

THE House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1976 – 81

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 17th October, 1978

Pursuant to the adjournment the House of Assembly met at 12.15 p.m. o'clock on Tuesday, 17th October, 1978.

PRESENT

His Honour W. C. B. HINDS, J.P. (Speaker); Hon. L. S. CRAIG, (Minister of Housing, Lands and the Environment); Hon. C. L. BOLDEN, LL.B., (Minister of Communications and Works); Hon. H. deB. FORDE, S.C., M.A., LL.B., (Attorney General and Minister of External Affairs); Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER, (Minister of Health and National Insurance); Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE, (Minister of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs); Mr. J. G. ODLE, B.Sc., (Chairman of Committees); Mr. M. C. C. WARD; Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN, Q.C., LL.B., (Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry) (Leader of the House); Hon. L. R. TULL, M.A., (Minister of Education and Culture); Mr. DeL. O. BRADSHAW, and His Honour E. E. ALLEYNE, LL.M., (Deputy Speaker).

Prayers were read.

Mr. E. E. GREAVES and Dr. HAYNES entered the House and took their seats.

MINUTES

On the separate motions of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, seconded by Hon. L. S. CRAIG, the Minutes of the Meetings of the House of Assembly on 26th September, 1978, 3rd October, 1978 and 10th October, 1978 were confirmed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to announce that I have received a Message from the Honourable Senate addressed to this Honourable House re an amendment to the Dogs Act. I am also to announce that I have received a communication from the Cabinet of the Government of the Bahamas advising us of their 250th Anniversary of Parliament and extending an invitation to this Parliament.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Planning I beg to lay Customs Tariff (Amendment) (No. 8) Order, 1978.

NOTICES

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the lease of lands situated at the Grantley Adams International Airport to British West Indian Airways Limited for the construction of an engineering facility.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to revise and consolidate the law relating to marriage.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: 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 same for the services of the Island for the Financial Year ended 31st March, 1978.

Hon. B. A. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, in respect of the message from the Honourable Senate regarding the Dogs (Amendment) Act, I shall be much obliged if Your Honour will deal with this matter at a time which Your Honour considers most suitable for this business.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Bill to revise and consolidate the law relating to marriage be read a first time.

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Bill to grant an additional sum of money out of the Consolidated Fund and to appropriate same for the financial year ended 31st March, 1978 be read a first time.

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: I beg to second that.

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

ORAL REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, I beg to give notice that Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 10 asked by the hon. member for Christ Church East is now ready.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Item No. 2 be the first Order of the day under Government Business and that the Hon. Attorney General be given leave to deal with the Item on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Establishment.

Mr. SPEAKER: Item No. 2 is the instant order of the day.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEAVE PASSAGES (AMENDMENT) ORDER, 1978

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, this Resolution need not delay the House for any long time. It concerns the consequential amendment to the Leave Passages Order which must take place of necessity every time there is an increase in the salaries of civil servants. As the position stands at the moment the present salary scales and points of qualifications for leave are between \$8,112 per annum and \$12,792 and in the revised salary point it will move to \$9,336 to \$14,376, and the Leave Passages per annum start at \$10,272 to \$11,496 and \$12,792 to \$14,376.

12.25 p.m.

That is basically what the Resolution and the Order which will be made in pursuance of the

Resolution seeks to do. It is, as I said Sir, a very simple Resolution. For the benefit of hon. members who wish to know, over the past two years the cost of leave passages to the Treasury between 1975-77 was \$1,195,951.38 and approximately 593 officers during that time made use of the facilities of leave passages. Although this actual expenditure need not represent the potential expenditure, because many more officers would have qualified but not use the facilities which were available.

If there are any queries which arise from this introduction, I will be only too pleased to deal with them. I have the pleasure to move that this Resolution be now agreed to.

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: I beg to second that.

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

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply.

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: 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. ODLE in the Chair.

RESOLUTION TO SUPPLEMENT THE ESTIMATES 1978-79, NO. 12 (CAPITAL)

Item 1 was called A Resolution to grant the sum of \$1,139,461 from the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1978-79, Part II — Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimate 1978-79, No. 12, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Head 115, Ministry of Education and Culture, Item 4, Barbados Community College in the sum of \$351,541 was called.

