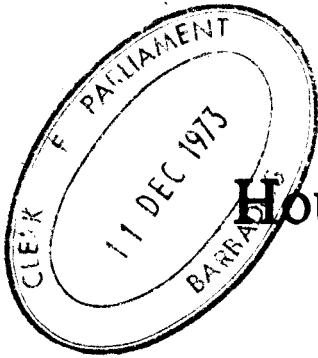




THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION OF 1971 - 76

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 22nd February, 1972.

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

PRESENT

Hon. C. E. TALMA, (Leader of the House); Mr. R. St.C WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P., (Chairman of Committees); Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, (Minister of Agriculture, Science and Technology); Mr. W. C. B. HINDS; His Honour C. A. E. HOPPIN, (Deputy Speaker); Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, M.A., (Leader of the Opposition); Hon. F. G. SMITH, Q.C., B.A., (Minister of Communications and Works); Mrs. G. L. EASTMOND; Hon. P. M. GREAVES, B.A., (Minister of Housing, Lands, Labour and National Insurance); Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE, (Minister of Home Affairs); Mr. A. MORRISON; Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD, B.A., M.A. (Econ.), (Minister of Education, Youth Affairs, Community Development and Sport) and Mr. E. E. GREAVES, B.A., Ed.M.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: As hon. members will note on the papers before them, the Minutes of 9th November, 1971, are new Minutes, and I am sure that hon. members did not have the opportunity to peruse them. I ask that confirmation of these Minutes be deferred until the next sitting of the House.

Hon. members indicated assent.

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

Mr. ELLIOTT MOTTLEY entered the Chamber and took his seat.

PAPERS LAID

The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am commanded to lay —

- (1) The Statement showing the Net Customs and Excise Receipts for ten months ended 31st January, 1972.
- (2) The Customs Duties (University of Miami Scientific Research Facility) Order, 1972.
- (3) The Income Tax (Amendment) Regulations, 1972.
- (4) The Customs (Amendment) Regulations, 1972.
- (5) The Memorandum on the establishment of The Central Bank of Barbados.

I am also commanded to lay the Pensions (Pensionable Offices) (Amendment) Order, 1972.

Dr. The Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am commanded to lay the Administrative Report by the Supervisor of Elections on the General Election, 1971.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following document:

Report on the Audit of the Accounts of the National Insurance Fund for the year ended 31st December, 1969.

Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am commanded to lay the Financial Statements of the Barbados General Agricultural Society for the period ended 31st March, 1971.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to

approve the Pensions (Pensionable Offices) (Amendment) Order, 1972.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Benthams, St. Lucy, for the construction of an Out-Patient Clinic.

Also, a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Mahogany Lane, Bridgetown, for the purpose of facilitating expansion of the Public Library.

Also, a Resolution to grant the sum of \$654,918 out of the Consolidated Fund and to place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part II — Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1971-72, No. 32, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

I also beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Sugar Workers (Provident Fund) Act, 1968.

The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Central Bank of Barbados and for connected purposes.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$11,799 out of the Consolidated Fund and to place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part II — Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates, 1971-72, No. 31, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Mr. CRAIG entered the Chamber and took his seat.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I also beg to give notice that Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 4, 5, 6, and 10 are ready.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$704,584 out of the Consolidated Fund and to place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part I — Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1971-72, No. 33, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.
2.45 p.m.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

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

WHEREAS a great number of the residents in Barbados live in sub-standard housing;

AND WHEREAS it is the responsibility of the Government to provide an environment that is satisfactory both physically and socially to improve the well-being of the low income family;

AND WHEREAS good housing combined with community opportunities in health, education, child welfare and useful leisure time pursuits offer a chance of improving family living standards;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this House call upon the Government immediately to take steps to provide proper housing and an environment to improve the standard of living of the residents in Barbados.

QUESTIONS

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

To enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:-

Will the Minister take early steps to put in hand the paving of the road which leads from Shop Hill to Cane Gardens via Vaucluse Tenantry and Ham Pond in the parish of St. Thomas?

To enquire of the Minister of Home Affairs:-

Have work permits granted to any persons by a previous Minister of Home Affairs been revoked since January 1, 1972; if so, to whom and for what reasons?

To enquire of the Minister of Tourism:-

Is the Minister aware that of the persons he has recently appointed to serve on the Tourist Board fewer than half are residents in his own constituency, and will he take steps to remedy this at once so that he may rename the Board the Christ Church Central Tourist Board?

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

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Is the Minister aware that the road leading to the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill has inadequate street lighting?

2. Will the Minister give instructions to have the appropriate lights installed?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Is the Minister aware that the grounds of the St. Mary's Junior School are badly in need of repairs?

2. Will the Minister take immediate steps to remedy this situation?

To enquire of the appropriate Minister:-

1. Is the Minister aware that the St. Luke's Girls' School is in a bad state of repair?

2. Will the Minister take steps to remedy the situation immediately?

Mr. E. E. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Question:-

To enquire of the Minister of Communications and Works:-

1. Is the Minister aware that at the present people living in the rural areas of Barbados experience some difficulty in getting into Bridgetown to pay their water rates?

2. Is the Minister aware that moving the headquarters of the Waterworks Department to the Pine will increase this difficulty?

3. Will the Minister consider alleviating this difficulty by making it possible for water rates to be paid at post offices throughout the Island?

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME

On the motion of The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW, seconded by Hon. C. E. TALMA, a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Central Bank in Barbados and for connected purposes, was read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. P. M. GREAVES, seconded by Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS, a Bill to amend the Sugar Workers' (Provident Fund) Act, 1968, was read a first time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO HON. MEMBER FOR St. MICHAEL NORTH-EAST

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. member for St. Michael North-East be granted four month's leave of absence from this House as from 1st March this year, that is, until the end of June.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am glad to know that the member for St. Michael North-East is going on a parliamentary course to London, but would the mover of the Resolution perhaps have some indication as to why the period would be as long as it is?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, in accordance with Standing Orders, I think the hon. member has complied with all the requirements in that she has written to Your Honour and copies have been duly circulated to the Leader of the Opposition, myself as Leader of the Government and, of course, the Clerk of Parliament. So she has had the courtesy to give us copies of what she has sent to you. I do not know if there is any Rule which insists that she must give reasons why she should be given leave. She is entitled to it as of right as far as I know.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, let me make a personal explanation on a point of order. It was said that I got a copy of some letter. I have not had a copy of any letter. This is news to me. Just let us get this straight on the record.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR HON. MEMBER FOR St. LUCY

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that the hon. member for St. Lucy be granted leave of absence from 4th March to 27th March this year.

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

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

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

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

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

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Government Business be now taken.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it was announced at the start of the proceedings that

certain Replies to Questions were ready. Even if the Standing Orders are suspended, I wonder if the Leader of the House might not consider that giving the two or three answers might perhaps not more usefully occupy the next twenty minutes than Government Business?

2.55 p.m.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I think that is a valid request, but when I suspend the Standing Orders, I always do that subject to the approval of the Leader of the Opposition that no Private Members' Business will be proceeded with. The hon. member for St. Lucy is the only hon. member who has any business on the Order Paper and he has already intimated that he intends to withdraw that motion, so in reality there is nothing under Private Members' Business. In view of that we can proceed with replies to Questions.

In view of what I have just said, I beg to move that Question Time be now taken, and I withdraw the other motion.

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

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

QUESTION TIME

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question No. 4 asked by the hon. member for St. Peter.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister:

To enquire of the Appropriate Minister:-

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

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

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

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the reply is as follows:-

A full course of West Indian literature is currently offered to second and third year

students at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies. The course was introduced in October, 1971.

Mr. HINDS: Is the Minister telling this hon. House that the course offered to second and third year students is a full course in West Indian literature?

