

THE House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1976 – 81

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 26th June, 1979.

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

PRESENT

His Honour W. C. B. HINDS, J.P., (Speaker); 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); Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS, LL.M.; 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; Mr. V. L. JOHNSON, M.A.; Mr. B. M. TAITT, M.A.; Mr. L. L. SISNETT; Dr. R. L. CHELTENHAM, M.Sc., (Econ.) and His Honour E. E. ALLEYNE, LL.M., (Deputy Speaker).

Prayers were read.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, Hon. L. R. TULL, Mr. DeL. O. BRADSHAW and Mr. L. E. SANDIFORD entered the Chamber and took their seats.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday 12th June, 1979.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Minutes be taken as read.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: If there are no observations, the Minutes of the Meeting of 12th June, 1979 stand confirmed.

The Minutes of Monday 18th June, 1979.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I happen not to have received my copy of the Minutes but I understand that they were circulated. I beg to move that the Minutes be taken as read.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: If there are no observations, the Minutes of the Meeting of Monday 18th June, 1979 stand confirmed.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the Report of the Probation Service for the years 1975–78.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$89,688 out of the Consolidated Fund and to place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1979–80, Part II – Capital, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1978–79, No. 2, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the Scholarship, Exhibitions and Bursaries (Amendment) Regulations, 1979.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill relating to fugitives in Barbados from the criminal law of other states and to fugitives from the criminal law of Barbados in other states.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Defence Force and for related matters.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Speaker I beg to give notice of a Bill to provide for the establishment in Barbados of a Tourism Investment Corporation and for related matters.

FIRST READING OF BILLS

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the Extradition Bill relating to fugitives in Barbados be read a first time.

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

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

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Defence Force be read a first time.

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

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

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to provide for the establishment in Barbados of a Tourism Investment Corporation be read a first time.

Hon. L. R. TULL: I beg to second that.

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

STATEMENT BY PRIME MINISTER

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker,

"When I delivered my Economic Report and Budgetary Proposals on April 25, 1979, I indicated that full details of employment in Barbados as at the end of 1978 were not then available.

I explained that the Statistical Department had been forced to adopt a six months' survey period for its continuous Household Sample Survey on employment due to pressure of its several commitments. I am happy to report, Sir, that the results of the six-months' survey for the period ending March 1979 are now to hand and I propose to inform the House of the figures."

12.25 p.m.

I am happy to report, Sir, that the results of the six months survey for the period ending March, 1979, are now to hand, and I propose to inform the House of the figures. Hon. members will also be pleased to note that

in response to criticisms made from time to time from both sides of the House relative to the presentation of employment statistics, the Statistical Department has used the method of racial estimation based on the best estimates of the island's population so that, in addition to percentages, we also have totals which give a sound basis for analysis.

According to estimates from the Statistical Service based on the continuous household sample survey, the overall unemployment rate for the period October, 1978 to March, 1979, was 12.6 per cent, a drop of almost 2 per cent from the 14.5 per cent recorded between October, 1977 and March, 1978. The survey showed that unemployment among males has fallen from 9.8 per cent to 8.8 per cent. Among females the reduction was even more significant, from 20.1 per cent to 16.9 per cent.

Estimated figures for the work force over the October, 1978, to March, 1979 period are 105,400, compared to 106,200 for the period October, 1977, to March, 1978. The total number of employed persons is estimated at 92,100 persons for the latter period as against 90,900 for the earlier period. Mr. Speaker, it is particularly gratifying to me; and I am sure that other hon. members will be equally pleased to note that there has been quite a spectacular change in the category of persons described as voluntarily idle. Whereas the figure for this sector stood at 5,300 for the period ending March, 1978, it now stands as only, 2,300.

This statistic is of some importance, since it implies that the feeling of hopelessness that has afflicted many of our young people and kept them out of the labour market since presumably they did not think that they could find jobs if they looked for them, is now abating. It can also be seen that if the voluntarily idle had remained the same in number as they were in 1976 and early 1977, the unemployment figure would now be in single digits. More importantly, the fact that 4,000 young people have begun actively to look for work where previously they were content to remain unemployed, posed considerable social and economic implications.

Other trends in the latest figures are that there has been a small drop in the number of persons of working age who are still studying, while 1,400 more persons have entered the category of retired. These figures correspond with present trends in the population of Barbados which, in the demographic sense, is becoming older. A diminishing number of children is being born, while existing workers are passing into retirement in increasing numbers due to the greater birth rate 60 to 65 years ago.

Although there is no room for complacency while unemployment remains as high as it is, Mr. Speaker, there is some cause for satisfaction whenever a reduction in joblessness is achieved; and while the 2 per cent decline is

to be welcomed, and perhaps taken as a portent of the future, I would warn that without continued social peace and stability the fragile gains in economic development of the last two years can easily be swept away.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I wish to commend the staff of the Statistical Department for adjusting to the demands of proper economic planning and for adopting such refinements as are essential to an improved Government Statistical Service. (*Cheers*)

ORAL REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

Mr. Speaker, the Replies to Parliamentary Questions Nos. 37 and 38 asked by the hon. member for Christ Church East are ready.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Standing Orders 6, 16, 18, 20 and 42(5) be suspended for the balance of the day subject to the usual understanding.

Mr. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if I could hear those Standing Orders again. I did not hear them quite clearly.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Standing Orders 6, 16, 18, 20 and 42(5).