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Chairman, under the agreement between IADB and the Government of Barbados certain counterpart funds are to be spent by the Government in relation to the construction of the Barbados Community College. An amount of \$5,995,100 is provided in the Estimates for the Financial Year 1977-78 to continue the cost of financing of the constructions of the buildings and also to provide for the purchase of materials, equipment, furniture and so on. A part of the funds is

reimbursable in accordance with the terms of the IADB loan agreement. Release was sought for an amount of only \$3,061,465 during the Financial Year 1977-78, and of this amount only \$2,203,123 was actually expended at the end of the Financial Year 1977-78, leaving an unspent balance of \$858,342 which lapsed at the end of that Financial Year.

However, there were a number of outstanding commitments in respect of furniture and equipment which were ordered during that Financial Year and had not been delivered at the end of the Financial Year. With regard to the purchase of the furniture and equipment, it should be noted that the cost of these items has risen considerably since they were first ordered. Also there was an outstanding figure of \$53,000 due to the contractors C. O. Williams & Company. I think it is for the levelling of a playing field which was not completed due to certain unforeseen circumstances associated with the terrain. For the Financial Year 1978-79, an amount of \$700,000 is provided in the Capital Estimates under Head 115, Item 4, for the continued project expenditure. However, this amount is not adequate to meet this expenditure, and therefore we are asking by way of a supplementary for a provision of \$351,541 which is in fact a revote of part of the funds which lapsed from the Financial Year 1977-78.

Mr. Chairman, approximately 80% of this money is to be refunded by the IADB to the Government of Barbados and placed to the Consolidated Fund under the terms of the loan agreement. I now beg to move, Mr. Chairman, that this Head stand part of the Resolution.

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: I beg to second that.

Mr. SANDIFORD: Mr. Chairman, there will be of course no objection from this side to the amount being sought — \$351,541 — to be spent on the Barbados Community College. I think it is now understood that this particular institution is fulfilling a very important role in the education of this country, and it is certainly an indication of the acceptance by the present Government that this institution has an important part to play in the educational development of Barbados. There was a time when this was not always so.

I am not speaking about the present holder of the post of Minister of Education, but there were certain members of the then Opposition who did not hold that view. Now I am very pleased to see that better judgment has prevailed and that is now accepted that it is now an integral part of the educational life of this country.

12.35 p.m.

It is not generally realised that the first division set up in the Barbados Community College was the division of Science and Technology and this was not by accident. It was because there was a realisation by the Government that technical education needed injection of funds and facilities in order that the industrial development of this country and indeed the general economic development of the country could be further advanced, and that is why the first division within the Barbados Community College was the division of Science and Technology.

It is a matter of concern to me that an agreement was worked out between the Barbados Government and an Educational Institution, one of the State Universities in the United States whereby groups of that particular division, the Division of technology, could proceed after completing their studies at the Barbados Community College and proceed into the four year degree programme at the Upper Division Campus. I believe it was the State University of Pennsylvania and at the end of an additional two years, obtain a Bachelor of Science in Technology.

I am unaware what developments have taken place following that Agreement. We were able to have a team down here from that University and to the best of my knowledge all the arrangements were worked out, but I would be glad if the Minister could indicate what is the state of that particular arrangement. Such a development, if it had culminated in the admission of students from the Barbados Community College into that programme, would now have speeded up the personnel who might be available in the field of technology for work in this country to under-pin any further industrial and technical developments which there might be in this country.

As I indicated, it is not a contentious matter, I am raising it because I genuinely do not know what happened to that Agreement. I think it was an arrangement which was in the interest of the students, in the interest of this country, and in the interest of those industrialists who from time to time cannot find trained personnel in the areas that require to satisfy those purposes and I am wondering if the Minister can throw some light in this position.

Mr. Chairman, you are familiar with this division of development. It was after completing two years in the Division of Technology that an additional two years would be spent in the upper level of the State University of Pennsylvania to complete their training programme in that regard. I make these points, Mr. Chairman, in order to under-pin the point that previous administrations have been interested not only

in the general academic education but also in the technical business and the commercial education of Barbadians because there was a well developed, rounded educational programme being worked out and being implemented and the Barbados Community College was one facet of that particular programme.

