by

American institutions and are encouraged to remain in the United States. This is something which goes back to the ancient days when Barbados was known to educate its Nationals to a very high level. Our literacy rate was at one time said to be 99.8. We were producing manpower and brains for the other countries. There is no doubt about it that there is a scarcity of people required to work not only in dentistry, but in other fields. Very soon we will find ourselves with registers, but with no persons willing to be registered in the particular categories.

Mr. Speaker, I should like to see the Government adopt what some people may call a dictatorial attitude in this respect. If the various Committees or the division which deals with the appointment of civil servants are so inactive, I would like to see the Government say that all applications should be forwarded in duplicate: one to the Minister and one to the Public Service Commission. If the Public Service Commission sits down and cannot appoint people in the necessary posts, then the Minister should have the right to take things in his hands. This may seem strange, but that is the way I see it. What is the good of this Government or any Government in power taxing the nationals of a country to provide an educational standard to produce nationals of such a calibre, allow them to go abroad and qualify; they seek to come back to this country; they are running from the violence in the United States and Britain; they are running from the racial attacks; they are running from the cold in England and they want to come back home. Every day you hear that there is a shortage of this and a shortage of that, but when they apply for certain posts they cannot even get an acknowledgement of their applications.

Obviously, Mr. Speaker, something has prompted this Government to bring this Bill before the House. I believe that the Government should have an open scheme in respect of grants to persons who are studying abroad. I believe that those persons who apply for and are given loans to enable them to study in the particular fields where we have a scarcity should be given a guarantee that when they qualify and return home to fill the various posts that they will be placed within certain brackets. Their salaries should commence at a particular level, and I think that is what should be done.

I am rather perturbed about the way "licensed persons" have been set out in the Act. Are you going to license the dental technicians? Are you going to require them to sit an examination? Are you going to accept their diplomas or whatever certificates they have? These

things that worry me. I think the Minister should look into all aspects of this matter. In conjunction with the Ministry of Education they should sent out suitable advertisements. I understand that nationals in the United Kingdom and in the United States of America have to depend on the papers which come from the relevant Barbados office to see when vacancies occur, and some persons do not see them before the last date for the receipt of the application has passed. I do not doubt that, Mr. Speaker. I have been in Barbados and I have seen advertisements in the newspaper between 1966-69 where they were giving scholarships in Law, and the applications were only published about three or four days before the last date when the applications should be returned. Therefore, I do not doubt people abroad when they say that when they see the advertisements the last date for the receipt of the applications has been passed. You will then hear that posts were advertised for a long time and no applications had been received.

I believe that the Government should embark on a suitable advertising programme in England and America and so on setting out the salaries and conditions attached to the various posts. I will say something now, Mr. Speaker, for which a lot of people will not agree with me. We advertised certain posts in the United Kingdom and bring in lawyers, doctors, and so on, and you are told because they are nationals of this country they are not entitled to housing allowance or anything. On the other hand, you bring in an Englishman, pay him the same salary, give him the same conditions of service, and you provide a house for him. I have always said that this is wrong. If anybody comes from England, from the United States or elsewhere and they want to work in Barbados, their conditions of employment should be different from that of the nationals who have gone abroad to study and come back, because their conditions should be the same.

7.45 p.m.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: On a point of order, the conditions of service for anyone brought into the service of Barbados whether in fact they are Englishmen or Barbadians are the same. Similarly, Mr. Speaker, such people have housing conditions that are identical. Barbadians who are brought back from abroad are granted housing accommodation, and non-Barbadians who are brought into the country are also granted housing accommodation. There is no difference between those persons except of course persons who come under what they call the Overseas Aid Service Scheme, where they get an addition to their salaries paid for by the British Government.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: I just make this point because.....

Mr. SPEAKER: You have made it.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: The point has been made by the hon. member that in fact there is a difference in conditions of service, and I am pointing out that there is no difference.

Mr. SPEAKER: But you have done so, Mr. Minister. It is time that hon. members had a good look at the Standing Orders of this Chamber. May I say this before the hon. member resumes. If hon. members have a good look at and study the Standing Orders, it would avoid a lot of unnecessary interruptions which are a little off the point they are trying to make. A point of order has to do with an alleged breach of the Standing Orders of this Chamber. If you want to make a point of elucidation, then that is something different, and the point of elucidation that you are making must arise out of something which you have previously spoken.

Mr. BOLDEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I must say that the hon. member is not entirely correct, because the Hon. Minister was a practising barrister when we had this discussion in the Bar Association about magistrates, people who are brought home and had to search for accommodation.

Mr. SPEAKER: May I ask the hon. member not to labour that point; it is only marginally relevant to the matter we are discussing.