The question that those several Standing Orders remain suspended for the remainder of the day's sitting was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

QUESTION TIME

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Question Time be now taken.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I beg to second that.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: Question Time is the instant Order of the Day. The hon. member for Christ Church East — his question No. 37:—

To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning: 1. On what date if any was the Alleyne Mercantile Bank Limited granted a licence under section 4 of the Banking Act 1963 to operate as a banking institution in Barbados? 2. Who signed the banking licence, if any, granted to the bank? 3. Was any amount stated and if so how much was the amount of subscribed capital paid up in cash at the time of the application for the said banking licence? 4. Was any proof produced to the Government that the

said bank had any capital whether as stated or at all? 5. Was any investigation of the character or characters of any of the Directors of the bank carried out by the Ministry of Finance before the said bank was licenced? 6. Was any request made to the bank under the provisions of section 4 of Banking Act 1963 to furnish audited financial statements as a means of substantiating any statements made in the bank's applications relating to subscribed capital or to the minimum capital requirements laid down by section 7 of the aforesaid Act? 7. Were any fees paid pursuant to section 21(1) of the Banking Act 1963-45 and the Schedule to the Fees and Penalties Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1974-49 before the banking licence was issued to the aforesaid bank and if so when were the said fees paid?

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:—

- “1. May 30th, 1975 on which day it was given to counsel for the Bank personally by the then Minister of Finance and Planning, Mr. E. W. Barrow.
2. The then Minister of Finance and Planning.
3. As to amount of subscribed capital paid up in cash, the application for the licence contained two erasures and the words “\$300,000 (C. A. Phillips)”.
4. No Sir.
5. No, Sir.
6. No, Sir.
7. No, Sir. The fees were not paid until July 9, 1975.”

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member — His Question No. 38:—

To ask the Minister of Finance and Planning: 1. Is the Minister aware that on the second of October, 1975 the Prime Minister's Office issued a press release in which it was stated that “on 20th February, 1975 Principal Crown Counsel advised that there was no evidence that the company was being operated as a bank” the said reference to the said company being a reference to the Alleyne Mercantile Bank Limited? 2. Is it a fact that such advice was given by the Principal Crown Counsel? 3. By whom was the said press release signed?

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, the Reply is as follows:

- “1. No such Press Release was issued on the second of October, 1975. Such a Press

Release was however issued on the 2nd August, 1976 containing the words recited by the Honourable Member in his Question, namely "On 20th February, 1975 Principal Crown Counsel advised that there was no evidence that the Company was being operated as a bank" referring to the Alleyne Mercantile Bank.

2. No such advice was given by Principal Crown Counsel on 20th February, 1975 or at all.
3. The Press Release was signed "Errol W. Barrow Minister of Finance and Planning".

12.35 p.m.

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Government Business be now taken.

Mr. SPEAKER: Government Business is the instant Order of the day.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 1 stands in the name of the Hon. Leader of the House, to move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of this Island.

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

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to second that.

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

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE NOTE TO ITEM 8 – POSTAL SERVICES AND COMMUNICA- TIONS, UNDER HEAD 114 MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I am seeking leave to deal with this Resolution which stands in the name of the Hon. Prime Minister.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Leave is granted.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, for more years than I can recall there has been talk about the construction of a general Post Office to serve the Island of Barbados. We have now reached the stage where plans have been completed, a contract has been awarded and it is now a reality that a new General Post Office will be constructed in the very near future.

It has been recommended that there should be a project officer in charge of the works, and under the Estimates which have been provided under Head 114 – Ministry of Communications and Works, Item 8, Postal Services, inadvertently the note did not include the services of a project manager. We are therefore seeking that this note be amended in order that a project manager can be paid from this vote.

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

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: I beg to second that.

Mr. SANDIFORD: Mr. Chairman, while we have no objection to the amendment to this note because it is in keeping with the decisions taken by this Assembly that such work be carried out, and it is also in accordance with standard procedures that a project office should be set up for major projects, and also it is in keeping with the plans for the development of the postal services in this Island as developed by the previous administration and now quite rightly so being carried on by the present administration, all these being so, we however on this side are at a loss to find out exactly how this note is being amended. I do not know, it may be my fault, the exact words that are being added and what words are being omitted. As I said, it may be my fault, but I am wondering which Minister could say what are the words that are being inserted in the note and what are the words that are being omitted or both, if any.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, the Resolution contains the note to amend as follows:

"Provision to meet construction costs, fees for Consultants, salaries of staff and ancillary expenses in connection with the New General Post Office. Also provides for renovations to the Philatelic Bureau and token provision for the construction of post offices in St. Joseph and Christ Church."

What has happened here, Mr. Chairman is that under the previous note you could not have paid the salaries and expenses of the project manager, and that is why we are amending the note to take care of those expenses.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1979-80 No. 1

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is seeking the sum of \$314,915. Perhaps at this stage, Mr. Chairman, I should beg to have this figure amended to \$317,915.

Now a major part of it is funds for representation at the CARIFESTA from 16th July to 22nd July, this year, and part is also for part of the expenses for Crop Over, 1979. We had originally a vote of \$130,000 under this Head for the operating expenses of the Cultural Division of the Ministry of Education for the financial year 1978-79, but we had made no provision at that time for representation at CARIFESTA. You know, Mr. Chairman, that Crop Over is being held at the moment running from the 9th June until 2nd July this year, and includes a wide variety of events and a fully crowded programme.