The other facet as far as technical and vocational education was concerned was the establishment of the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic and the arrangements for the funding of that particular Institution by the Inter-American Development Bank. Now in both projects, the Barbados Community College and the Samuel Jackman Polytechnic, arrangements were made for the funding from that International Institution and they represented the twin pillars for the further technical and vocational development of this country as far as the provision of multi-faceted skills for the young people of this country were concerned.

It is now generally realised, Mr. Chairman, that in addition to that technical and vocational base that there were some interesting developments taking place as far as other areas of technical and vocational education were concerned in the Secondary Schools and there is an inter-connection, Mr. Chairman, because there is no point in setting up Institutions in mid-air without some general disbursement of skill throughout the community, and the Industrial Arts Programme in the Secondary Schools was an integral part of that programme.

It is not generally realised that in an area such as printing that efforts were made to include Graphic Arts into the curriculum at some of the schools and I believe that at the Garrison Secondary School there was actually printing equipment provided for the training of those young people.

I am making these points, Mr. Chairman, to underline that the fact that an Educational Institution such as the Barbados Community College is not solely interested into the humanities or in teaching Latin, as some people would want to think, but it was interested in the provisions of better education for the people of this country and how that institution has progressed today in a matter of interest and indeed in many respects it is a measure of satisfaction. Now we are not saying that it has reached its pinnacle because any educational institution must ever have further goals to accomplish. It must continue to work to diversify and improve its programme and this is true although an institution is no less than the other institutions in this country.

I would say that from time to time comments have been made that in areas such as accountancy there may be a shortage of skills. The Barbados Community College has been playing a part in that particular area. It has a programme going in accountancy and indeed, as I understand it, the courses are over-subscribed to the extent that some qualified students have been unable to gain admission for those courses from time to time, and so, Mr. Chairman, we are giving full support to this particular measure and I would urge the Minister to continue to give every support to that institution and wherever he sees fit to try to improve its offerings because I do not think at this stage this should be any partisan matter. That type of water has passed under the bridge and I believe that the Government is a little wiser now that such an institution has an important part to play in our total educational system.

12.45 p.m.

Dr. CHELTENHAM: Mr. Chairman, now that we are dealing with the final accounts and the final sum in relation to the Community College, I think it is an appropriate moment for me to express my own concern about the role which the Community College is playing in the structure of our educational system. It is understandable that the last speaker would wish to remind himself and indeed Parliament and the entire country that he was indeed the Minister of Education when the Community College was established, but I think it has been conceded in this Parliament, and all of us who have an interest in these matters will agree, that the precise role of the Community College was not well thought out and certainly not well defined when the Community College was first established, and we are seeing the Community College now groping for its real role in the educational life of this community; and I think it will be many years yet before it finds that role, confidence and certainty.

The first point I wish to make that I would like to have the response of the Hon. Minister of Education relates really to the fact that "A" levels are done over two years, and as far as I know there has not been one single person who has done more than two "A" levels over the two years period. I once discussed this with the Acting Principal and he told me that they had problems in relation to organising the time table in such a way as to allow a person to do three or four "A" levels. I want to say in my view an under-training of the mind and under preparation of the individual when over a two year period he cannot do more than two "A" level subjects at one time. It seems to me to be a waste of the resources of the College when regardless of your background, your capacity or aptitude you cannot do more than two "A" level subjects over a two year period. Bright boys in this community have done four over one year. Certainly the bright boys at Harrison College do three over two years, but in so far as the

Community College is partly a preparation institution for matriculation, it seems to me that you are not preparing people well for the requirements of University when over a two year period they only do two "A" level subjects.