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am giving the information as supplied by the University of the West Indies at Cave Hill.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question No. 5 asked by the same hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister:

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

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

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the reply is as follows:-

1. No, Sir.

2. The Government keeps under constant review all aspects of the teacher-training programme and in the process receives considerable assistance from the Institute of Education and the University of the West Indies by way of arrangements of seminars in English and Education for teachers at Erdiston College. The Institute has also arranged a seminar for Principals of Teachers' Colleges, including Erdiston, at which the curriculum and effectiveness of the Teachers' College were examined. The Government has also agreed to participate in a curriculum and teacher-training programme involving Caribbean Governments, the University of the West Indies, UNESCO, UNICEF

and the UNDP Special Fund. The objectives of this programme include both curriculum development in the areas of Mathematics and Science and Language Arts as well as the training of the following personnel:

- (a) existing staff of the area's teacher-training colleges; and
- (b) administrators, school principals, supervisors of curriculum committees and education officers.

Mr. HINDS: Can the Minister tell us, Mr. Deputy Speaker, if the training of school principals will include those schools now assisted by Government, the secondary private schools, or any of them?

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the answer given relates to the training of personnel in the Government schools.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Minister in his reply stated that Government keeps under constant review all aspects of teacher-training, and since the Government is spending money in assisting these private secondary schools, I am asking the Minister if the principals of these secondary private schools will also be included in this programme.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, if I may reply again, I said that the personnel referred to in my reply refer to the personnel in the Government schools. If the hon. member wishes to ask about the training of teachers in private schools, he should ask a separate question about that.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question No. 6 asked by the same hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister:

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

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

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the reply is as follows:

It is Government's policy to continue the installation of telephones in schools on a phased basis, subject to the availability of funds, until all schools are provided with a telephone service.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Question No. 10 asked by the same hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, to enquire of the appropriate Minister:

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

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

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

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the reply is as follows:

The percentage of teachers in Government Secondary schools, Government-Assisted Independent schools, Comprehensive schools and Primary schools who hold University degrees is 12.1. The percentage of graduates who are trained teachers is 43.6; the percentage of teachers in the several Government schools and the Government-Assisted secondary schools who are institutionally trained is 44.3.

3.05 p.m.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That brings us to the end of Question Time.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, in view of the fact that the Replies to Question No. 10 are somewhat of a technical nature, I would ask, and I believe the Minister would agree, that the Questions remain on the Order Paper so that I may ask supplementaries at a future date. I would like to have time at my disposal to relate these percentages with my notes. (*Asides*). He has been an obstructionist all the time.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Are you still addressing the Chair? I am not an obstructionist.

Mr. HINDS: I am asking that the Questions remain on the Order Paper.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The answers given by the Hon. Minister are the answers to the three pertinent parts of your question. In view of the fact that you would like further information, I think you would have to ask substantive questions or introduce a Resolution which would embody the information you want to get.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not want to say that you do not seem to follow what I am saying.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I think you want to overrule the Chair. (*Asides*)

Mr. HINDS: The hon. member is heckling the Chair.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Any heckling in here, I will deal with. My ruling is that you have had the answers to Question No. 10.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I take it that you are objecting to the Questions remaining on the Order Paper.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Yes.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Government Business be now taken.

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

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Government Business is now the instant Order of the Day.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 6 on the Order Paper standing in the name of the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister be the first Order of the Day.

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

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order No. 6 stands in the name of the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) Order, 1972.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL) (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1972

The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, the Order which is under discussion was made on the 8th February, 1972. I should like to make the position clear. The Order has been laid. I am merely, in accordance with the Civil Establishment Act, asking approval of the House for the making of the Order. The main purpose of the Order which embodies many departments such as the Cabinet Office of my Ministry, the Establishments Division, the Economic Planning Unit, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Port Department, the Ministry of External Affairs, the Ministry of Health and Welfare, the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Commerce, the Ministry of Tourism and so on are substantially in the way of consolidation of temporary posts which have been created from time to time in order to expedite the work of Government. One or two new posts have actually been created, and appointments may not have been made to some of these. I think the Order is self-explanatory, and I do not intend to trifle with the time of the House by reading out what everybody should have read.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, some time ago, a couple of years ago, we first heard the phrase "army of occupation" applied to the Public Service in this Island. The phrase is repeated with various embellishments and various degrees of — I would not go so far as to say abusive language, but various degrees of language that suggested that the Civil Service was doing a somewhat less than worthwhile job.

3.15 p.m.

More recently we have heard that the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is a non-performing Department staffed by active members of the army of occupation, that foreigners in Barbados take more interest...

The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, on a point of explanation, we know that the hon. member is famed not only in Barbados but in the United Kingdom and other places in the Caribbean for the elasticity of his imagination, but at no time, since I have the tape on me and I invite the hon. member to hear it, did I say that the Ministry of Agriculture was a non-performing Ministry. The reason why I have

not had my Permanent Secretary write to the Press was that I was waiting all this time, now eight days, which is further proof of my point, for the tapes so that I could invite the editor of the newspaper to hear what I said. What I did say and I make no apology for it whatsoever, is that the Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Agriculture – and I will give further grist to the hon. member – and, I also said, that the Ministry of Labour and Housing were non-performing departments, and I can inform the Honourable House that of the \$289,000 voted last year for fisheries development, not one penny had been spent up to the day that I spoke even on United Nations Fisheries. So I hope the hon. member will not continue in a misdirected strain.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Point of explanation made!

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, did the Prime Minister get up and say that my imagination was elastic, then goes on to say that it was the newspapers that got it wrong? I did not go to Consett Bay where the Prime Minister cursed the civil servants, nor, if he has listened carefully, had I made any reference to its being the army of occupation either, but if the cap fits, let him wear it.

The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: I would like to assure the hon. member before he wastes the time of the House that he got all the Civil Service votes that he could have got last time, and having a big debate now five years from the next event is not going to assist him in any way. But unfortunately these are the occupational hazards of being a member of Parliament, that you have to listen to that kind of drivel.

Mr. ADAMS: And the occupational hazards of being Minister of Agriculture is that you have to listen to speeches such as those made at Consett Bay and have to wait eight days for a correction to go to the Press indicating the impression that went out about the Minister of Agriculture up and down Barbados that all his departments are non-performing, was untrue. Anyhow, I am making a speech, Sir, and I will make it no matter how much the Prime Minister interrupts. If he does not like to hear me speak, there are some people who do, no matter whom they might vote for.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, in the light of this, one really would think that the army of occupation would suffer some curtailment certainly at the executive level, Permanent Secretaries and so on. One would like to think that Civil Establishment Orders would be reducing the establishment, not

increasing it, but in the Cabinet Office there is an increase. Surely after all these years of criticism of the Ministry of External Affairs, there should be some re-organisation of its staff structure. There is an apparent decrease in that one Permanent Secretary is removed from the Ministry of External Affairs, but the people of Barbados are not saved one penny by this apparent economy because the Permanent Secretary's post, although I believe unfilled since its last occupant retired from the Public Service – and if the Prime Minister wishes to make a sensible point of order he can correct me on that – is still maintained as a Permanent Secretaryship and added to the supernumerary list at the Establishments Division. You must obviously, if you abolish a man's post while he is still in it and you wish to go on paying the man as regulations laid down, keep him as a supernumerary at Establishments. What possible sense there could be to abolish, I believe, Mr. King's Permanent Secretaryship, do not fill it and still keep it on the Establishments, I am yet to understand!

Sir, I am not qualified to say whether the increase in the Meteorological Services will meet the shortcomings set out and found in those services during the very brilliant speech made by the hon. member for St. Joseph earlier in this session. I do not have the technical qualifications, but I will suggest to hon. members that it is significant that so soon after the hon. and learned member for St. Joseph made his attack, the Government has found it necessary to re-organise the Met. Services. The same might very well be said in respect of the National Nutrition Department, but Sir, with so doughty a speaker on nutritional topics as the hon. member for St. Peter, I would hesitate to tread upon that particular part of this Resolution.