I see a lot has been made in one of the national newspapers of the fact that government is spending something in the region of a quarter of a million dollars on Crop Over this year, but what it did not particularly highlight was the fact that the Government was also getting revenue of something in the region of \$240,000. The difference in the projected short fall between the expenditure by Government on Crop-Over and the anticipated revenue is something in the region of \$10,000.

12.45 p.m.

I should also point out, Mr. Chairman, a number of necessary difficulties that will accrue to Barbados as a result of the Crop-Over Festival. We know for instance that a large number of people have been coming in mainly to Barbados who live in North America and indeed a number of people from the Caricom countries have been coming into Barbados for Crop-Over and there will be this spin-off in the general economy with the large number of people coming into the country at this period of time.

Over and above that, Crop-Over Festival is not intended by Government to be a revenue earning Festival. Rather, we are hoping that Crop-Over will become a permanent Festival in Barbados with all the administration of what has been known to be a tradition and at the least in the last two years has been known to be part of our culture. I feel very strongly, Mr. Chairman, that Crop-Over should not be generated as a commercial Festival and an entertainment Festival but rather that we may get for at least this one time of

the year a proper understanding of ourselves and the whole nation as a people.

Crop-Over, based as it is on the Sugar Industry, tells us a lot of what has made this country which was taken over more than three Centuries ago and as such every Barbadian should feel proud to be part of this Festival because it tells us much about ourselves. A lot has been said about Crop-Over over the years and I really would not hold the House up by giving an extrapolation of what I expect a real Crop-Over to be.

The second part of the funds that we are seeking is for representation at CARIFESTA. CARIFESTA will be held in Cuba from the 16th - 22nd of July and Barbados proposes to send a contingency of 71 performers including technicians and management personnel who will make presentations in drama, song, music, dance, literature, fine arts and photography. The estimated cost of sending a delegation to Cuba is in the vicinity of \$70,000. I would hope that in the very near future that we in the Ministry will be issuing a full Press Release on the nature and extent of our representation.

I want to add here too, Mr. Chairman, that in deciding who is to represent Barbados at CARIFESTA I was guided and advised to a large extent by the National Arts and Cultural Council that is made up mainly of people in the Arts and I invited them to make recommendations to me as to the nature of our representations and I can say that I accepted substantially the recommendations.

Under Head 15(12), Item 6, we are seeking the sum of \$50,000 for two particular matters. One is, we learnt about a month ago that there was a sale of water colour drawings in London and these water colour drawings we found were of great historical value to Barbados because they included a number of subjects that are of interest to us. I understand there was a water colour drawing of Sir Conrad Reeves with a view at Ragged Point from St. John's Church and a number of other drawings representative of drawings of life in Barbados over a Century ago. Government has made an effort to acquire as much of the drawings as we can. We are happy to say that we were able to get a few of them and part of the money in this Resolution is for that purpose. We are asking for the sum of \$8,000 to tie us over for the rest of the Financial Year and to purchase items of interest to us in Barbados.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: I beg to second that.

Mr. TAITT: Mr. Chairman, I have just a few brief words to say on the Resolution. Clearly, we on this side

will not oppose the Resolution but there are a number of points I would like the Minister to enlighten us on.

Firstly, the Minister said that Crop-Over is a Festival which he would like to see not evolving into a commercial activity and I would endorse that and I will also like to say that I hope that the Minister will use his considerable influence and indeed the Government to see that the people are not led to believe that Crop-Over is a political activity. We have Carnival in Trinidad and people of Trinidadian birth and other Caribbean people come to feel that Carnival is Trinidad and Trinidad is Carnival and I think that when we conceived the Crop-Over Festival in the time when it was our responsibility to administer the affairs of this country that the Crop-Over Festival was in fact conceived in the terms which the Minister had just described it and the cultural and entertainment Festival that would redound to the benefit and upliftment of all Barbadians. I have no more to say on that.

Mr. Chairman, on the question of the delegation to Cuba I think it is proper that Barbados be represented at the CARIFESTA and I am pleased to see that Barbados will have a delegation or as the Minister says "a representative". I do not know what is the fear of saying a delegation. In the contents of the cultural exposition from Barbados we have had some very disturbing news recently in the Newspapers and on the Radio and there have been some very interesting statements made by a representative of Yoruba.

Now I myself am not in a position to speak with any authority on the management and affairs of Yoruba and I think I echoed the sentiments of all Barbadians who have had any contact with Yoruba that it has come to represent a forward thrust in exposing Barbadian Culture and certain aspects of the development in the history of Barbados. I believe that hon. members on both sides have had the pleasure of either participating or observing the activities which have gone on at Yoruba and around Yoruba and I am surprised that the Minister in this Resolution did not to take the opportunity to indicate what is the Government's attitude to Yoruba and the closing of Yoruba.

I am not here advocating that the Government should march forward like a knight in a shining armour every time some business suppositively fails or is closing down and throw money into it willy-nilly but it does seem to me Yoruba represents the significant input from a cross-section of Barbados and especially a large number of young people who have come to see the expression of Yoruba as part of their thing and indeed I see it too as a part of my thing and we on this side have been very pleased with what has been going on at

Yoruba. The spokes-people for Yoruba have said that they have not had the benefit of support from the private or the public sector in Barbados and I should like the Minister to indicate what has been the level or measure of support from the Government for Yoruba and if the Government proposes to take any steps to assist Yoruba in its present difficulties.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, on the question of the purchase of the paintings. I do not think that the sum of money in this Resolution is astronomically high for the purchase of paintings of a certain quality but I think this Honourable House would be much more comfortable if the Minister could give us just a little bit of detail as to the valuation of the paintings. I am saying that not out of any sense that the Government might not know what it is doing but I myself would like to know who are the Valuers and what is the nature of the painting or paintings so that I could feel more comfortable in supporting the Resolution.