The second point I wish to make relates to what I still regard as the duplication in the educational system in this country. Too many institutions are offering much the same sort of course in catering to the educational needs of the same sort of class in the community, and it seems to me that there is considerable overlap still between the Community College and the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic. There is certainly an overlap between the Community College and the sixth form at Harrison College, Queen's College, Lodge and other institutions, and now we are on that, I think it is about time that the Hon. Minister of Education tell us whether in the end we are going to have all sixth form studies concentrated at the Community College or whether we are going to have the discriminatory system existing whereby you can do sixth form work at Queen's College, Harrison College and Lodge which has become regretfully a third class institution, but you cannot have it at Foundation. I think that we ought to hear from the Hon. Minister whether with 1,000 children now going to school between the Boys' Foundation and Girls' Foundation now known as the Foundation School we are going to be able to have a sixth form college at Foundation. I see no reason why those in the south ought not to have a sixth form at the Foundation School. I have already made the case for a sixth form college there in terms of the improvement of the tone of the school and the quality of the students, with boys between 16 and 18 remaining in school and not having to leave the school and go elsewhere.

We have been hearing quite a lot recently about the likelihood of nursing being integrated into the Community College, and I would like the Minister of Education to tell us how far that proposal has reached, when is the course likely to begin, if at all it is going to begin, and what are the general implications for nursing and for the community when you take nursing from the Tercentenary School of Nursing and put it into the Community College. I think it is an important development and I think the House is entitled to hear from the Hon. Minister as to what are the implications of that move.

The last speaker did make the point that the college has a role, apart from a preparation for matriculation of meeting the technical manpower requirements of the community to some extent. It is not the only institution that is concerned with that, but

to some extent it has a major responsibility in this regard. One thing that has happened over the last few years is that the Community College has not really structured its syllabus taking into account the particular requirements of the world at work, the technical requirements, and while we at IDC were working in our task force to identify the particular manpower requirements as far as the industrial estates are concerned, we found really that there was little knowledge at the Community College as to what are the technical needs of the estates. I think what it reflects is that there is need for some mechanism of collaboration, cooperation, information if you like, whereby the Community College can know — talking about those responsible for the management of the College — at any time what are the particular needs of industry, so that they can tailor their syllabus to accommodate the needs as they arise.

I would like to pay tribute to the cooperation which we got from Dr. Shorey and indeed from the Community College and the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic in trying to structure a course to meet an urgent demand of industry in the region of digital arithmetic, computer logic and the sort of background skills which are necessary in order to service the semi-conductor industry in this country. My plea to the Minister is really to ensure that added attention be paid to defining a role for the Community College distinct and different from the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic, avoiding the obvious duplication which we have already existing in the educational institutions, and ensuring that as much as possible the Community College is so structured as to accommodate the needs of a rapidly industrialising Barbados.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If no other hon. member wishes to speak, the Minister may exercise his right of final reply.

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Chairman, I am grateful to the two hon. members who have spoken on this Resolution for the quality of their contribution. I can understand the zeal of the hon. member for St. Michael South because it was under his tenure as Minister of Education that the Barbados Community College was founded.
12.55 p.m.

He has asked quite legitimately that the Barbados Community College be restructured in such a way as to meet the needs of the society and play a more important role in education in this country and I can assure him that Government at this stage is very concerned with the overall restructuring of the Barbados Community College and meeting certain staff

requirements to give the College the type of impetus it has lacked from the time it was founded. The hon. member for St. Michael South knows only too well that the problems of the Barbados Community College are problems created against his opposition and resistance by the former Government and particularly the former Minister of Finance in that administration.

I must say to the credit of the hon. member for St. Michael South that he really did have some conception of what a Community College should be, but he failed miserably to win over his colleagues as to what was required. Even on the question of staffing, his colleague refused to go along with him. Even in setting out what role the Community College should play he was over ruled by his colleagues and particularly by the former Minister of Finance. So what I have inherited is not what the hon. member for St. Michael South would have wished me to inherit, but because his Government was so insensitive to the real role of the Community College.

The hon. member for Christ Church East said that the role was not properly defined at the beginning, in 1969, and that the Government is now groping at trying to define the role and that perhaps in six years will arrive at it I can assure the hon. member for Christ Church East that long before six years are up the Community College will be on such a basis that he would not have to raise such questions as he has raised today.