Mr. BOLDEN: What I am dealing with, Mr. Speaker, is the question of advertising and bringing home Barbadian nationals to fill the relevant positions, and I am saying that one of the main reasons why Barbadians are so reluctant to come back is because of these different conditions which apply. I am entreating the Government now to take a new look at the situation, do a comprehensive form of advertisement and set out clearly the conditions. The Hon. Minister would be surprised to know that when I was in Africa there was a Barbadian who had applied for a job in a Government institution in this country and he was at the last point of his contract in Africa and up to that point he had written several letters and had not heard one word from this Government as to his return. The man is very competent in a particular field for which we are lacking. We are searching all over the world for persons in this particular category and this man was down on his knees offering his services and no answer went back. This

is why I suggested earlier that my suggestions may sound dictatorial, but it is time if you have the interest of this country at heart that the Government changes its policy in respect of applications of Barbadian nationals to fill relevant vacant positions in this community. How many times you go abroad and meet a Barbadian with the necessary qualifications or more qualifications than persons who have filled the job and they will tell you that they applied but heard nothing about it. We have had the cruel situation at the hospital where a Barbadian came here to fill a post as a Registrar, and how was he treated? These are factors which I would like to see changed, and I do hope that the Minister of Health when this Bill comes into existence, as the hon. member for Christ Church West has said, will constantly review the situation in relation to the number of persons available for filling the necessary categories and therefore improve our situation so much more by local expertise than having either an empty register or an imported person who will only come primarily to enjoy the sunshine in this country to the detriment of Barbadian nationals. You hear the law students at the University talking about several of them and how you cannot find them when you want them. What is the position?

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, the dentist profession has perhaps been a little more kindly handled this evening than the legal profession was handled in a recent debate, but without in any way wishing to cast any aspersions whatsoever either upon the registered dental practitioners whose devotion to duty in the face of an enormous volume of work is well known, or upon the practitioners of dentistry who have taken advantage of Section 5 of the Dental Registration Act and extracted teeth without anaesthetics, for I am sure that none of them would willingly have broken the law by extracting teeth with an anaesthetic not being a registered dental practitioner, or persons who have manufactured dental materials or worked as dental technicians apart from the patients — I do not want to cast any aspersions on any of them — but the fact remains that if you take into account the 21 or 22 registered and unregistered practitioners of dentistry in one form or another, Barbados has been sadly lacking in dentists for a very long time.

I had better just set the records straight. The Prime Minister made some reference earlier today about my visiting the houses of dentists to obtain information about this Bill. No more than the Prime Minister does the Leader of the Opposition run about into people's houses begging for information. It is only fair to tell the House that both the registered dental practitioners and the unregistered dental practitioners have made

available to me, in one case I believe, the memorandum that was made available to the Minister, and in another the memorandum from the unregistered dental practitioners. I am speaking quite impartially and dispassionately as far as I am able as between the two sides to the dispute and I would not wish it said as the Prime Minister quite wrongly said about persons connected with the sugar industry that they all support one political party or the other. He suggested that they all support me. I can just as truthfully suggest they all support him and tell him the names of the plantation owners who I know in St. John canvassed for him; but I will not worry with that. Let us deal with a professional matter such as this sort on a basis of professional niceties rather than politics.

What I am going to say, which I hope is not going to be misunderstood by the dentists registered and unregistered, is that the dentists, — only one for over 20,000 people in Barbados at the present time, whereas in the United Kingdom where there is said to be a shortage which will persist until the year 2000 there is still one dentist for every 11,000 people now, although there is a shortage of dentists, has concentrated the dental care of the population in a few narrow, too narrow, I would argue, outlets. I am told by dentists that the easiest and the most remunerative work that can be done is that of pulling teeth — extraction. It is quick to do, evidently is not regarded as the most difficult or skilled part of a dentist's work since the 1923 Act allows it to be done without anaesthesia, it brings in the money even for small charges, because there are 32,000 people on everybody's head and I suppose ten or twelve teeth available to be pulled. I have no idea how much in the business and even if you just take the 100,000 adults in Barbados, that is 100,000 teeth that can reasonably be expected to be pulled by the adults who are knocking about. It is ten a piece in their life time, and that is a sum of dollars to be charged, and of course you charge for an appointment to see a tooth that does not need pulling.

Now this concentration on extraction has conditioned the entire Barbadian public to believe that extraction is the best or indeed the only way of treating a sick or ailing tooth. We have had this out in this House before some years ago when I am glad to say that the spokesmen on both sides agreed and the result was a shake-up in the Government's dental services.

7.55 p.m.

You walk about now and you hear people say they have a toothache and they are going to the dentist, but when you ask them if they are going to

g- their teeth filled they say it is too much pain, they do not like the drill, it takes too long, the dentist charges too much and they are going to get them pulled out. The patient himself is conditioned to believe that the pulling out of teeth is the normal treatment for them. Any dentist, dental auxiliary or otherwise who comes from abroad will tell you that all the training in modern dental schools now is oriented towards saving teeth, not destroying them, and it is a matter of common sense although the analogy obviously is incomplete, nobody would suggest that every pain in your finger or every disease or any protuberance of the body merits the immediate remedy of amputation. This is a matter of common sense, but this is exactly what the public is conditioned now to accept from dentists, that their teeth must not be filled, they must be pulled out, and I want all the dentists to hear this, from the mightiest and the most expensive to the humblest of the unregistered practitioners. They pull out people's teeth too much, they like pulling out teeth too much, and this is why I would not join in any assault upon the dental auxiliaries - and I use the word as a term of art - I mean the auxiliaries, those who were trained for the two years in England or wherever it is and the system exists, and who are brought down here primarily to do a job of preservation and education on school children's teeth, because I think that is the importance of the work of the auxiliaries in the school medical service. That is the real importance of it.