The Ministry of Trade, Industry and Commerce. If there is a non-performing Department, Sir, our view would be that the Ministry of Trade has been a non-performing Department, and we cannot quarrel with the creation of a post of Senior Assistant Secretary. We hope we will see some results from it.

For the Ministry of Tourism, there is the provision of a nucleus of staff. I believe that the House has already been sufficiently addressed on that point.

The Ministry of Labour, National Insurance and Housing. The Ministry of Labour is a great department of non-performance. The former Minister is now moved to the Ministry of Agriculture, still to be followed by remarks about

the non-performance of his earlier duties. The Prime Minister can get up and talk about the shortcomings of the Opposition when we point something to his attention. Nonetheless a little later on he will agree outside this House of course with many of the arguments without giving credit where credit was due. I am asking the Prime Minister if the system of Ministerial responsibility for the performance or non-performance of a Ministry's work has been so far lost sight of that the Civil Servants have to be attacked and not the Minister. If it is a roundabout way of attacking the Minister, the Prime Minister should say so if he feels that a Minister is falling down on his job, he ought not to attack what he calls the army of occupation. As far as the army of occupation is concerned, the field marshals in it are the twelve Ministers as this side believes. The field marshals of occupation are the members of the swollen and inflated Cabinet. The great United States of America can get on with a Cabinet of ten, and in Barbados we have to have a Cabinet of twelve for 250,000 people, and yet the Civil Service can still find itself being attacked as an army of occupation. Let responsibility be placed where responsibility is due. If the Prime Minister feels that a Department has not been working properly, let him criticise the Minister and not the civil servants. This Resolution is evidence that the expansion of the Civil Service is going on notwithstanding any shortcomings which the Head of the Government finds in it, and we must ask ourselves whether the Head of the Government is sincere in his attacks on the Civil Service, or whether he is merely inconsistent in his approach to the administration of the public life of this country.

The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not think the hon. member who should have been at least exposed to some elements of constitutional law really understands that I am not the chief executive of this country like the President of the United States of America. It is not that I particularly approve of the separation of powers as enunciated in the Constitution or by people like Lafayette, Montesquieu and people like that. I am not concerned about that. We operate under a system which is supposed to be something like the Westminster model. Now I am talking about nonfeasance. The hon. member was talking about misfeasance. They are two different things altogether and the hon. member knows it better than anybody else and appreciates the subtle difference between the two. I do not agree that there has been any misfeasance or malfeasance on the part of any of my Ministers. When I find this out, out they go, but I cannot do the same with

the Public Service. I am a taxpayer although there is a common superstition in this country that lawyers and Ministers of Government do not pay taxes. I am no longer a practising lawyer and I cannot tell you what the lawyers do nowadays. That is a matter between them and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue; but we never even see our salaries until our tax is taken out, and therefore I resent having to be placed in the position with a lot of relics foisted upon this Government by a former regime through the back door, and being saddled with them and being criticised by the general public for not carrying out the programme and policy of this Government.

3.25 p.m.

It is simple. There is no rule of law, no rule of etiquette, no rule of conduct or rule of Parliamentary procedure which precludes me as Prime Minister of the country from drawing to the attention of the taxpayers of this island that they are not getting value for their money from certain Departments, and that I have no control over them. I am making a simple statement of fact. So little do I control the Civil Servants that I, as Prime Minister of the country, had a written complaint to investigate, I sent my Personal Assistant to a Ministry and asked them if they would let me have a look at a particular file and I received a message from that Ministry that no files can leave there without the authority of the Permanent Secretary. These people have become so insolent that they can do this.

On another occasion I met a team of people from the Travel Agencies and the Banks and they showed me a circular stating that the Prime Minister had ordered from that day that the allowance for travel abroad had been reduced from \$720 to \$240. I immediately sent for the Financial Secretary and asked him by whose authority this order was issued and he was surprised to see it, but then one of the echelons of the particular Ministry said he was listening to the radio and he heard Mr. Harold Wilson say that travel was to be limited to £50, so he did not waste any time, he sent out a circular to this effect. I am a free agent and I do this job because the people of Barbados by voting have asked me to do it, but that does not mean that I have sworn the oath of silence for the rest of my life.

I cannot appoint people but I can come in here and make an Order establishing these posts, but the more people you give them, the less work is produced in the Ministries, and every member of the public knows that. How can the hon. member get up and accuse me of not bringing to

his attention and to the attention of the public that they are not doing their best? At the last revision of salaries there was a very complicated mathematical exercise which had to be gone through, and as the hon. member himself has pointed out from time to time, a single officer from the day he joins the Service knows the date of his compulsory retirement. His salary is known, his deductions are known, all the other relevant information about him is known, and for one officer it has taken sometimes 18 months for that officer to get his pension out of the Treasury, and the hon. member knows this is true. Compare that situation now with the situation as it was 35 years ago; a man is going to retire on the 31st May, this is known by the people involved, but it takes 18 months before he can know where the next penny is coming from to provide the ordinary necessities of life for himself and his family.

On the other side of the picture we have about 12,000 people drawing money out of the Treasury — I do not mean as pensioners, that is another full scale regiment of people who have all done their duty — some of them are working again because they have been found to be efficient.

3.35 p.m.

Approximately 12,000 people are on the pay roll of the Public Service of this Island. Compare the case of a pensioner who has to wait 18 months and those who are still waiting to get their pensions with the exercise that was gone through in 1970 when this House granted certain substantial increases to Public Officers — some of them 52% and some of them 30% or 40%. Consider also the fact that you have a lot of complicated things like the number of days a person who is a casual worker may have worked in the course of a year — he is not on a monthly pension. The fact that every individual person, who is not at his maximum, gets some kind of increment to his salary every year and these increments are not on a constant basis, they vary from post to post and from time to time during an officer's career. Consider that you have National Insurance deductions, compulsory deductions in respect of motor cars and so on, and if the officer directs a lot of other payments may be made to the banks for mortgages, to Insurance Companies and so on. Every officer's pay sheet is an exercise that should normally take a competent accountant about three hours to check and double check. Well work that out by 12,000. There are 168 hours in a week, if you work 24 hours per day.

Now, when this House passed the back pay, within 9 days, and it could have been shorter if

the twenty-fifth of the month had been three days after the House had passed the Resolution, they had the money out of the Treasury. In 9 days they not only calculated all the pay that was due on the 25th February, let us say, but they had all the back pay for twelve or thirteen months calculated down to the last penny and the money was paid out of the Treasury within 9 days of the Resolution being passed. This is an example that they are capable of working when they feel like working and when it means lining their own pockets. I make no apologies for saying that. I know the hon. member shares my view, because from time to time he has come in here and he has got down to calling names which I do not propose to do. The point is that in 12,000 people you must get some dunderheads; you must get some time-servers; you must get some people from whom you cannot take the Colony out of them because they have been brought up by British Colonial Secretaries and people who have been apeing and simulating British Colonial Secretaries usually because they have been screened on a basis of "pigmentocracy". This is the kind of situation we have inherited. I did not think it would take me 10 years to get efficiency, but I do not think I can do it in another 10 years. I think the only thing to do is to expose them and embarrass them from time to time. I have been writing letters to the Public Service Commission drawing their attention to certain anomalies.