Before I answer a few specific points about the Community College I want to mention a few things I really cannot allow to pass without comment. The hon. member for Christ Church East volunteered that the Lodge School is a third rate school. I would have been worried about that if I did not know that my colleague from Christ Church is given a hyperbole, but I cannot understand on what basis such a statement has been made. Lodge School is and remains one of the leading secondary schools in Barbados. It is true that the Lodge School is riddled by a number of problems — personality problems, the problem of trying to relate itself to the exigencies of the 70's, and a number of others. But I can assure the hon. member that between my Ministry, myself personally, the Governing Body of the Lodge School, Headmaster and Staff and the parents who seem to be very keen at this stage, we are working out and solving some of the problems that have been afflicting the school in recent years. I really must not let it pass that the Lodge School is a third rate school.

The hon. member for St. Michael South referred to an agreement made in his time between the Barbados Government and the University of Pennsylvania over the transfer of graduates of the Barbados Community College of Science and Technology into the degree course at that university, and he raised a very

reasonable question as to what has become of that agreement. I will tell him. The course in Science and Technology that was set up by he hon. member was not of a sufficiently high standard to merit transfer into the degree course at the university to which he referred. When the results of the people who graduated from the Barbados Community College were referred to the university, they said that the standard was not high enough.

There is another reason why nothing more has been done. There are a number of American institutions, universities in particular, who are given federal funds in the United States according to how many overseas students or black students they admit, and what type of arrangements they made with third world countries; so a number of these institutions are interested only in this, and I am continually being besieged by American educational institutions who want to work out some arrangements with Barbados for their own advantage. Again, with US aid they insist that the money be spent in the United States; they are reluctant to give us money to build up our own institutions; you must go to the United States, institutions and spend the money in the United States. My own attitude to that is that they can keep the money if it has to be on those terms. And this is not only the university of Pennsylvania. I have been to a university in the United States with a roll of 23,000 students of which only 750 were black. They need to get federal funding for the university, so they are trying to get black students from Brazil Ruanda, Barbados etc., to make the figures look good so that they can get the type of funding from the federal government that they want. I do not think that as Minister of Education in this country I will allow our system to be perverted to meet the needs of American institutions, and that is the answer to the question.

Mr. SANDIFORD: Mr. Chairman, on a point of elucidation. I indicated that there was an agreement worked out with the University of Pennsylvania and I said that a team from that university had come down and found that the programmes were suitable, I believe, in two areas, as far as I recall. What I really want to find out is whether the Minister is saying that the students did not meet the standard for admission or is he saying that the programme as a whole did not meet the requirements. It is my understanding that the team agreed that the programme was satisfactory, so I want to know whether the difficulty laid with the programme or the students.

Hon. L. R. TULL: The answer to the question is twofold. The students who took the course at the Barbados Community College in Science and Technology and whose names were put up were the best of

the students of the Community College. Their grading was not of the highest; they were not "A" Grade students. On the other hand we are of the view that if the course offered at the Community College was of a sufficiently high standard these students would have reached the level required by the University of Pennsylvania.

The hon. member for Christ Church East also raised questions about duplication and overlapping and has asked about overlapping by the Barbados Community College and the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic, and the overlapping between the Community College and the Sixth Forms. I am not quite sure at this point what he means by overlapping, because to follow his submission to its logical conclusion he could claim that the Sixth form at Queens College is an overlap with Harrison College; so I am hoping that that is not what he means. However, I agree with him that there is considerable overlapping in the educational institutions in this country, and indeed there is a lack of rationalization between these institutions. Only recently I asked the advisers in my Ministry how is it that the two years teacher training at Erdiston Teachers Training College is not given credit at the University in the education programme at the university?

1.05 p.m.

If a graduate of the Erdiston Teachers Training College after two years of training should want to go into the Diploma of Education Course at the University at Cave Hill, he gets no credit for the two years that he has spent at the Erdiston Teachers Training College. There is a lot of overlapping. I accept that; but what I am doing at the moment — and I have succeeded to some extent so far is to remove some of the inconsistencies in the training programmes of these various institutions and trying to rationalise the continuity between one institution and the other.

