

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION OF 1971-76

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 27th July, 1976.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12.15 p.m. o'clock.

PRESENT

His Honour C. A. E. HOPPIN, J.P. (Speaker); Hon. C. E. TALMA, C.B.E., (Deputy Prime Minister and Leader of the House); Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW, B.Sc., (Econ.) LL.D., (Prime Minister); Hon. G. G. FERGUSON, (Minister Without Portfolio); Mr. R. StC. WEEKES, J.P.; Mr. W. R. LOWE, J.P., (Chairman of Committees); His Honour A. DaC. EDWARDS, (Deputy Speaker); Mr. W. C. B. HINDS; Mr. L. S. CRAIG; Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, M.A., (Leader of the Opposition); Mr. C. L. BOLDEN, LL.B.; Mr. F. L. WALCOTT, C.B.E.; Hon. F. G. SMITH, Q.C., S.C., B.A., (Minister of Education, Youth Affairs, Community Development and Sport); Hon. P. G. MORGAN, C.B.E., (Minister of Tourism, Information and Public Relations); Mrs. G. L. EASTMOND; Hon. P. M. GREAVES, B.A., (Minister of Housing, Lands, Labour and National Insurance); Mr. H. deB. FORDE, M.A., LL.B.; Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE, (Minister of Communications and Works); Hon. A. MORRISON, (Minister of Agriculture, Science and Technology); Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD, B.A., M.A., (Econ.), (Minister of Health and Welfare); Mr. E. E. GREAVES, B.A., Ed.M.; Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS, LL.M. (Lond.) and Miss B. A. MILLER.

Prayers were read.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of Meetings for 22nd, 23rd, 25th June, 1976, 29th June, 1976; 6th July, 1976, and 13th July, 1976 have all been circulated and are before you for your

confirmation. There being no amendments or corrections, I declare that these Minutes are duly confirmed.

PAPERS PRESENTED

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Planning I am commanded to lay the following:

- (1) The Report of the Standing Insurance Committee and Statements of Account of the General Insurance Fund for the year 1974-75.
- (2) An account of the Transactions in Rum in the Several Districts of the Island for quarter ended 30th June 1976.

On behalf of the Prime Minister, the Public Officers' Loan and Travelling Allowances (Amendment) Regulations, 1976.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a

Resolution to grant the sum of \$205,166 from the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1976-77, Part II - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1976-77, No. 12, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

On behalf of the Prime Minister I beg to give notice of a Resolution to provide for the revision of the salaries applicable to the posts of Personal Assistant to the Prime Minister and Executive Personal Secretary with effect from 1st April, 1976.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolutions:

Resolution to grant the sum of \$355,000 from the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1976-77, Part II - Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1976-77, No. 13, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Resolution to grant the sum of \$18,000 from the Consolidated Fund and to place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1976-77 Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1976-77, No. 14, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Resolution:

Resolution to grant the sum of \$30,000 from the Consolidated Fund and to place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1976-77 Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1976-77, No. 15 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

I am also hereby seeking permission to deal with that Resolution today.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Planning, I beg to give notice of a Bill to grant an additional sum of money out of the Consolidated Fund and appropriate the same for the service of the Island for the financial year ended 31st March, 1975.

On behalf of the Prime Minister, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the National Emblems and National Anthem of Barbados (Regulation) Act.

Also, on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Planning, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Public Loan Act.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, before the Clerk calls the next Item of Business, I am asking the permission of the House to deal with the Resolution for the sum of \$355,000 in all its stages today. It is the Government's commitment to meet the Netball Association's commitment to host the 1976 Caribbean Games, and it is in order that we should get this through. The tournament starts on 7th August and it is absolutely necessary for us to get through this amount in order for them to host these games in a manner befitting Barbados. (*Asides.*)

Mr. SPEAKER: I would like to hear what the Hon. Minister is asking leave for when the time comes. Leave has been sought, it has not been granted as yet.

Mr. HINDS: The Hon. Minister, in attempting to seek leave of the House, is also attempting to debate the Resolution. That is what we are concerned with.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: On a point of order, I am explaining why it is urgent, I am not trying to debate it, I have plenty of time to debate it if leave is granted.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will the hon. member please take his seat? Is it your pleasure that leave be granted for those Resolutions referred to by the Minister of Education and the Minister of Health be dealt with in all their stages today?

Mr. ADAMS: Your Honour, nobody has afforded us the courtesy - certainly I have not been afforded the courtesy - of knowing that it is proposed to deal with any Resolutions in all stages today, an invariable and unfailing courtesy, I may say, during the five years that I have been Leader of the Opposition. I do not know what is in these Resolutions, I appreciate the hon. member who has just sat down attempting even if in breach of the rules of the House to indicate what is in them, but his explanation is no substitute for the circulation of the Resolutions. You haven't seen them, Sir, in my belief and I do not see how you can put to the House and suggest that the Standing Orders be in any way abandoned in respect of this matter. How can anybody agree to leave to deal with the Resolutions in all their stages today?

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister of Education, as well as the Minister of Health, when they gave notice stated and were asking leave for these Resolutions to be dealt with in all their stages today. Both Ministers have only stated their pleasure of having them done today. I was just putting what they said over to you again.

Mr. ADAMS: Sir, I do not want to anticipate things, but it is widely bruited around that the House is likely to meet on Friday and that it is likely to be dissolved next Tuesday after another meeting. If the real reason for dealing with the Resolutions today is that it is not really thought that in the remaining life of the House there is sufficient time to deal with them, and the Minister wants to put this on the line when he comes to make certain announcements, we will consider the matter then.

12.25 p.m.

It seems to me that there is plenty of time between now and 7th August to pass the Resolution relating to the payments to be made for matters starting then. If announcements are going to be made about a Budget and other similar matters, let them all be dealt with so that we can see the total operation with which we are being asked to contend with today. At this stage, when there is a lot of rumour in the air, we cannot deal with these things. We may be more interested in the abolishing of the 5% tax than any little Resolution for however much it is. There is time to deal with these Resolutions in the ordinary course of Parliamentary Business, but if the course of Parliamentary Business is not going to be ordinary that is the time at which we can take Parliamentary decisions on these matters, is my respectful submission to you, Sir.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, if this Resolution is not dealt with today, I will have to stop the Minister of Communications and Works from fixing the Netball Courts and Stands from today. The money is on the point of running out, and it must be done. That is the only reason why I am asking the House to deal with it. All of this talk about election and all of that nonsense.....

Mr. SPEAKER: You will speak on that later. I would like the Hon. Minister to take his seat!

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I believe you would like to make it clear that all that has happened so far is that the Minister has given an intimation that he is seeking leave of the House later in the day to deal with the Resolution in all of its stages, by which time the Resolution would be circulated and hon. members would be able to make up their minds as to whether or not it should be dealt with in all of its stages today. I would not like any steps to be taken so as to cause anybody to believe that leave has already been granted.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: The hon. member for St. Peter has put it in a nutshell. I treated the House with courtesy by letting hon. members know I was seeking leave to deal with it. I would not seek leave until I have circulated it.

Mr. SPEAKER: The point is well taken. I, as Speaker, have not yet received the Resolution.

NOTICES OF QUESTIONS

Miss MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of two questions standing in the name of the Member for St. Philip North:

1. To ask the Minister of Communications and Works:

Is the Minister aware that the inhabitants of Clifden, in the constituency of St. Philip North, suffer serious water problems in that at times during the day they receive no water at all or only a trickle?

If the Minister is aware of the aforesaid, will he immediately set about remedying the said problems, and, in particular, lay a large enough main to provide an adequate water supply for the said inhabitants?

2. To ask the Minister of Communications and Works:

Is the Minister aware that the roads designated as Blades Hill No. 1 and Blades Hill No. 2 in the constituency of St. Philip North are in need of immediate repair?

If the Minister is aware, will he immediately take steps to repair the said roads?

Mrs. EASTMOND: Mr. Speaker, to ask the Minister of Communications and Works:

Since Government has announced a major road improvement and construction programme:

Is the Minister aware that there are quite a number of roads in the St. Michael North East Constituency that have been marked for improvement since early 1971 and have not yet been repaired?

And is the Minister aware, that the Friendship Playing Field Road, which is injurious to the residents of the area, as a result of its bad condition, caused mainly by the heavy-duty vehicles now using it, has not yet been repaired?

Also, is the Minister aware that the Bow Road at Codrington Hill is a heavily used "feeder-road" at peak hours and is in very bad condition and is almost impassable when it rains?

If the Minister is not aware, would he then investigate and include the Bow Road in his construction plans.

2. To ask the Minister of Communications and Works:

As Government intends to carry out an improved street lighting programme:

Is the Minister aware that areas in the North-East constituency, which were included in previous years' programmes, have not yet been lighted?

If the Minister is not aware, would he investigate, and have lights installed in some of these areas?

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to grant an additional sum of money out of the Consolidated Fund and appropriate the same for the Service of the Island for the financial year ended 31st March, 1975, be now read a first time.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the National Emblems and National Anthem of Barbados (Regulation) Act be now read a first time.

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

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Public Loan Act be now read a first time.

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

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mrs. EASTMOND: Mr. Speaker, by the indulgence of the House, I have a personal explanation to make. I would like to take this opportunity to inform the.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry. I thought that information had reached you.

Mrs. EASTMOND: Mr. Speaker, in accordance with the Standing Order, I am not supposed to give any days notice. I spoke to you yesterday with regard to this, and Standing Order No. 19 states:

"By the indulgence of the House, a Member may make a personal explanation although there is no question before the House; but no controversial matter may be brought forward, nor may debate arise upon the explanation."

I should be grateful if you would permit me to give my personal explanation.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not quite satisfied with the contents of your personal explanation, and that is why I instructed the Clerk to inform you to postpone it. I have received it; I read it through.....

Mrs. EASTMOND: And you told me it was all right, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am not fully pleased, and that is my ruling on it. That is why I instructed the Clerk to ask you to have it postponed.

Mrs. EASTMOND: Mr. Speaker, may I ask what are the parts of the personal explanation with which you are not satisfied?

Mr. SPEAKER: At this stage, as Speaker, you are treading on my rights. I have the right to say what should be read and what should not be read. You are disobeying the Speaker, if you were to read that speech in here. I am not permitting it.

Mrs. EASTMOND: Mr. Speaker, will you then mark the point and let me know? I intend to make a personal explanation to this House. If I cannot do it today, then it will be done on some other occasion.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am granting you that privilege. As long as I am the Speaker here, you will get permission to make your speech, but you cannot make it today. I have ruled on that.

Mrs. EASTMOND: Yes, but I am asking you, Mr. Speaker, to let me know the points you are not satisfied with. You do not have to do it here.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: Please take your seat. I am the Speaker here. I have ruled on that, and the hon. member will take her seat. That settles that question.

Mrs. EASTMOND: I know it is by the indulgence of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will you please comply with the Standing Order.

Mrs. EASTMOND: It is not a controversial matter.
12.35 p.m.

ORAL REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. Prime Minister, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 94 asked by the hon. member for St. Michael North East is ready.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 99 asked by the hon. member for St. Michael North East is ready.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 102 asked by the hon. member for St. Peter is ready.

Also, I beg to give notice that Oral Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 123 and 124 asked by the hon. member for St. James are ready.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Replies to

Parliamentary Questions Nos. 103 and 104 asked by the hon. member for St. Peter are ready.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that Oral Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 116 asked by the hon. member for St. Philip North is ready.

THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE OF THE LEAVE PASSAGES (AMEND- MENT) ORDER, 1976

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am asking leave to deal with Order No. 1 which stands in the name of the Prime Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is seeking leave to deal with Order No. 1, and unless there is any objection, leave will be granted.

There being no objection, leave is granted.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, as the Addendum sets out, the Leave Passages (Amendment) Order 1976 has been laid in Parliament.

The Order seeks to amend the Leave Passages Order, 1966 in order to make appropriate adjustments to the qualifying salary points as a result of the recent revision of salaries which became effective on 1st April, 1976.

Paragraph 2 of the Leave Passages Order, 1966,
hereinafter referred to as the principal order, is amended —

L.N. 17
of 1966

(a) in the definition "Officer" by deleting the semicolon appearing at the end thereof and adding the words "but does not include an officer holding an office on contract for a specified period;"

(b) in the definition "qualifying salary" by—

(i) deleting the words "\$9,840" appearing in the last line of paragraph (a) thereof and substituting therefor the words "\$11,724"; and

(ii) deleting the words "\$7,896" appearing in the last line of paragraph (b) thereof and substituting therefor the words "\$9,564".

3. Paragraph 3 of the principal order is amended by deleting the words "\$7,896" appearing in the third line of sub-paragraph (i) thereof and substituting therefor the words "\$9,564".

4. Paragraph 4 of the principal order is amended by deleting the words "\$9,840" appearing in the third line of sub-paragraph (i) thereof and substituting therefor the words "\$11,724".

The Order became effective as from 1st April, 1976. This is one of the usual Orders.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

THE RESOLUTION TO APPROVE OF THE
CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT (GENERAL)
(AMENDMENT) (No. 3) ORDER, 1976

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, Order No. 2 is to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1976.

As the Addendum sets out quite clearly, the Civil Establishment (General) (Amendment) (No. 3) Order, 1976 has been laid in Parliament.

The Order which will involve no additional costs provides for adjustments to the establishment structure of many Government Departments and Ministries.

In the Prime Minister's Office for example there is the re-allocation of the following posts:

1 Assistant Secretary	—	\$12,144	—	17,412
1 Administrative Assistant	—	\$ 9,924	—	11,724
1 Senior Clerk	—	\$ 7,404	—	9,564
2 Clerical Officer	—	\$ 3,455	—	7,004
1 Secretary	—	\$ 7,404	—	10,644
1 Stenographer/Typist	—	\$ 3,456	—	7,004

In the Civil Aviation Division there is the re-allocation of one supernumerary post of Permanent Secretary to the head of that division which is normally created and which functions under the aegis of the Prime Minister's Office, but will be a separate and distinct office, and as Permanent Secretary he will no longer be Senior Crown Counsel of Aviation. The salary here is \$23,832.

There is also the redesignation of the post of Deputy Director \$17,412 as Chief Technical Officer — \$20,412.

12.45 p.m.

There is the creation of two posts of Technical Officer at \$14,604 — \$15,804 and the abolition of the following posts: one Director, one Senior Air Traffic Control Officer and one Chief Instructor and so on. It is all set out, and hon. members will have familiarised themselves with the details.

Again under the Ministry of Health, there is the abolition of the post of Senior Consultant at a salary of \$21,156, the abolition of one post of radiographer at \$9,924 — \$11,724, the creation of an additional post of Senior Radiographer at \$12,144 — \$14,004. It is also set out that the post of Senior Consultant (Medicine) is to be abolished in accordance with the policy established — in other words, there will be no centralising. The Radiographers Department will be divided into two sections, a diagnostic section and a therapy section.

This Resolution also sets out as regards the National Nutrition Department the creation of a post of Executive Officer at \$9,924 — \$11,724, and the bracketing of the posts of Staff Nurse at \$6,324 — \$8,124 and the Community Health Sister at \$8,484 — \$10,284. There is also provision for the replacement of the existing establishment of one Sister and four Staff Nurses by one Senior Community Health Sister, five Community Health Sisters and one Staff Nurse.

Then there are certain mistakes which opportunity is now being taken to correct. In Schedule A to the Civil Establishment (General) Order, 1976 there are typographical errors in respect of the numbers shown for the posts of Signaller, Port Department and Technical Assistant, Audio Visual Aids.

This Order comes also as a result of the reclassification exercise taken quite recently. If there are any other points that hon. members would like to raise, I will try to answer them. This is a routine matter and it is to bring these posts into line in accordance with the new salary

revision and mainly because of the new reclassification exercise which has been completed.

I beg to move that the Resolution do now pass.

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

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

RESOLUTION FOR THE SUM OF \$30,000

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, while giving notice of a Resolution earlier in today's Sitting for the sum of \$30,000 to be granted from the Consolidated Fund and to place at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1976-77, (Part I) (Current), I did indicate that I would be seeking permission to deal with this matter later in today's sitting. I am now formally seeking approval to deal with this Resolution which is in support of the activities of the Caribbean Nurses Organisation which is currently in session at Marine House. The \$30,000 is in respect of that particular conference.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Minister is asking leave to deal with the Resolution for \$30,000 but I do not yet have a copy of the Resolution. It has not yet been circulated to me. *(Pause)*. I am in receipt of a copy now.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, in view of the fact that copies have only just been circulated, I think that it is only fair for the sitting to be suspended for a few minutes so that hon. members can have a look at the Resolution. I beg to move that the sitting be suspended for 15 minutes.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, in seconding that, I will deal with my Resolution for \$353,000 at a later stage. I am asking leave now so that there will be no need for two suspensions. I am prepared to go along with the suggestion of the Hon. Leader of the House so that Members can be given opportunity to study this Resolution.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker,....

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The Leader of the House made a motion which has been seconded. You cannot entertain anything else, Sir.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I am not indicating anything new.

Mr. SPEAKER: Both hon. Members will take their seats.

The Question that the Sitting be suspended for 15 minutes was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

12.55 p.m.

On Resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER: This Sitting is resumed.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: 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.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1976-77

No. 15

A Resolution for the sum of \$30,000 was called.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Chairman, this is a non-controversial matter. The Barbados Registered Nurses' Association is hosting the tenth Biennial Conference of the Caribbean Nurses' Organization and that conference is taking place at Marine House. It was officially opened on Sunday evening last and is scheduled to continue until the 31st July.

As host of the conference the Barbados Registered Nurses' Association, which in its own right receives a subvention from the Government for its programme, approached the Ministry of Health with a request for assistance in meeting the cost of the conference. The costs are those which are usually associated with conferences of this type, including Secretarial Services, costs of stationery, postage, stencils, rental of chairs, transportation, relevant entertainment and coffee breaks and so on, and the amount that is being proposed to provide assistance to the Barbados Registered Nurses' Association is \$30,000. The number of persons attending the conference — I do not have final numbers for it — is between 300 to 400 persons.

As I said, this is a non-controversial matter. It is something which the Barbados Registered Nurses' Association as part of the Caribbean Nurses Organization is meeting its responsibility

inasmuch as the conference is hosted in other places.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, I wonder if any of us on this side can make a contribution to this Resolution, because among our papers we have absolutely nothing here on this. I think even the Clerk of the House has been asking assistance with it and we cannot find anything pertaining to that figure. We are still at a loss with it. This is the problem all the time with this piece-meal legislation. You bring them down here the same day the House is going to sit, you expect the Opposition to make a contribution, if we do not say anything we are ineffective, if we have the Resolution and we say something, we are wasting time.

Now on this occasion the Leader of the House or the Minister or whoever is responsible is quite guilty for this because nowhere here — my colleague on my left has the Resolution, my colleague the Member for the City of Bridgetown has not got her Resolution and I have not got mine either, and therefore I do not know where we are going from here.

I recall Speaker Maxwell once saying he could not and would never agree with this hasty bit of legislation, bringing down these all the time and pushing them into the hands of members on both sides. It is true that the members of the Cabinet are in a position to decide what they are going to do on Thursdays. You make your own decisions on Thursdays, you bring these in here on Tuesdays and at least you give us fifteen minutes to look at them. When we look around we do not see the Resolution or anything at all. The Resolution is not here, Sir, and I would ask the Leader of the House if he would be kind enough to have this measure recommitted so that we can look at it.

We had a very brief outline of what the Minister of Health had to say, but then, Sir, this is not really fair to the members of the Opposition or members of the other side who would like to make a contribution, and I would sincerely hope that the Leader of the House would use his better judgement in having this recommitted.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, the Leader of the House is blamed for everything. On this occasion the Leader of the House.....

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, I am not blaming the Leader of the House, but it is my duty to draw it to his attention. I am not blaming him.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, on this occasion all these things were sent in here just a short while ago. It was on those grounds that I made a motion that we suspended the Sitting, because I too was not aware that all these things had to be dealt with — or the majority or some of them were to be dealt with; although I agree with the Hon. Minister who has explained his position, as well as the Minister of Education.

The normal procedure is that a letter is written to that effect but the normal procedure has not been adopted, but the matters which the two Ministers are asking to deal with are very urgent and if they want a further adjournment — I take it that members have got copies of the matters we are dealing with. Have you got a copy of what we are dealing with?

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Sir. I have not got a copy. We do not understand how leave could have been granted.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, the Leader of the House himself said that just a few minutes ago he received all of these and he himself was not even aware of all these matters that we are going to deal with today. Now here we are getting them for the first time. You see this is the type of behaviour we get, and then when we get up and object you hear that we are time-wasters. We would have objected just now doing all of the Resolutions which came in for the first time today but we agreed not to, because you are going to hear 'they have 17 seats' and therefore they would go on. Well, this is the opportunity when we see for ourselves that not even the Leader of the House knows what is going on.....