They are lucky in this country. Nobody interferes with them. We do not have the time to play the role of detectives going around behind Public Officers in an effort to see if they are doing their work or not. My first impression of the Public Service after a period of 20 years — I have worked in the Public Service here and I have worked in the Public Service in the United Kingdom, but certainly here I separated or divorced myself from Public Service matters for 20 years — was that at 5 minutes to 4 in the afternoon outside the Ministerial buildings sounded like Brooklyn's racing track with every car revving up waiting for the gun to go as it were to shoot off all over the Island. About three or four Public Officers out of 300 in that building are prepared to stay after four o'clock to give a little extra time like the Ministers are giving to the Government.

My next impression is that between 10.30 and 2.45 in the afternoon you can only see half of the number of cars out there. Why? First they have to go for breakfast, then they have children to pick up in Pine Road or Strathclyde. Now, I walked to school all the days of my life. I went to school at the age of 2½ and I walked to

school then. I walked the full length of King Street in the Virgin Islands and on a rainy day I would have a Great Dane dog accompany me with an umbrella, but I walked on my own two feet until I was 19½. Nowadays, you have big grown-up children twelve, thirteen or fourteen years old, who cannot walk from Harrison College to the bus stand; so all work in the Government buildings has to cease during that period while certain officers become taxi drivers carrying not only their own children, but other people's as well. That is the situation under which I have to try to discharge the functions of Government, and I am not satisfied.

I know they will be coming, because the hierarchy of the Civil Service Association is replete with card-carrying members of the Barbados National Conservative Labour Party. This is to be in traditional pattern that the President, Secretary and so on — they think the way to embarrass this Government is to come every two or three years for salary increases. Well, they will find that there is a wages and incomes policy now in this Government and that is all I have to say.

As far as the existing Order is concerned, I want to say that there are Public Officers who do their jobs — particularly the technical and professional people — but I am satisfied that the Departments cannot function under the existing system without these additional posts. Maybe these posts are unnecessary in the sense that if everyone would perform at 75% of his or her capacity we would not need these posts, but we need them in the light of the tradition of the Barbados Public Service.

I should also like to inform hon. members that I have an expert on Organisations and Methods who has just concluded his Report which in the process of time will be made available to members of the House, and we are now working on the implementation of the re-organisation of the Public Service which falls under my Ministry. Until that time we have to bide our time, keep our fingers crossed, hope for the best and say: "Sir, would you mind, when you have finished talking about the other people's business, looking for my voucher or whatever you want from the Public Service?" They even resent the term Civil Servants because that means they will have to be civil, and it is no part of their function to be civil to anyone.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker...

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Minister has already replied to the Resolution.

The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I particularly got up and asked the hon. member if he wanted to speak before I replied. He looked me full in the face, and I got the impression that he had nothing to say. He cannot get up and speak now.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it was your duty to have found out if any hon. member on this side wanted to speak. What happened is that immediately after the hon. member for St. Thomas sat down, the Prime Minister jumped up and that is all.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I saw no member from the Opposition benches on his feet when I looked around.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, you are there to protect the rights of the minority.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You know that the Hon. Prime Minister was the Mover of this Resolution and, if you intended to speak, you should have intimated to him.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, should I have stopped him?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I looked around and I saw no member of the Opposition on his feet.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this is not a Chamber for the Prime Minister alone; it concerns all other members.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, on a point of order. As far as I recollect, the Prime Minister did ask if anyone wanted to speak over there, and nobody intimated anything.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, under any circumstances I agree that I must sit. All I can do is to ask for leave to be heard.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. member is asking for leave to be heard.

Hon. MEMBERS (*Government*): No.

The question that the Resolution do now pass was put and resolved in the affirmative, the House dividing as follows:

AYES: The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW; Hon. C. E. TALMA; Hon. A. DaC. EDWARDS; Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE; Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD; Hon. F. G. SMITH; Mr. LOWE; Hon. P. M.

GREAVES; Mrs. EASTMOND; Mr. MORRISON and Mr. WEEKES - 11.

NOES: Messrs. HINDS; CRAIG; MOTTLEY and ADAMS - 4.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 1 be the next Order of the Day under Government Business.

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

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order No. 1 stands in the name of the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, and it is to move the passing of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$50,000 out of the Consolidated Fund and to place it at the disposal of Government to supplement the Estimates 1971-72 Part II - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1971-72 No. 27, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1971-72 No. 27

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

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

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

3.45 p.m.

It has been set out that the purpose of this Resolution is to supplement the encashment of promissory notes which we were under an obligation to keep in reserve for the Inter-American Development Bank upon call or short notice, and this request was made by the Inter-American Development Bank in June, 1971. As far as I can remember, these promissory notes are non-interest bearing promissory notes which I signed and which are sent to the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington. When they have to call up funds, they then ask us to redeem the promissory notes, and since the amount of \$500,000 was provided to pay the fourth instalment of the Government's subscription to the Bank, we have now to replenish the

Government's portion of the fourth instalment which is due in March, 1972, which is next month, and the explanation is as simple as that. All the agreements and so on were laid before the House, and this is an obligation arising from an agreement which has been voted on by the House already.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I will be quite short on this. I do not think this is the occasion to have a debate on the Inter-American Development Bank, but what I would like to say to the House is that there has obviously been some untidiness here. Carrying it to extremes, in effect what the Prime Minister is saying is that the sum of \$500,000 was voted to pay the subscription for 1971-72 and a part of it was used for a purpose other than the subscription for 1971-72. That put in its simplest terms is what has happened; that some money has been taken out of what was voted for a particular purpose, used for something else, and we now have to make up the vote.

The Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: If the hon. member would give way, the House votes the money, but I cannot commit the Government to spending it. I cannot sign promissory notes every day or any day or all day or at any time at all unless the House has made provision for that sum of money; so when you sign a promissory note, it is a promissory note on the \$500,000. Part in cash was paid up and part in promissory notes. They did not call for all the cash; a promissory note was issued. If they call for the encashment of the promissory note, we have then to transfer funds to the Bank in Washington and call in the promissory note, and the Resolution is merely to replenish it because the fourth instalment is to the order of \$½ million. All this was discussed when the Bill was passed. To say I am using money for a purpose otherwise than the House voted is a lot of - I really cannot find a polite word to express it, Mr. Chairman, so I had better sit down.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, the Prime Minister interrupted me a bit prematurely. The promissory notes in fact related to an earlier subscription, not to the current one. Let him look in his file and read the Addendum and tell me if that is not what the Addendum said; therefore they do not relate to the period for which the House voted money. The House voted \$500,000 for subscription to the Inter-American

Development Bank, but at that time, if what I see here is correct in the Addendum, promissory notes had been issued in respect of previous subscription instalments. I am only saying that this is a relatively minor transgression if transgression at all, because the money is voted for subscriptions, and what has happened is that some of this year's money has been used to pay ultimately last year's subscriptions. Therefore we are not going to object to it, but we would particularly ask the Government to be specially and carefully on guard, because those with long experience in this House, and here I would have to look to the hon. members for St. John and Christ Church, know how ferocious the private members on both sides can be if there is any stepping outside the notes on the Estimates. This is within it because as the Prime Minister says, it is subscription, but it is previous subscription.

Mr. Chairman, as is well known in this House, you cannot pay something, a recurring item — I do not mean a recurrent expenditure, I mean a recurring item — you cannot pay last year's expenditure on a recurring item when the Bill did not come in last year out of this year's vote. You bring in another supplementary. I am only asking that attention be paid to this in all the Departments of Government, misfeasing, nonfeasing and malfeasing in this particular case.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1971-72 No. 30

Head 1 — Governor-General — was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the notes to this Head are fairly complete. The full explanation is that the hydraulic pump assembly to the powered steering gear of the Austin Princess (No. 1 State Car) is defective and needs replacing as a matter of extreme urgency. The current balance under this item out of the original provision of \$1,980 and a supplementary of \$590 is \$389.61, and this being already committed to defray normal maintenance charges, it is necessary that the cost of the replacement part which is \$666.13 be supplied by a further vote of funds, and for that reason we are asking for \$666 for the purpose.