The hon. member asked what is the position in respect of the future of sixth form students in Barbados. Well, the Community College at the moment is not capable of admitting all the students who want to do sixth form work in Barbados. At the moment there are just over 800 students. In another 18 months there should be 1,500. There are a number of students in sixth forms in Barbados. They are at Harrison College, Queen's College, Combermere and Lodge School; and the number of students from these schools cannot presently be accommodated at the Community College along with the number of applicants that already exist. As to the question of the future of the Community College as a sixth form school, all I can tell the hon. member at this moment is that no decision has been taken; but it is currently

under consideration by me and members of the Government.

Now, there are other areas that the circumstances demand a reply to. There is the question of the structuring of courses to meet the world of work. The Chairman of the IDC, the hon. member for Christ Church East, over a year ago raised that question of training technicians for the industrial estates; and I was made to understand that there was a large American computer firm that wanted to build a huge factory in Barbados and employ about 2,000 people in the computer assembly industry. I immediately asked the IDC to hold a meeting with me and officers of my Ministry, which they did; and I asked them to get in touch with this company to submit to me a syllabus of what they wanted the Barbados Community College to teach.

This is one policy that is going to be under-pinned — to use the nice word used by the hon. member for St. Michael South — and our policy in relation to the training of people for industry. It is that industrialists must meet part of the cost of training people who will make profits for them. I do not believe that it is the role of Government to provide all the money for training. If the industrialists want skilled manpower they have to pay part of the cost. I gave instructions that they should be told that — I hope that they have been told — that if they want us to train 2,000 technicians — I am trying to distinguish now between overseas companies and indigenous companies. If the overseas companies want these people trained here they have to pay; and if the indigenous companies want people trained to help them make profits, they will also have to meet part of the cost of training.

I have given instructions over a year ago when a particular overseas country wanted us to train technicians, that they must not only provide a syllabus, but they must provide funds and/or provide teaching staff. They could take two or three of their teachers or trainers and send them to the Barbados Community College to prepare the technicians and trainees that they say they want; and that will continue to be part of our policy.

There are one or two other questions raised. One was in respect of nursing education being transferred from the Ministry of Health to the Ministry of Education. I must confess that I have not at this point given a detailed study to this policy because it is not at this stage any more than a proposal; but the Ministry of Health has set up a multi-sectoral committee on which the Ministry of Education is represented to work out ways and means for implementing such a transfer;

and the Ministry of Health has given a number of very solid reasons for wanting the transfer. Perhaps the Minister of Health may be better able to give it than me.

What I gather from the files is that there is a need for nurses to be trained with other health personnel, like Public Health Officers, Laboratory Technicians and Pharmacists. They should all be trained together; but that the clinical work be continued at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. The Minister of Health has not told me this, but this is a common thing in North America where nurses are trained in an academic situation, and they do the clinical work in hospitals. It seems to be paying dividends; and if the transfer is desired the Minister of Health can be sure that the Ministry of Education will co-operate right down the line. I can even state that in the West Indies the trend is taking on, because Jamaica has already done such a transfer and has effected the type of nursing education that the Minister of Health would like in Barbados.

Committees have been working on it. My Ministry is represented and I hope that in less than two years the transfer will be effected with the best results. Let me mention two other points before I sit. I want to refer to the para-legal training that we give at the Community College, and to the Hotel School. The Hon. Attorney General has very sensibly taken a look at the situation that obtains in Barbados in respect of the training of para-legal people. In the past when there was training of solicitors' clerks articulated to a particular solicitor, it was very easy for a clerk to be articulated to a particular firm and take away the brunt of the minor legal work from the professional. Not all the people who were articulated became solicitors, and a number of them stayed on and did para-legal day to day work.

Now with the training of law students at the University of the West Indies, and demise of the old arrangement between solicitors and articulated clerks, there is a crying need in Barbados for a substantial number of para-legal persons. We need them not only in the private firms in Bridgetown, but we need them in Government Departments in large numbers. We need them in banking institutions. We need them in insurance companies. We need them in industries. Indeed we need them in the Attorney General's chambers.

1.15 p.m.

The Attorney General has looked around and has turned to Canada and the British Government looking for assistance in setting up a para-legal training course in the Community College and we in the Ministry of

Education are anxious to get the programme going and I am sure that when the programme gets off the ground the benefits that will be given to the legal profession, companies, businesses in Barbados, and the Government Departments will be tremendous, and at the moment we are looking towards the date of September, 1979 as the date when we will formally set about this programme for para-legal training.