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I know what is going on all right.

Mr. CRAIG: You know what is going on but.....

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Sir. I know what is going on, but I am not in agreement with hasty legislation myself and it is for that reason that I suspended the Sitting just now for fifteen minutes. It seems as though I should have said an hour, and make sure that members have copies of all the relevant things with which we are going to deal. I take it that the Clerk had distributed and circulated copies to all members, and I asked that.....

Mr. CRAIG: Well, Sir, if the Leader of the House is even going to say that, would he even think it is fair that we could take fifteen minutes to deal with Resolutions totalling almost \$800,000? This is not a joke. We do not just sit down and ask each other how we feel about something. We telephone people and ask for information to guide us. This is a known fact. We must get somebody to assist us. The same way you have counsellors, you have your Permanent Secretaries and you have your Personal Aides and your Economists, we have people who can assist us. We do not know everything. It is impossible. We know we do not know anything, but we realize that we know enough that we did not have this here. You do not care what we know, once you can talk about Charlie Hinds morning, noon and night.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, there is no magic about this. I just want to explain this. We hate to bring this legislation, but in matters where you are giving subventions to sporting organizations or nursing organizations the Government requires that they exhaust their fund-raising activity before they ask for a subvention. In the cases of nurses, the nurses have tried to raise money. The Government says, raise as much as you can and we will take up tab after you have finished.

The Netball Association which has a similar Resolution, to them we said 'raise as much as you can and once we are satisfied as a Government that you have raised enough, then we will give you the balance.' So that accounts for Resolutions like this. It is not because we want to come and push something down your throat. It is a question that they have got to raise money to the last minute before they can ask Government to take up the tab, and that is why this comes before the House.

The nurses have done their best. The Netball Association are doing their best. So that is why we come, in order that they can make Barbados proud. So it is no question of trying to hoodwink the Opposition or pass through something quietly. These are reasons why if they ever get into Government they will understand that they have got to bring matters like these before the House; because the moment you get a letter from a table tennis group that is going to Cuba, do you mean that because they apply for money that the Government is going to run and give them money? We say, raise money, and this is why Resolutions like this, do not care who is in power, will reach the House at this late hour.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, (*Asides*).....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member on my right must adhere to Standing Order No. 33(6).

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, the sitting was suspended for fifteen minutes so that hon. members at least on this side of the House could familiarize themselves with the contents of this Resolution, perhaps amongst others. The Leader of the House has seen under his own eye that during the fifteen-minute period we did not have benefit of these Resolutions being placed in our hand. It means therefore that we cannot sit here and allow debate on this Resolution to be carried on in the way it has been by two Hon. Ministers, and we not being in possession of the Resolution until this present moment.

I am urging upon the Leader of the House to give consideration to the decision of the minority at this particular moment because it is not fair to expect us to make any sort of contribution to a Resolution which has reached us just one minute — has reached us since the debate has started.
1.25 p.m.

We are asking the Leader of the House to act on the matter.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, the hon. member for St. James made a valid point, but after all we are adults and this is a formality. We are not discussing any matter of serious principle, and therefore I do not know what the hon. member wants. I do not like to get into that kind of argument, it is not now a matter of principle, it has been admitted that the Resolution was not circulated, and that was a valid point that was taken by the hon. member for St. James and nobody is protesting against that. Now that it has been circulated it is a formality. Do you accept now that the matter is urgent? The hon. member for St. James does not need to telephone and ask anybody if he can give the Nurses' Association any money for the thing they are having in Barbados, it is not that kind of Resolution, if it were one I would join with him, but this is a formality, it is one of the problems you get in a bureaucratic system in which civil servants have to go through a lot of formality. An Assistant Secretary has to minute something to somebody else before you can get a table moved, and the person has to minute back and say yes, you can move it.

The Hon. Leader suspended the House on the basis that he thought all the things were provided and circulated, but I do not think we now have to go through a full-dressed debate on it because it is admitted that if the Resolutions

were not before you, you had nothing to debate, but now they are here I believe we can proceed with the matter.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, I agree with the hon. member for St. Michael West in proceeding with it, but I would like to have the record straight so that this instance does not occur again. There is nothing wrong with the Minister who introduced it having it recommitted and let us go through with it. Let us get things in their true perspective.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Resolution was introduced and it was seconded. The Minister spoke on it, and the only thing I have to do now is to put the question.

Mr. CRAIG: I am well aware of the fact, Sir, that you can only act within the confines of your judgement, but I am not dealing with what you have done in this case, what I am dealing with is that we should have it in its true perspective. Let the Minister withdraw it and have it recommitted, or postpone it. Let us have things in their true form, it can be postponed till later in the day, we just want things done right at this stage.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: In view of the fact that the hon. members have just been circulated with copies, I think that their request can be met.

On the motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported progress and asked for leave to sit again. Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: There is a Resolution which the Minister of Education asked for leave to deal with in the sum of \$355,000 in connection with accommodation for netball at the stadium. I beg to move that this be the next Order of the Day.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, as I understand it the Hon. Minister of Education intimated earlier that he would be seeking leave to deal with this Resolution in all its stages today. I am just enquiring, has the Minister sought leave?

Mr. SPEAKER: Leave was sought on the resumption. The Hon. Minister of Education may proceed.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

On the motion of Hon. F. G. SMITH, seconded by Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee of Supply. Mr. LOWE took the Chair.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1976-77 No. 13

The Resolution for the sum of \$355,000 was called.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I shall not be long on this. In the Estimates as approved the sum of \$125,000 was granted to the Sports Department under this Item for playing fields and providing activities for the youth of this country. The amount has proved terribly inadequate in view of the increasing demands from the young people for recreational facilities, and in view of the fact that there are a considerable amount of requests upon the Ministry, especially the Sports Department, for various sporting facilities, it is vital that this amount be supplemented in order that we can at least try partially, not entirely, because everything cannot be done in one year, to meet some of the needs in the various areas of our community throughout the island. Therefore, this Resolution is brought before the House to supplement that amount of \$125,000 by another \$150,000 for providing playing fields throughout the island, levelling and providing the Facilities to enable the young people of this country to develop a healthy mind in a healthy body.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Chairman, there is no doubt in my mind that over the last five years there has always been a need for playing facilities for the young people of this country, and as the Minister of Education quite rightly stated, a healthy mind can only develop out of sporting activities of this nature, but I must confess that when you examine all the playing fields which Government set about to start, which Government has strained their wills to provide for the young people in 1976, it is amazing to find that some of the coaches in some of these areas are badly lacking.

1.35 p.m.

I think there are two netball coaches in Barbados to serve, let us say, approximately 5,000 girls who would be at the age to play netball. There seems to be no set plans at the schools where children must play games of that nature and where you have a games master who would have been coached, or who would have had a clear-cut knowledge of the particular games which the kids may be interested in. If you are going to construct Playing Fields, and if Barbados is supposed to hit the international market in the field of sports, one must first think of the International Coaches. I do not mean that we should bring International Coaches into Barbados, but we should train people to the point of the international level.

Only today, at the Montreal Olympics, we heard of Lorna Forde, who is based in the U.S.A., competing as a Barbadian. I would hope to see right here in Barbados that we can turn out, not only people like Lorna Forde, Darcy Beckles, Sobers, or people of that calibre, but I would like to see the coaching facilities in this country improved. Unless you have proper coaches, you cannot turn out the finest athletes. As far as these Playing Fields are concerned, I have seen a number of them started; the grounds have been laid out; they still need remodeling; there is hardly any activity on them, because the condition of the ground would not afford the playing of certain games. If Government are going to embark on a programme of this nature — they seem intent on embarking on a programme of this nature, since I have observed the appointment of Mr. Keith Simmons to the Ministry of Youth Affairs, or as an Adviser to the Prime Minister. I do not know at this moment what Senator Denis Hunte is supposed to be. I thought that, being in close contact with that Ministry, he would have been in a position to be another Adviser. We have seen here where a post has been created in the Ministry since the month of June or July where Mr. Keith Simmons is supposed to be a Consultant to the Prime Minister on Youth Affairs and Youth.

I am hoping that a figure of this magnitude would embrace, in the not too distant future, a number of persons under the umbrella of coaches who would be in a position to provide Barbados with not only the playing facilities, but also with fine athletes. It has also been drawn to my attention that a number of these schools do not have the actual facilities for the coaches to coach these children. I refer to things like bats, netball rings, goal bars for football, fields laid out and properly prepared for the purpose of athletics of this type. I hope that, instead of coming to this Chamber with a piecemeal programme, the

Government would embark on a programme that would take the entire country and its youth under its wing in order to produce in the country what we all hope for in Barbados.

I have no objection to a Resolution of this magnitude, Sir. I hope that my words would not fall on the deaf ears of the Minister. As far as I am concerned, in St. James, I hope they would see to it that the St. John the Baptist Playing Field, which I have been asking them to remold for several years and stop it from running downhill, and maybe St. Augustine Playing Field, where you know, Sir, that the bowler has to tell the umpire that he is coming up to bowl and to stand-by — yourself and Mr. Speaker have been in there, I think one for 15 years and one for 10 years, and there has been no improvement.

At long last we have had the visit of the Minister of Information and the Minister of Agriculture. Both of them paid a visit to Dover cricket ground where the son of the Minister of Information played. He himself played; the Prime Minister passed there, and so on. I have asked about it since 1966. I said that there should be a pavilion and recreational facilities at Dover, because it is not only a place where you play games, but it is a place where people go and swim now. The Parks and Beaches people have done a good job there — no one can deny that — under the watchful eyes of Mrs. Bannochie and Mr. Wiles who are specialists in landscaping. (*Asides.*) The work was also done under the guidance of employment by Mr. Carmichael. It is his position to employ the people there, Sir. When the Minister of Information and the Minister of Agriculture took it upon themselves to go there in 1976, after a Mr. Maurice Ward had gone there and threatened, quarrelled, and behaved badly, it is only then that we saw the advent of....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: What has that to do with the Resolution before us?

Mr. CRAIG: It is something to do with playing fields, and there is a playing field at Dover, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, you should really allow members to get through with what they are doing. You get yourself too much involved. You asked what the Minister of Information and the Minister of Agriculture were doing at Dover playing field. I am calling on them now to put up the facilities there which I have been asking for since 1966. You get yourself too involved in the debates. Your job is to conduct the affairs of Parliament, and you should not get involved in the debates.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am absolutely not in a any debate. I simply want to understand what is going on.

Mr. CRAIG: Do you not understand that there is a playing field at Dover, Sir?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I understand that, but I do not understand anything about Mr. Ward. Who is Mr. Ward?

Mr. CRAIG: Mr. Ward is a friend of mine who went out there to see about the playing field. Mr. Morgan, Mr. Morrison, and Mr. Ward are the people who went out there. After I have been asking for this since 1966, on the eve of elections we see these three gentlemen turning up there quarrelling about this playing field. This Resolution has my blessing, and I hope that any Government which comes into power will extend the facilities for the young people. I do not know very much about Murphy pasture. I have never been on Murphy pasture. I have only passed by it, but I have never played on it. I have never pulled out crabs down there. I know about Empire pasture, the Gully Hill in Carrington Village, and so on. I believe that you will know a little about them, too. As far as Murphy pasture is concerned, I hope that it will be turned into a lovely playing field, so that when the member for St. Michael West goes there he will recall his boyhood-days pulling out crabs and so on.

Mr. EDWARDS: Mr. Chairman, there is a place called Hillaby, and there is a playing field which was cleared by the Government some time ago. It took some time to be levelled. First of all, I should like to complement the present Minister of Sport for having that playing field levelled, but levelling of that playing field is not all. There are several hundred youngsters in the Hillaby area, and they need more than cricket. There is a cricket pitch on the playing field, but there are areas where provision can be made to accommodate netball and lawn tennis so that the girls can play their role in the development of sport in the area.

1.45 p.m.

Added to this there is no changing facility at the Farmers Playing Field. I would like to draw to the attention of the Minister that there is immediate need for a changing room if not a pavilion, to prevent the youngsters desecrating in the adjoining sugar cane fields. There is immediate need for a basket ball court, a netball court and a hard court for tennis. In other words, I am not suggesting that we should have a grass court because that is too expensive to maintain, but I would like to see provision made for a hard

court and I would like to request that one be provided at Farmers Playing Field. Most important and immediate there now would be facilities for the girls and a changing room for the youngsters. Some donor has donated a wooden shed for the youngsters to change in, but immediately before the levelling of that playing field, that hut disappeared. I would like to see something more substantial provided there and I would like to see an improvement to the Belleplaine playing field which has been there for several years, but there is no hard court or facility for lawn tennis or anything of the sort. The Belleplaine playing field was the longest established playing field in St. Andrew and it is time that these facilities be provided. I am asking the Minister to have a look at these facilities.

There is also a playing field at Shorey Village with no changing room facilities. We have a cricket pitch and basketball and netball are played, but we would like to have changing room facilities. This playing field was established some three or four years ago, and I would like to ask the Minister to direct his attention to the provision of certain changing room facilities in this area. We know that Rome was not built in a day and I do not expect all this to be done by the squeezing of a lemon, but I would surely like to hear what is the intention of the Ministry of Sport in respect of these three playing fields which I have mentioned.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, it is true that some people do take an interest in sport after they become members of the House of Assembly, because I often wonder if sport becomes fashionable when you come to the House of Assembly. Some people forget or did not have any boyhood days. Without being facetious the question of sport has not been organised in this country in a very orderly manner by anybody in a serious way. Attention was given to putting up playing fields as far back as 1974 when the Labour Welfare Fund money was used, and when the hon. member spoke about Belleplaine, Belleplaine was one of the first. What I think we have to realise is that it is time we get down to serious community work and do not believe you can build a community away from the community. You have to build a community out of the community. There are too many people of the belief that as long as the Government spends money and puts down a playing field that that is about all you have to do.

The hon. member for St. James spoke about a coach. You do not make an athlete merely by a coach; you have to have the basic things there before. There are coaches all over the world. There are

coaches in Germany, but every person who runs is not going to the Olympic Games; every person in the United States who runs is not going to the Olympic Games and you have to bear this in mind. A gold medal is not the criterion for which you have coaches. We have people in fields in Barbados who have never been coached. In cricket we never had a coach for Everton Weekes or Seymour Nurse, but they were stars; so there is no point in saying that they had to rely on a coach. We have had people who have been coached and they did not make the grade. George Challenor had a son who went up to England and he was coached; they called him George, but he was not made a cricketer because he was called after his father both by the first name and the last name.

Mr. Chairman, I am not opposed to coaching, but it must be remembered that the whole atmosphere in which you live has a lot to do with the games you play. Santano played tennis in Spain, but he played it around the villages. I would like to see some more attention given to the plantations and the Government make use of the land. We have a very classic example here. I would like to see, whether it is a Sports Council, a better organisation of sport. For example, my own organisation has given a lead, if you may say that, and we do not want any praise for it, but I throw it out to the Minister. We have seven acres of land that we are dedicating to a National Sport Ground, not for the members of the Barbados Workers' Union; this is for the nation. We are going to put up a hard court for the people of St. Martin's and the surrounding area. This is something that every institution and organisation must be prepared to do and we feel it is going to be taken care of better than how some of the places that were put up by the Government have been kept. There are a lot of run-down playing fields and community centres of which proper use has not been made, and it is time that we begin to understand that we have to inject in our own community a sense of self-reliance and self-discipline. If you do not have a sense of values, you can go to Fort Knox and bring all the money and it is going to run away. There is no point in this self-condemnation, but it is a question of your having self admiration that you make up your mind to make something of yourself.

1.55 p.m.

The hon. member for St. James spoke about Sport and about the difference in quality between athletes in the Caribbean and athletes outside the Caribbean. The reason for that is simple. Athletes outside the Caribbean would not have been able to make that progress within the

Caribbean because that form of competition is not there. The quality of coaching and training is different. When it comes to taking part in the Olympic Games, the position is that in the Caribbean a person working in a job sometimes cannot afford, or get leave from his employer to devote his time to Sport at that level; but I do not think that we are talking about national sport on that basis.

This is a question of children. It is a question of providing a facility for the under aged group, nothing to do with whether you are going to be an athlete or not. Let us be quite frank. In the past — and this has nothing to do with this Government — elementary schools were built with no playing fields attached to them. I went to an elementary school where there was no playing field. You had to play cricket near a yard, and if you hit the ball into somebody's yard he either gave you back or not.

But now, Sir, our concept is that children should have somewhere to play. At St. Mary's Boys School and St. Mary's Girls School there was no place to play. At Wesley Hall and at the former St. Leonards School there was no place to play.

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

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

The Question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. SPEAKER: The hour being now.....

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, before you suspend the sitting, Sir, I just want in view of the fact that we have more or less completed Government Business. (*Asides*)

Hon. F. G. SMITH: You have not dealt with my Resolution for \$30,000.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hour now being 2 p.m., the sitting is automatically suspended until 2.45 p.m.

On the Resumption:—

Mr. SPEAKER: The Sitting is resumed.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSON: It now being 2.45 p.m., I ask that the bell be rung.

The Bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.

QUESTION TIME

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 94. The hon. member who asked that Question is not now in her seat.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the reply to that question be laid.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 99 asked by the same hon. member.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I ask that that Question be also laid.

QUESTION RE SCHOOL LEAVING CERTIFICATES

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 102 asked by the hon. member for St. Peter.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, Question No. 102:—

To ask the Minister of Education, Community Development and Sport: How many Senior Elementary Schools and Comprehensive Schools, respectively, recommended pupils for the School Leaving Certificate referred to in the Ministry's Circular 71/59 at the end of the academic year 1974–75? 2. How many pupils of such schools were awarded the certificates? 3. How many of the said schools entered pupils for the New Barbados School Leaving Certificate of the Ministry at the end of the academic year 1974–75? 4. How many were successful in obtaining one (1) pass; how many obtained two (2) passes; how many obtained three (3) or more passes? 5. How many did not receive any passes at all? 6. The relevant period for Nos. 4 & 5 above being the academic year 1974–75?

Hon. F. G. SMITH: The answer to the Question is as follows:—

Pupils from the Senior Departments of 42 Composite (All-Age) Schools and from 10 Newer Secondary (Comprehensive) Schools were registered for the School Leaving Certificate at the end of the academic year 1974–75. The total number registered was 2,896.

2. Of the 2,809 students who actually wrote subjects 2,350 students were awarded certificates.

3. All of the 42 Composite and the 10 Newer Secondary Schools entered pupils who wrote examinations at the end of the academic year 1974–75.

4. (a) 495 pupils were successful in gaining a pass in only one (1) subject.

(b) 517 pupils were successful in obtaining passes in two (2) subjects.

(c) 1,338 pupils were successful in obtaining passes in three (3) or more subjects.

5. 459 received no passes in any subjects at all.

Mr. HINDS: Can the Minister tell us what steps he purposes to take in the light of the number of pupils who passed in no subjects at all, that is 459?

Hon. F. G. SMITH: The Ministry is geared in its education infrastructure to enable it to allow these particular students to enter into fields of endeavour which more appropriately suit their God given talents.

Mr. HINDS: Has the Minister given any consideration to providing career guidance whenever the occasion arises in matters of this sort?

Hon. F. G. SMITH: The Ministry has the necessary staff to provide career guidance, but the Ministry is also offering scholarships in educational psychology and kindred fields to enable students at an early age to discover where their talents lie, and in which direction they can make their useful contribution to society.

QUESTION RE LACK OF ELECTRICITY AT CASTLE AND CASTLE (CABBAGE WALK)

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 103 asked by the same hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker; To ask of the Minister of Communications and Works: Has the Minister taken note of the fact that residents of Castle and Castle (Cabbage Walk), St. Peter are still suffering from the lack of a supply of electricity to their homes, despite the close proximity of their homes to the main Castle Road, a highway? 2. Would the Minister bear in mind that in these localities there are children of

schooling age who must suffer in the preparation of their homework, and consequently, not benefit to the fullest from any consideration given in the matter of education in this Island? 3. Would the Minister consider the request for an electrical supply as a community project, and seek to extend this facility by having the necessary machinery put into effect by agreement with Barbados Light & Power Co. Ltd?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:—

The Barbados Light & Power Co. Ltd. has made arrangements to extend the electricity supply to the Castle and Castle (Cabbage Walk), St. Peter in the near future.

Mr. HINDS: The work is in progress. The Minister will want to know this.