12.55 p.m.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, the painting was bought at two separate sales. There was the Lieutenant of Engineers, who subsequently became one of the teachers at the Woolwich Military Academy, relating to military drawings of some sort, Sir, called Lieutenant Grimstone Faulk, and in the words of one Governor — he was an ADC out here to the General who lived in Queen's Park — and in the words of one former Governor, it is better to have an ADC who even if he does nothing paints all day than have an ADC who neither does any work or paints. Grimstone Faulk certainly painted a lot, he painted Queen's Park House many times, he painted the gardeners, he painted Barbadian women, in water colours, he painted Sir Conrad Reeves, Mr. Reeves whom the black people called Lawyer Reeves, which is the title of the painting, an upright painting of Sir Conrad looking over his shoulder. He painted Rev. Norville of St. Leonard's, the hon. member will be glad to hear of that, Sir John Seale — I think he painted Rev. Norville several times, Sir, I think we have at least three of Rev. Norville that we have bought — and indeed, Sir, I expect that an exhibition of these drawings will be mounted, and I am wondering if the House of Assembly may not be a good place to have the initial exhibition of them.

The drawings were not sold at auction, speaking of Lieutenant Faulk's drawings, they were bought out of an exhibition held in a well known London Gallery, and I would like to say that I am very much obliged to Mr. Graham Norton who is the Public Relations Adviser to the Government of St. Lucia who drew the pictures to the attention of the Government of Barbados. We asked the owner of a very reputable Gallery in London, who also has a house in Barbados, to have a look at the paintings and estimate their value, and we were

fortified in the belief that we were not being over-charged for them by the fact that in the short time between our getting to hear of the paintings and our asking the London High Commission to make contact with the Gallery — it was in fact only a couple of hours — in that period of time two of the most desirable paintings, one a drawing of the Scotland District, and another a view from St. John's Church, were sold, and indeed while we were organising the funds and so on, another eight or nine of the pictures, chiefly drawings of individual Barbadians, were also sold in advance of the exhibition, so when the exhibition itself started not only the Government of Barbados bought most of the paintings of Barbados, but a number of those were pre-sold to the Gallery's customers and they were put on show just for the sake of an exhibition rather than for sale.

There were, of course, paintings of many other islands; Jamaica, Dominica, St. Vincent and St. Kitts. We have also bought some other paintings which were put on sale at Sotheby's in connection with the West India Committee. The West India Committee apparently without notifying any of the West Indian Governments which might have been interested, put up for sale a large number of paintings and other memorabilia of West Indian interest at Sotheby's who, Mr. Chairman, the House will be aware, are one of the world's leading auctioneers, and the Government was fortunate to secure three paintings. One is called "A bumboat woman in Carlisle Bay," early 19th century, a fairly sizeable painting; one is described as a rum factory in the north west coast of the island, and the title of the third escapes me, Sir. We got them for one-third of what our representative had been authorised to pay at the sale. A representative from the High Commission went to Sotheby's and bid for them, and I do not think that we did badly at all, Sir, we got them at less than was estimated by the Art Gallery. I think we were very fortunate indeed in that. The bumboat woman is being repaired at the moment, Sir, therefore the pictures have not yet arrived in Barbados, they are packaging them up to come out, but I hope that hon. members will have a chance to see them very soon.

Mr. SANDIFORD: Mr. Chairman, I would like to say a few words on this Resolution that is before us. It is not very often that this House gets the opportunity to discuss cultural matters in any depth, and this perhaps is a good opportunity to say a few words on this particular matter.

As far as the amount of money being sought is concerned, we have no quarrel with the Resolution. I would like to note that there are many times in which both sides of this House agree on a number of matters and this tends to be one. The in-coming Government, the Barbados Labour Party administration, took the

action upon the initiatives developed by former Ministers, some of whom, like Mr. Peter Morgan, were wrongfully abused by the then Opposition, but it is partly due to his initiatives that we have this particular festival. I believe it grew out of some concept within the Board of Tourism or thereabouts that a summer festival should be held in authentic terms, and that developed into what is in the process of further developing into an exposition that could mirror the traditions and the life-styles of Barbados. We are short on festivals and it is right and proper that we try to research our history and our social customs and come up with authentic presentations which will interpret that best, which will show us even though as through a glass darkly our present, and indeed, our future. This is what the Arts can do for us, and whatever type of assistance the Government can further give and stimulation in this particular area will certainly get the praise of the Opposition, and indeed of right thinking people in this country.

Like my colleague, the member for St. Michael South West, I am concerned that the Minister did not say anything about the artistes who would make up the 71 persons. He has had his advice, apparently he has taken his decisions, but the only specific thing he gave us was that it included technicians and management personnel. I wonder if he could tell us whether Yoruba will still be participating in that particular presentation in the salubrious climate of Cuba.
1.05 p.m.