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

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

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, I am a bit concerned about this steering gear to the Austin Princess (No. 1 State Car.) The Minister has simply come and asked for the money without saying how many miles this car has done, but to come and ask for \$666 to buy a steering gear for the State Car is a lot of money without knowing how many miles the car did over the number of years that we have had it. I think the Minister is a bit vague in introducing this item.

Sir, we are well aware of the fact that not only the State Car which is used by the Governor-General cost a lot of money, but we know that even the Police Force today is using \$18,000 and \$20,000 cars and every other day or every other week one can find one pushed into a telephone post. I am really not particularly happy unless the Minister can say exactly how old this car is and the number of miles it has done. Let us forget the years because it is the miles I am concerned with, because you can have a car for twenty years and only do ten miles with it, but we have not heard how many thousand miles this car, that has cost so much, has done. I had a car for seven or eight years and I have not touched the differential yet, and we are asked to vote \$666 for a hydraulic steering gear for a State Car that cost nearly \$30,000 or \$40,000, and we do not know how many miles it has done. I would like to hear the Minister with an explanation on this.

3.55 p.m.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, long before any member of the Opposition was in this House, when I was a member of this House, I took part in a marathon debate in this Chamber starting at 12 o'clock and ending around 7.30 in 1956 when the then Government was granting a new State car for the then Governor, Sir Robert Arundell, so I know about State cars, but I would like to know what is the relevance between how many miles a car has done and the need to put in this type of equipment. Once the Engineers have clearly indicated that this piece of equipment is necessary for its efficient running, what is the need for knowing how many miles it has done? That would be relevant if you were replacing the car, but if a car has done a half mile, 20 miles or one million miles, the gear box goes, the differential goes, mileage is not important so I really cannot see the relevance. The point is that the Engineers have clearly indicated that for the efficient running of this car, whether it has done 10,000 miles or one mile, this piece of equipment will put it back on the road and save the taxpayers about \$30,000.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, believe me, I have come around to the idea that the Minister

for Communications and Works is now an expert on every conceivable subject. I asked a simple legitimate question, I am nothing to do with if the car is 30 years old or not, I am concerned with the number of miles the car has done, and the Minister should be in a position to say this for this reason. Since the car might have only done a half mile and you will come and ask for \$666, it means that for every other half mile it does you might come again and again and ask for \$666. My approach to this whole matter is if the Minister can say the car has done 20 or 30 thousand miles, we on this side may ask why you do not sell the car and replace it, but the Hon. Minister said he was in here in a marathon debate and all this, but we have seen a lot of things, you are resurrected so anybody can say anything. This does not need any argument, this is a simple question, you are playing for the Gallery. I would be grateful, Mr. Minister, if you have this information at your disposal you would let me know, if not I will take my seat.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, there is very little I can add. The hon. member for St. James, I think, is more familiar with the mechanism of cars than any of us are, and if a State car or any car has a defective hydraulic system, it does not necessarily relate to the number of miles it has done or the age of the car. If you want to know all this, ask a subsequent question and the mechanic will be called in so that you can get the appropriate answer. I am afraid I cannot help the hon. member any more.

The question that Head 1 – Governor-General – stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Head 5 – Judiciary – was called.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 5 – Judiciary – stand part.

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

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Chairman, on the question of travelling under this Head, I think the time has come when we on this side of the House would like to find out from the Government how far the arrangements for the establishment of the Caribbean Court of Appeal have reached. I think that continuing to have the present appeals to the Privy Council is really repugnant to the idea of our national independence, and I think that along with the other independent States in the West Indies every attempt should be made to establish

a Regional Court of Appeal which would replace the now existing Privy Council.

Also, there is some dissatisfaction in Barbados with the present arrangement of our local Courts of Appeal which have been referred to on numerous occasions as "scratch back" Courts of Appeal. Today one Judge sits on appeals from another Judge, and the arrangement – which is the only one of its kind in the West Indies – is still unsatisfactory. We on this side of the House wonder whether outside of the Regional Court of Appeal which would be the final Court of Appeal for the entire West Indies some arrangement could be reached between the Barbados Government and the West Indies Associated States whether you can have a Court of Appeal to serve these countries. As I said, the present arrangement of having four Judges only of the Supreme Court means that the three other Judges sit on an appeal from one and that is not a very satisfactory arrangement. We recognise that if you have separate Courts of Appeal in Barbados it would perhaps be too costly, but I would suggest that Government investigate my suggestion.

The other thing which is causing some concern among the members of the Bar is the length of time before an appeal is heard by the present Court of Appeal. I will ask the Government to investigate these things, Sir.

The question that Head 5 – Judiciary – stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

4.05 p.m.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES, 1971-72 No. 28

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is for the sum of \$2,745. The Addendum states the amount of \$60,000 provided in the current Estimates is insufficient by \$2,745 to meet the cost of salaries of the Reporters and Typists employed by the Debates Committee, to the end of the financial year. The position, Sir, is that originally the sum of \$61,980 should have been asked for under Item 22 – Reporting – in the Estimates 1971-72 instead of the sum of \$60,000. The breakdown is here. An amount of \$5,165 is needed every month for this purpose, and \$5,165 multiplied by 12 is equal to the sum of \$61,980. The original vote was \$60,000, and there is now a difference of \$1,980. Supplementary provision is now required for this amount.

In addition to that there is a lady typist who has been recently appointed, and

supplementary provision is necessary to pay her a salary at the rate of \$255 per month. The amount required is \$2,745 made up of \$1,980 and \$765 making a total of \$2,745.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES

1971-72 No. 29

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I am asking leave to take charge of Order No. 4 in the absence of the Hon. Minister of Health and Welfare. It is a Resolution for the sum of \$1,450.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If there is no objection, leave will be granted. There being no objection leave is granted.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, in moving the passing of this Resolution, as the Addendum sets out, it is proposed to supplement the Non-Recurrent 1971-72 Estimates under Head 39 (2) Ministry of Health – Health Services, Item 223 – Furniture and Equipment, by the sum of \$1,450 to provide for the purchase of the following items of furniture for the new staff attached to the office of the Senior Public Health Engineer:-

8 Steel Desks, 3 chairs, 2 Desk Pads and 3 Venetian Blinds. I do not know if hon. members want a breakdown of the exact amount. I have it here and, if necessary, I can give it.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, undoubtedly, no hon. member would offer any objection whatsoever to the passing of a Resolution such as this. Having created the post of Senior Public Health Engineer, it is obvious that he must have a staff. We have created a staff, and we must provide the necessary furniture and equipment to enable the officer and his staff to function.

Now, I believe that we are in a very fortunate position in this Island in that our Public Health Engineer whose Department we are

now trying to get off the ground, so to speak, is having at its head a local man who has been trained and has been able to put his training into effect so that we are now providing equipment for something like 6 other persons 5 of whom have had in-service training under our Public Health Engineer. This is not a case where we are going to have civil servants warming desks and chairs. You now have a public officer who has made the benefit of his training abroad available to a certain number of persons who are going to work with him, and we can look forward to a programme of work being executed to the benefit of this Island.

This is not a case of providing equipment and, perhaps, some day when somebody rings the telephone there will be nobody to service anything. We can give our knowledge to the Public Health Engineer and his staff who would be making full use of this equipment, because in the city of Bridgetown there are some health service arrangements which need very careful examination. You will find that there are many buildings putting on a face-lift, but when one looks into the sanitary arrangements that are made for staff, I am sure the Public Health Department of this country would certainly need more than 8 desks for which they are now asking. They would need more than 3 chairs, if they are to settle down and do something by way of executing a full duty to the benefit of this country.

4.15 p.m.