QUESTION RE CUL-DE-SAC AT TOM
BEND GAP, ASHTON HALL,
ST. PETER

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 104 asked by the same hon. member.

Mr. HINDS: Question No. 104. To ask the Minister of Communications and Works: Is the Minister aware that Tom Bend Gap at Ashton Hall, St. Peter ends in a cul-de-sac? 2. Is the Minister aware that residents of the said Tom Bend district suffer much inconvenience having to convey their packages and luggage generally very long walking distances in an effort to reach their homes after alighting from what public transport there is available to the Tom Bend junction on the main Ashton Hall Road? 3. Would the Minister cause an investigation to be made of the grievances suffered and determine whether or not it is feasible to cause the Tom Bend Road to be a through road thereby constructing the necessary bridge or other means to enable owners to develop their lands and settle more comfortably?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:—

Plans are currently being prepared for the construction of an extension to Tom Bend Gap to link up with Highway 1. This extension will enable the residents to reach their homes by a much shorter and more convenient route.

QUESTION RE LEAKAGE AT BULK
STORAGE FACILITY

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 116 asked by the hon. member for St. Philip North.

Mr. SIMMONS: Question No. 116. To ask the appropriate Minister: Is the Minister aware that the roof of a facility at the Bridgetown Port for the storage of bulk sugar has been leaking and that sugar has been contaminated by the infiltration of water? If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister immediately ensure the repair of the said roof in the national interest?

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

Information has been received that a limited quantity of sugar has been affected in the past through the leakage of water into the Bulk Sugar Store. It is believed that this leakage has occurred through the faulty construction of the roof to the Store. Some experimental repairs to the roof have been carried out to test their effectiveness. Permanent repairs will be completed as early as possible.

2.50 p.m.

REPLIES LAID

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 123 asked by the hon. member for St. James who I do not now see in his seat.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the answer to Question No. 123 in the absence of the hon. member for St. James.

Mr. SPEAKER: The answer to Question No. 123 has been laid in the absence of the hon. member for St. James.

Question No. 124 asked by the same hon. member for St. James.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the reply to Question No. 124 in the absence of the hon. member for St. James.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Reply to Question No. 124 has been laid in the absence of the hon. member for St. James.

REPLIES AVAILABLE

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw to the attention of the House that there were a number of questions which were not answered at the last Sitting of the House because the answers were not then available, although notice of the answers was given at the previous Sitting. I have these answers here with me and if the hon. member who posed

the questions is interested in asking the questions he may get the answers. They are numbers 90, 83, 86 and 128.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the Hon. Minister desirous of giving the answers to those questions?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: I have the answers ready. If the hon. member wants to proceed, he may.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 83 asked by the hon. member for St. Philip North.

QUESTION RE PROPER ROAD AT THICKETTS

Mr. SIMMONS: Question No. 83: To ask the Minister of Communications and Works: Is the Minister aware that the inhabitants at Thicketts Hill, suffer greatly after heavy rainfall because the road to their houses are made virtually impassable? Will the Minister state when, if at all, Government will address its attention to providing a proper road for the said inhabitants?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, the answer to Question No. 83 is as follows:

Thicketts Hill is a private tenantry and the road is not currently maintained by Government. Consideration is being given to constructing a road at Thicketts Hill during the current financial year under the Private Tenantry Roads Programme.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell us if it is Government's policy to maintain this type of road when the necessity arises as in this case?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker it is Government's policy to maintain private tenantry roads if a request is made to the Government and the circumstances so warrant Government's attention.

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister tell us if this new road which is proposed to be constructed in 1976-77 will be along the same route as the existing road?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: It will be along the same route as the existing road.

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell us if his Ministry has ever received a petition from residents in this particular area requesting the construction of the road under consideration?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, the Ministry has not received any petition in writing but I would like this brought to the attention of the hon. member that the Minister made a visit to that area earlier this year and a request was made orally to the Minister and his Parliamentary Secretary that something should be done about the road.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, does the Minister want us to conclude that it was as a result of a request by the residents of the area that we are now hearing of this new road to be constructed?

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Minister whether this visit that he made to the area was prior or subsequent to the 9th March, 1976.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: For the information of the hon. member, it was prior to that particular date mentioned by the hon. member.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 86 asked by the same hon. member for St. Philip North.

QUESTION RE FLOODING AT WELL HOUSE

Mr. SIMMONS: Question No. 86: To ask the Minister of Communication and Works: Is the Minister aware that when heavy rains are experienced in St. Philip North, there is grave flooding in the Wellhouse, Waterhall, Ebenezer and Church Village areas to such an extent as to pose a serious threat to the lives and properties of the inhabitants of the said areas? If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister, (1) give urgent consideration to alleviating the hardships suffered by the inhabitants of the said areas and (2), state when will Government commence implementation of remedial action?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, the reply to Question No. 86 is as follows:

Wellhouse and Waterhall are low-lying areas and are subject to flooding. Provision has been made in the programme for the current financial year to sink additional drainage wells to alleviate this problem.

The Ministry is experiencing difficulty in recruiting persons to work as well diggers and to clean wells and this factor has led to delays in starting the remedial work planned for several areas throughout the Island.

Steps have been taken to clear the drainage channels in the Ebenezer and Church Village areas.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister tell us if the difficulty Government has experienced in recruiting well-diggers has any relation to the price offered by the Government to the well-diggers?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: That is our experience. The well diggers are not happy with the rate being offered and because of this, Government gave out the work to private tender. Unfortunately, the private tender is still encountering similar or comparable problems.

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister tell us whether it is proposed to start the drainage at Waterhall during the current financial year?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: During the current financial year; and I would like to assure the hon. member that plans are being drawn up in the Ministry to solve this problem.

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, I wish to ask the Minister if he is aware that at this time of the year we are subject to the vagaries of the hurricane season and the Wellhouse - Waterhall area in particular is an area where there is massive flooding which is very, very dangerous, and I am calling as a matter of urgency to deal with it as expeditiously as possible.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, during the hurricane season many areas in Barbados have suffered immense flooding. Wellhouse area is one of those areas. Unfortunately, we cannot resolve this problem as quickly as the hon. member would like, but again I would like to assure him that something is being planned to be done during the current financial year and I hope that much sooner than he anticipates, it will be done.

QUESTION RE EXEMPTIONS FROM PAYING SALES TAX

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No.77 asked by the hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. ADAMS: Question No.77: To ask the Minister of Finance: 1. Have exemptions from paying the 5 per cent Sales Tax in Barbados been issued to any persons or class of persons and if so to whom or to which class and how many persons have been granted such exemptions? 2. What is the amount of tax remitted as a result of purchases made by such persons, if any? 3. What precautions are being taken to prevent resale of articles bought thus tax-exempted to Barbadians who would otherwise have to pay the tax?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, the Reply to Question No.77 is as follows:

"1. Exemptions from payment of 5 percent Sales Tax were issued to persons qualifying as under—

- (a) members of the staffs (diplomatic, administrative and technical) of diplomatic missions accredited to Barbados and their wives, on the basis of reciprocity;
- (b) person who qualify under the provisions of the UNDP Basic Agreement (the PAHO/WHO Representative and his wife, the UNDP Regional Representative and spouse, if applicable);
- (c) the official staff of IADB under the terms of the Agreement on the privileges and Immunities of the Personnel of the Bank in Barbados.

- 2. The amount remitted on purchases made by such classes of persons is not easily identified and it is therefore not possible to state the figure.
- 3. It has not been brought to my attention that articles so purchased have been resold to Barbadians; therefore the question of taking precautions has not arisen".

3 p.m.

Mr. ADAMS: Would the Minister agree that the reason why there has perhaps been no case where articles bought by these diplomatic personnel and exempted from the 5% sales tax have not been resold to Barbadians is that the tax has not been in operation for long enough?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I think the hon. member has given the answer himself.

Mr. ADAMS: Would the Minister agree indeed that the 5% sales tax has long since outlived its usefulness and should be entirely repealed at the earliest opportunity?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: This is a matter of policy in so far as financial policy is concerned, and the only person who can give a proper answer, or an answer of any sort, would be the person vested with such power. Unfortunately I am not vested with that power.

Mr. ADAMS: Sir, this is really a point of order, because he is answering on behalf of the Minister of Finance and therefore he should be able to give whatever answer the Minister of Finance can give.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: If the hon. member would give way, I cannot establish tax proposals. What I am trying to say is that only the Minister of Finance is vested with the power to impose certain taxation measures, and that is one. It is only he who can think of what should or should not be done, not me.

Mr. ADAMS: Sir, if I could repeat the question, it is not a third supplementary. The question I asked is, will the Minister agree that the taxation has outlived its usefulness, if any, and should be repealed? He could answer that.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I am not aware of that, Sir.

Mr. ADAMS: One Minister says that the 5% sales tax should not be repealed. I heard the Minister of Education say that from his seat.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am to hear your question, no statement.

Mr. ADAMS: Will the Minister say if the repeal of the 5% sales tax on drugs at any early stage is a part of the Government's programme?

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Speaker, I am not in a position to give any such assurance.

QUESTION RE PUBLIC TELEPHONE BOOTHS AT POREY SPRING, ST. THOMAS

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 128 standing in the name of the Hon. Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, Question No. 128 reads as follows:

To ask the appropriate Minister: Will the Minister make the appropriate recommendations to the Barbados Telephone Company Limited for the erection of Public pay telephone booths (a) in a suitable location on the Main Road at Porey Spring, St. Thomas (b) ditto at Sturges, St. Thomas?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:

The matter was taken up with the Barbados Telephone Co. Ltd. and the Porey

Spring Road has been added to the Company's list of Public pay telephone sites to be served. The Company is however not in a position to supply the Sturges area with a pay station at this stage due to the lack of facilities in the area. The needs of the area will however be borne in mind.

Mr. ADAMS: With great respect, of course, Sir, this business of erasing from the record I appreciate in certain contexts, but one of these days it is going to give a difficult problem in court. It is erased from the record contrary to the Standing Orders. At some stage a Judge is going to be in a position to say the Speaker was wrong and should not have done it.... (Asides) Don't mind that, don't mind whether Judges run for Parliament, sometimes very spectacular things are said in here and they are therefore repeatable by virtue of the Parliamentary (Privileges and Immunities) Act, so when they are struck from the record they cause some difficulties with proof in court, and it is going to happen one of these days that the courts are going to find themselves in conflict with the House in their domain, and the conduct of the Presiding Officers is going to be in a position to be commented on outside. I am not objecting to this, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am in my own domain now, and I have asked that it be erased. May I hear your supplementary?

Mr. ADAMS: Nobody has raised a point of order that it is improper, but it cannot be struck out according to the rules. Has the Minister made any representations to the Telephone Company that the Sturges area is in fact in need of a public telephone, bearing in mind that certain individuals, including Dr. Ward, Mr. Streat and others, have telephones in the area?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: We have made representation to the Barbados Telephone Company for services in that area, but going by their letter of reply, they state they are not yet in a position to service the area because of a lack of facilities in that area and the people in that area will have to make alternative arrangements for the time being.

QUESTION RE THE UNSAFE CONDITION OF CERTAIN ROAD JUNCTIONS IN ST. PHILIP

Mr. SPEAKER: Question No. 90 in the name of the hon. member for St. Philip North.

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

To ask the appropriate Minister: Is the Minister aware that the cross roads at the junction of Mangrove, Oldbury and Foursquare in the constituency of Saint Philip South have been the scene of a number of serious collisions in the past six years? If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister immediately install traffic lights at the said junction for the safety of all persons using these roads? Further will the Minister state (a) the number of collisions at the said junction between January 1, 1970 and March 19, 1976 and (b) the number of persons who have (1) suffered personal injuries (2) died.

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, the reply is as follows:

Available statistics show that a total of 13 accidents occurred at the Mangrove and Foursquare junction during the period 1/1/70 – 19/3/76. Eight of the accidents resulted in injuries to eleven persons and two of the accidents were fatal.

Since caution signs were erected in 1973, there has been a marked decrease in the number of accidents. It is not proposed to install traffic lights at this junction.

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, will the Minister tell us how many persons died as a result of these accidents?

Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, with your permission I will re-read the first paragraph of the answer.
3.10 p.m.

Mr. SIMMONS: My apologies, Sir. I did not hear that part the first time he read it.

Mr. SPEAKER: That brings us to the end of Question Time. No. 93 was called earlier; the hon. member was not in her place, and the reply was laid. It is now Private Members' Business.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 1.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, when we were last doing Private Members' Business, I think, Item 8 on the Order Paper was under discussion. The Hon. Minister of Health was speaking when time expired, and I believe that he would be willing to complete his contribution to this particular measure.

Mr. SPEAKER: Before he does that, I would advise that you move that No. 8, under Private Members' Business, be the instant Order of the Day.

Mr. HINDS: I so move, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SIMMONS: I beg to second that.

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

RESOLUTION RE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DAY CARE CENTRE AND A NURSERY SCHOOL

Mr. SPEAKER: When Private Members' Business expired, the Hon. Minister of Health was speaking. He may continue with his discourse, if he so desires.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: Mr. Speaker, before the Hon. Minister makes any reply, I should like to make a contribution to the debate.

Mr. SIMMONS: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will bring to the attention of the hon. member, who has just got up, that the Hon. Minister of Health was speaking as a member of this House. If he has concluded his speech, I should like to know, or if he wishes to continue, he may do so.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: If you will let me know what time I have – if it is unlimited time – I can continue, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: When your time is up, you will be warned by the Chair.

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: I am certain of that, Mr. Speaker. I thank you. I would say that this Resolution presents a certain difficulty to the Government, not in terms of the principle of providing Day Nurseries and Nursery Schools, because Government's policy in this particular area is well known; but the Resolution itself speaks in terms of establishing a Day Care Centre and a Nursery School and other suitable facilities first of all, at a specific site, the site of the St. Cecilia Barracks, which has already been allocated for other activities, and is, therefore, not available for this particular purpose.

The general principle of this Resolution concerning the establishment of Day Nurseries and the establishment of Nursery Schools is a well accepted plank of the Government's policy. Indeed, the record of the Government in this

regard is outstanding, certainly, when compared with the record of the Party on the other side on your left, Mr. Speaker. As I understand it, most of the Day Nurseries in this country were started by private enterprise, by voluntary associations, or persons moved by some philanthropic motive, and they operated without aid and without much, if any, assistance from the Government of that day, with the exception of, I believe, the Day Nursery in St. Peter, the Indian Ground Day Nursery, which attracted some assistance from the Government of the day. Most of the Day Nurseries were started by the present Government, or were incorporated into Government's programme by the present. In this regard, therefore, our record in terms of providing facilities and care for those young people in this community who, for one reason or another, are unable to meet the day-to-day requirements of living, all of this is attributable to the present Government.

For the purpose of record, I should just like to give the following information:

The Children's Goodwill League was started in 1938, and was taken over by the Central Government in 1970.

The Joan Arundell Day Nursery was started, I believe, in September, 1960, and was incorporated either during the late 1960s, or thereafter.

The Nightingale Black Rock Home was started in October, 1961, and was taken over in 1969. This is the type of pattern. All of these developments took place during the 1960s after this Government developed its policy of realising that young people who are without the necessary facilities should be adequately provided for, and also made provision for those working mothers who had to look after their children and had to go out to work, and who were, therefore, faced with a problem or finding accommodation for their children. The policy of the Government is well known.

I can name the others, Mr. Speaker:

The Belleplaine Centre was opened in January, 1962.

The Golden Rock facility at Pine Lands was opened in December, 1963.

Grazettes was opened in 1965.

Sayes Court was opened in 1966.

Thorpes was opened in 1966.

Colleton was opened in 1967.

Ellerton was opened in 1967.

Bagatelle was opened in 1968. I am certain the hon. member for St. Thomas is well aware of that particular factor, and he commends the Government for its policy in terms of providing care for the Parish of St. Thomas.

3.20 p.m.

There is Pleasant Hall in St. Matthias, Christ Church in 1968, the Farm in Deacons Road in July 1970, New Haven in Silver Hill, a new centre, in 1974, and Eden Lodge in 1974. These are the Day Nurseries in this country and have all been provided by this Government and effectively taken over by this Government and successive Ministers of Health in this country on this side of the House led by the sterling work of the present Leader of the House who had a formative hand in this particular regard; our colleague the hon. member for St. Michael South West also had a hand in this, followed by the hon. member for St. Michael North Central. So our record in this regard is outstanding.

We do not have any quarrel with a Resolution calling on the Government to provide Day Nurseries because that is what they did not do on that side of the House, and that is what we have been doing; so if they ask us to do what we have been doing, we say "yes we will do it", because this is our policy and in recognition of the fact that in their day — they like to forget it, Mr. Speaker — they did nothing to further the policy of providing day care for the young children and the working mothers of this country. I think generally speaking that the facts are there to establish what I am saying.

I am sorry, Mr. Speaker; let me not forget the hon. member for St. Michael North East who also played an important part when she was on this side of the House before erring days came about made an important contribution towards the developments of the resources of our young people in this country. We are generous and we recognise that type of contribution. So, Mr. Speaker, I am constrained to move an amendment to this particular Resolution. As it is I think the public of Barbados realises that it is already Government policy to make this type of provision.

Let me however say a few words about the Day Nursery. There is a Day Nursery existing in the city of Bridgetown, and as I indicated on the last occasion when I was speaking, this Day Nursery was there. It is true that it was not custom built for the purpose of accommodating young children, but it has been adapted to that purpose. The hon. member for Bridgetown seems to have been under some illusion or misapprehension that the Day Nursery was not there, but that it had closed down or that it was only up to roof level and therefore there were no children and no staff in that particular facility. I would like to say that there is at the moment a population in the Children's Goodwill League of some 103 persons of whom 71 are from the parish of St. Michael, and in the St. Michael numbers some 29 are city residents, and we have had no complaints in the Ministry of Health that the residents of the City are unable to make use of the facilities at that centre. So there is a Day Nursery in the city of Bridgetown, it accommodates approximately 103 persons and it is very near. In fact, the fact that it is in the City means that it is available to the residents of the City and I would like to say that we do not wait upon the Opposition to tell us how to develop and extend or expand our policy in respect of day care for the young children, because we realise the economic and social implications of providing this type of facility, and without any question or prompting or suggestion or nudging from the Opposition benches or from the hon. member for the City, this Government decided that it was going to provide a new facility to replace the existing centre at Constitution Road. I am certain that this is well known to all of us on this side as well as all of them on that side, including the hon. member for the City. So I would not like her to be misled into believing otherwise. I am certain it is well known on this side and on that side that it was a previous Minister and a Parliamentary Secretary, the hon. member for St. Michael North East who developed this policy, and the building is proceeding according to plans and it will represent an increase over the accommodation presently available. It will provide accommodation for some 120 children including 40 babies and 80 toddlers, and the floor space will be divided among a play room for toddlers, a dormitory, dining room, lavatory and bath, baby room, laundry, kitchen, facilities for staff and caretaker and enclosed out-door play area. This is what we believe the City deserves and this is what we will be providing, and the hon. member for the City can rest assured that when we are returned to power in 1976 — I have not got down to 1981 yet — we will invite her to come to the opening and see the type of facilities that

we provide for the young children and the infants of this country. Even though she will not be in the House at that time, we will certainly extend an invitation and I am certain that she will come and give the necessary tribute and express thanks on behalf of the people of the City.

There was another aspect to the question and it related to Nursery Schools. Here again this is part of the policy of this Government to establish nursery schools, but quite naturally with the many demands that are placed upon our resources we have not been able to expand nursery schools as fast as we would wish because here again we believe that such schools play a very important part in the social and educational development of the people of this country. That is why we opened a nursery school at Government Hill; that is why we opened a nursery school at Erdiston; that is why we opened a nursery school at Eden Lodge, and that is why it is our current policy to make use of the infant departments in primary schools where such space is available for taking in these children. We recognise the need for this, so we cannot have any quarrel with this Resolution. It is already Government policy, but we have to take the matter within the context of the needs of the whole Island, and in as much as the City already has this facility, we are not saying that other facilities will not be developed, but it has to be in competition with other areas and against that background and realising that we have no quarrel with the basic principle of the Resolution, I would wish to move the following amendment to the Resolution which under the Standing Orders is relevant to the motion that we are considering.

3.30 p.m.