g- dental health of Barbadians I assume is generally poor. The dentists tell me it is very bad, they will tell me they have a lot of cavities and so on but I think it is the people in the profession saying that the population needs care. You cannot draw on my experience too much, but since members of the Council are all about how many teeth they have, I think hon. members do not mind me saying this, for 12 years I lived in England I suppose I must have had a dozen fillings, maybe 16, but I have never had a tooth out. Since living here I have never had a cavity in a tooth, and I can only presume it is the diet, the water, the climatic conditions generally, but this is a period of more than 20 years we are dealing with and so I do not think that we have the natural conditions in Barbados, no matter how many sweet drinks we drink and how much chocolate we eat, to destroy teeth as I have seen teeth destroyed in European countries. The dentists would have to give me a lot of statistics backed up by causative factors to make me disbelieve that, but I happen to think that when you are dealing with the population of Barbados you are dealing with material which if properly educated can easily rise to a very high standard of dental health indeed. I happen to think that, but I have to agree with all previous speakers

in saying that you cannot get such proper treatment without a greater number of persons engaged in the practice of dentistry, both registered and unregistered, as at present engaged in Barbados. Naturally the Dental Association has pressed me and other members on both sides of the House, I believe, very hard. I have had the privilege of reading all the memoranda, and I have some of them here, that have been sent to the Ministry from time to time on the licensing of quacks, and sound logical reasons are put forward. I have one headed "The Licensing of Quacks", quacks while in fact practising can hardly be said to be rendering a service to the country, and that sort of thing, remarking that in 1923 the then quacks who were licensed were persons who had been trained and were practising under the supervision of dentists for some time, something about which I really have great reservations. I believe that the persons who were registered under Schedule B in 1923 in many cases had no more qualifications than many of the persons who will no doubt seek to be licensed persons under this Act but I have to join with the hon. member for Christ Church West in saying that the administration of this Act looks as though it is going to cause the Ministry of Health some concern.

The Ministry is already prepared for the non-cooperation of the Dental Association by providing that a Commissioner be appointed to carry out the functions of the Dental Council if it is impossible to find sufficient persons qualified to sit on it. I do not know if the dentists will carry it to that point, but I am sure that the Minister must already have a Commissioner in mind to work this Act over the next few weeks when the council will be required to carry out these duties, but what indeed I am worried about is this. If the dentists should decide that it is more in their interest to assist the Minister by serving on his council and from such a position block the licensing of any persons by denying that these persons have confidence, trying to set these persons examinations and seeking to call on these persons for certificates and so on, the Minister is going to have a very difficult time indeed. I seem to think it is a council of four, and there is the goodly possibility that one of the Minister's nominees maybe the Chairman, you will then have two lay members nominated by the dentists, and to be truthful I pity the chances of the unregistered practitioners who appeal to such a council to be licensed persons.

I have dealt with that aspect of it. Let me direct an appeal to the dentists. The unregistered persons, such of them as have spoken to me and have given me documents in writing, I am told in many cases

either have undergone practical training in one or other branches of Her Majesty's forces, or they have obtained certificates as dental technicians from one or other institutions of higher learning in or out of the United States, and I believe perhaps indeed there may well be one or two who have some sort of certificate from institutions in Great Britain. I anticipate they will have no difficulties receiving permission to practise dentistry on the terms which the 1923 Act allows them to practise dentistry, under the name of dental technicians manufacturing dental materials or working in dental mechanics but not inside the mouth. This is what I am assured by those persons. I am told that they would not think of submitting themselves for an examination in pulling teeth, and I presume wisely and advisedly. I am wondering if in those circumstances the Minister is not merely by giving sanction to the Bill in this form creating a situation in which you are going to get people licensed by the council to perform exactly the same function which they can now perform but who also are going to carry on with exactly the same practice, this time more specifically outside the law, with which they have been carrying on all along. I can offer no solution for it, I can really not tell the Minister what to do except that I hope that when so many people need dental treatment the police are not going to go around to the offices of the unregistered practitioners, say they want a tooth taken out, say they cannot bear the pain and they want an anaesthetic, and the minute the needle is put into the gum, charge the licensed person for practising outside the terms of his licence.

8.05 p.m.

It may well be that this Act will only be a pious tribute to the unlicensed practitioner, but in these cases the Minister may well ask himself why he does not take the advice of the hon. member for Christ Church West and license those persons as technicians. The burden of what I am saying is clear. The Council will not give them permission to do any more than a technician does in England. The Council is not going to give any of the unlicensed practitioners permission to do complicated filling work or to pull teeth. The Council certainly is not going to give them permission to give anaesthetic to anybody. These persons are going to receive technician licences and nothing more.