While I commend this Resolution, I am very glad to see that a step has been made undoubtedly in the right direction, because there can be no two ways about it that much of the work that members of this staff will be doing will be office work, but we certainly need field staff as well if this Public Health Engineering Department is to function adequately, and I hope that the Government will soon be able to get down to doing something about this.

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

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

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

LEASE OF LAND TO MOTOR SERVICES LIMITED

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Order 5 be the next Order of the Day under Government Business.

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. Deputy Speaker, in 1969 Parliament approved the lease of lands at Fontabelle to Motor Services Limited. The company is now desirous of obtaining additional lands, this time 1,078 square feet to be added to the lands already leased to them by Government for the purpose of expansion of their business. It is intended that this lease should expire on the date on which the original lease expires, that is on 31st March, 1994. In accordance with the terms of the lease, Motor Services Limited would have the right to exercise an option to renew the lease for a further period of twenty-five years on re-negotiated terms. This lease is for 1,078 square feet at a rate of twelve cents per square foot.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I do not have any particular objection to this extremely generous offer that is given to this company to have this valuable land being rented to them at such a low rate for such a long period. Personally I do not see land rented to any person even on the basis of a lease in the area of the Deep Water Harbour in Bridgetown at such a rate and binding ourselves to twenty-five years. What I would like to say is that it is very noticeable that the Deep Water Harbour was built at great pain and loss to many people, but some of us had the foresight to see that it should have been constructed, and now that this is over, I am wondering if the Government is going to give the same generous attitude to something in which the workers can be involved.

There is a general tendency in Barbados to regard the workers as coming last. The Deep Water Harbour has been built, seamen ply in and out of this country, and I would like to see a hostel for Barbadian seamen and even seamen from other parts of the world. We have in Barbados about 1,000 people who are going to sea every day, and they add a substantial portion

to the economy of this country. The wages and returns of 1,000 seamen are equivalent to about 2,000 other workers in Barbados because they are not eating the food here, and this is really net income that they send back to this country. I am not opposing this Resolution, but I would say it is an extremely generous offer. It is not much land, it is true. One thousand square feet of land means more to the company than to anybody else because nobody wants to buy 1,000 square feet since you cannot do anything with it. It means something to the company however. I am not opposed to the company. The only thing I would say is that a garage or motor service company like this is not manufacturing; it is going to be a company that can disappear in a short time, but it depends on the management and the badgers of the trade and the kind of trade they are in, but it seems to me a very generous offer at twelve cents a square foot for land. The Government can say that 1,000 square feet do not mean anything to them, but I hope this is not the sort of rent that they are thinking of for all time, because this is not an industry. Buying and selling motor cars is not an industry. There is nothing basic about Motor Services. It is no different from Eckstein's Garage or any of the garages in other parts of the Island.
4.25 p.m.

If you are going to locate garages in outer town it is all right, but I would say in a general way I do not think there is much justification for being generous to garages. They are making money and they should pay the economic rent for the land. This by no means is an economic rent, I do not know what the other lease is like, I do not know if it was their land before, but my view is that land at the Deep Water Harbour should be used for basic industries and other ancillary services like garages but there should be some re-thinking. The price is very generous and I would like to say I am anxious to see a hostel put up for workers. I know it is true that when the Deep Water Harbour was built the compound was put there for the workers, but again it is no fault of mine that the Ministry of Communications and Works seems to find it difficult to put the doors the right place, because this was 1961 and we waited 10 years to have a canteen, but it is not our fault. I do not believe it is the Minister's fault, but it looks like these things will be long after our time; I am only saying this to emphasise the need for these things for the workers. This is to establish the fact that this is the price that the workers paid for this sort of improvement. I say this because I know that there is going to be a request for a Seamen's Hostel and I know I am going to hear that there

is not enough land for this hostel, but we really need such a hostel. I am only saying this seems to be a very generous offer by the Government.

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am wondering if the hon. member who just sat down is feeling well today. Even the tone of his voice has changed, and I believe the day is going to come when there will be a one-party State in this country and an Assembly where there is no party politics, because I know this afternoon this is not the same hon. member. I would like to see him over here dealing with this Resolution. I recall very well that the same hon. member who just sat down said that land in Bridgetown was selling at \$200 a square foot. The Government is giving away 1,000 square feet to Motor Services at 12 ¢ per square foot; this is ridiculous. My position is very clear, I am not voting for this at all, I cannot associate myself with any Government or any Opposition party calling itself a socialist party who can give a capitalist outfit land in Bridgetown where the blood and sweat of Barbadians went down at the Deep Water Harbour at 12 ¢ per square foot for 25 years. I would like the Minister to tell us something more, I do not think the Minister understands what is going on. Even the present Minister of Home Affairs has shown up quite clearly in a few weeks that the present Minister of Housing has no idea of what he is doing in any office. Imagine coming in here and asking us to give Motor Services, DaCosta & Musson, Wilkinson & Challenor, all of them down there, cowards, land in Bridgetown at 12 ¢ per square foot for 25 years! Land is valued, according to the hon. member for St. Michael West, at something like \$200 per square foot in Bridgetown. I wonder if some of the members on the other side are not shareholders, I do not care if the land is no good to anybody, it is good to Motor Services, therefore they should pay a proper rental for it. They will have to be making money, they moved from the corner of Bay Street, rented the land up there and are now asking for more, but I am not associating myself with this Resolution at all.

I am going to vote against it, and I would suggest strongly to the Minister to withdraw the Resolution and have the land revalued, because it is not possible for anybody to decide to rent land in Bridgetown at 12 ¢ per square foot for 25 years. I will be 68 years old then and Motor Services will be paying ½ ¢ per square foot, so I would suggest to the Minister to withdraw this Resolution, have the land revalued and review the whole picture again, because it is not fair to the taxpayers of this country to be giving anybody land in Bridgetown at 12 ¢ per square foot for 25 years. I agree with what the hon. member for St.

Michael West has said, but this is the problem with toeing the party line, and I could hear the weight in his voice as he spoke. I am very happy to hear how the hon. member spoke about this, I am quite sure if he had anything to say about this before it came here it would not have come.

Mr. MOTTLEY: Mr. Deputy Speaker, like the two members who spoke I have absolutely no intention of voting for this Resolution. I am somewhat surprised at this Resolution, and I agree with the sentiments expressed by the hon. member for St. Michael West.

4.35 p.m.

I do not believe that the Government should subsidise any private enterprise to the extent to which the Government is seeking here to subsidise Motor Services Ltd. Let us be frank. When the Government can get on a public platform and carry on a harangue about capitalists in this country, etc., what Government could be a greater supporter of capitalists' organisations than for a Government in 1972 to lease land for 25 years at a fixed rate of 12 ¢ per square foot per annum to the capitalists? I think the time has come when the Government must set out a clear policy on the rental of Government land.

As the hon. member for St. Michael West has pointed out, one could understand if we were dealing with a manufacturing industry which would be producing something and the Government, in the initial stage, was assisting it by charging a lower rent. In this particular case, there can be absolutely no justification for the leasing of land to Motor Services Ltd. at a rental of 12 ¢ per square foot per annum. It was the hon. member for St. Andrew who, as the Minister of Trade, had to deal with the question of car companies selling cars at exorbitant mark-ups. A year ago the Government saw the necessity to come down on these companies, but today the Government can now assist a company to the extent of subsidising it by renting it land at 12 ¢ per square foot per annum.

The Addendum sets out that the Company is desirous of expanding its facilities and it is proposed to lease the Company a further 1,087 square feet of land. I do not believe I was in the House when the other Resolution came before it, and I should like the Hon. Minister to tell us how much land has already been leased to Motor Services Ltd. I think the public should get an indication as to the area of land leased to Motor Services Ltd. for 25 years. If the Government is going to give a long-term lease such as this for 25 years, certainly the Government should make

provision in the lease : whereby the rent to be paid should be reviewed every three or five years. What may be considered as an economical rent today may not be considered as an economical rent in 1980. By 1980 we would be leasing this land at a peppercorn rent.