I heard on the radio — I believe it was CBC — an interview with some spokesman for the Yoruba people and the Yoruba Press. I do not recall the identity of the interviewer but he was obviously a very experienced and good interviewer who was putting some very perceptive questions. There was also some pretty heavy criticism of the Government for not coming to the assistance of Yoruba. I do not know if the Minister heard that particular interview or has had any reports on it, but the Government was specifically taken to task for apparently choosing to send Yoruba out of the country to represent Barbados but doing very little or nothing to assist Yoruba inside Barbados; and that gap between this external — I do not remember whether the word used was posturing — but that gap between the choice for representing the country outside and assistance inside obviously greatly rankled that spokesman for Yoruba. So I wonder if the Minister could tell us something about this. I believe he has the information, for he did say that he takes advice and that he did not choose these people himself but took the advice of people experienced in the arts, and that is how the representation was decided upon. But I wonder if he can tell us the extent of Government's assistance to this Yoruba enterprise and whether Government has any proposals to aid that particular enterprise in its present

difficulties. I believe it would be very interesting; it touches upon the cultural function of this country, and the Minister should give us an insight into Government's thinking about its concept of the total artistic development in this country.

Now Crop Over was mentioned. I know there have been some Ministers going into the tents. I recall that after the General Election there was a calypso knocking us down about one Adams, and it was very complimentary of the new Government, and by the same token very critical of the previous administration. CBC gave it very wide publicity; almost every fifteen minutes you could hear this calypso on the radio; it was praising the present Government and attacking the Opposition. What I want to know is when are we going to hear some of these calypsoes that are now going around at Crop Over time; I understand there are some warm lashes being given out in the tents and I understand that the hon. member for St. Joseph was very much present when some of these lashes were being shared and he ducked when the calypsonians were going to town on the Government. However, I do hope that if the Crop Over festival is supposed to interpret ourselves and to see ourselves as we are, then every opportunity will be given for the productions, whether they be calypsos or whatever, to be heard by the wider public of Barbados who may not be able to attend the functions, so that the people would still hear them even if they are not complimentary to the Government.

Insofar as paintings are concerned, when I was Minister responsible for cultural matters and the preservation of our cultural heritage was added to the items under my Ministerial control, I myself and the Permanent Secretary took a particular interest in this area, and we endorsed the proposals to acquire paintings of national importance, because we believe our items of cultural heritage should as far as possible have a permanent home in this country. In this connection I would like to make a call for the establishment of a National Portrait Gallery somewhere in our capital city, in which our outstanding people could have a permanent place. I would like to make that call, and let me say now that while we are acquiring the paintings of those who have passed to the Great Beyond we should commission paintings of our outstanding statesmen as soon as possible so that we would have these paintings and they could later form part of the collection in this Portrait Gallery, and they could be hung even before such a gallery is established. I have not discussed this with anyone; I am just speaking as I feel. We are privileged to have in this Parliament one of the most distinguished statesmen in the Caribbean — I refer to the distinguished Leader of the Opposition and it is fitting as he celebrates his 21st anniversary of continuous representation in this Chamber for the

constituency of St. John. So I throw out the suggestion — I know the Prime Minister has a deep interest in the arts — that a portrait be commissioned of the present Leader of the Opposition, and I am calling upon the Government at this most propitious time to ensure that such a step be taken and that the necessary funds be provided. I think the whole of Barbados would commend the Government for commissioning for the people of Barbados a painting of this distinguished statesman and one of the national heroes of this country.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Sir, I would like to say that this Government would be perfectly happy to honour the hon. member for St. John in some appropriate way. I do not want to appear churlish, but this matter of honours is a two-way street. The hon. member had better be sure that the hon. member for St. John would wish the Government to spend on a portrait before he puts forward the proposal. But I would be happy to commission a portrait of the hon. member.

1.15 p.m.

I have offered the hon. member personally a memorial dinner at the House of Assembly to commemorate his 25 years of service in here in the way we used to do in the past. We have received no answer to that. I have offered him personally that. I would like the hon. member to have a public offer made, and to understand that hon. members on this side appreciate the great and the mighty in Barbadian public life, no matter which political persuasion they come from; and as far as I am concerned, I would like to think that in my lifetime, in my time in Parliament a portrait of the hon. member can hang in the House of Assembly.

The hon. member, when he came into the small office which I used upstairs was surprised to see his picture in there. It was in the presence of Canadians, and a Canadian commented that there was no way that Trudeau would have a picture of the Leader of the Opposition in his office. The hon. member even went to take the picture down, and I said "look, leave the picture there. Leave it right there where it is", and so the hon. member for St. Michael South is pushing at an open door in this matter. (*Asides*)

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: I would like just to set the record straight, Sir. I have not made any request to have any portrait at the taxpayers' expense. The people of Jamaica had a life sized portrait commissioned at very great expense by one of their renowned artists which is now hanging in a portrait gallery close to the University in Jamaica. I do not wish any of the taxpayers' money, Sir, spent on me in any way like that, either for a dinner or for a portrait; because I think that there are a lot more useful objectives,

socially desirable objectives in this community than having the narcissist complex that has developed amongst politicians.