Mr. Speaker, I do not see how the Council could do more for them, unless it is prepared to set an examination theoretical and practical as part of the demonstration of competence; set an examination in the filling and pulling of teeth and so on. I think it is going to give an apparent temporary sanction to the further and continued practice of dentistry. It will make unlicensed

persons feel good, but it will not make them more secure than they were before. Nonetheless, if that is what the Minister wants and if that is what he feels is desirable, if the statutory hypocrisy is thought appropriate in the circumstances, I am not going to vote against it.

I want the Minister to pay particular attention to what I said at the start of this speech that it is the whole framework of dental education that needs to be examined. People must learn to have their teeth filled; dentists must learn to start filling people's teeth. This is something from which the initiative can only come from the Government. I have been going down the middle of the line so far, but I must now start to give the Government a little attack. We on this side of the House are attached to the principle of a free health service. We believe - and I want the Minister of Health to hear - that Barbados can afford a free health service in which everyone can go to the doctor of his choice and receive medical attention at the Government's expense. I am not talking about going to the Hospital Casualty and sitting down for two hours instead of six while waiting for service. I am talking about going to your private doctor and receiving attention. We believe in that, and it will form part of our political programme for the next election. (Asides.) The hon. member for St. Michael West does not want people to get free medical attention. He must get up and say so, and he should not heckle. The General Secretary of the Barbados Labour Party says it is a joke that the people should have a free health service in 1972. I should have said the General Secretary of the Barbados Workers Union. He was once the Secretary of the Barbados Labour Party and his political ideas have not progressed.

Now, as at present advised, what of the possibility of free dental service? How do I observe? How much is the Government spending on dentistry? I have searched the records; I have asked the Minister to search the records; I have found \$65,000, and he has pointed out \$75,000. It is \$75,000 a year. Now \$75,000 a year is all the Government is spending on the dental health of the people of Barbados, and we have here a Bill to license dentists. Coincident with the licensing of the dentists, why does not the Government see the real problems? You cannot get a dentist to work at the Hospital. I understand that for the last three months you cannot get a dentist. The dental auxiliaries are at the moment attempting to deal with the dental health of school children. They have not yet pulled out any teeth. I am glad that the dental auxiliaries have not yet pulled out one school child's teeth. I hope they are giving the children the education and understanding which will make it unnecessary.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that the Government is considering the Report on the desirability of fluoridisation of the Island's water. I also hope that the Government is getting the best advice on the matter. I hope that hon. members will forgive me for bringing my North American experiences down here. Hon. members on the other side find it easy to get to North America at the taxpayers' expense. I do not find it so easy, so I am very excited and thrilled when I get there. I recently listened to a T.V. Programme on dental health by a young dentist who was a representative of the American Dental Association. He pointed out that it was beyond any question of doubt that the fluoridisation of the water supply has made such a difference — he was talking particularly about the City of New York and one or two other cities — it has made such a difference where it exists that the dental health of poor children in New York is better than the dental health of the population as a whole, and much better than the dental health of rich children living in suburbs without the appropriate water supply although their parents can afford the best dentist for them. It is the poor children in the Cities of America who have the best teeth, because they are actually drinking water with a fluoride supply and this has taken care of their teeth. I hope the Minister will be considering all of this when he is considering this Bill.

Now, preventive dental medicine is where the arch is going in America today; dental techniques are perfected. In a place like Barbados with a centralised water supply, we would not get the situation you get in America where the rich do not drink water at all for the first part of their lives. They are so busy with their professional preparations and so on that I do not think the situation applies in Barbados. It is not so with the water supply, which is an essential part of life. It is true that it cannot be expected that the Government is spending a lot of money on dental health at the moment; it must cost a lot more than that. It is relatively inexpensive and it provides a healthy population.

I have heard a lot about how difficult it is to get trained persons, dentists and others, to return to Barbados at the end of their training. It is not only a matter of money. I do not know what is a dentist's average earning in Barbados. I will be very surprised if there is any dentist earning less than \$50,000 a year. Maybe I have an inflated idea of these things, but the Minister of Health would know better than I do what earnings the dental and medical professions are making. I cannot even tell you what members of the legal profession are making. In the legal profession, we seem to keep it from each other, because we are ashamed to find that we work for so little. With earnings like that,

the attraction on the part of a newly qualified dentist to return to Barbados must be great. There are only twelve or thirteen dentists here. There must be a lot of attraction to come back here and set up an office as a dentist. If people do not come back to Barbados, it is because they wish to see the better part of the world, and it has nothing to do with money.

I am sorry the Minister of Home Affairs is not here. This is really a situation where it has to be understood that there is a sort of professional person who wishes to see the world. Barbadian dentists want to work in Canada because Canada is a good country. They want to work in London because London is a big City and it is close to Europe. European dentists will want to come and work in Barbados, because it is in the tropics; it is sunny Barbados, the Calypso Isle and so on.

8.15 p.m.