The amendment would be as follows:—

Whereas there is need in the City of Bridgetown for day care centres — Mr. Speaker it presents a problem because I admit that the principle is acceptable to us, but there are certain clauses in the Resolution which we would like struck out of the Resolution—the reference to St. Cecilia Barracks because this particular site is just not available, and I would ask that these words be deleted, and the Resolution would therefore read:—

Whereas there is need in Barbados for additional Day Care Centres and Nursery Schools;

And whereas the Government is committed to the policy of establishing Day Nurseries and Nursery Schools on an island-wide basis;

Be it resolved that this Government continue its policy of providing Day Care Centres and Nursery Schools for the people of Barbados subject to the availability of resources for this purpose.

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

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, after hearing the Minister of Health, I am minded to make a few observations. It must be remembered that prior to 1961, prior to the coming into power of the present Government that there were in this community people possessed with altruism, and it was through these people that day nurseries and day care centres came into being.

The present Government, Mr. Speaker, can point nowhere in this community to show that since they took office any effort on their part has been made to further and encourage or to do anything on behalf of these people who accepted it as their social responsibility to this community to establish these organisations, these units, in our midst.

We go further and say that the Government cannot state that it has ever attempted at any point to draw on the experience of these well intentioned and well meaning persons to see what contributions they could make or were willing to make to the furtherance and the increasing of the services established.

What we have witnessed is that the Government's approach and attitude, the Government's introduction of yardfowlism into such a delicate situation has torn asunder all of those persons who were willing, and who would make all kinds of sacrifices in the past, to lose interest. These people, like one who established a day nursery in St. Peter, were often people who earned as little as \$40 a month as school teachers, but who are willing to make a sacrifice because they were people who were touched from within and felt themselves part and parcel of providing for the mothers and the little children in our midst.

They were not looking for political honours. They were people who only looked to God to give them something in return for the services they were rendering. They were people who lived among the people, and who saw the need and the suffering of working class mothers, and the necessity to allay the suffering of those little children who had to be left uncared for while their mothers went to the field to head canes, cutting drains, and working for 14 or 18 cents a day.

Those were the people who were concerned that if a mother had to make a contribution in the fields for five days and have to go back on Saturdays to the same plantation to buy a few holes of sweet potatoes or cassava with which to make bread or something to sustain the soul and body of these starving children.

Let the Government rise and deny that the Government's attitude is not destroying completely the contribution of these people in this country. There are outstanding cases like the late Madam Ifill and Mrs. Hall, and Miss Parris from St. Peter. What these people did was to provide day care centres, but Government's attitude has brought nothing but mistrust and disgust to those who pioneered this work in this country. There were people like the late Mr. John Beckles who did nothing looking for honours. He was a man who knew what it was to be hungry. He knew what it meant to have three children going to bed at night, and when they were hungry the mother would snuff out the lamp and the children would close their eyes and go to sleep.

3.40 p.m.

That is the type of history, Mr. Speaker, associated with the founding of these day nurseries in this country. If the Government had the right attitude, the right approach to this problem — there are people in our midst who say today that if the Government would give some sort of incentive, some sort of encouragement, they would be prepared to make their own contribution, to make their own sacrifices to see that more day nurseries are established in our midst.

Mr. Speaker, the responsibility today is a very grave one, and it is not for any Minister of Government to just get up and read out that we have this day nursery at Belleplaine.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I would like to speak to members in the adjoining room. They are disturbing. Please speak in undertone.

Mr. HINDS: It is not enough, Mr. Speaker, for any Hon. Minister to get up and read out that we have this here, we have this there, and what not, but let the Government tell us in the setting up of these estates, in the setting up of these housing schemes, how many of them except perhaps for the Farm at St. Michael, how many of them do we see that provision is made for, because you must understand that the moment you establish a housing estate.....

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, if the hon. member wants me to tell him I can tell him now if he wishes the information. If he gives way.....

him now if he wishes the information. If he gives way.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Are you giving way?

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: He is asking for the information. I can give him right now.

Mr. HINDS: Mr Speaker, the Minister has all the time, or somebody on his behalf would have all the time to reply.

What we are particularly concerned with, Mr. Speaker, is this; let us get back to the parish of St. Peter. We cannot for any good reason hear from the Government's side that they came and they found the Indian Ground Day Nursery having been established about a quarter of a century ago through the sacrifices of philanthropic people in the parish of St. Peter, and then that the Government seeing the good work of these people, the voluntary service that these people have been rendering for almost a quarter of a century, that Government would say it would set about then to match the action of these people in providing similar facilities in any other part of the parish.

This Honourable House, Mr. Speaker, gave unanimous assent to establishing a day nursery at Boscobelle in St. Peter many years ago resulting from my actions in this Honourable House. It also agreed to establish similar facilities at the Grave Yard in St. Lucy, Mr. Speaker.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Again, to hon. members in the adjoining room your voices are disturbing the debate in here. Please speak in undertones.

Mr. HINDS: Yes, Mr. Speaker. Nowhere can you find that Boscobelle in St. Peter where there are hundreds of working mothers having to leave their children uncared for, having to make all sorts of sacrifices, nowhere can you find that the Government has demonstrated any intention of providing the necessary facilities for the benefit of the vast number of children who we know to be suffering as a result of the Government's lack of action. What you will find, Sir, as in the case of the Indian Ground Day Nursery, is that the Government became so unmindful, they demonstrated such lack of consideration for the needs of Indian Ground, that the Government was considering establishing at Mile and a Quarter in St. Peter a facility, a Day Care Centre to provide for children who live at Indian Ground.

There could be nothing more nonsensical. It would show, Mr. Speaker, that the Government

has not yet carried out a survey in this country as to the numbers to be cared for, it has not yet carried out a survey as to the numbers in a respective district to be catered to and it has not yet carried out any sort of a survey in truth and in fact to determine what are the true requirements for Day Care Centres and things of that sort in this country. It would mean therefore, Mr. Speaker, that Government has been toying with the idea for just too long.

We appreciate Mr. Speaker, that you cannot have all of these centres which are required, built all in one year. That could never happen; but you will find, Mr. Speaker, that we are hearing time and again that any action on the part of the Government depends upon the improvement of our economic situation. Our economic circumstances dictate, in other words, the pace at which these facilities must be provided.

What we are asking the Government to do is to throw its hands out; we are asking the Government once more to set about to give some sort of encouragement to those people who really and truly feel that they themselves are part of suffering humanity. We are asking the Government to give an opportunity to those people who know what it is to care for a suffering child, who have an interest in caring for suffering children. We are asking the Government to set up a National Council or something of the sort to advise Government as to the necessity for establishing a Day Care Centre here and a Day Care Centre there and a Day Care Centre elsewhere, and to assist the Government in arranging the priority requirements of specific areas in this particular matter.

It is not a case where because of the Government having its support in a particular area that they say let me go and establish a centre there as against one in some other area that did not support the Government at a general election. That is not the way we must go about it at all. You do not pay taxes like this. You pay taxes, if the taxes are levied at 25 cents in the dollar or whatever it is, on everybody. When you legislate, you legislate for everybody to pay taxes this way. You do not say some will pay twenty five cents and some pay twenty three cents and some pay fifty cents and some forty cents. You do not do it like this. Whether you support the Government or not at an election you have got to pay the taxes.

What we are asking is this, Mr. Speaker, that until the Government is satisfied, until the Government has been told in no uncertain terms of the suffering of the mothers in these cases —

and what do we find, Mr. Speaker? We are establishing some of these centres as the hon. Minister has been able to read out to us, but what kind of service is provided at some of these centres?

3.50 p.m.

The service provided today, Mr. Speaker, we want to say is not the same type of service that was provided in the old John Beckles day. A nurse or any other type of person attached to the service in those days was in truth and in fact somebody who had been brought from amongst these poor children, who, when they held the children in their arms, felt they were holding their own children. That is the type of care and attention that was given, but today the children are being cared according to the party card that you hold. If you hold the right party card you are there, and that is the measure of the service that is being rendered at this particular moment. (Hon. C. E. TALMA: That is not true). Don't tell me, Mr. Speaker, that that is not true. (Mr. SPEAKER: I have not said anything). The Hon. Leader of the House is there suggesting that that is not so. We are saying that the majority of the persons who are employed at these day nurseries have been recruited not because they have demonstrated previously or on any occasion that they have love for children, that they care for children; nothing of the kind. They were selected on a party card basis, and when they are selected on a party card basis they are not responsible to anybody at all, they are concerned with seeing that the hours of the clock go by and they are dismissed or something of the sort.

I want to make a point here because what might be advanced is this, that the type of service is such that a former Speaker of this House took his child each morning, an infant child, to the day care centre at the Farm in St. Michael, and that might be held out to us as an example of the type of service provided, but we want to say on this side of the House that it was the depravity of the Speaker who prevented other deserving cases from entering into that day nursery. He deprived other people who in truth and in fact could not do otherwise than to depend on this type of service. That is the limit to certain things in this country.

We genuinely feel that the provision of day care centres is more than a necessity. The provision, maintenance and improvement of the services generally is the duty of the nation, but we are amazed to find that the Government has played the game in such a way that it now finds itself hamstrung with not a helper, not a helper today

without pay, and I am satisfied, Sir, that we could have had a dozen and perhaps two dozen day nurseries, at least one in each parish, or two to a parish functioning, and that these social workers who didn't look for any lot of honours and a lot of pay and all these things would have organised charity balls, socials, tea parties, whatever it might be, and provided adequate funds for the maintenance of these institutions. Our society is now bereft of all of this, has been stripped of all of this, Mr. Speaker, and those occasions where they held tea parties and these functions to raise money to support these institutions, those functions in themselves provided an occasion for mixing, for people to know for themselves and discuss the problems as they confront other mothers.

I debated in this Hon. House, Mr. Speaker, not so long ago a Resolution which was brought with the intention of drawing Government's attention to the poverty stricken condition in which a family lived at Church Street Gardens in St. Peter. I am to tell you, Sir, and I must repeat on this occasion something that I said then, that the Rector of St. Peter's Parish Church on the day that lady was buried — I speak of Elmena Mascoll — had this to say about that good lady. That she was one of those people who felt that her own clothes were not good enough for her to attend Church on Sundays but she saw to it nevertheless that her little children attended Church each Sunday, that they were inside while she remained outside in the churchyard. So that Rector Brome had this to say about her, that poor and desolate as this woman might have been, she gave all she had to God. In other words, she saw to it each Sunday that she presented her children to be in church worshipping. She felt that her clothes did not merit her taking a place inside the church, but nevertheless she saw to it that her children were there.

Mr. Speaker, I bring those few words to you to let us understand and realise how intimate this matter of caring for children is, to bring to Your Honour's attention how deep the feeling must be. It is not this kind of water-washed system that we now have, when you are talking about children you are talking about the feeling of blood running through the veins of people, that people who go to care for children of such delicate and tender ages must be people who are concerned about children and their upbringing.

We heard in this Hon. House just a few days ago about a visit being paid to a house where it was found that the mother had tied a child to

the bedstead foot or the table foot or something of the sort and had gone out trying to earn bread or whatever it was to feed these children, but that was the situation which confronted her in the house. Mr. Speaker, how concerned must a Government be when such revelations can be made on the floor of this House that such a situation exists in a community such as this? We are hearing everywhere of progress, how this country has progressed, everything is advancing and what not, but here it is you will find that children are still advancing being tied to the bedstead foot when their mothers have to go out looking for bread, biscuits, milk and what not to feed the same children. That is the type of advancement this country has to look at. We must not be hypocrites in this situation. The question of establishing day nurseries is important and more important, Mr. Speaker, than going to buy ships, spending \$14 million to buy ships to move about cement that they haven't even begun to establish or manufacture or anything of the sort.

Hon. G. G. FERGUSSON: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I wonder where the hon. member got this idea from about \$14 million? Saying what a ship would be worth or what it would cost to put a ship in condition is not what was paid for it. I don't like to hear this kind of thing.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order. The hon. member has two minutes to conclude his speech. 4.00 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: I thought the Hon. Minister had got up thinking that I had said Carlton Brathwaite had bought the ship overseas and then sold it to the Government. I thought he had got up about that, but I have not said that yet. I have not said that Carlton Brathwaite bought it and then sold it to the Government for this new sum.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no Carlton Brathwaite under discussion at the moment.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The hon. member quoted a figure of \$14 million. I want to draw to the attention of this House that the amount is \$1.4 million and not \$14 million, and it is a very misleading statement.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, they intend spending \$14 million in providing ships. That is what is worrying them. They intend spending \$14 million to ferry about cement that they may never manufacture. What is worrying them is how we

know this. They also intend spending \$10 million in election expenses in order to get back into the House.

Mr. SPEAKER: I want to hear about the Day Care Centre.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, I was speaking about the Day Nurseries, but the Hon. Minister rose to tell us something about ships and every sort of thing. What we are saying is that if a ship were bought for 25 cents, we suggest that, at this particular time, the same 25 cents, or whatever the amount is.... (*Asides.*) I am being heckled, Sir. Mr. Speaker, I cannot carry on the debate under such conditions.

Mr. SPEAKER: Will hon. members on the Government bench please speak in undertones. (*Asides.*) If the hon. member for St. Philip South wants to speak, he will have to stand and address the Chair. If I can hear his voice I will speak to him, or tell him what I want him to do. He knows the Rules because he was in here for many years. You may proceed.

Mr. HINDS: He says he is running again, Sir. He comes here today in battle dress to show that he is on the battle field.

Mr. SPEAKER: Your time is running out. I have given you two minutes.

Mr. HINDS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I appreciate that very much. What we are saying is that it is a question of Government getting its priorities right. The necessity arises for, at least, two more Day Nurseries in the parish of St. Peter alone. I cannot state with any degree of certainty what are the requirements for other constituencies, but I say in the parish of St. Peter alone we need more Day Nurseries than the present Indian Ground Day Nursery. I have already given an accurate description of conditions obtaining there. The place is rat-infested, and members of the staff each day are armed with broom sticks in order to prevent the rats from biting the children. That is the situation at the Indian Ground Day Nursery, Sir. We are asking the Government, in this Resolution, to provide a Day Nursery and whatever else there is to be provided, if not at the St. Cecilia Barracks — the Minister says that it is already earmarked for something else — at some other suitable site within the City of Bridgetown.

Mr. Speaker, the by-election in the City provided hon. members on the other side of the House with an opportunity of knowing the hovels, the rat traps, and everything else where

to the day nurseries. I know they had plans, but I do not know what has happened recently. When I was there it was fine, but I do not know what has happened since.
4.20 p.m.

I know that when the former Minister was there he really wanted to encourage more persons to take over some of these social centres on a voluntary basis, but will people go all out to do this kind of work and to throw themselves into it when they still have to pay plenty of taxes? I say this because very little is taken off in income tax for welfare. This has to do with senior citizens and with children. Since I have resigned from the Government Party I have asked for a report on the work that has been done, and that report has not been given to me. I do not understand the Government's policy in trying to hold me back pressing me down or trying to stop me from doing what I want to do; because the persons who are responsible for taking the senior citizens' money — it was done through an organisation — but because there were more members of the Democratic Labour Party on the Committee that they are saying that I cannot have a report, that they are not going to give me pictures as regards houses that are being repaired and so on.

How can I give my money if no one wants to give me any report on a thing like this? I suppose that what the member for St. Peter was speaking about was a similar case about some person who would like to do work in the day nurseries and in other child care areas. The Government must be big. They must not be so narrow minded. If people are willing to do something, encourage them. Do not feel that you should only encourage them when they are voting for you. They are all Barbadians; but this thing called politics goes a long way. It goes very deep, and we can see now how serious it is getting; it seems now that the Government thinks that they will be on top and they are riding the horse to victory, and they go on trying to stop me from saying what I can do and what I have done. If they continue they will end up sitting on the Opposition bench, because I will be forced to do what I really did not intend to do, and I do not intend to declare it yet.

I agree that the day nurseries are essential to this country, especially for working mothers, and not only for working mothers, but for those who are completely incapable of taking care of their children. Some of them are too young and some are inexperienced; and if it is the Government's policy to continue to be responsible for all of the day nurseries instead of bringing voluntary effort into the picture, naturally it will come out of the taxpayers.

What I would like to see is a voluntary effort put up by private enterprise and business communities; because we know that wherever you have industrial estates, some of these people who are responsible for the estates should be made to put up day nurseries : so that the Government would not have all the burden. When we say the Government, we have to remember that the Government does not get money from a well. It has to borrow some, naturally, but most of it has to come from the taxpayers who are hard working people. I too am one of those hard working people.

I do not mind giving generously especially if it is for the development and betterment of my country; but I want to know that the Government has its priorities right, and that the Government is making plans at this stage to analyse the situation and see how many day nurseries are needed, the areas where day nurseries are absolutely necessary according to the population of the infants in these areas.

Let the Government come up with a set plan; but just do not go ahead with putting day nurseries in a few constituencies of Ministers for the sake of putting them there, but in areas that are absolutely necessary and where the children will benefit. We know that the Government has also introduced an educational programme within the day nurseries, which is a very good thing. I do not know how well this is going on, but I hope that it will be in each day nursery because children start to learn very early, and I hope and pray that the educational system will be changed so that at an early stage we could see, for instance, Spanish being taught, because we are in close contact with Spanish speaking people within the area, and so I think that these children should be taught to speak Spanish as early as possible.

I think that we wait until too late to give a knowledge of a language to children. If Spanish is to be a second language, they should be made familiar with it, and it should be around them most of the time. I as a mother and grandmother, very well know that children learn from as early as three years old, and their retention at that age is very much better. That is why we have to feed them with the right material at this particular stage. There is the T.V. media which the Government can use for these children during the day time even if they do not have the expertise or the money to pay for qualified persons within the day nurseries. They can put on a set of television programmes and let the children watch them. I know from experience in North America that a lot of T.V. programmes are geared to the

children during the day time, and the children learn a lot more so than by going to school and being taught.

I have a grand daughter who is just four and a half years old, and what she knows from T.V. as an educational unit is what perhaps I am now trying to acquire. She is very well advanced for her age. I think that that is what should be done for these children because the children of this country are very bashful and inhibited and do not know how to use their words; but this little girl speaks a little French. She knows how to handle herself. I want to see all Barbadian children in a position such as this.

I am not crying down our educational system, but I am trying to point out a few things that can help. It needs a radical change. I have not heard of any policies for this, so I do not know. I know that the Minister of Education talks a great deal, but he does not seem to be a man for the radical change which must be geared towards the children of this country and the people of this country; because you may say that some of the people are getting a little old; but although they are old, they still have a contribution to make.

We have to make sure that the youth through the day nurseries are taken care of as much as possible. The day nurseries are vital areas, and should be staffed and served not only by people with certificates, but by those who love children.

4.30 p.m.

It is necessary to get people who like children and who understand how to deal with them and who would be gentle with them, because love is the important factor in the day nurseries, and in my work when I was in the Ministry of Health and Welfare

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has two minutes to conclude.

Mrs. EASTMOND: Thank you. I know what it was to see children given love and attention. They thrive on it. They are better children, and this nation would be a better nation if the children are fed and nourished; and I do not mean with the milk and with the biscuits and with the necessary food. That is important; but I mean, with love, and with the right foods which are good to give them strong bones and to make their brain as good as possible because these children should be far better and make better politicians than we have in this House, and I pray

and hope that even if I do not live to see it, that my children and my grandchildren will live to see what I have been fighting for — a better and a more forceful and really powerful fighting race that is to come and take over from us, because some of us when we are fighting, we are fighting to keep ourselves in parliament and fighting for the good things that the job offers; but what I want to see is these young people being educated to fight to keep other people alive, to keep their country going and to make sure that Barbados remains a proper, social democratic country.

Mr. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, it was after I listened very carefully to the address of the hon. member for St. Peter that I decided to speak on this Resolution. Now when this party took over the reins of Government in this country I was appointed Minister of Health and Social Services responsible for Day Nurseries. At that time we had five or six Day Nurseries in the country and like the hon. member for St. Peter I would like to pay tribute to people like John Beckles, Madam Ifill, Florence Daysh, Lady Scott and those people like Mrs Zimmerman, Mrs. Symmonds and Mrs. Hall, people who gave of their time and their talents and who have contributed to the establishment and the carrying on of these day nurseries; but I want to advise the hon. member for St. Peter. It was all well and good when those people were doing it. What has happened is that at one point in time — the hon. member does not know this, the Mrs. Daysh has had to pay all the expenses in the Bay Land. At one point in time, Mr. Speaker, ...

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. She was able to do it.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Mr. EDWARDS: At one point in time the one at St. Barnabas could not be opened. We had a situation where people would go there during the day and get nothing to eat. This was the situation that we have had going on in this country when the voluntary efforts failed to raise money to meet the demands and needs of the day nurseries. The people who ran those Day Nurseries — let the hon. member get his facts — it was those Committees that made recommendation to the Government to play a more active part and indeed to take over the functions of these Day Nurseries and to pay the staff.