In so far as the presence of a photograph of mine in what is alleged to be the office of the Prime Minister in these precincts — I understand that a picture was put there by the Librarian and it is an office which is used by the Librarian of the House; and the picture was not put there by the hon. member. I am not saying that the hon. member would not put the picture there if he was presented with one. I do not see him going into town to buy a portrait of me, neither does he see me buying a portrait of him; but I am sure if we had in the office of the Leader of the Opposition over on the other side which he formerly occupied, a portrait of himself, I would not have taken it down; but when he realised my picture was there, I said that I would take it down to save him any embarrassment, and he said to leave it where it was. I just want to get the record straight on that, Sir.

What the hon. member said is true. He did in a letter, and personally on an occasion when the Canadian Parliamentarians were here offer to have a testimonial dinner. I am not really a great believer in testimonial dinners. I have had some conviviality in which my constituents in St. John within the past 48 hours, and to me that is a much more satisfying experience than to have the taxpayers spending money solely on Parliamentarians to come and sit down with me. I sit down there with them during the course of debate; but that is even beyond the call of duty, Sir. So I do not think that you should extend it that much to ask me to have a dinner with you, Sir. I am sure that we have had dinner together in the past, and I hope that we will continue in the future — not since you have been in Parliament — but after you have decided to retire, I will resume my friendly association with the members of your party which has not discontinued. I would like to say that, right up to now. Up to today I had reason to confer on business matters with certain members of your party and I will continue to have amicable relations.

I should like to thank the hon. member for his offer of having a dinner; but he knows that I am not a dinner man; so I would not like him to take it as any affront to Parliament or to himself that I graciously ask to decline that great honour which has been extended to me; and also I feel that the hon. member for St. Michael South in saying that he would like to see a portrait — I would not like to see a portrait, Sir, of any Parliamentarian during his life-time at the taxpayers' expense hanging in the precincts. Maybe, after they retire from Parliament, and there is a National Committee which says that any Parliamentarian is

worthy of that honour, that is a different matter altogether. But while we are members of Parliament, I do not think that it is appropriate that the people's money should be expended on matters such as this.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Sir, briefly, on the matter which has been raised by the hon. member for St. Michael South and adverted to by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister and the Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition, I think that we really ought to have some proper guidelines about our history, particularly in so far as the Arts are concerned, and the issue of honouring people who have served the country; and I think that the matter ought to be really lifted above either personal predilections or, for that matter, party political contentions.

Part of the problem here is that because of the bitterness in political life in the last 20 years, each side thinks that they have a right at some stage, either to sing or to unsing the praises or the failures or achievements of their particular heroes; and the politics of denigration have been a long time in being finished in this country. In fact before one even comes to the political platforms, and you are an aspirant to political office in this country, the politics of denigration start against you.

I remember indeed in this House in 1971 the problems we had every year in trying to convince the then Government of the necessity to move some sort of tribute to Sir Grantley Adams from the realm of a dollar in the Estimates — a token; and indeed at one time from being classified among an amorphous group of things like desks and stationery; and if hon. members would research debates of this House, they would see that at that time certainly speaking on behalf of the then Opposition, I advocated that the Government of the day and the Opposition should get together and set out some general guidelines on which the public would be consulted.

Now in the United States, for example, every holder of office will find that during his or her life time their portrait is left in their department. In the office of the Attorney General there is no — in the Ministry of the Attorney General there is no photograph, far less portrait of any of the holders of the office of Attorney General either post or pre-independence. Indeed, today if you ask us who were the Attorney Generals of Barbados down through the ages it would be impossible for us to give you immediately an answer; because there is not even a list of such persons.

The same goes for the Judiciary. There are one or two portraits over in the Law Library — photographs in fact — of the holders of the office of Chief Justice. I

think that there are either two, or at the most, three. Nobody has taken the pains to look even at the contribution which outstanding people have made to the development of the legal history of this country. And this goes for everything else. I have asked my Ministry of External Affairs, in this case, to write to all of the holders of the Office of Foreign Affairs, including the Rt. Hon. Member for St. John, in order to get some form of photographs for the records, a suitable one, to be hung in the Library there for the future.
1.25 p.m.

I think it should not only rest with politicians. If we look at our schools, the history of the schools and the headmasters who have gone before, very few people know anything about them, and so I would not like the hon. member to believe that he is not speaking, as the Prime Minister said, to the converted on this side, and our conversion was not like Saul on the road to Damascus, a phrase which the Rt. Hon. member for St. John likes to use from time to time. Our conversion predated being in Government. In fact this type of debate took place I remember in the period 1971 to 1976, and I believe we ought to move beyond the time of talking about it, and I would urge the Minister who has responsibility for setting up these educational historical matters, cultural affairs and what not together with the Prime Minister's office which has some responsibility for such matters to give serious consideration to a small committee to look at these sorts of suggestions and to implement them for the benefit of the historical records of this Island, if for nothing else. It would take us out of the realm of the pettiness you get out of politicians in this country; it would take us out of the realm of argument as to whether a particular place should be named after Sir Grantley Adams. You remember that contention, Sir, as to whether the Labour College should be Sir Grantley Adams College or not, whether his photograph should hang in a particular place; it would remove us from the realm, Sir, of those who would tear him down and attack the Government for having a bust of him outside Government Headquarters. This is part of the issue because I would not like the hon. member for St. Michael South with whose sentiment I agree to believe that the tearing down of our Leader and those who have contributed to the history of this country in a great measure. We may not agree with all their contributions, or how they went about them, but the tearing down began some long time ago and it may have been necessary for the purpose of gaining power or regaining power, but it began a long time ago. I would welcome a bi-partisan approach on matters such as this.