A few weeks ago there was a Resolution here in connection with land at Seawell Airport which was rented to the First National City Bank, and the rent which the Bank was called upon to pay was \$1,650 per annum. Perhaps the Hon. Minister in his reply would give us the reason why there is this big differential between the amount which the First National City Bank has to pay for land at Seawell Airport and the amount which Motor Services Ltd. has to pay for land in the city of Bridgetown.

Sir, I am particularly concerned when the Government can find land to be leased at rent such as this, because from time to time, as the representative for the City, when I enquire of the Government for certain things such as playing fields and so on, I am told that there is no land in the City of Bridgetown. The Government must consider whether this is proper utilisation of Government's land. I would ask the Hon. Minister in his reply to give us the original amount of land leased to Motor Services Ltd. and whether the Government in future would consider writing into the agreement some provision that the land rent would be subject to review every three or five years as the case may be.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Is the Hon. Minister replying?

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: That is my intention, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, there are certain conventions of good manners which have always been observed during my time in the House, and I believe for very many years before that, relating to Resolutions such as these, for the rent, sale or lease of parcels of land under the authority of this House, and one of them is that, when the Private Members of this House ask to see a plan, the Minister in charge shows it to them. I wish to report to the House that I have just asked the Minister in charge if he would be kind enough to show me the plan, and, with all the brashness and ignorance of somebody newly coming to an Assembly such as this, he informed me that we were not entitled to see it. That may be the Government of 1972. I must regret that he is sitting on the same side as gentlemen such

as the Leader of the House and the Minister of Agriculture who, I believe, would never have returned a reply like that to persons with a constitutional position, Sir, because the Leader of the Opposition and his office are still contained in the Constitution. I do not believe that the Prime Minister, indeed, would have returned such a reply. Members are obviously wondering what land this is. I daresay that, in his inexperience, the Minister feels or he hopes he will be able to give a clever and agile Parliamentary Reply upon the basis of concealing the facts from the Opposition, and then revealing them in their true colours in due course. The old members of the House, readers of the *Official Gazette* and history in general will judge what type of action that is. We do not have to deal with the Minister; we will leave his colleague on his right to deal with him on some other occasion.

Now, let us deal with the Resolution in question. I have heard the hon. member for St. James, and a very sound and well-reasoned speech, I think, it was, but in respect of this whole Motor Services matter the House need, in my view, further information. Motor Services Ltd. are not the only people on the former Fontabelle Beach who want facilities from the Government, but it would seem from their inception that Motor Services Ltd. had been given exceptionally favourable treatment by the Government in power.

4.45 p.m.

I am sure that no hon. member of this House who is a shareholder in Motor Services will vote upon this Resolution without first revealing his position under the Parliamentary Privileges and Immunities Act, for I am sure they do not wish to incur the very substantial penalties set out by that Act for so doing. I just mention that at the start. I am going to suggest that if it were not for the bounty of the Government for whatever reason, Motor Services would not be in business at all. Motor Services and their predecessors in title were a very nearly bankrupt firm, and the fact that the Minister of Education is leaving the House should not be taken to mean that he is a shareholder. Motor Services' predecessors in title were a firm that had not made a go of the motor business. I believe they were acquired by Barbados Shipping and Trading. It was discovered by an accountant who was brought down to deal specially with this that their trading methods were not such as to enable them to make the profits that would allow them to stay in business. Barbados Shipping and Trading got rid of Motor Services and a number of other persons, some of them I believe closely bound up with the political life of this country

acquired interests of one sort or another, and I do not blame them because I believe that this was a genuine case of putting money into an enterprise not normally controlled by native Barbadians and Barbadians of a certain colour; so they put money in this enterprise in the hope that it could become a flourishing business. The Government assisted Motor Services greatly by leasing to them part of the lands that were reclaimed in the Deep Water Reclamation scheme.

Motor Services and Motor Services alone have been given a part of the former Fontabelle beach abutting and bounding on Prescod Boulevard on lease. (*Asides*). It is not true, man; go down there and look at it. Do not be an idiot. (Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Don't be an ass!)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I would not have the hon. member address me, because he is addressing the Chair, as an idiot. Will the hon. member withdraw that remark?

Mr. ADAMS: I am very sorry, Sir. I do withdraw. Nobody on this side of the House would ever address Your Honour in those terms.

Sir, just let us get this correct. (*Asides*) When that Minister calls me an ass, who has called me an ass? I must go in the yard and let Gearbox call me an ass and it will do me more harm. Anyhow, let us get on with this. (*Asides*)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members not addressing the Chair will please speak in undertones.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is going to be questioned. The file is there. My eyes are there. The beachland of Fontabelle is available for all to see. It is where the backs of the houses were. Motor Services projects to the West of Mr. Bannister's house and where Mr. McLeod carries on his business at Palm Beach. It projects even though Mr. Wilson moved back his wall eight or ten feet after the reclamation. Anybody can go and look at it and see that Motor Services has a building where the beach was. Anybody can go and read the Barbados Harbours Act of 1961 which says that the reclaimed land belongs to the Government. Anybody can see that a drain is built along the former shoreline. The Department of Lands and Surveys has recently resurveyed the whole area, and I believe the map must be in the Minister's possession, and it will show where the old beach line ran, because they compared it with aerial photographs taken by Hunting Air Services in 1950-51. I know something too sometimes. Part of the reason is that although I cannot go into it,

I have been legally consulted in connection with certain of these matters, and I at least can make a living as a lawyer, because it may be regarded by few clients that come to me and scratch a few pennies from somewhere to pay me that I am a person at least capable of reading a plan and understanding something. I am welcome to be corrected on the relationship between Motor Services and the beach.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, I remember a Resolution in this House when I was a member a few years ago about that problem. We say no more than that. Motor Services project over the beach, over the drain which marks the shoreline. Next door to Motor Services somebody has been making application to the Government for the longest time to lease certain lands down there to keep some equipment on and has not been able to get a favourable reply from the Government. Never at any stage could it be suggested to him that he could get 1,000 square feet of land for \$129 a year. I do not know the particulars of the 1,000 square feet. The plan has been concealed from members of the Opposition. The only occasion on which I have been in the House and there has been a plan and the Minister has refused to let it be seen is now. Has the Government got something to hide? Is there something sinister in this? (*Asides*) I had better sit down and let the hon. member for St. Michael South Central speak.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Has the hon. member concluded his speech?

Mr. ADAMS: I have not concluded my speech. The hon. member is saying I have shares in a certain organisation. (a) It is not true and (b) if it were and the organisation still owned Motor Services, I would have started my speech by saying I have shares in an organisation which owns such and such. I challenge all hon. members... well may be it does not apply to anybody who is here now... to do the same every time their financial interest comes up in this House. Has the Government got something to hide? The remaining portion of the road called Fish Alley and on lands of Motor Services — Motor Services have the inland piece and I believe that the end piece is or was once part of the Government's land. I do not know where these 1,078 square feet are. How can anybody be asked to vote for this Resolution where they see such an obvious anomaly? 1,078 square feet of commercial property rented at 12 cents a year! I only wish the Government would rent me land anywhere in Barbados at a price like that. I do not know what they rent the lands at Boscobelle and so on for by the year, but it cannot be for

much more than such a figure that the Government rents or leases out agricultural lands. This is clearly a rent designed, and I say so with no hesitation, to help Motor Services and not help the taxpayers. You could as well not charge them rent as to charge them \$120 a year. The collection cost of that rent by the time the Crown Solicitor has had to spend his time on the lease over the whole 25 years, how much will it be? It will be about \$3,000 over the whole 25 years, and I believe that the amount of time it will take the young ladies in the Crown Solicitor's office to receive that money over twenty-five years, for the Crown Solicitor to negotiate the lease in connection with this, that the \$3,000 will be entirely swallowed up; the changing of the cheques, the making of the entries in the books, the writing of the lease and the Crown Solicitor's time over 25 years is going to be worth more than \$3,000; so what is the point of all this paraphernalia we are going through?