The Government did take over these Day Nurseries voluntarily. What happened is that the standard of the Day Nurseries was reducing. You had a situation where the children could not be

fed, where they could not get proper clothing, and representation was made to the Government and it was in this context that the Government decided to take over, and seeing the need for the establishment of more Day Nurseries the Government established these Day Nurseries; and I want to allay any fears or to correct any misrepresentation made by any hon. member in here who suggests that Day Nurseries are only placed by the Government in the constituencies of the Ministers. It is untrue to say so, it is vicious and it is wicked if anyone says so. Which Minister represents the Pine? This Government built a Day Nursery in the Pine Housing Area. It does not have a Minister representing the Pine now or when it was built.

The Grazettes Day Nursery; which Minister of the Government represents Constitution Road where a new one is being built. So it is untrue and it is misleading to suggest that Day Nurseries are only provided by this Government in the constituencies of Ministers. On the other hand, — the hon. member for St. Peter did not say but it was said — I want to know which Minister of this Government represents Pleasant Hall where the Government has established in that Pleasant Hall Housing Area, a Day Nursery. I want to know which Minister represents.....

Mr. CRAIG: On a point of order, Sir. At that time it was double member constituency and the Leader of the House represented Christ Church. If you do not understand a thing, sit down.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Order. Two members are on their feet.

Mr. CRAIG: Pleasant Hall was there long before there were single member constituencies. A lot of bluffing and a lot of wild stupid talk.

Mr. EDWARDS: Mr. Speaker, I want to know which Minister in this Government represents Thorpes.....

Mr. CRAIG: I can tell him who represent Thorpes.

Mr. SPEAKER: What have you risen on?

Mr. CRAIG: The hon. member for St. James will always represent Thorpes. Thorpes was there long before there was a Craig and it will be there whenever there is a Craig.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point.

Mr. EDWARDS: Does the hon. member represent Thorpes? I doubt whether he ever went

into the Day Nursery at Thorpes or had anything to do with the Day Nursery. What I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is that it is misleading for anyone to come in here to say that the Government did not establish or create an atmosphere where people can voluntarily operate these Day Nurseries; and I want to prove to you, Sir. When we established the Grazettes Day Nursery we solicited volunteers to look after the administration of this Day Nursery and to raise funds. It was extremely difficult to get people to do it, not because of the fact that the Government did not encourage, because we did encourage. We increased subvention to the Day Nurseries, we co-operated in every aspect with the Committees that ran these Day Nurseries. When they came in to complain that there were no funds to run these Day Nurseries we found means to providing funds to assist them.

When the one at St. Barnabas could not feed the children who were there, we saw to it that it was done, and they have had myriad problems, Mr. Speaker, and it was because of the myriad problems that they had that the Government decided that in the interest of the people of this country, in the interest of the working class people of this country, it was full time for Government to provide not only the funds for feed, not only the funds for clothing, not only the funds for paying the staff, but to have trained staff operating and administering these Day Nurseries.

Today the majority of the people if not all, who are employed at these Day Nurseries are assured of their salaries at the end of the month, they are assured of proper training, and any person sending a child to one of the Day Nurseries operated by this Government, knows and can rest assured that the child is going to get the maximum amount of care and attention.

I go further. It has been suggested, Mr. Speaker, that the people who are employed in these Day Nurseries are the yard fowls of this party. Not true. If the people appointed are yard fowls, I want to make it abundantly clear that the people of the Committee are people with a high reputation, people who are impartial, people who will not because somebody belong to the DLP appoints them — and we were not partisan in our appointment of a Committee because there are people who are members of the other side who are on these Committees and who do an excellent job in administering the day nurseries.

4.40 p.m.

They do an excellent job, not because they may have a son or daughter on the other side,

but because they believe in Barbados and because they are Barbadians and they feel they have a contribution to make to Barbados. It is dishonest of anybody to say that the Head of the Child Care Board or anybody responsible for the day nurseries would appoint a member of the staff to work in any of these day nurseries because they have some particular political persuasion. This is not true, it is not happening and I know it will not happen under the committee as it is constituted right now.

Mr. SPEAKER: According to Standing Order 20(3) it is 4.45 p.m. and that is the end of Private Members' Time.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, I wonder if the Leader of the House would extend Private Members' Time for another hour. I believe he will do this to get rid of this Resolution which has been on the Order Paper for two Tuesdays now. I am appealing to him to use his better judgement on this occasion.

Hon. C. E. TALMA: As far as I am aware, Mr. Speaker, there are many more members, including myself, who intend speaking in order to set the record straight.

Mr. SPEAKER: No speeches allowed. It is 4.45 p.m. and that is the end of Private Members' Time. Government Business is the instant Order of the Day.

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

On the motion of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee of Supply, Mr. LOWE in the Chair.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When progress was reported the hon. member for St. Michael West was on his feet. If he wishes to resume he may do so now.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, as I was developing the point about the organisation of sport, I would like to make it clear that I do not subscribe to the view that by voting money for sport you are going to do the job in the way it should be done, or even watching other countries. Sport in my view requires a professional understanding of organisation and methods, and there must be a professional approach brought to this aspect of our national life. No longer must it be taken that it is sport, that somebody gets the idea that you are now making sport, and that is how you look upon sport. There is too much of an unprofessional approach to this work, and that is why the higgledy-piggledy approach is

still prevalent. Sometimes I hear hon. members making these comparisons and think that the only way you can make a contribution to sport is a contribution at the Olympic Games or at the Pan American Games, but not in relation to what sport would mean to national life, that if you are going to have a building area what are you going to have in the area? What is the whole setting like? So that you are doing something for an age group irrespective of whether any person runs at the Olympic Games, because this is incidental, but it is what is going to happen to children between 5 and 19 an age group that they will be playing games and utilising these things, and what care are you to take for this national investment.

I would like to see all the grounds in the same way the grounds at Kensington Oval, at Windward Cricket Club and Wanderer's Cricket Club and other clubs are taken care of. Members who speak must begin to set new examples for people and make them feel that in their own areas they must have enough national pride that when the public puts something up it belongs to the nation and it is not something to be abused. If we are afraid to tell people these things they will believe that as long as it is the Government's it doesn't require care. You need professional sports officers, people who can organise these things and treat it as a professional aspect of our national life.

I am not concerned with who goes to the Olympic Games or Pan American Games, because that is incidental. Trinidad won a gold medal, but when you think in terms of Russia, the United States and the number of gold medals they are going to get as compared with the population, two hundred million people in the United States of America, two hundred million people in Europe, two hundred million people in South America, how many gold medals will you get per head of the population if the gold medal is going to be the determination about sport as a national issue? This sort of colonial concept that the only time you talk about something is when you can talk about winning a gold medal is nonsense.

The other thing about it is related to coaching. Persons who have participated in any kind of sport — and I have, I know what training means, I am not like people who wait until they get big, we have too many big sportsmen now going around handing out jerseys; are they sportsmen too? They are exploiters — but I am talking now about people who have participated, who have trained, who know what it is to get up early on mornings and train, who know what it is to talk about physical training and know what it requires. I am not talking about any old goats

who wait until the last of their days to talk about handing out something to people, I am talking about training. When you know what training is then you know what sport means and what the application will mean, and therefore what facilities are needed, so when you talk about grounds and facilities where young people can be trained at an early stage — because everybody can't run to where the national ground or the national stadium is to train, and therefore where the schools are you can build those things up. The hon. member for St. Philip North is smiling, but he had some discipline in physical training and he knows what it is, but not for a long time.

4.50 p.m.

He did not have it for a long time. He had it as a school boy. I had it after that period, too. I know what it felt like when I was becoming an adult. You had to do it. You did not do it just because you had the time.

Now, if you have people in Barbados who are really going to get down to the operation of a National Sports Council and make it function so that you will have the benefit of the knowledge of people who are going to sit together and see that there will be a national policy to deal with all of the Parks and open pieces of ground, there should be a national policy for determining where you will put certain things in certain areas, so that you will have a national approach to this question of sport and make it fit in to your national policy so that people would have a better understanding of sport and what sport means as it relates to a national effort.

Mr. GREAVES: Mr. Chairman, I should like to make a short contribution on this item, which is presently before the House. The Note to Item 10 indicates that we are today considering the provision of \$150,000.00 to implement a revised programme of capital works aimed at increasing the number of public playing fields and hardcourts as a basis for accelerating the growth of organised sport. Mr. Chairman, as all hon. members will, no doubt, say, I am glad to see that this policy is being put into operation at this time. I would have hoped that we would have been able to see, at an earlier point, some action in this particular area. Nevertheless, as the saying goes, better late than never. When we are examining the implementation of a policy such as this, I think that the hon. member for St. Michael West has stated, about the establishment of a National Sports Council to organise in a general way the whole question of sport and all aspects of sports within this country, is a point which has to be taken into consideration.

I would, Mr. Chairman, like to go even further and to suggest that, from a parochial or community type of operation, we should also be giving consideration and, indeed, encouragement to the establishment and creation of sporting activities within various communities of people. One would hope that this would be done on a voluntary basis, and that people, who have an interest in sport, would develop programmes to fit in the whole national policy — sporting programmes as they relate to that particular community. I am sure that if you get this voluntary approach where people in a particular community take an interest and, indeed, develop programmes to utilise the playing field which will be provided and which, no doubt, will be upgraded, that will go a far way in regulating and providing the kind of facilities which are necessary in the various communities throughout this country.

At some playing fields — I am speaking from my knowledge of the one in St. Lucy, Rockfield playing field — there are clashes with the various clubs, which utilise the playing field, whether cricket clubs, football clubs, or the netball clubs which play on that particular playing field. I would hope that every opportunity would be taken for some proper co-ordination of activities. I would dare say that this is a problem which not only applies to that particular area, but a problem which raises its head in almost every area in Barbados. When the facilities have been provided, we would want to ensure that a proper system of regulation is established which would enable every group to take advantage of the facilities which would be provided.

It is interesting, as I said, to note that provision is being made to increase the number of public playing fields and hardcourts. I do not think that I would want to apologise, or to feel bad, about having to put in a plug for my constituency and to impress upon the Minister of Sport that I have been asking for a long time now for something to be done to Rockfield playing field. Whenever we have been discussing the question of playing fields, I have been asking about this. I have also asked about it in a Parliamentary Question, and I should like to state at this point that I would hope that something would be done to the Rockfield playing field.

As some hon. members have pointed out, it is one of those playing fields that is not in the best condition. It is not a level playing field, and I would hope that, now we are voting money here to provide public playing fields, some attempt would be made to upgrade some of these playing fields. I am interested in upgrading the

Rockfield playing field to a point where you could have a variety of sporting activities there.

Let me say, Mr. Chairman, that some time ago Kimberley Football Club started playing football at Rockfield playing field. They started in Division IV and moved right up to Division II, winning all the time. They could not go beyond that point because the ground was turned down by the Barbados Football Association. It was not level ground, and it was felt that it was not the type of ground that would encourage topclass football to take place in Barbados. As a result of that, the Club had to look around for some other area in which to play. I hope that the Minister would take note of this, and ensure that an opportunity is provided for this playing field to be levelled.

I would, further, hope that, in the process of levelling this playing field, an attempt would be made to provide, at least, a court where the girls could play netball. This is another area which will have to be taken into consideration, because we have to provide opportunities for everybody within the community. I am sure you will appreciate, Mr. Chairman, that when this playing field is levelled, it will not only provide an opportunity for sports such as cricket, football, and netball, but an opportunity for those who are interested in that area to put on athletic competitions. We have been thinking of this, but our major difficulty has been to find an area where this can be done with relative ease. I would, therefore, hope that the Minister will take this into consideration.

Let me also, Mr. Chairman, make mention of three other areas, which I do not think it will be costly to improve, but I think I should mention them now. One is the playing field behind Selah Primary School. This is a field which is used by the residents of Crab Hill. Crab Hill is a large area in St. Lucy, but there is a drain which runs across a part of the playing field, and I would hope that, in the upgrading programme which is being pursued by the Ministry, it would be looked into and provision would be made to ensure that that difficulty is removed. I am sure that this would go a far way in satisfying the people who use that area. I would also hope, Mr. Chairman, that provision would be made, when one is looking at this, to provide some pavilion on that area.

5 p.m.

Also some facilities should be provided at Clinketts playing field which has been levelled for over a year and there is need for some provision there, and I would therefore hope that

opportunity will be taken at least now that we have some additional money, to look after this particular area. In the Hope Road district residents of the area have been given permission by the Agricultural Development Corporation to use part of the Hope tenantry just above St. Lucy's District Hospital and it is used by two clubs from the area. Again I invite the Hon. Minister to look into the possibility of providing a pavilion or changing room there because right now the youngsters have got to ask for permission to use part of the nurses' quarters, and I hope this will be looked into as urgently as possible.

Let me finally, Mr. Chairman, draw once more to the Minister's attention that about three or so years ago the owners of Lamberts Plantation indicated that they were prepared to give up an area of land in the Glendilough/Rock Hall area which would be used for the residents of that area as a playing field and I would be willing to look up the file with the Minister in which the promise was made so as to look into the possibility of discussing with the owners of that area whether they are still willing to give that area of land for such use. I would hope that with the various requests which are made by the various areas of St. Lucy that at least we would be able to see some action if not on all, at least I would not be unreasonable to expect all the work to be done over night, but I would like to see something done in the not too distant future on most of them, because this will go a far way in ensuring that people in St. Lucy and the other people who want to use these areas would be provided with the opportunity of using these areas, and as I say, I would hope that voluntary assistance would be forthcoming in ensuring that a proper system is set up to regulate the use of these various areas.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Chairman, on numerous occasions the Headteachers of St. Martin's Boys and Girls Schools have drawn to my attention the need for a playing field to serve the pupils of those two schools. I am in a position to state that these two schools are in need of a playing field. I have written the Ministry of Education concerning this matter and I do hope that now that the Ministry is dealing with playing fields that St. Martin's Boys and Girls Schools will be considered.

Now approximately six acres of land which belong to Mangrove Plantation can serve this purpose. I am wondering if the Minister is in a position to state if the Government has purchased that land and if a playing field for St. Martin's Boys and Girls is included in this amount which

we are voting here today. The two schools carry approximately five to six hundred pupils and they have no playing field. The time has come when I do feel that Government should look into this matter and do everything possible to assist the pupils of St. Martin's Boys' and Girls' Schools. I was brought up at that school and I must admit that it never had a playing field, and therefore I can only implore the Minister to do all that he possibly can to give the pupils of these schools a playing field.

Now if the piece of land was bought from Mangrove Plantation, it will not only serve the pupils of the schools but it will also serve a useful purpose for recreation for the residents of the area, and therefore this is an important matter as it will serve the community and will assist in keeping a number of youngsters off the street corners so as to prevent them from getting involved in crimes and so on. I represent the area and it is always my policy to dedicate my life to the people and to do all I possibly can for them, and therefore not because an election is around the corner, not because I am in the battlefield again, I consider it my duty to let the Minister know that I consider a playing field in that area for the children and the community as a top priority, and I do hope he will be able to give me some information on what progress, if any, has been made in purchasing the land for the playing field for the pupils of St. Martin's Boys' and Girls' school and the people in the surrounding district.

Mr. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, we are dealing as we so often do at election time with little bits and pieces for our constituencies, but election time is not only a time for canvassing, it is a time for looking at the broad picture, and it is a time as I conceive it for political parties to try to give some idea of an overall policy on a matter such as playing fields, and this is what I propose to do in the fifteen minutes available to me.

5.10 p.m.

There are few subjects which excite more interest in here than Sports and Playing Fields. We are hearing about St. Martins, and we are going to hear about everybody's constituency; and I am going to put in a plea, just by the way, for the levelling of the playing field at Boscobelle, which I have been talking about for so long; but we must look at the provision of sporting facilities by way of playing fields as a whole, the way that it has been looked at by the member for St. Michael West.

In my view, and in the view of the Barbados Labour Party, playing fields have for too long

been divided under too many authorities. The Housing Authority has its playing fields, various schools have their playing fields and there is a Government playing field at Blenheim which, I dare say, Sir, is attached to the Sports Department. I myself am not sure how many different authorities there are which look after playing fields; but we believe that all playing fields in Barbados should be under one authority, and this authority should be an authority comprised of the Parks and Beaches Commission, the Caves Authority and all bodies who have any responsibility for looking after our environmental heritage, both made by God and made by man.

If the hand of man lies heavily upon Barbados.....There can be few places in the world, perhaps in the Netherlands, Southern England, Northern Italy and small Islands like ourselves, like Bermuda, Singapore and Malta where so much of the environment is man made; and a great deal of what is man made, I fear, is not always very well maintained by man.

We believe that the maintenance of playing fields is little different from the maintenance of Queen's Park in character, and we believe that just as the Parks and Beaches Commission can look after Queen's Park which has a playing field, they could be asked to look after the Housing Authority's playing field, Blenheim and the whole lot. The work is the same and one body should be doing it throughout the country.

Once you establish a common means of control, you can then establish common standards without the difficulties envisaged by the hon. member for St. Lucy, of clubs having grounds which do not meet the standards set by the professional associations for football and cricket. In my opinion, and in the opinion of our party, every playing field should have a groundsman. This is not an unreasonable request. It would provide work for people. We see that the Parks and Beaches Commission was well able to take on immense numbers of staff for the purpose of influencing a by-election. If we are convinced, and if the Government had a serious intention of assisting with out employment difficulties, we would give every playing field in the country a groundsman, and every playing field in this country owned and managed by the Government should have a pavilion — not the expensive type that held down the development of the playing field programme four or five years ago — the Farmers Playing Field in the constituency of the hon. member for St. Andrew which was undeveloped for a long time because it was said that it would take \$24,000 or \$25,000 to develop it, and the Government did not have

the money. I am not referring to that sort of expensive pavilion, but the sort of pavilion that is being put up by the Housing Authority now, although this is only an election gimmick planned for who will be the candidate for St. George North at Charles Rowe Bridge or Lower Estate playing field in the parish of St. George.

We want a more simple type of playing field, and to have playing fields attached to community centres and housing areas. We want a structure that can serve a pavilion — in my opinion we want a complex of buildings with a community centre, a day care centre and also a pavilion. It is not beyond the ability of an architect to devise a similar building which can boast to be a day nursery, a community centre and a pavilion.

That is the playing fields policy of the Barbados Labour Party, and it is one in which we have every confidence that the electorate will assist us to have implemented in the next five years. I want to say something on a point which I made earlier about caretakers, groundsmen, custodians, whatever you call them at the playing fields. The Parks and Beaches Commission have often been supported by our party in here because we believe that the beautification of Barbados and the preservation of what is interesting and attractive in our countryside is a good thing in itself; but you cannot preserve without qualified staff; and we believe that in addition to the training offered at the Technical Institute now, there should be training to assist those persons who are going to work with the Parks and Beaches Commission with techniques that will lead them to perform their duties satisfactorily.

You cannot ask a man to be a groundsman if he does not know anything about varieties of grass, varieties of weeds and what type of weedicide will control what type of grass, and if he cannot give an estimation of the greatest potential of the playing field and if he is not a technician qualified to act as a custodian of an area of vegetation, just as you cannot ask people to be good gardeners unless they have had some training. This is not an area of casual workers anymore, and it should not be.

I see nothing wrong in saying that someone should be sent to the Technical Institute for a few months and taught to recognise plants, recognise grasses and get some idea of what manure can do and proper planning techniques. I know that we still have a lot of skilled gardeners in Barbados, a lot of self taught home gardeners who have learned by a long period of trial and error. I, Sir, am a keen gardener, like, I dare say,

other members of the House; but it has taken me about 15 years to know how to maintain a few common garden plants; how not to kill them, how to water them, if the Minister allows it, and how to manure them if the shifting in the price of manure allows.

I think that people who seek employment with such an authority as I envisage will be all the more motivated to work properly at their task if they are not treated as beasts of burden, as persons who are only qualified to be field labourers, as I feel that the Parks and Beaches Commission sometimes treats some of its staff as people who only take up stones and put them in baskets; I think that people will be more motivated if they have some idea that they have received technical training which will bring technical knowledge into the work which they are expected to do.

We, in our party, believe that such an upgrading of playing fields will show immediate results. We also expect that those who use the playing fields will understand that once the Government has decided to upgrade them, they themselves will have to make some voluntary contribution of a positive sort to improving and maintaining a high standard, as well as the negative attitude such as not messing up the areas or destroying the pavilions. Give people self respect, and they will respect themselves, and they will respect you. Give them a goal to aim at and they will achieve that goal.