An allowance has to be made for this in any immigration policy that it is in many cases easier to attract foreign doctors and dentists to work in Barbados than to bring the Barbadians who are qualified to come back out here. An allowance must be made for this and prejudices must be put aside when facing situations like this, and the prejudices are not only those of the politicians, they are the prejudices of the profession, for despite all the lip service that is paid to the fact of their being a shortage of dentists, dentists are as capable as the next man of calculating that if there were thirty dentists in Barbados, then they would only make probably half of what they are making now. This is an obvious calculation, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, there are one or two small points. The Minister will have the memorandum which I also have, the Commissioner and the registering of untrained persons. What a pity it is that he is not here because I have come to talk about the medical practitioners. It may have passed unnoticed that in this Bill medical practitioners are given the right to practise dentistry at large. Now things get forgotten. The doctors may well feel and the Minister of Health himself may well feel that no doctor has the time to practise dentistry, but not so long ago, quite a short number of years ago, a doctor did set up in Barbados as a dentist. A person who is a registered medical practitioner did set up and, according to my information, practised the great majority of the time as a dentist. I do not think the dentists ought to be subjected to this. Dentists are not allowed to practise medicine at large. Dentists, although they might be qualified so to do, cannot take out appendices; they cannot even take out tonsils as far as I know. I do not think that you should put upon them the burden of any doctor being allowed, if he so chooses, to

practise dentistry. I know that there are persons who are both doctors and dentists. I know that dentists have to know a great deal about medicine and doctors are also given instruction in dental surgery.

Indeed when I was reading for the Bar Examination and was going to the classes of those invaluable law tutors Messrs. Gibson and Weldon, — I was only doing it part-time because I had to go to the classes in the morning and go to my office at half past ten or eleven and then do a day's work, — I was sitting down next to a gentleman who informed me that he had been a professor of dentistry at Guys Hospital Medical School, and he then became a doctor and became professor of Medicine at Guys Hospital Dental School, and having put all that behind him he was now becoming a barrister, and he and I indeed passed the Bar Examination at the same time, and I dare say he is one of the few people in the world who is a qualified doctor, dentist and a barrister-at-law; so I know that these things can be done and I would not have any objection to his practising any of the three professions, but I do not think that doctors should be given a totally free hand in the practice of dentistry. Please do not think that it is because the Minister of Health has come back in the House that I am talking about a free hand in the practice of medicine. I have no objection to his having a free hand in the practice of medicine whether he is in the Ministry or not, but in the practice of dentistry I would urge the Minister to consider some limitation upon the medical doctor's right to practise dentistry. Extractions of teeth apparently is one of these things that general permission seems to be given, although the giving of anaesthetics is not. I would not want to stop any doctor from carrying out any ordinary mouth hygiene, but do we really want a situation where a doctor looks in the mouth and says you really need a lot of these teeth out, I can take them out and I can fit false ones, you do not have to go to a dentist for dentures! I really do not think it is right, Mr. Speaker. When we come to Committee perhaps the Minister will express himself, but I do not think it is right, and I would urge the Minister not to put it forward at the present time.

I would like to welcome the licensing of dental hygienists and dental auxiliaries. Of course their powers would be so limited, they are so restricted in the scope of their activities that really I could not go along with any of the hon. members who have spoken in asking that, for example, the auxiliaries should have a doctor present. I do not really know how you can expect auxiliaries to visit the far parts of St. Lucy and carry out the scaling of school children's teeth and the examination of their mouths if they could only do this when the

doctors are present. Why bother to have auxiliaries at all if the dentist is going to have to be physically present and you have an auxiliary service visiting schools upon every occasion? I do not know what was intended, but I would not want any further restrictions. It may be that it will only be a mobile clinic going around and you will still have the dentist inside there with a hygienist and the auxiliary, but I would not like to see any further restrictions.

Persons who are dental auxiliaries as I understand it have a two-year course of study, they are taught how to extract teeth. I understand that there has been a report by two dentists to the General Dental Council in England saying that there are one or two things which the auxiliaries have not done very well, some silver nitrate treatment, and there have been complaints about certain types of extraction they have not always done well. That was in the early days of the scheme in England. It has only existed in England for fifteen years. That was in the relatively early days of the scheme, and you are talking of girls who at that time must necessarily have been all young girls, since their training was finished when they were twenty and they could not have exceeded thirty by that time, and you must have had a lot of inexperienced girls.

I would not like any of this to be taken against the auxiliary scheme. I observe in the Estimates that there is a vote for a trainee dental auxiliary. I do not know if such a person has yet been appointed. Perhaps again the Minister will assist us with that at a certain stage, but I would be glad to think that the dental auxiliaries exist in Barbados for the training of dental auxiliaries in tooth pulling and so on. I doubt if some people will have to be trained. I hope that if there are going to be things that teeth which are pulled will be the first teeth, and not the second teeth. I hope that permanent harm will be done in the early stages of introducing such a system; but certainly, Mr. Speaker, we welcome it. Indeed it may well be found in the long run that a proper dental auxiliary service under the direction of more full time dentists, — even if you had to get them from abroad because the dentists here are earning too much money to go into the Government service full time — may well bridge the gap which exists now between the number of unregistered dentists working, because when I gave the figure I was adding the dentists to the unregistered dentists; I was not just saying the dentists when I said one in 20,000, and the training which will bring back Barbadians or persons to work in private practice in Barbados.