As one who came in on the politics of denigration, because I suffered at the hands of some hon. members in this House — for instance, some of the things said about me I did not even recognise myself,

and indeed I am still suffering at the hands of people from political platforms — and I am sure this happens to most of us. I am saying beyond the bounds of what one can accept as legitimate political controversy or attack so that we have to move beyond the period of denigration and I think a suggestion such as this would help so that persons' contributions will be put in their correct perspective. I was sure with regard to the hon. member for St. Michael South, although he could not make a plea for himself, that the hon. member for St. George South as the successor in the Ministry of Education, would be only too happy to have a portrait of the hon. member hanging on the walls at some stage or other as one of the people who made a contribution to the development of educational institutions in this country.

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Chairman, I just have one short point to make. I am not speaking on this matter. I just want to say that as far as the Housing Corporation is concerned, we have anticipated this long ago and so it is the intention of the National Housing Corporation in its development at Wotton to name some of the driveways after... not the hon. member for St. Michael South West; do not worry to point at your chest yet; maybe when we get to Ferniehurst... but in Wotton we do have intentions to commemorate the names certainly of Messrs. Talma and Goddard by having Talma Drive or Goddard Drive in Wotton, not in St. Michael South West.

Mr. TAITT: On a point of order, I was not concentrating on St. Michael South West; I was wondering if the hon. member would be inaugurating the Peter Morgan Drive, for example.

Mr. SIMMONS: I have a short memory when it comes to that gentleman, but he would probably get some recognition, you never know, a Morgan Path as distinct from Talma Drive. The significance of this is that it is all tied up with our cultural heritage and our colonial attitude. We have in the workshop of the National Housing Corporation in the Pine well over 100 prepared signs for naming roads which all bear English names — Worcester Drive, Newcastle Path, things that are totally irrelevant to contemporary Barbados and do not adequately reflect our indigenous heritage, and to that extent we want to start on some of the newer estates giving roads and driveways a more local flavour.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: If no other hon. member wishes to speak, the Hon. Minister may reply.

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Chairman, if I may briefly reply to a number of points raised by hon. members, perhaps I should deal with the question of Yoruba first, because I think it is passing strange that the hon. member for St. Michael South West and the hon.

member for St. Michael South should be the ones who raise the question of Yoruba. I remember when I was a member of the Other Place and the hon. member for St. Michael South West was a Minister in the Other Place that I raised the question, in the days before Yoruba had gained the respectability of a lot of people like hon. members, of a Government subvention to Yoruba and was fairly laughed out of that Chamber by the then Government, and I am sure that the hon. member for St. Michael South West was present when I raised the question. I said that Yoruba represented something that was important to the culture of this country and that it should be recognised as such, and the same way that subventions could be made annually to the Barbados Dance Theatre and to Bim and the Barbados Arts Council that Yoruba was fairly crying out for Government assistance and as I said, the Government treated it with contempt at that time.

Mr. TAITT: On a point of order, since the hon. member is referring specifically to when we were both in the Other Place, I think it is unfair to suggest that we treated Yoruba in the way in which he is now attempting to describe. The question we raised was not to do with what was the attitude to Yoruba then, it had to do with the attitude now. He raised it then before becoming a Minister to give a subvention, but what is his attitude now?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The Minister will get around to it.

Hon. L. R. TULL: You can have no doubt I will get around to that. I am saying that at that time Yoruba made an application to Government for a subvention and the Government in those days turned it down, and I am telling you that the hon. member for St. Michael South was the Minister of Education and Culture in those days, and he did nothing to assist Yoruba at that time. And then both hon. members got up in here today with the arrogance to ask what is this Government doing about Yoruba.

I had better set the records straight. When Yoruba Yard was opened, I officially opened it. When Yoruba wanted money, they came to this Government and we organised for UNESCO to provide funds for Yoruba. The Director of Yoruba, Elton Mottley, would tell you that there was a conference in the Caribbean on Culture here in Barbados in September 1978 and that he was invited to be one of Barbados' delegation. He took part in it and at that meeting we formulated plans for assistance by UNESCO for Yoruba, and that is in the pipeline. I have had the opportunity early this year to discuss with the Director General of UNESCO a proposal that we put forward to them for the assistance of UNESCO, and I am sure before the end of this year

we will be getting UNESCO funds for the assistance of Yoruba.

Let me just state here that I am not aware that Yoruba is dead. I am not aware of that.
1.35 p.m.

The hon. member for St. Michael South makes reference to some interview on the Radio and somebody speaking critical of the Government and taking the Government to task and saying that the Government was preparing to send Yoruba out of the Island to represent it but not to assist them in Barbados. Let me just tell the hon. member this. Yoruba is part of the representation for CARIFESTA and indeed it makes up the largest single group of any representation to CARIFESTA. I believe there are 16 people from Yoruba that would be attending CARIFESTA next month as part of our contingent and as far as I know Yoruba is not dead. Nobody has ever told me that Yoruba is dead.

I read something in the Newspaper and I must say that I do not ever believe anything that I read in that particular Newspaper. I have been a victim of a lot of untruths in that Newspaper. I read things in that Newspaper about myself that I have heard about for the first time and therefore I am not going along with that. I am in close touch with the Director of Yoruba. I speak to him two and three times a week and he has never given me any reasons to believe that things are finished. He has not told me that.