5.20 p.m.

We believe that the expansion of the sporting facilities envisaged by our programme will be of a great benefit to Barbados, we believe that the economic and employment opportunities that will be set by such a programme will be of great benefit to the youth of this country, we believe that some of the abuses for which the Parks and Beaches Commission has been used will be entirely eliminated by the employment of professional or at least trained staff, we believe that the time wasted in creating institutions like the Caves Authority can be saved and the salaries paid to the Rev. Holmes Williams and others in the Caves Board can be applied to giving some boys and girls fresh out of school, a job, if the Caves Authority is amalgamated with the Parks and Beaches and on the whole given these wider directions, and all in all we think that this is the type of programme for playing fields that must be offered to the people of Barbados in this year of grace, 1976.

Mrs. EASTMOND: Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister if any consideration

will be given to the Arsenal Playing field in the Jackson area. That is a playing field that has been used for a long time by the youth of Jackson, and within the last recent months it seems as if stuff was placed there; some of the people said it was placed there by trucks belonging to the Ministry of Communications and Works. I would like to know if that area will be cleared and cleaned so that the youth of Jackson would be able to take advantage of it.

I would like to know from the Minister what provision is made for the youth around the Bank Hall, Bush Hall, Waterford, Buckingham, Station Hill area. Well, I cannot say Jackmans because in Jackmans there is the Friendship Playing Field, but the areas of Bank Hall, Bush Hall are very heavily populated and there are several young people who are seen playing in the road; playing cricket and all sorts of games, even a sort of road tennis, and this is very dangerous, and I would like to know if the facilities for minor sports on lands of the National Stadium Corporation at Waterfords, if the youth of Waterford and Station Hill will be permitted to use the facilities there, because away back in 1972 when Mr. Williams was there I had asked for a part of that land for the youth of Waterford, and he was quite willing, but eventually the plan fell through. The youth around there really have not got the facilities they want. They cannot go into the school and use the school's playing field, and I would like to know what provision is made in these areas because the Government will be bringing a member now for the area, and I would hope that most of these things will be done because with the coming elections, naturally – I hope it would be like the election for St. Philip when everything was laid on.

I know that the Minister responsible for this area puts a lot of stress on his words and he says a lot and I hope he will fly into action and let me see what is going to be forthcoming because these people have waited a long time and if they, the Government think that they can bring someone now into the area without doing anything – even if they do anything now they still cannot get the seat. There is only one person who can ever get that seat; so I would like them to try and make a start because it is absolutely necessary, but it shows them up, and the Minister who is there now I am not going to lay all the blame on him because he has not been there very long; but I really want to see if he is in favour of women being in politics, and if he is in favour of women being in politics, I want him to look after the constituency as regards the playing fields especially in the areas which I have just

mentioned, and I want him to look at the area of Jackson – the Arsenal – but I would like not only a playing field there. In my area there is need for another social centre. I am serious. There is really need for another social centre. It is the biggest area in St. Michael and I have been trying for years. *(Aside)* Well, since I am not with you people now, see if you can give something. I do not think I should be begging.

It is Government's right to see after its people and if you all are claiming that you love people and you want to do so much for them, let me see how much you love them, because I want to tell you this and I mean it; I am serious. The fight is on and it is going to be a serious fight. A lot of you who are laughing over there and smiling from ear to ear, soon from now you are not going to be smiling anymore.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: And I would like the hon. member to stick to this Resolution. That is really what I am interested in right now.

Mrs. EASTMOND: Mr. Chairman, they made a lot of sport at me, you know, and I want to see the proper sport being fixed here now for my people. I am dealing with sport in this Resolution and I want to see the field of sport provided for my young people in my constituency because I do not want to see them get the same sort of sport that I got.

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, I was not in my place when the Hon. Minister introduced this Resolution earlier today, but from the Note on Item 10 I understand that the \$150,000 is aimed at increasing the number of public playing fields and hard courts in the Island. The first thing that occurs to me, Sir, is that the Government must have a well worked out organized plan for playing fields, and in general community development. It is no good just coming for money to put down a playing field because in campaigning and in canvassing, various members of the Government may have been prompted by constituents for a playing field in a particular area. That is why the Leader of the Opposition took time during his speech to articulate some of the manifesto policy of the Barbados Labour Party in 1976. *(Aside)* The Minister missed it. You see if he was in here. Oh! He heard it inside.

It is crucial, Sir, because on both sides it is accepted that there is a problem in finding employment for the youth today. There is a problem in channelling the energies of the youth into constructive and developmental areas. There is probably a compounding of that problem by the recent transfer of the former Chief Sports Officer.

5.30 p.m.

As I said during the debate on the Estimates, I feel that he had a contribution to make at the level of policy and he had a certain philosophical attitude to the job which would make for a rational basis for the implementation of the practical ideas and the practical programmes which could be assisted by Government support. But just like the member for St. Michael North East has found that when you are in the heart of the DLP and you criticise it from within you are apt to be ostracised, because whatever you say, even though it might be constructive criticism, the members on the other side and their supporters do not regard it as something that is worthy of discussion and that is healthy for the betterment of the party. They see it purely in a destructive sense and they seek to get rid of you as they have done with the ex Chief Sports Officer and the member for St. Michael North East. I don't know what Mr. Asquith Phillips will say, but he will not get the seat. (*Aside*). I'm not dropping any bombs, Sir.

We in the Barbados Labour Party envisage a programme of community development of which the day care centres which were discussed earlier today would form an integral part. The kind of idea which we have is in certain parishes or certain populated areas, areas of high population, we will have on a ground floor the relevant facilities for the day care centres. On the second floor we will have a hall — you can make as many notes as you like, Mr. Minister — you will have on the second floor the conference hall which would double as a dance hall, operating as a conference room, a place for debates, domino competitions — let them write, I don't care: I hope the other people are writing too and I will hear it tonight and read it tomorrow — but you will have this area on the second floor for indoor activities of various kinds. When the Minister is just another citizen he can be invited to address on that floor the members of a particular constituency as to his erstwhile parliamentary days. (*Asides*).

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am not going to ask the hon. member again to adhere to Standing Order 33(6).

Mr. SIMMONS: I am told not to go into details with him, but the public is in here everybody knows that what I am articulating today comes from this side. I explained it during my bye-election, so it doesn't matter now. Sir, there will be in the design of this place an area which could be used as a pavilion and you will have the necessary toilet facilities because you need them for the day care business. That is the physical structure that we see.

Attached then to this building you will have the playing field area, the one field which could be used for football and cricket, and you will see attached to the same complex the hard courts area for netball, volley ball and those things that need hard courts, so that in one complex in as many parishes as finance will allow you will have provision for indoor and outdoor activities. You will have attached to this place a janitor or caretaker, as well as a groundsman. You are therefore providing work for people to look after these things.

That is one of the problems we have today. The Hon. Leader of the Opposition has said what is our programme for giving these persons proper training and so on, in-service training while they are attached to these various centres.

If you envisage this type of construction for community development in Barbados, you have to go beyond this stage and then also comprehend in your planning not only the provision of facilities but the adequate training of the youth to make the best possible use of the facilities. It is customary in here to gloat over one's former athletic or sporting prowess. I have no such intention today, mine are there securely housed in the Public Library, records and all to be seen. I am not interested in that, I am looking at the thing objectively. If we accept the principle that sport assists in the healthy development of mind and body, and if we also would like — despite anything the member for St. Michael West will say — to be in the position today of Trinidad after the victory of Hainsley Crawford or of Jamaica after the victory of Don Quarrie and emphasise with the Jamaican or the Trinidadian and develop a sense of national pride — you can imagine how proud those people felt when they heard the news that their athletes had won golds at the Olympics — if we aim for standards of excellence we have to ensure that we have the proper training facilities. That means not only physical grounds but we want people who are qualified in physical education to be able to train the athletes to such a level as ultimately for them to achieve the excellent standard to which we would wish them to aspire. So in Government's planning there must also be provision for the training and the bringing back from overseas people who have the necessary qualifications to be able assist the local youth in making the maximum use of the facilities which are provided.

Over and above that there must be a conscious effort made on the part of those who will oversee at ministerial and governmental level

these projects, a conscious effort made to encourage the youth to aim high and to use the facilities and not abuse them. I saw last night on television a game which I recognised to be a football game between Poland and Cuba and you could see the amount of physical development that the Cuban footballers had undergone in their physical makeup, and people who have gone to Cuba have told me that sport in Cuba is treated almost like work. There is a fervour and a dedication..... (*Asides*) I am not saying that we need the Cuban experience in Barbados, but what I am saying is that we need the dedication and we will get the dedication if those who are in a position to encourage it do it, and if the people whom we seek to encourage can see in their masters, or their superiors, or their elders, a willingness to dedicate themselves to the sporting and social upliftment of this country at the level of the emotional appeal to the youth.

5.40 p.m.

Now, some months ago, I think it was about the 9th March, I tabled some questions in here asking for playing-field development for St. Philip. I was given a reply that was specific in the development of one area only, and that was Church Village. Up to now that place has not been opened. I do not know what is going to happen to it. I have also asked the Minister about the Blades Hill area, which is also very pressing, in my submission. It is compact and largely inaccessible. (*Asides.*) It is densely populated, and the people are voting heavily for me. I thank the hon. member for St. Philip South. This time it will be worst – more licks in 1976.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. member insinuating that the Chair will be voted against?

Mr. SIMMONS: No reference to the Chair whatsoever, Sir.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Let us get back to this Resolution.

Mr. SIMMONS: I am getting back to the Resolution. As far as the facilities for St. Philip are concerned, I find them lacking. I believe the Minister will agree that we are not as properly serviced as we should have been. I wish to tell him today that near the Bushy Park Motor-Racing Circuit there is a parcel of land on which the youths from the Bushy Park Parish Land area play. They were moved from one piece of land by Mr. C. O. Williams to another piece. I have had discussion with the Parliamentary Secretary

of Education and Mr. C. O. Williams, and I can report today that Mr. C. O. Williams is willing to sell to the Government the piece of land on which the chaps now play at Bushy Park. In this Resolution, presumably, the Government will make the necessary negotiations. That is one that I can tell him about positively. We know that that is up for acquisition.

Sir, we have said that, in addition to these Community Centres, we would like to see an indoor stadium where competitions can be held for basketball, table tennis, volley ball, and so on. That is part of the Barbados Labour Party's policy. Subject to correction, I believe it was the member for St. Michael West, or it may have been the hon. member for St. Lucy, who spoke of the Youth Council. It is my understanding that a Youth Council had been established some years ago, but it put itself into voluntary liquidation so that it no longer functions. I am at a loss to understand the reason for that and, presumably, the Minister could help us because it seems to me that if the Government set up the superstructure for guiding the policies of sport through an Advisory Council or whatever it was called – people like Austin Sealy, Noel Simmons, and so on were on it, and then it collapsed. The Government must be able to tell us why it collapsed, because its collapse would have meant the demise of Government assistance and expertise from the Council.

I am a little concerned, Sir, even though I see that all of a sudden we want \$150,000.00 to help with these playing fields. It is now seven months since I wrote and asked for a grading machine to assist the youths at Thicketts Hill in grading the ground on which they play cricket. Nothing has been done by the Ministry. Only the Chief Sports Officer, before his demise from that section, had the courtesy to reply to me and indicate that it was being channelled to somebody else. That document must be on file. That will not cost the Government even \$10,000.00 out of this \$15,000.00. I would like the Minister to deal with this as a matter of urgency. This is the cricket season, and I would like him to make available to the chaps at Thicketts Hill the grading machine to assist them in preparing the field they have up there.

Mr. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I play my politics different from several people. I would never have disclosed the policy of the Barbados Labour Party in here today, because I know that the Government would seek to tell the public at large that the plans put forward by us were really hatched by them, as they did in the 1971

election when we came to Parliament and made several suggestions for the upliftment of this country. They told the public that it was their suggestion. Mr. Chairman, the Government have not done anything for development of sport in this country over the last five years, and they are now using this vote at the brink of election time in order to impress the people that they are doing something in the field of sport. When I say so I can give instances to prove what I have said.

Mr. Chairman, When we go back to 1970, the general public will note that the school at Lammings, St. Joseph, was opened during the by-election in that constituency. I have asked, time and time again, that something be done to the playing field in view of the fact that it was so located that numerous persons living in the Lammings Housing area, the Sugar Hill area, and the Airy Hill area, could use that playing field. Nothing has ever been done to it since 1970. You have a prospective opponent, a member of the Democratic Labour Party in that constituency, trying to tell people that he has had to pull money out of his pocket to fix the cricket pitch on Government property. I told the people in the area not to contribute, because if the headmaster gets up on the wrong side some morning and tell them not to trespass, they cannot trespass. It is the duty of the Government to put their playing fields in proper order and to facilitate the youths and taxpayers in a particular vicinity.

Now, the Government have done nothing since 1970 to that playing field. They have had ample opportunity, because I came to Parliament and I have said on numerous occasions that the policy of the Government should be that the schools could be used as community centres, especially in those constituencies where there was difficulty in getting people to meet in one particular place, and a typical example of that would be St. Joseph.

Let us go further, Mr. Chairman. There is a playing field which is on the seaside in Bathsheba. That playing field has been built by the youths of the area. I have written the Ministry of Education and I have written the Ministry of Communications and Works regarding this matter. The Ministry of Communications and Works were carrying out certain road repairs in the area. They led the water which comes from Cleavers Hill, St. Elizabeth Village, across the road and across the edge of that area into the sea.

5.50p.m.

There stands a gutter at one end of the playing field and I have written the Ministry asking them that the workmen be allowed to level the area, and not leave a canal so that you can facilitate the playing on the pitch. To this day I have had no reply and nothing has been done. The Community Centre in Bathsheba fell into disrepair. In 1970 when I came to this Chamber it was occupied by a caretaker who did not hide his allegiance to the Democratic Labour Party and who objected to anybody entering the Community Centre if they did not express their allegiance to the said party; but while Government claimed it was unfit for use, it was being used as a tailor shop. Eventually the Community Centre was pulled down from the site. The foundation still stands and I have written to the Minister responsible for Sport asking him if he would put just a small house to accommodate the cricketers and the youth of the area. I have been promised, but the promise has not yet been fulfilled, but at the same time there are people who are living in the area, and I must give thanks to them, who have allowed the people in the area to use buildings which are in private ownership for the youth to gather and to take them off the street, with the condition that when the use of the buildings are required possession be given up immediately. Now at least the Minister of Education or the Minister of Communications and Works could have accommodated the cricket team at Bathsheba and at least not make the tunnel a dangerous trap to young men chasing after a ball.

We look at the St. Elizabeth School grounds which has been levelled, but nothing more has been done to that although the school has been opened for a considerable time.

At the West St. Joseph School they have levelled a new area and dispute has already arisen over the use of it. This is why I said earlier, Mr. Chairman, that Government is now going to use this sum of money as a political gimmick on the brink of an election. They have had enough time that something constructive and positive could have been done for the youth in the various areas. I would not like to see the money voted today follow the same fate as the last money voted for the National Cemetery in this Parliament, because you would well remember, Mr. Chairman, that when Government came to Parliament for some \$240,000 in connection with the National Cemetery we were told it was needed urgently, but there were no plans. When we on this side asked for a report on how the money was to be spent, nobody could give us a report; but we heard it was thrown away. At this time if Government needs this sum of money they should

be able to give the Committee a full report about how they are going to spend it.

Now I must say that since the Sports Officer has been removed from his post there is really no organised sport in Barbados. Organisation has been lost and Government should appoint a new Sports Officer. You go around the country and no doubt people tell you that when the last Sports Officer was in office they were getting things together, but they have not seen or heard from anybody since then, and you must pay special attention to the rural areas. Mr. Chairman, I have always contended that in the City of Bridgetown, and in the St. Michael and Christ Church areas you have got the various cinemas. You can travel easily from My Lords Hill to the Stadium, you can probably go from Oistin to the Stadium or to Kensington, but even on Independence Day the people from the rural areas find it rather difficult to get into Bridgetown and get out at the end of the day, and therefore there is more pressing need for playing fields and suitable facilities to accommodate the country districts than there is in the St. Michael area. An example of that, Mr. Chairman, is the swimming pool at North Point Surf Resort. You will understand why people will travel from Bridgetown out there and get back within a relevant time. It is not easy to travel from the country to St. Michael, practise your sport and get back within a certain time. Even with the 25 cents bus fare it is the availability of transport that matters. It is those persons who work in Bridgetown or Christ Church or else where who live in the country districts that you have to consider. It tells you the amount of time they spend away from home, therefore if facilities could be provided in these rural areas a person would feel better to go home at 5 o'clock in the evening and then go out and be involved in sport than to leave home at 6 o'clock or 7 o'clock in the morning and after work has to stop somewhere in the city or St. Michael and then get home at 9 o'clock. He is then dead beat. He can only do that once or twice and he will not do it for more than a month.

I make an urgent plea for a place like St. Joseph which physically is handicapped. You have three levels in St. Joseph; the Bathsheba level, the Horse Hill level and the Mayers Corner level; they are all enclosed by hills. It is difficult for people to travel across country; there is no cross country transportation and I beg the Minister that if they really want to spend this money effectively and not with a method of bias, to do something for the rural areas. The Government has concentrated its total spending

between St. Michael and Christ Church because of the number of constituencies located in these two parishes, and I believe Government should, as I have heard the hon. member for St. Lucy say on the floor, pay some attention to the rural areas if it wants to prevent an influx of people from the rural areas into the city, because the more people move in the more slums will be created and a greater difficulty in housing. You should pay attention to the outlying districts and provide facilities to make these people who are taxpayers as well as the others as happy as those who live in the metropolitan area.

Mr. HINDS: Mr. Chairman, as I see it none of this money is going to be spent on the parish of St. Peter because except for the recently acquired plot of land to the south of the All Saints Girls' School which needs a very considerable amount of preparation where children can partake in sport there, there is nowhere in the parish where any facilities of any sort are provided for young people and others to engage in sport at any level.

6.00 p.m.

You will find for the most part that the boys and girls have got to resort to playing in gullies and in the water courses when there is no other accommodation for them, and therefore they are blocking more than half of each highway. The situation has grown so bad in some areas that motorists and others have made complaints at the District E Police Station about the inconvenience of having to reverse from the youths who have to set up their tennis courts on the main highways. This poses a threat to life and endangers everyone concerned; but you must understand, Mr. Chairman, that if these people were given playing fields in the parish or anywhere they would not be providing this mischievous situation so that when they play a ball it usually strikes against the paling of neighbours. This creates quarrels and problems because everytime that a ball strikes a galvanise paling, there is this rushing out and calling on the boys to stop. This is not what the people themselves would like.

Mr. Chairman, it hurts me to know that all that we have been hearing that we will have in the parish of St. Peter, or rather all that we have, is the Farley Hill National Park. What development has taken place to provide any playing field facilities up to the present time? All that we have heard is that the Government intended to acquire land at Welch Town Plantation, to make provision for all of this. Before the grass even starts to grow, you know what is happening, because the horses have to

feed on the tar roads so as to be able to get a little fun out of life.

We are asking the Government to provide facilities to take our people off the streets, from down between the hills and out of the gullies. This Hon. House years ago passed a Resolution asking the Government to acquire land from the then Spring Hall group of plantations to provide a playing field at Boscobelle. It will serve, Mr. Chairman, to provide better facilities for the Boscobelle Girls' School. The land under reference would also have served to provide burial grounds for St. Peter, the Less Church, and there would be ample space to provide tennis courts and whatever courts one wanted to provide, and to put up a suitable pavilion and enhance the life of the area to a very considerable extent.

I remember that in 1971 when they were offering a candidate they promised all kinds of things to impress the people of Boscobelle that they were going to acquire lands. Up to the present time all that we have been able to get from the Government is that they were negotiating with the Spring Hall group of estates. How far the negotiations have reached I do not know, except to say that the negotiations never started at all. What was known as the Spring Hall group of estates is now known as the Bulkley group of estates. One never knows, because not so long ago some people went there to carry out a survey or something of the sort as if again to impress the people of Boscobelle that another new candidate is coming, and if everytime a new candidate is coming interest will be taken in the area.

All of this, Mr. Chairman, the people of Boscobelle understand. The people of the area understand that they have been suffering too long. They will continue to play among the rocks and the bushes until such time; but we are asking the Government to understand that these people pay their taxes like anybody else, and are entitled to the same facilities as anybody else; and if this Government feels that they can neglect these people, and then on the eve of an election say that they will do this and do that, they will understand when the votes are counted how similar they will be to when they were counted in 1971 in favour of the present sitting member.