Subject to whatever may be said in Committee, we on this side will be voting for this Bill.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, I must admit that I am a bit flattered by the constructive discussion which has taken place here this afternoon, and I can only hope that I will see this type of thing continuing whenever there is something of importance being discussed. Most of the members have commented quite intelligently on many of the problems facing dentistry and the service in Barbados, and it is not my intention to go over that again.
8.25 p.m.

I would like to draw the attention of hon. members to section 31(2) which prohibits dental auxiliaries and licensed persons from practising as full dentists, so if there was any doubt in the mind of any hon. member about what a licensed person would or would not do, I think that should go a far way in assuring him that they would not be able to practise as full dentists. The definitions in the beginning of the Bill have been quite explanatory in references to dental auxiliaries and dental hygienists, and therefore I was a bit surprised to find that some members were a bit confused as to the activities of these people. It stated quite clearly that the dental hygienists will perform services under the supervision of a dental practitioner, and the activities of the dental hygienists are restricted. The purpose of the dental auxiliary would be defeated if the dental auxiliary had to practise under the direct supervision of a qualified dentist, because if you have a qualified dentist there would be no need for a dental auxiliary. The purpose of the dental auxiliary is to aid in treatment and the provision of dental services for children of school leaving age, and this person will be working and he will not be permitted to go outside that scope and extend his services.

The question of dental technicians has been a very sore one from the point of view of the Ministry of Health and the members of the Dental Association, and although a compromise appears to have been worked out we are beginning to wonder if really this has been satisfactory to any one of the two parties deliberating in the discussions. There are reasons, as I said earlier, put forward which sound reasonable or acceptable from the point of view of the registered dental practitioners, and also there are other reasons which are also acceptable when you look at the question of dental services in Barbados, and the question of these people who have been working for maybe more than ten years.

When one thinks in terms of qualified Barbadians overseas, obviously I am one of those persons who would welcome qualified Barbadians returning to Barbados, and would go all out to see that they come back here and work, but there are a lot of problems attached to this, and many of these problems do not have easy or ready solutions, because a lot depends on the attitudes of people in the country who are practising their respective professions, and you will find that a lot depends also on the type of legislation which is still in force. Until we change a lot of this legislation, which we have to admit is a bit outmoded, but we also have to admit that it takes time to change this legislation, it may not be convenient for many of these people overseas to come back here and practise because as I have mentioned much of the legislation in the past regarding the practice of professions was only catering to people who had qualified in Great Britain or in certain registered colleges or universities within the British Commonwealth. When you have people, either Barbadians or non-Barbadians, who were qualified outside these specified places they were not eligible for registration in Barbados. You find that we changed the Medical Act recently to make greater provision for the registration of doctors whether they came from the United Kingdom or from any other country, and likewise in this Bill before us we have also enlarged the scope for registration.

We hope that the Dental Council will see fit to encourage people from other countries to come into Barbados and practise or get registered, and we hope that the section which gives them this power to register other people apart from those trained or qualified in the United Kingdom and Canada will be utilised. I would like to repeat that I am very happy to note the discussion here this afternoon and many of the points which have been raised are points which have been engaging the attention of the Ministry of Health. Getting this Bill before us has not been an easy task, we have had plenty of problems, this started in 1970 and I will not go through all the problems the Ministry has encountered in trying to bring this Bill before the House, but these problems are there and we will have to be overlooking the operation of this Act from the time it becomes law to see what other changes would have to be made as experience teaches us. I have been greatly impressed by some of the comments made by the hon. member for Christ Church West, and I would like to assure him that I will look into this to see how far some of his views can be accommodated when the time for the introduction of a new Dental Act become necessary. When one thinks in terms of the extractions, I have some data here which shows that last year in the the Government dental service

13,897 people attended these clinics and the number of extractions was 16,711; the number of fillings done was 1,061, and the other services provided such as scaling, polishing etc. were 200. We do not have any record of the number of people attending private practitioners and therefore we are unable to comment to the same extent as regards the private dental practitioners, but I believe that using this as some indication, one would get a good estimate of what occurs with the private dental practitioners. Without saying anything more, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

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

On the motion of Hon. P. M. GREAVES, seconded by Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair. The House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. LOWE took the Chair.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman,.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: On what is the hon. member speaking?

Mr. BOLDEN: On a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: No point of order.

Mr. BOLDEN: On a point of explanation.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: No point of explanation, there is absolutely nothing before the Committee. Please sit down.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I want to draw to the attention of the Committee the health of the staff employed in the House. As far as I know there has been some argument over the length of time which the staff is required to carry on, and it is humanly impossible to ask them, particularly the Clerk of Parliament to be here from 2.30 p.m. until 8.45 p.m. without a break. I do not know what the Reporters do when they leave the Chamber but the Clerk of Parliament who is present now was there from 2.30 and even if he is fasting in the interest of his figure at least he has a thirst and we have to consider him. If the Bill goes to a Select Committee it can be done in one afternoon and brought back to the House.