Sir, even at this stage if the Minister cares to show us the plan, we will accept it as a change of face at the last moment. If he does not wish to show it, we are in no position to withdraw the charge of bad faith, bad manners, bad judgment and a bad approach to the House of Assembly.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister may reply if he so desires.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, before the Minister replies, there are one or two points which came to mind as this debate took the turn we noticed quite recently. I would like to hear from the Minister when he gets up to reply if this land is presently in the possession of the Government or in the possession of Motor Services. I believe I have a very good reason for asking this question, and I feel the Minister would be *au fait* with my reason for wanting to know this, because there can be no doubt that a Resolution such as this seeking to lease land in the city of Bridgetown, land located where this is, at this ridiculous price must give one to believe that it is being done with a view to somebody benefiting if not directly, indirectly; I mean somebody other than Motor Services. I can say that the taxpayers have absolutely nothing to benefit from this Resolution when we look at it that the period over which the lease stretches is twenty-five years in the first instance.
4.55 p.m.

Surely, Mr. Deputy Speaker, we see in the Addendum reference to a Fish Alley. As far as I know I do not think Fish Alley exists any longer, the Addendum does not tell us that the road was

formerly known as Fish Alley, and we feel there is a very good reason why the description as given is here.

The other point is that which has been raised by the Leader of the Opposition with reference to the plan of the area. I could hardly believe the Leader of the Opposition when he said that the Minister is refusing or is of the opinion or has expressed that the Opposition has no right seeing the plan. I do not want to believe this. Mr. Deputy Speaker, nobody is asking the Minister to present to the Leader of the Opposition the plan to his private property, it is the taxpayers' land we are dealing with and that is why it is before this House so as to give the Opposition an opportunity to enquire into everything that is relevant in a matter of this sort, and I am one of the people who would like at this stage before the Minister replies to have an opportunity of seeing the plan so that I would better be able to determine exactly what we are being asked to vote on. That is one of the reasons for enquiring of the Minister if Motor Services is at present in possession of this land or if it is still in the hands of the Government.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, it is a pity that members' memories are so short. In fact, I heard it said today in relation to a member that he has an elastic memory and that has indeed been proven in respect of what has been said on this Resolution.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker,...

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: I am not giving way.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will hear the point of order.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, my memory at least is good enough, but nobody has said that my memory is elastic.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I did not say that the memory of the hon. member for St. Thomas was elastic.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, if the Minister has the plan could he have it circulated while he is addressing the Chair?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: May I tell the Hon. Minister that if a member has said he wants to speak on a point of order I am to determine if it is a point of order. That was no point of order.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, on the 16th February...

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Deputy Speaker, if the Minister has the plan let us see it. This is not the Minister's private property, it is the Government's property. (*Asides*)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Let us have some order. We have visitors in the Gallery, please do not show off. I am not in a position to make the Minister pass the plan around, you have requested it and he has refused so therefore the Minister can make his speech.

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, if I may continue, on the 16th February, 1968 this Hon. House passed a Resolution approving the lease of all that land between Fontabelle and Prescod Boulevard that is Government property to those firms and companies that should apply for the same, and what is more as part of that Resolution this House passed that the price would be 12¢ per square foot. In fact, this House itself set the price, this House placed the stamp of approval on the rent that should be charged for this land, so do not say that the Government is trying to favour some companies.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, the Minister said that this House gave approval to rent the land at 12¢ per square foot. We voted and divided on the price and that is why we are still critical of the 12¢ per square foot.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, this House, whether divided or not, approved the lease of this land at 12¢ per square foot. Some members' memories may be short, but in fact this is what happened, and to come here and say that Government has been doing this for Motor Services alone is untrue because the first firm or company was Motor Services, and this is where I took issue at that time because the first company that took advantage of this offer was Wilkinson & Challenor who in fact got land at the same Prescod Boulevard before Motor Services.

5.05 p.m.

This is the same land.

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order. Is the Minister telling us that the land Wilkinson & Challenor leased is different from the land leased to Motor Services Ltd.? Is it not the same land?

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: It is part of the same land. What the hon. member for St. Thomas said was that Motor Services Ltd. alone was granted a lease of beach land at 12¢ per square foot. As a matter of fact it was not Motor Services alone, but it was also Wilkinson &

Challenor. Wilkinson & Challenor had a lease for land before Motor Services Ltd. got it. (*Asides*)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Members not addressing the Chair should converse in undertones. I am finding it difficult to hear the hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: When the members of Government are cursing, you cannot hear them.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am on my feet.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Who is addressing now?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No one is addressing. I am now addressing this House. (*Asides*) Will the Hon. Minister continue.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. In fact, two firms took advantage of this offer, and the only reason why other firms were not granted leases — mention was made of this by the hon. member for St. Thomas — is that the Government decided that the rest of the land at the Prescod Boulevard had been required for the establishment of the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic in that area. In the circumstances, it was necessary to stop leasing land in that area. When we hear that other companies wanted land and could not get it, the reason is that Government wants land for its own purposes, and Government purposes will have to override any individual or companies who require the land. (*Asides*).

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. members not addressing the Chair must speak in undertones.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: It has been said that the rent is low, and I have shown where it has been approved by Parliament. I am not in a position to say whether the rental is low or high — it may be low. I am not a valuer of land.

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, Sir. Is the Minister telling this Parliament that he does not know if the rent is low or high? He should have a valuation.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That is no point of order. I am on my feet.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am not in a position to say whether the rent is high or low. The Government has its advisers as far as this matter is concerned. I want to say that the Ministry of Finance recommended that the rental of land for this area should be 10¢ per

square foot. As Minister for Lands I felt that it was too low, and the persons who agreed to rent the land agreed to rent it at 12¢ per square foot. The valuers had valued the land at 10¢ per square foot. Now, 10¢ per square foot is what is being paid by industrialists in the whole of the reclaimed area. They are now paying 10¢ per square foot per annum for land in the Harbour area.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Is this 10¢ that is being paid an enabling scheme of the Government?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will you please take your seat?

Mr. HINDS: You must tell the hon. member to take his seat first.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I am asking you to take your seat. If this behaviour continues, I will suspend the sitting. (*Asides*) Order on both sides of the House!

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order. Sir, this is not an interruption; this is a point of order.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Will you please take your seat. If there are any further interruptions, I am going to suspend this sitting. The Minister was speaking and I shall hear the Minister.

Mr. ADAMS: It is a point of order, Sir.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: I was saying, Mr. Deputy Speaker, when I was interrupted without ceremony...

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, there can be no point of order. Is it not a fact that I was interrupted?

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will determine if it is a point of order. Will the hon. member for St. Thomas make his point of order?

Mr. ADAMS: Sir, this is a Resolution to approve a lease, and I am calling on the Minister to state the Statute under which this Resolution has been moved. I will submit that there is no Statutory Authority for this Resolution. (*Asides*)

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Two hon. members are on their feet. (*Asides*) This sitting is now suspended for 15 minutes.
5.15 p.m.

On Resumption:

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I observe that there is no quorum and ask that you direct the Clerk to ring the bell.

The Bell was rung but no quorum was obtained.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: There being less than nine hon. members present, and the Bell having been rung for two minutes, this House now stands adjourned until Tuesday next, 29th February, 1972, at 12 o'clock noon.
5.26 p.m.