However, we are not concerned about the jitters of the Government. We are demanding that the Government give some consideration to the aspirations of these people. We are not begging the Minister for a cup of tea. These people pay taxes, and we are demanding something from the Government. They cannot demand it from the

Opposition, because we do not hold the purse strings. We are only the watchmen of the purse strings in our limited capacity.

The Hon. Minister must know that there is no playing field at the Boscobelle Boys' School that can commend itself. There are a lot of rocks here, there and every where. I attended the Boscobelle Boys Schools, and there was a time when we could carry out physical drills on the little area that was provided. That area does not exist to the extent now as to permit the type of exercises that we engaged in when I was a boy at this school.

There is also the case of All Saints Boys' School. I have asked in this House to have the area intended for a playing field to be enclosed. They have enclosed it. I asked about the levelling of the field. The then Minister promised that he would undertake it. All that they have done is to send down Education Officer after Education Officer, this person after the other person, somebody from the Ministry of Communications and Works to go down there making people believe that something is going to be done. Up to the present time no levelling of the playing field has been attempted.

In the same way, Mr. Chairman, we come to the Speightstown Boys' School and the Speightstown Girls' School. There are no facilities whatsoever for children to engage in any worthwhile games at these two schools. What does the Government intend doing in such a situation? Are we prepared to continue to vote money to be spent in other areas, doing this and doing that, and neglecting the parish of St. Peter? We will not stand for it any longer.

You will find at Black Bess School that there is a little playing field; and the people of the area try their best from time to time to cultivate the area; but the Government does absolutely nothing because the Government has a sports department which tells you that they are only catering to children of 14 years of age, and they do not carry pads and other equipment for older people. I do not understand what kind of nonsense this really is.

6.10 p.m.

We cannot understand what the Government is doing at all. They are making us to believe that they have a Sports Department to encourage sport. Do you mean that you are encouraging sport up to the age of thirteen? And after that, what? Are you finished with it? So why does the Sport Department not carry a supply of material and equipment that they can give to the 14 to

18 age group to encourage them? Beside that if they can raise two bats on their own the Sports Department will also give them two bats, and if they can raise a football or something on their own the Sport Department will assist them in any way; but nothing like this is being done at all and we are asking the Government to give very serious consideration to the plight of these people. We do not want to hear of a situation whereby boys or girls group together in the centre of the highway blocking the streets or overrun by a motor vehicle. We do not wish this kind of situation so as to goad the Government into taking action on behalf of these people.

The people deserve much better from the Government. So why is it, Mr. Chairman, that you are finding this type of neglect dished out to these people by the Government of this country? Sir, this is an amount of \$150,000. Can the Minister tell us if he intends levelling the playing field at the All Saints Boys' School, if he intends spending any part of this money in making better preparation at the All Saints Girls' School? Does he intend doing anything whatsoever for the Boscobelle Boys' or Girls' School? *(Aside)* My time seems to be getting shorter than other people's time, Sir. It seems to be so when you are critical of the Government. Once you say it is time, it is time. It appears to me to be short. I do not mean you, Sir, because you have to go by the Minister of the Clock.

So what we are saying is this. Government ought to have a set policy that could be understood and could be interpreted by any reasonable person in being and under the Queen's peace. But we do not find this type of situation obtaining. The Minister has pet areas; certain little areas on which to spend his money. I have driven through some areas in St. Michael and I have seen where they are now carrying out the tarring of roads in some areas. Well, I laughed to see this. Do you know what is the most amusing thing? Even the people for whom you are doing it, they understand and they are laughing their bellies full. I have witnessed all of this.

However, Sir, we are asking the Minister to understand the needs of the people of St. Peter. We want him to understand the needs of the youth of St. Peter. We are asking him to let us see Government demonstrating any interest, a willingness, a readiness to appreciate the plight of the people of St. Peter who now find themselves exposed to all sorts of dangers, playing in all out-of-the-way areas and running into the main highways and that type of situation. We want to see this removed. We want to see some form of meaningful development carried out at the Farley

Hill National Park. Let us see that something is being done there to make us to feel and to believe that it is truly a national park encompassing the desires of the youth of the parish and the adjoining areas.

We are asking, Mr. Chairman, that consideration be given to the case of the Indian Gound School, that some type of development be carried out to the playing field that people can see and understand — the people at Fourhill and French Village and those areas.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: And this now completes the hon. member's address and he must take his seat.

Mr. HINDS: Yes I must take my seat, Sir. I have come to the end of my speech so I must take my seat.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: And the hon. member will sit.

Mr. HINDS: Yes, Sir. I must sit; because the people of Lonesome Hill require something to be done too, Sir.

Mr. FORDE: Mr. Chairman, the policy of the Barbados Labour Party has been clearly enunciated in this debate by the hon. members for St. Thomas and St. Philip North, and there is no necessity for me to speak on the policy as such. I wish however, to speak quite clearly about my constituency in relation to this Item. I have done so on numerous occasions. I have spoken to the Ministry of Education both formally and informally, I have spoken to the Parliamentary Secretary who has special responsibility in this field. I have raised these issues in numerous debates, and I am afraid that my voice has gone unrecognized.

I want however to reiterate them and I must do so because this is an election year and all of a sudden I find that there are a lot of people running around in Forde's Road, Clapham, Club Morgan and Dayrells Road representing or misrepresenting the position in relation to this constituency. I am not worried at all. The Hon. Minister of Education and Sport had the honour and privilege to address a meeting comprised of not more than thirteen people at Mr. Sealey's house, and of those there were five members from the area and they tried to put forward Government's position without making it quite clear that they have ignored the request of the Sitting member in Parliament for that constituency, and I just want to get the position absolutely clear. I have asked the Ministry from

the first year I came into this House to look at Crane's pasture as a suitable site for a sports area with a proper pavilion and community development. I was told by officials of the Ministry that a survey had been done and they thought that the terrain was too rocky but that they could build there a suitable housing development with a community centre. Up to now nothing has been done for that area. I could go on, Sir.

I have recommended outside of this area informally in conversation with both the Parliamentary Secretary and other persons in that department other areas in Clapham and Brittons Hill that are suitable for a playing field. I am making no bones about this because members of Christ Church West Club are now being told by an aspirant who would never get into the House as long as I represent the constituency in the next election, that no representations have been made on these matters.

Now I know that the Ministers are a bit cautious in going around with members of the Opposition in inspecting areas; and I say this for this reason. I spoke both in the main Estimates and the supplementary Estimates about Dover which is not in my constituency but it is a field to which I go and watch games. I noticed recently an inspection took place between the Minister of Information and the Minister of Agriculture, and none of them had the grace in their Press release to state that I have been making representations about this area. They do not have to; it is the Government's Press service and they are playing politics the hard way. Let them continue to play politics the hard way, but when I go and watch sport at Gall Hill for instance, and realize that the playing field is uneven and is not suitable to be played on, I come back into this Committee and I make the point regardless of whether it is in my constituency or not; and I want to emphasise that I will continue to do this.

I am not begging the Minister because I do not think the Minister has very much longer to be Minister of Sport. I am not begging him. I am saying to whoever becomes the succeeding Minister whether on this side or that side, that Clapham, Flagstaff, Brittons Hill, Club Morgan, Bonnetts, Crane's area, Rendezvous Hill, Lower Sargeant Village in particular have produced within the five years that I have been in parliament, certainly, a lot of outstanding young people in the field of football, basket ball and sport in general.

6.20 p.m.

They have had major contributions from me on a personal level as far as I can go, but I have had no assistance whatsoever from the Government on this matter and I want to make that clear.

I want to deal with Dayrells Road, Kings Village, Ventnor Land, Rockley and Worthing. I asked the Government, both the Minister of Housing I have spoken to and the Parliamentary Secretary in Sport, about using the area in Pleasant Hall Land for hard courts. The ball is being passed from one Minister to another. I am told by the Parliamentary Secretary in Sport that the land belongs to the Housing Authority and he hopes the Minister of Housing would be able to fix that. I spoke to the hon. member outside of this House on several occasions, I also mentioned it in debate, but that is an area that is ideal for asphaltting where you can play netball, volley ball, tennis, road tennis and basketball and it would not cost the Government much. I understand that this \$150,000 has almost been spent already. I heard that the work has been done and they wish the vote now to pay out the money. If it is not, is there any reason why the Government could not have treated the Pleasant Hall area in particular as worthy as a priority area for development? Let me tell you why, Sir. It is well known that most of the outstanding basketball players at a national level come from the area of Dayrells Road and that surrounding area. We have produced, the former Sports Officer, if he had the right to speak on the floor of the House, would acknowledge that we have produced many outstanding basketball players on the national team who have represented this country in the United States, in Puerto Rico, in the Caribbean, in Guyana, in Latin America in the field of basketball. The Blanchette brothers, Mallie Stanton, George Lascarris, the Grant brothers, to mention some of them, and they have done this again without having adequate playing facilities provided for them in the area and without any assistance, financial or otherwise, from this Government.

Again I do not want to blow my own trumpet, but since people are challenging me in their speeches about what I have done, I reckon that I have given more to sport in this country on a financial level than the Government has given in the Christ Church West area for the whole time. I'm not talking about the Garrison field, the only facilities we have had from the Government is that Springfield Club has been allowed to play along with Radcliff on the bit of the Garrison pasture. Springfield Club, of which I

have the honour to be patron, wrote the Ministry and asked them for permission to put up a pavilion and up to today we have had no reply that is satisfactory to us on this matter. The former Minister made a very brilliant speech and was so gracious as to have come to our functions on occasions and impartially distribute the prizes. With sport we don't play politics. I make it quite clear with any club with which I am associated that any Minister has a right to be recognised in his right, and we have got encouraging words and some assistance from them, and we acknowledge that. I don't play politics in the clubs I'm associated with, Sir, so I want to make that clear, but I am appealing to the Government to take a broader look at this constituency and really genuinely asking them to give some priority to the area of Pleasant Hall in particular and to do something about that massive population of young people in the Clapham area of whom I have spoken.

Soft Ball Cricket. I don't know how many members have spoken about soft ball cricket, but people should recognise that soft ball cricket is today providing a very educational outlet and social outlet for a lot of under privileged youths in this community. On Sundays it takes a large mass of them from gambling. I have noticed this, and it deserves assistance, and I would hope that the Government would help in this sphere. Regardless of the civil service or other reasons why the Sports Officer was transferred I believe that he did a first-class job and I believe that he ought to be given an opportunity in the true spirit of the public service to give his talent in this field again, Sir, and I am appealing to the Government to recognise that there are ways of disciplining a civil servant by a reprimand, but you do not have to transfer civil servants who are giving outstanding performances in this field. He motivated a lot of the young people. I am not making any bones about it, I have heard favourable comments from the clubs with which I have been associated — and I am associated with several clubs, Sir, when it comes to sport, I don't like the hon. member for St. Michael West go into any rigorous training, I have not been in training for a long time, I recognise my limitation, Sir. I have handed over that to my son, and I make bold to say that at the young age of, I believe, nine he has gained his national colours in swimming because I instil in my children the necessity to view sport as a social, cultural and educational vehicle for the upliftment of the whole human body, and I think it is in this concept that one has to look at the matter.

Now the St. Matthias' Schools, Sir. It is very unfortunate that I couldn't be present for the

Minister's speech at the St. Matthias' School, because the Minister will recall that he made a speech saying that they will have to look for some playing fields, he recognises St. Matthias' Schools need playing fields and he will have to be looking for some of them but he is told that the lands at the Marine are earmarked for other purposes, 4-H clubs. The 4-H club in that area does not need all the lands that are available at the Marine. There is something like 15 acres of land available there. Some of it I agree is undulating land but there is a sufficiently large area that could be used for playing fields without in any way minimising the amount that will be available for the 4-H club and I am asking the Government to treat the St. Matthias' Schools as a need of priority rating in this respect. This is not an instance now where Government has to go and expend money for the acquisition of land, Government already has land in that area. As a matter of fact, in the submissions that I have been making to this Committee I have been asking Government other than in the Clapham area to use existing governmental land for providing these facilities, so I'm not asking for much money, but St. Matthias' Schools are cramped. Indeed on a wider level I have asked for a better primary school, mixed primary school, in the St. Matthias' area. There is no reason why you should have the two schools separate and not really being able to properly organise their facilities in the way they should be, and I trust that when I make this as part of my election speech in a couple of weeks' time — I believe we will be dissolved soon — the Government will recognise that the idea came from me. A primary school in the St. Matthias' area with proper and adequate facilities must be a must with any in-coming Government and I am asking them for it now. If they are not in a position after the elections, Sir, to give it I will ensure wherever I sit that it will be there, but we need it. (*Aside*). You don't worry with whether I am in the Speaker's Chair, regardless of whether I am back bencher, side bencher, regardless of wherever I am. You know, Sir, I would like to join you in retirement one of these days but I haven't yet reached that stage, but regardless of wherever I am we are asking for proper consideration for this particular area.

6.30 p.m.

The Minister must give us a firmer undertaking about St. Matthias. He lives near the area. We welcome him whenever he drives through, Sir. My top supporters are very civil to him. He cannot influence how they vote, but they like him despite this. I am seriously appealing to him to give us some consideration there.

I want to talk a little bit about the Garrison facilities. I regret very much that some people are already abusing the facilities at the Garrison Secondary School, I do not know whether outsiders from the area are carrying the trouble. I am appealing to the Government to make sure that the time schedule for their use is clearly understood; that there is a watchman there at all times, and further, I would like to see that area, King Village and Rudder pasture properly paved. The access is bad. It lies between the constituency of the hon. member for St. Michael South and myself and my own constituency, and I am sure that our approach to this is a joint approach. The Minister of Communications is not here, but I would expect that he should treat that as a priority area for drainage and proper access so that the existing facilities could be properly used.

I do not like to talk too much local constituency politics all the time, but I am afraid I could not allow this opportunity to go other than to set the record straight. My views on these matters have been clearly read by my constituents. When I look around in this Chamber sometimes I always see the presence of people who are knowledgeable on this area in my constituency, but for the benefit of the Government Ministers, so that when they are saying what the Government has done they will recognise the constructive role of the member for Christ Church West in their election speeches in this area. I am trying to educate them on our needs and remind them that we have articulated those needs on numerous occasions.

Miss MILLER: Mr. Chairman, when the debate on this Resolution started, I was a very sad and distressed woman. This debate has gone on for some hours now, and I am not only sad and distressed, I have become angry. Now, \$150,000.00 is a lot of money. I have sat here and heard hon. members talk about their constituencies and about upgrading this and that and making things better. In the City I cannot talk about that. There is nowhere and there is nothing in the City so far as Playing Fields, or playing grounds, are concerned. (*Asides*) Queens Park is the preserve of Spartan Club, and the Parks and Beaches Commission have made it a place where you cannot walk on the grass. That is what Queens Park is. When I was a child swings and all sorts of facilities were there. I played in Queens Park when I was a child. They have taken them out; you cannot walk on the grass. (*Asides*) I know that the member for St. Michael West thinks that I feel the City is now washed ashore. Well, in respect of playing fields, it has not come ashore yet.

Mr. WALCOTT rose.

Miss MILLER: I am not sitting down.

Mr. WALCOTT: Well, stand up!

Miss MILLER: Well, say what you are up on.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When he gets up on a point of order, I must hear him.

Mr. WALCOTT: Are you bringing your bad manners in here? (*Asides*.) It is bad manners, and you cannot object to that. I rose to a point of order, and she says that she is not sitting down.

Mr. FORDE: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The hon. member cannot accuse another hon. member of bad manners, Sir.

Mr. WALCOTT: I rose on a point of order, and she says she is not sitting down. What is that but bad manners? Do not worry to uphold bad manners. I rise on a point of order to say that Queens Park is in the City of Bridgetown.

Mr. FORDE: On a point of order, Sir. I submit that it is unparliamentary to accuse another hon. member of bad manners. If the hon. member had a point...

Mr. CHAIRMAN: It is not unparliamentary.

Mr. FORDE: All right, Sir. Would it be fair for me to say that the Chair is bad mannered?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Now, you would be imputing something regarding the Chair. You cannot impute anything.

Mr. FORDE: In the same way I am submitting to the Chair that to impute bad manners to an hon. member on the floor of the House is really an example of the breach of the Rules of this House. The hon. member should withdraw the remark. It is not that we have any ladies in here, Sir, but the hon. member takes a sledge hammer to deal with a small point. He has no need to do that on a point of order.

Mr. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I rose to a point of order which every member is entitled to do. I do not know what the hon. member is

talking about. Every one of them over there usually rises to a point of order. I rose to a point of order, and she said she was not sitting down. If that is not bad manners, then I do not know what is good. That is bad manners; I repeat it, and I will say it again. It is bad manners to say so.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The point of order has been made.

Mr. FORDE: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. (*Asides.*) I have not heard your ruling, Sir, and I am, again, asking you to look at my submission. I have heard the hon. member say to the Chair that he is not withdrawing his remarks when he has been told to withdraw, and he would prefer to walk out first. Is not that bad manners?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I would like the hon. member for Christ Church West to understand that at every time he tried to do it he was outside of the Chamber. Any hon. member, as long as I am sitting in this Chair, will have to go outside if he does not want to obey the Rules. I have no axe to grind one way or the other. I treat all hon. members in this Chamber one way. I should like to hear the hon. member for the City.

Miss MILLER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I repeat that Queens Park is the preserve of Spartan Club, and where in Queens Park is not the preserve of Spartan Club, Parks and Beaches have made it so that people cannot walk on the grass; they have removed the swings and the slides from Queens Park, so that there are no longer any more playground facilities. That is what Queens Park is. As far as City people are concerned, it is not a place where they can resort for any kind of recreation. It is not even a place anymore where you could go to sleep on the benches, if you have nowhere to sleep. (*Asides.*)

Mr. Chairman, if I could speak without ill-mannered interruption, I would say that Kensington Oval is another green Playing Field in the City where City people are excluded. You cannot go in there. There is a new place down at the Harbour called Trevors Way, which the Rotary Club made nice and handed it over to Parks and Beaches. Again, you cannot go there and you must not walk on the grass. There is the Biscuit Factory where they have a Playing Field, and City people cannot go in there. In the City there is another place called the Young Men's Christian Association, and you can only go in there if you belong to a team. There is no

Playing Field, Mr. Chairman, in the City of Bridgetown. There are some Government hardcourts down on the Harbour Road, but I have never seen a City youth with a racket yet. (*Asides.*)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Will the hon. member on my right adhere to Standing Order 33(6)!

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, he is as unmannerly as he is very ugly.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member is likewise.

Mr. CRAIG: Sir, are you saying that I am unmannerly and very ugly?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I said likewise.

Mr. CRAIG: I may be unmannerly, but not ugly, Sir. You and the hon. member may fit the same boat. I am not in the ugly work. He is behaving badly, Sir.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Both sides.

Miss MILLER: Mr. Chairman, may I be permitted to continue?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: You may.

Miss MILLER: I am very much obliged to you. Mr. Chairman, there is in the City of Bridgetown an area known as Murphy Pasture. The Parks and Beaches Commission have cleared it after a fashion. They have done a crude job there.

6.40 p.m.

You have all the bone rocks, big rocks and old iron and it is a motor car graveyard among other things. That is what Murphy Pasture is. It is Government land; it is well known, positioned in the middle of the most densely populated area in the City, with access to Chapman Lane and access to the Orleans area, although the access roads are very bad; but they can be made good. Murphy Pasture in my opinion is the most excellent site in the City for a proper playing field with all the decent facilities that young people are entitled to. The Parks and Beaches Commission have made it their business to go into places which are neither parks nor beaches. A certain kitchen garden down in Goodland is not a park or beach and they are down there weeding up. The same Trevor's Way is not a park or beach and you cannot go on it and they are in

there weeding up. The same way they can work on areas which are neither parks nor beaches, and there are very few parks and beaches in the city of Bridgetown, they can expand their energies to the benefit of the young people in Bridgetown by making Murphy Pasture a decent playing field. Murphy Pasture, Mr. Chairman, is peopled by a certain breed of rats which walk about like men in broad daylight, and if the Minister of Health and the Minister of Education who is also Minister of Sport do not watch it and do something between the two of them about the rats, they are going to work one morning and find the front door lined off with dead, stinking rats. Your office is in the City of Bridgetown and you are going to find you cannot get in your office one morning for dead rats.

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

Mr. CHAIRMAN: All hon. members will take their seats. Now I am calling on the Hon. Minister of Sport for the very last time for his unseemly behaviour. I am on my feet and the Minister must be silent. You will wait until you have the opportunity to speak. Any further interruption and I will use the necessary Standing Orders.