8.35 p.m.

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

Mr. FORDE: Mr. Chairman, Clause 2 contains the definition of the term "licensed person", and it defines "licensed person" to mean a person whose name appears on the register of persons licensed to perform dental services. I respectfully suggest that this Clause in itself would lead to problems and difficulties, and it would be better if "licensed person" was, perhaps, defined in the manner in which, I think, the "dental auxiliary" is defined without specifying that he must be employed in the Public Service or limiting the dental service which he should perform to children alone. At least this would give us some wider definition. Other than that, will the Minister give us the assurance that he will amend the Act to say that the Regulations will not be made by the Council but will be made by the Minister, laid on the Table of this House and be the subject of a negative Resolution.

Now, the Council is given the power to make by statute Regulations without bringing them before this House to legislate as to who should be "licensed persons". That is a wide power, and one that Parliament should not lightly give to any subsidiary bodies who are not really directly responsible to Parliament. It says here "licensed person" means a person whose name appears on the register of persons licensed to perform specified dental services. There is a Section which gives to the Council the power to make Regulations and to specify what are these dental services. This legislation need not be laid on the Table of this House; it is not subject to a negative Resolution, and I suggest that it is too great a power to give to a few dental practitioners who are going to constitute this Council in the context of Barbados.

I will be satisfied with giving the power to the Minister, "to make the Regulations as specified by the Minister, to perform dental services specified by the Minister or prescribed by Regulations made by the Minister," and those Regulations should be laid on the Table of the House and be subjected to a negative Resolution. I do not see that we should leave this very wide power to the Dental Council.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to differ in one respect from the views expressed by the hon. member who has just sat down. So far as amending legislation is concerned, this country has been plagued with so many amendments to its

the laws that it is practically impossible to follow the numerous amendments which are made from time to time. I believe, Mr. Chairman, you have been present in the House during the last Budget Speech, and a couple of days before that an amendment was brought down in relation to the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act. We sat here and amended something which was amended since 1950 something. This is a problem now with "licensed person". "Licensed person" here does not specify what shall be required for a person to come under the Clause of a "licensed person".

Mr. Chairman, when the Dental Council sits, and it does not have on it a dental technician who would have the interest of his counterparts at heart, the Council can make Regulations by which all dental technicians can be excluded. It can make Regulations that would literally prohibit anybody from coming under the term "licensed person". The Government, in my view, will have to decide now what it means by "licensed person". Whom does the Government want to embrace under this scheme? The Government should set out in the legislation "licensed person" means so and so. The Government should state its position, and the Dental Council could then make Rules which would comply with what the Government wants. Merely to say that a "licensed person" means a person whose name appears on the register of persons licensed to perform specified dental work is saying nothing in a roundabout way.

Mr. Chairman, I think that this Bill will have to be radically amended in order that whatever the Government wants will come into operation, otherwise we are going to produce many aggrieved persons in the community. I am not here fighting for any...

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I will make a few remarks. This question of "licensed person" has been a very troublesome problem. I regret very much that the hon. member wants to re-open the question; because we have been able after over two years of discussion with the registered dentists to have reached a compromise, and my Ministry feels that we would be able to accommodate these people when the actual Bill comes into operation. I would draw the hon. member's attention to a memorandum which I received only yesterday from the Dental Association which is actually reversing their stand on this issue. I would just read out a part of it here. This memorandum is dated in my Ministry the 18th December. It states:

"The Association would like to register a strong protest against the registering of unqualified persons to practise dentistry. The

Association feels that this provision in the Act is an attempt to legalise illegal acts which have been committed by people whose conduct has been contrary to the law since 1923. The Association feels that the public will be exposed to grave risks if the conduct of these people is legalised. The Association also feels that it would be impossible to police the conduct of these people to ensure that they comply day by day with the requirements of their licence."

Now, the hon. member has started the pot boiling all over again. There have been people in Barbados who never had any formal training like some of the people who are now sought to be excluded. They have been registered, and since registration their children have become qualified dentists. I do not want to prolong the debate at this time, and I move that this Bill be now sent to a Select Committee.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to second that, but, in rising to second the motion, it certainly bears out what I have said. If we leave the term "licensed person" open, it will lead to several disputes as to who should qualify. You are going to produce aggrieved persons between the Dental Association and those persons whom the Dental Association feels should not be licensed. The Government should decide at an early stage whom it wants to include or exclude.

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

8.45 p.m.

SELECT COMMITTEE

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, it was decided at Committee stage that this Bill should be sent to Select Committee, and I now beg to move that the Bill be sent to Select Committee.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: The members of the Select Committee are as follows:

The Hon. Minister of Health, the hon. member for St. Michael North Central; the hon. member for St. Michael North East; the hon. member for St. Michael South; the hon. member for St. Philip South, the hon. member for Bridgetown, and the hon. member for Christ Church West with Your Honour as Chairman.

Mr. Speaker, I was labouring under the impression that we would have been able to conclude our business at this point, but I understand that there is a matter which was raised earlier by the Minister of Education and he intimated at the time that he was seeking permission to deal with the matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: Oh, yes.