I will talk very quickly about the Hotel School. I have had on a number of occasions on the Floor of this Honourable Chamber to point out a number of difficulties that have been plaguing the Barbados Hotel School and I hate to have to say this over and over again that the problems of the Hotel School are of the making of the previous administration. All types of strange, inscrutable appointments, acting and otherwise, were thrust on the Hotel School and the problems ever since then have been endless.

What we intend to do on this side is to bring the training of the Hotel people directly under the administration of the Barbados Community College. It is not going to be the total answer, but we believe it is part of the answer in bringing that School under what is now a very solid and firm management body, that is in the Community College. More will be said in respect of this sometime before the year is over but I would just leave it at that.

Mr. Speaker, if I may just make one final point, this whole area of training in Science and Technology. There is need to train people for the world of work. This rationalisation between what happens in the classroom and the work place is a subject that is engaging my attention and we believe that many of the problems in this regard stem from the old fashion view of the people who run the University of the West Indies. The University of the West Indies was patterned on the British University, a nice ivory tower, academic situation which produced a lot of men bright in the letters and so on, but we believe that in a developing country, that any educational institution, University or not, must try to see the needs of the society it represents and try to adapt their programmes and policies to meet those needs, and we are challenging the University of the West Indies and I am repeating it at Council meetings, at the University of the West Indies, making it clear that the existing order cannot remain. They will have to restructure their courses and try to integrate into the total programme what is happening in the colleges, whether it is the Jamaica College of Technology, or the Barbados Community College, or whatever it is, all those co-secondary institutions in those Island and the University of the West Indies must be incorporated fully into the overall plan of the University of the West

Indies. We can no longer put up with the University system in these Islands that is so far removed from the reality and the needs of the society that that University is made to serve and that is the official position of the Government of Barbados.

Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that Head 115 stand part.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: I beg to second that.

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

On motion of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN seconded by Hon. C. L. BOLDEN, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Resolution in Committee of Supply, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is an item reported to us from the Other Place which we propose to deal with now. It is a rather urgent matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there is no objection, leave is granted. You may proceed.

Hon. B. A. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in respect to this message from Your Honour in the Senate on the amendment to the Dogs Act 1975, I have been made to understand that all members have been circulated with a copy of this amendment from the Honourable Senate and I beg to move Sir, that this amendment be now agreed to.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, before you beg leave of the House, I would like to indicate to all hon. members that there are several Bills dealing with the reform of the Land Laws of Barbados, and they have been circulated. I understand that hon. members would wish a longer time to study the various memoranda which have been circulated with the Bills.

I am making arrangements to have the Legal Parliamentary Counsel available. If any members wish

to consult with them before next Tuesday, they are free to do so, in particular Mr. Thomas in that office and he will give any explanation called for or help with any amendments that any members may wish to make to the Bills. I should like to proceed if possible with the Bills in all their stages on Tuesday next, if they wish to do so. I wish to indicate that, therefore, I will not proceed with them today because they are technical bills and understandably, members would like a longer time to study them.
1.25 p.m.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, this concludes Government Business for the day. We are quite prepared to come back and do Private Members' Business after lunch. It is entirely a matter for the members of the Opposition, and if they desire to come back we are perfectly prepared to come back, but in view of the representations made last week as to the need for a longer period of time in respect of the land law Bills, we have decided we are not going to proceed with the other six matters under Government Business today. So I would like an indication from the other side, but we are perfectly prepared to suspend now for lunch and come back and do Private Members' Business.

Mr. TAITT: Mr. Speaker, in the light of what the hon. member has said, we on this side have no desire to detain the House. We are perfectly prepared to go on with the arrangements as set out by the leader of the House. In so far as Private Members' Business is concerned, we are satisfied that the issues which we have under Private Members' Business will not suffer any harm because of the passage of a week.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 24th October, 1978, at 12 o'clock noon, but I want to indicate that we will be proceeding on that date with the six land law Bills.

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: I beg to second that.

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