The hon. member for Bridgetown may proceed.

Miss MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I am not joking. I am deadly serious. The Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education are both within the city of Bridgetown, and one morning they are going to walk to their office and find they cannot get past the front door with many buckets full of dead rats and the flies stuck on them. That is what the city people have to put up with in Murphy Pasture with that filthy, stinking sore that is called a canal running through the same Murphy Pasture.

One hundred and fifty thousand dollars is a lot of money for playing fields. We do not have one in the City and we must have one, and I want Murphy Pasture cleaned up and made decent and into a playing field. I have talked myself hoarse on this already and I am ignored left, right and centre about it. The city is not like rural districts where you can find a green piece of pasture, and even if there is bush on it you can make some kind of playing field.

Look at the people up town, Mr. Chairman. They have to play in the streets. There is no green area, not even where the concrete is in the back of King William Street.

Is there one little patch of green up town? Children in the Orleans have to play street tennis in the road. I saw them up to Sunday morning myself playing road cricket in King Street in the City. There is no play ground. Why must the City be ignored like this on every count? Every Resolution that comes before this House I have to get up and make the same cry to the extent that the hon. member for St. Michael West says that I get on as if the City has now washed and come ashore. For me it has now washed and come ashore because it has been too long ignored. For fifteen years it has been ignored. There are no facilities in the City. This is a lot of money and some of it must be spent in the City of Bridgetown. It is not fair to City youths. They are no different from children anywhere. I meet young boys in the City on Sunday morning going sometimes by minibus, sometimes by foot to St. Thomas to play a little bit of football. Is this fair to the youth of the City? (*Asides*) It has nothing to do with my father, man! He made his contribution. He left the Queen Elizabeth Hospital there for them; so do not bring him into this. He does not rule my life. He made his contribution and I am here in my generation to do what I have to do. This is the second Miller in the City and something has got to be done. The first Miller saw that Murphy Pasture that I am talking about was acquired by Government, and I am here now to see that it is going to be converted into something useful. It has been lying there idle and fallow for fifteen years. Parks and Beaches, because a foolish man feels to run in to dig up a few carcasses, to fool people that he is doing something for the people in Chapman Lane and the Orleans, think they are doing something for Murphy Pasture; but something has got to be done. It is not fair to city people. They are excluded from playing grounds. There is a play ground at Queens College and one at Harrison College. There are big walls around them and people are locked out. Where are city people supposed to play? Where are city youth supposed to turn for recreation? There is one swampy area at the back of Farnum Land; you can't walk into it, you would sink into it up to your ankles in the mud, and I have seen young people try to play football on that field. The city youths have brought these problems to me and it is my duty to bring them in here, and I am throwing them into your lap and you must cough up some of this \$150,000 to make somewhere in the city for city youths to repair to for recreation and

have sport because unlike all the other constituencies in this country there is nowhere in the city and you have got to make somewhere. They are as entitled or perhaps more entitled because it is one of the most highly populated areas. They must have somewhere.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: You know, having listened to the hon. member for the City, I really now appreciate the charm of the hon. member for St. Michael North East, because in standard, in charm and in behaviour

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Is the hon. member speaking on the Resolution?

Hon. F. G. SMITH: I am dealing with the Resolution and I am replying on behalf of the Government.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is what I wanted to find out; and do not bother to shout.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: I can now appreciate the hon. member for St. Michael North East even when.....

Mrs. EASTMOND: On a point of order, you are a bit too late.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: No point of order.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: I am not too late in appreciating your charm, your docility, your approach to problems, your lady-like qualities. Even although you are not with us, do you want me to forget your lady-like qualities and your charm and your approach to politics? I am never too late to appreciate your charm and approach to politics because some people think that their aggressiveness and arrogance and conceit are the basis for lady-like qualities. That is why I appreciate you because even when you attack the Government, you are doing it in a manner in which I am satisfied you feel convinced that you have broken with the Government of the country and you are putting a point of view. You do not have to be aggressive, arrogant and conceited and all those undesirable qualities which are not associated with lady-like qualities to prove a point, because when the Opposition debated this question, I was satisfied that they were all of the opinion that they wanted to make a contribution..... (*Asides*)

Mr. WALCOTT: On a point of order, don't you hear that side over there too? They are louder than when the Minister was speaking.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: When the Opposition was debating this Resolution I honestly felt that they were asking the Government (1) to declare their policy on sport, and (2) they were asking for various activities and sporting facilities. When the member for the City spoke I just could not understand what was happening, because she thinks I am a rat-catcher. Let me tell her straight that I bring in Flick and Rent-O-Kill when I see rats in my house; so no rats can die at my place unless Rent-O-Kill kill them. I pay for it; so don't look on the Minister as any rat-catcher or cat, because that is foolishness, and the only time in this country that a child was bitten by a rat was when your own father was Minister of Social Services. So if you want to hear about rats biting children, it was during your father's time. So let us get the records straight. I have to get the records straight because she said I will find rats, but the only time in our history there was an inquest about a child dying bitten by rats was when the hon. member's father was Minister of Social Services under the Barbados Labour Party.

Miss MILLER: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman, I should be obliged if the hon. member will stop referring to my forebears. He does it outside of this House and he does it inside this House. When he is not labouring at my grandfather and my grandmother and my uncle, it is my father. Let him deal with me.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Absolutely no point of order.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: What is she ashamed of? When I was called to the Bar I told the Chief Justice that if I had to live my life over again and had to choose parents distinguished for wealth and office, I would choose my same parents. What are you ashamed of? I told Sir Alan Collymore that in 1952.

Mr. FORDE: On a point of order.....

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member has risen on a point of order. I want to hear the point of order. The hon. member will take his seat.

Mr. FORDE: What the hon. member told the Chief Justice and what the hon. member aspired to has nothing to do with this Resolution.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That is absolutely no point of order.
6.50 p.m.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: When she mentions rats, and the Minister of Health and myself, can I tell her that the outstanding incident in Barbados of a rat killing a child was during her father's regime as Minister of Social Services?

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Allow me to hear this point of order.

Mr. ADAMS: What is going on is irrelevant to the Resolution, and therefore is outside the Standing Orders. The matter of a rat biting a child was ventilated in here in 1960, but it still did not prevent Barbados from getting an award of all the under developed countries in the world for the standards of its child care.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The hon. member will take his seat. He must not try to make a subsequent speech. I will bring down the Standing Orders that are proper.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman.....

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Your Honour do now report progress and ask for leave to sit again.

Hon. A. MORRISON: I beg to second that.

The Question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division. Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER No. 6

Hon. C. E. TALMA: Mr. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move that Standing Order No. 6 be suspended for the remainder of today's sitting.

Hon. A. MORRISON: I beg to second that.

Mr. ADAMS: Was it seconded, and by whom? The hon. member for St. Michael South Central insisted that he seconded it. It is all very well and good to suspend a Standing Order at least as regards the time factor, but I would be glad if the Hon. Leader of the House would tell us what he wants. It is only a common courtesy. Your Honour is entitled to refuse to accept any motion which is to suspend a Standing Order if Your Honour thinks that it is an infringement of the rights of the minority.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: It being now 7.00 p.m., the sitting is suspended until 8 o'clock p.m. 7.00 p.m.

On Resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER: This Sitting is resumed.

Mr. WEEKES: Mr. Speaker, there being no quorum, I ask that the bell be rung.

The bell was rung and a quorum was obtained.

Mr. SPEAKER: When the Sitting was suspended the House was in Committee of Supply and to that it automatically reverts.

Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House resumed Committee of Supply. Mr. LOWE took the chair.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: When progress was reported and leave was asked to sit again, the Hon. Minister was replying.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, I will not be very long. As I said, the members who have spoken on this debate have indicated clearly that sport should form a part of national development and should be so geared as to develop the basic concept of a healthy mind in a healthy body. I do not want to go through the historical development of sport and playing fields because I think hon. members will know that this question of catering to the needs of communities and to development is a lackaday concept because when I left school or when I was at school, which is a long time ago they say I am an old man but be that as it may, there was only cricket and football. Today you get a concept of people playing hockey, netball, volley ball, table tennis, lawn tennis on hard courts and on soft courts, soft ball, road tennis and a multiplicity of games which have developed, apart from athletics and other forms of sport; and therefore you will appreciate, Mr. Chairman, that the Government or any Government has got to cater not only to the sort of increase in the number of sports in which children or young people or even old people have an interest but we have got also to provide the facilities, and as I say, historically, if you look at it, today nobody gives you land for playing fields except very rarely, and even although we have done with the mules and the horses, the grass-pieces are not given over, and I think a basic mistake was that we did not ask or compel developers to provide basic facilities for the youths in a community or for the youths in a district; so that the Government has got to take up the tab for a lot of things which we consider necessary but which have got to be related to the national cake.

Now I am asking for \$150,000. If I had asked for \$5 million I am still satisfied in my own mind that \$5 million could not immediately – even if we had the people to do it – satisfy the modern-day requirements of the young and the communities for sporting facilities. Apart from acquiring the land which costs money, apart from levelling the land, apart from putting in volley ball courts, netball courts, tennis courts, cricket fields, pavilions, I think any member would see that whether it is this Government or any other Government, to equip a modern playing field – take Welchman Hall – to take that and to put a pavilion it must be \$15,000 to \$20,000 for a modern size pavilion with toilet facilities changing rooms, showers, etc.

Then if you go into the field of hard courts – for instance, I will give you an example; we have lost the courts at the Harbour because of the extension. We had some nice hard courts at the Harbour, which are lost. To build hard courts which we intend and which we had to leave out this year at the Garrison, the contractors had said it would cost \$92,000 to put four hard courts at the Garrison and to floodlight them. Now when you get into the realm of the cement and the cost, you can see; if I just put four courts, \$92,000 of the \$150,000 is gone; and when you look at the area in which people are clamouring – this gives members some idea of the requests which we have had and which of course are the subject of parliamentary questions and demands from time to time – Mr. Chairman, you can see that we really need more than \$150,000 and even although members are clamouring for their share of the cake you can understand that we would need quite a bit more than this.

For instance, on Friday afternoon at 4.30 we are opening hard courts at Ellerton. The St. Patricks want hard courts, Grazettes is getting hard courts; this is not because Grazettes is in a particular Minister's area. You have a village, you have a community; it is a housing area and this should have been put in long ago – playing fields, cricket field, pavilion, etc. So Grazettes is getting a hard court which is costing \$39,000. This is out of contract. This is not a figure I put out of my head. You get St. Patrick's hard court – this is a big district – this is \$45,000. Then you get Bridgefield which we have got to develop because we have got six acres of land given, so therefore we can not leave it. Bridgefield is \$10,000. We have levelled Arsenal in Jackson, which has been given. We are going to level a playing field at Beulah, which is donated by the Methodist Church; so since they have given us the land, you cannot ask the Methodist Church even although it is my church, to level it for you too.

So that is going to cost us \$5,000, and what we have got to do is to put into this amount a sum for levelling playing fields where people are prepared to let us use them either at a peppercorn rent or in terms of leasing or outright purchase.

Then there is St. Peter. There is a playing field at Sedgepond plus there is a playing field (*Aside*) well I have here Sedgepond, St. Peter; I do not know the Geography. I have it on my file as Sedgepond, St. Peter. Plus we have got a field at Warleigh. (*Aside*) St. Joseph? We have just been given the field there which cost us \$89,000 at West St. Joseph to level, which I think you will agree is a wonderful job, which the community can use. It is not only for the school. The school is on holiday now.....

Mr. BOLDEN: On a point of order, Sir. I would like the Minister to fully explain the use of this supposed field at West St. Joseph by the general public because already there is serious conflict in the area between certain persons as to the use of that particular field; and I believe I have drawn to the Minister's attention privately, certain disputes which have arisen and which the Ministry of Education is investigating.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: I resolved the conflicts. I would say if the schools are on holiday now from July to September – I am not putting them there to lie either. The community has got to use them; and we are looking at two things in the Ministry because we feel that sport must be part of national development. We are looking too at the establishment of a National Sports Foundation so that people can channel funds, so that you would not have the sweepstakes and this rat race to raise funds.

So we are looking at legislation which will come before parliament for the establishment of a National Sports Studium in order to enable well-wishers of sports to contribute. That is the first thing. Secondly, we are looking at the whole overall of increasing the staff and improving the quality of the staff both at the community centres level, not just the caretaker type, and we are looking at the question of the whole Island. (*Asides*) The Harbour? We will deal with that in due course. I do not think you need push me into a corner to answer that question. That matter will be settled amicably in due course. But what I am saying is, that we are satisfied that we have got a historical backlog to make up. When you look at schools; you go to Holy Innocents in the constituency of the Leader of the Opposition; we are trying to buy a field there for kitchen gardens and playing field. You have St. Thomas

Mixed. He knows we are trying to buy Ridge-way for playing field, and if you go all over the Island.....

Mr. ADAMS: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. Did the Minister say they are trying to buy a field at Holy Innocents for a kitchen garden and a playing field?

Hon. F. G. SMITH: We are having negotiations with the plantation with a view.....

Mr. ADAMS: There is a playing field opposite Holy Innocents.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: There is a playing field at Holy Innocents. I agree; but we are also looking — not a big playing field because we will use the playing field, but we want a kitchen garden; there is probably need for an extension of that primary school and we will see whether we can have netball or some similar court. *(Aside)* You see, we are catching up on a backlog. If it will satisfy you, we are looking at the entire playing field area of all primary schools, and not only that; we are trying now to adapt the existing playing fields to such games as the existing area will permit. That is, if you find a yard which can hold netball or volley ball, we will play netball and volley ball rather than cricket or any other game. That is what we are looking at, but it takes money and it takes time;

The moment you put down concrete, the moment you bring in contractors — and if you see some of the figures, you will see. I did not ask for \$150,000, you know. I asked for \$360,000 to meet the requests of Parliamentary Questions, of requests from Parliamentarians; not the Government but the Opposition, to meet the needs.

Again, as I say, Mr. Chairman, you have got to cut your coat to suit the existing cloth. I do not care who is in power, because the moment you put up netball courts, volley ball courts, that is where hard surfaces, excavating, wiring, fencing come in; and you know it is amazing. We have tennis gear. The Germans gave us some facilities; and we try to help people. That is why we are trying to get cricket gear and all sports gear duty free. We are doing our best.

8.10 p.m.

Mr. HINDS: On a point of order, Sir, the Sports Department is carrying equipment only for 13 year olds and not over. That is the true position.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: It is not the true position, we are giving gear to the schools. I shan't delay you any longer, we are satisfied finally, Mr. Chairman....

Mr. EDWARDS: On a point of order, I suppose it is because I was one of the first speakers to make a request that the Minister has forgotten my question about the Farmers' changing room.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: We are determined, Mr. Chairman, to put on a progressive scale a certain number of pavilions, because a ground is not complete just by levelling it, grassing it, putting down a pitch or even putting hard courts, and we are prepared to put in and we have just worked out a design with two lumber firms — two, not one, Sir, so don't come and say that I am going to any lumber firm — of a pavilion of a moderate size which would probably cost about ten to twelve thousand dollars to put on various grounds among which is St. Thomas, Welchman Hall, one in Christ Church, one at Warleigh in order to accommodate those who play. Also in this Resolution St. Martin's Boys' and Girls' Schools will have their ground levelled and prepared for playing. I can't promise them a pavilion at this point, but progressively over the years so many per year will be put in on every field.

Mr. BOLDEN: On a point of elucidation, Sir, I wonder if the Minister would tell us whether the sum he is requesting will cover the requests of parliamentarians on both sides, would include the provision of a tunnel for the Bathsheba playing field and a building to house those persons in the same area.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: The hon. member for St. Joseph has got a letter from us intimating that we are working on that problem, but as I say \$350,000 is scratching the surface of the requests, and if I had asked for one or two million dollars to really put up proper requirements and facilities for playing fields and for the community all over the island it still wouldn't satisfy the needs of the people, so you have to cut your coat to suit your cloth. When you have to deal with a limited financial allocation and therefore a question of assessment, some will get and some won't get.

Mr. EDWARDS: I wonder if the Minister would consider speaking with the Minister of Lands or whoever is responsible for those huts at the harbour that some of them could be transferred to some of the playing fields.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: We have looked into the entire question of the harbour. We have been down there with the Parliamentary Secretary and the Building Officer. Such huts as could have been moved were moved, the rest are of no use and have been sold to be removed. We've looked at that. We are discussing with the Minister of Housing if he could provide at a cheap cost a type of pavilion for all the fields.

As for the Garrison, I note the point raised by the member for Christ Church West, and we are going to organise the Garrison School. We are getting surveyors to survey the Garrison as well as the helter skelter you get, you have too many cricket fields, netball, and in addition to that we have a design to put up a pavilion to serve two fields sort of back to back, because we don't feel that even now Springfield is backed by the hon. member for Christ Church West it is Springfield's responsibility to put up a pavilion on Government land.

Pleasant Hall. I know where it is, I know where somebody lives from 3.00 p.m., but it is a question of money; that's all it is, and I don't care who is in power if you don't have the money all the good ideas in your head and your desire to meet the needs of the people have got to be progressively acquiesced over a period of time. That would be nice, it could be used for netball, but in the meantime the people from Pleasant Hall could go to the Garrison until we get the money to do Pleasant Hall. It would be nice to stay in the compound, but this is all it is.

What I want finally to say is that it isn't the Government's refusal to meet the needs of the people of the City, St. Thomas, St. Peter, St. James or what have you, it is a question of money. That is all it is, and obviously if you have got a hundred requests and you can meet fifteen a year, the other things like roads, lights, water and telephones, those who don't get this year always feel that their requests are more urgent than those who get. My people are told they can't get everything, Rome was not built in a day and if they can get somebody to give them everything in a day they can vote for them, but it is a question of money.

I appreciate what has been said, I appreciate the urgency,...

Mr. EDWARDS: On a point of order. I have asked a specific question on the provision of a changing room at Farmers' Playing Field and I would like to get an answer. I see that the Minister read out certain areas where these facilities are going and I would like to know

point blank yes or no if provided in this Resolution is some provision for changing room facilities, regardless of how small or big, if it is a 6' x 9', whatever it is, this is not the first time I have asked about it and I would like to know if this is included.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: The answer to that is no.

Mr. EDWARDS: In that case I will not vote for the Resolution, I will vote against it.

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

Ayes: Hon. C. E. TALMA, Hon. A. MORRISON, Dr. the Hon. R. B. CADDLE, Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD, Hon. F. G. SMITH, Hon. P. G. MORGAN, Hon. P. M. GREAVES, Mr. E. E. GREAVES, Mr. R. StC. WEEKES, Mr. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, Miss B. A. MILLER, Mr. L. S. CRAIG, Mr. W. C. B. HINDS, Mr. H. deB. FORDE, Mr. C. L. BOLDEN and Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS — 16

Noes: His Honour A. DaC. EDWARDS — 1
8.20 p.m.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: Mr. Chairman, the next Resolution is non-controversial. The Barbados Netball Association is committed to hosting the 1976 Caribbean games at Waterford, and the Government over a period of time, after consultation with them, feel that it is Barbados' turn and that Barbados should host the participants in a manner befitting the reputation of the country as a sporting country. This is part of the amount needed...

Hon. C. E. TALMA: On a point of order, Sir, if the hon. member will give way. It is only one Resolution with two items. This has been passed. The next Resolution is for the sum of \$30,000.00 — Ministry of Health.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1976-77 No.15

Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have already spoken on this matter, and I do not intend to delay the House any further. This Resolution, as I indicated earlier, is for \$30,000.00 to assist the Barbados Registered Nurses Association in hosting the Conference of the Caribbean Nurses Organisation, which is currently taking place at Marine House. I am certain that, on both sides of the House, there

will be agreement on this matter in terms of the role that the Caribbean Nurses Organisation and nurses in general play in the role of health care in this country.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. F. G. SMITH: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. C. E. TALMA: I beg to move that Your Honour do now report the passing of two Resolutions in Committee of Supply.

Hon. A. MORRISON: 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.

On the separate motions of Hon. C. E. TALMA, seconded by Hon. A. MORRISON, the

two Resolutions were read a first and second time and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. C. E. TALMA: This concludes Government Business for today's sitting. Before moving the adjournment to Friday at 4.30 p.m., I would say that I have been instructed to announce that the Prime Minister will make his Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals at 5 p.m. on Friday, 30th July, 1976. Equal time will be given for the reply, and the usual facilities over the news media will be given to both sides.

I beg to move that the House do now adjourn to Friday, 30th July, 1976, at 4.30 p.m.

Hon. A. MORRISON: I beg to second that.

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

8.30 p.m.