AMENDMENT OF NOTE TO ITEM 9 OF HEAD 35 — MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. This is a very small item and I am sure it is uncontroversial. It relates to an amendment to the note to Item 9 of Head 35 — Ministry of Education (8) Scholarships, Grants and Subventions. That particular paragraph reads: "To provide for the award of Enabling Grants up to a maximum of \$1,000 each."

As the Addendum to the Resolution states, the cost of education has increased considerably since this maximum figure was fixed in 1968 and the purpose of this amendment is to increase the maximum amount, which may be payable to enable students pursuing courses at post-secondary institutions in order that these grants may more meaningfully assist those students in their educational pursuits. The maximum figure proposed is \$2,000, therefore the figure of \$1,000 would be deleted and the figure \$2,000 substituted therefor and the note would therefore read: "To provide for the award of Enabling Grants up to a maximum of \$2,000 each."

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. P. G. MORGAN: I beg to second that.

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

CHRISTMAS FELICITATIONS

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, that concludes Government Business for today and also

brings us to the end of the sittings of this Chamber for this year. We have had a number of sittings during this calendar year, we sat for a long time and I think we have done a lot of business, and on this side speaking on behalf of the Hon. Leader of the House and of course on behalf of the Government, I want to thank hon. members on both sides of the Chamber for the assistance and cooperation that they have given in enabling the people's business to be conducted in so expeditious a manner.

I do not think we should allow this occasion to pass, Mr. Speaker, without extending on behalf of the Government both to Your Honour as well as to hon. members generally the season's greetings and to wish them a happy Christmas and a very prosperous New Year, and I hope that when we resume the sittings of this Chamber some time next year that we will come back refreshed and invigorated in order to carry out the people's business.

I do not know if it is proper, but I should like to include in these general good wishes at this time the staff of this House.

Mr. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, may I on behalf of the Opposition with the concurrence of my colleagues wish Your Honour a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year, and may I thank you very much for presiding so graciously over the Chamber's business. I think we can conclude that in 1972 the standard of the Chamber has improved considerably. I hope that next year we will go forward in greater strides, with more acrimony and with candour, with frankness and with constructive criticism; and may I say that we wish the Government well, and as I said, not necessarily as the Government, but in their individual capacity, and we certainly look forward to seeing them again next year. May I also with your permission say thanks very much to the staff of Parliament. There have been occasions when they have sat long and worked very long hours. They are the silent people who see that we perform well, and I think that if we have functioned satisfactorily, it is due certainly to their good work and their steadfastness, and I wish them and their families a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I would like to join the hon. member on this side in offering the season's greetings to everybody in this Chamber, but I also think it is my duty in offering season's greetings to say to the Hon. Ministers of Government that I hope while they are enjoying their Christmas they would have carried out the necessary tasks of making sure that all those Civil

ants, who at this time are thinking what Christmas is going to be like for them because they have not yet received their hard earned salaries, would have changed their thoughts by then, and I would wish that the Hon. Minister responsible would go away from here tonight carrying with him goodwill and make it possible for those temporary staff who have been calling my office in the last two or three weeks saying that they have not been able to receive their hard earned salaries to go down to the Treasury in the next two days and collect such money so that they too may enjoy a happy Christmas. I wish we all shall enjoy a very prosperous New Year. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I wish that every Minister in taking home his felicitations from this side of the Chamber will see that these personnel can take home their happy Christmas cheer in the form of their financial reward.

8.55 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I could sit here, hon. gentlemen, and listen with very deep satisfaction to your felicitations on both sides of the House because I know that in doing so none of the Rules of the House will be broken. I accept them in the spirit in which they were offered from both sides of the House to me and to each other, and I reciprocate those good wishes in fullest measure to you hon. gentlemen, here present and to those who are not present and their respective families. So far as a bouquet has been offered to me in my capacity as Speaker of this House, I accept it. I accept it with a degree of modesty, but I would want to put it right back where it belongs, in the laps of the members, and to thank you for your very warm cooperation. The job of Speaker is as

easy as hon. members of the Chamber make it, and I have observed since my short tenure of office began on October 14 last year that there was a willingness on both sides of the House to abide by the Rulings of the Chair, and this has made my task a very pleasant one indeed. I think that the rules of cricket have a certain amount of ethics to teach, and that is that when the Umpire puts his index finger up you walk, you do not argue.

I would like to join too in felicitations to the staff wishing them good wishes and a happy New Year, and especially to our Deputy Clerk, Mr. John Connell. I believe that when the House resumes on a date which has not yet been stated, he will not be here, he will be out of the Island with the full permission and consent of the Debates Committee on an Eisenhower Scholarship for six months. I wish Mr. Connell well, he will be doing a lot of various things including looking at Legislatures in the United States and I am sure that he can profit by this and come back and make his experience available to us. A happy New Year to you all and may the blessings of God go with you.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I now move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 16th January, 1973 at 2.30 in the afternoon.

Hon. P. G. MORGAN: I beg to second that.

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