It is unfair for any spokesman, whether he appears to be a spokesman for Yoruba or otherwise to say that Government is giving no assistance to Yoruba. Nobody has spoken to the Ministry of Culture about Yoruba since the Newspaper article and this Government stands prepared to sit down and discuss the problems of Yoruba anytime and to assist them as far as we can in getting them out of any problems which they find themselves in. That is our commitment.

Now the hon. member for St. Michael South wants to know what we are doing for them. We have arranged for two Dance Teachers for the first time in this country, out of Government funds and to be paid for by Government; we have made arrangements through CFTC and UNESCO for the provision of funds for two Dance Teachers and from September this year the Government of Barbados for the first time will be paying the salaries of two Dance Teachers that will be available to the Schools, Yoruba and the Barbados Dance Theatre. That is what we are doing for Yoruba and other allied groups.

Now the question was also raised by the hon. member about Calypsos. This is very interesting because

for the first time in Barbados they have these Calypso Tents operating under the aegis of Government and this is a testament of the fairness of this Government that any Calypsonian is free to go into any tent and sing any calypso that is critical of Government. It is not like the old days that if you were critical of Government you were liable to be slapped down and the winners in the Calypso Contest in the tents will be appearing on Sunday night at the National Stadium and they can feel free to sing whatever calypsoes they feel like. If they feel like singing calypsoes about the Minister of Education and they are critical, then that is their business. They can criticise whoever they like. That is the posture that this Government has adopted.

Now I would also like to mention, Mr. Chairman, the question raised about the National Portrait Gallery. This Government has commissioned a Theatre Architect, through the assistance of UNESCO to do an architectural draft for the setting up of a Cultural Centre in Barbados. He has come down to Barbados, he has done his study and he has submitted his study to me and I have passed the study on to my Colleagues in Cabinet and the Government of Barbados is getting ready — at this very moment I believe there is a Meeting going on on this — to build a Cultural Centre at Church Village in Bridgetown and I hope that that Centre will be opened by early 1981 when we in Barbados will be hosting CARIFESTA.

We have also asked in pursuance of our policy in assisting the Arts and Culture in this country, as a Government Agency, we have also commissioned Eddy Brathwaite, a noted Barbadian poet and scholar to do a study of Barbadian Culture and give some guidelines to development of culture and policy. Again he did his study in the late months of last year and sent a very massive document which has been submitted to me. I am studying it and at the moment we are making plans for the hiring of a Cultural Director who will be the main advisor to the Ministry of Culture in implementing a number of policies that we are currently working on.

Further, let me just say that in respect of the question which the hon. member for St. Michael South again has asked, I did not want to go into the total representation to CARIFESTA in dealing with this particular Resolution. I did say when I was introducing the Resolution that I will shortly be giving a full Press Release giving the whole picture but just to give the hon. member for St. Michael South the assurance that the Minister is not taking evasive or offensive action or throwing any blame on anybody, I am fully responsible and the Government is fully responsible for the representation at CARIFESTA. We are not hiding behind anybody.

I will tell you quickly what is the nature of our representation. We are going to be represented in the

Caribbean Song and Music Festival. I had better give you the details. We will be represented by the Yoruba Movement. We will be represented by the Barbados Dance Theatre. We will be represented by a group of actors and dancers and drummers performing, "Mother Poem" a production directed by Michael Gilkes of a poem written by Eddy Brathwaite. We will also be represented by 9 children in Anansi Fantasy. I believe that we will be one of the few English speaking countries in the Caribbean that will be taking children to Cuba and they will be doing the Anansi Fantasy. We will take along one or two chaperons to look after them because we believe that in the International Year of the Child the children should have their play.

We are also going to be represented by somebody from the Barbados Landship, our technicians including the people who do the work in the visual effects, in lighting, sound, and so on. We are taking a number of drummers. We are taking the publicity people and promotional people. We are taking members of the Ministry of Culture who will act as co-ordinators. We will be taking a Journalist. We will be taking a Photographer. We will be taking people from the Audio-Visual Department of the Ministry of Education who will capture in permanent form the Festival in Cuba so that it can be of some lasting benefit to the people of Barbados and indeed help us in putting together the type of planning that is necessary for hosting CARIFESTA in 1981.

There is one other thing I will like to mention, Mr. Chairman, before I take my seat. The hon. member for St. Michael South West wants to know that there are no political under-tones or over-tones or whatever other tones there are in relation to Crop-Over. As he pointed out Crop-Over started as a Festival at the time when Peter Morgan was Minister of Tourism and I must say that this is important to me. Crop-Over was conceived as a Tourist Oriented Festival because all Peter Morgan talked about in Barbados was bringing tourists to Barbados. Now we on this side are also interested in bringing tourists to Barbados but we believe that if there is an indigenous folk oriented Bajan Festival that tourists would be more attracted to it, not when you try to bring together a hodge-podge of North American form that Peter Morgan and the Tourist Board at that time thought was the type of fair that should be served up to tourists. I am satisfied that from the time the Festival was transferred to the Ministry of Culture. I believed that a philosophy for a Festival that meant something to Barbadians should be devised and the massive success of the Festival last year is evidence of that.

1.45 p.m.

I will continue, Mr. Chairman, to do everything I can, as long as I am in that section of Government, to

make sure that the festival does not become a commercial extravaganza, an extravaganza for undiluted and uninhibited fun making, rather that it will remain always a festival that is folk oriented and vital to the culture of the people of Barbados.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, let me just say in respect of observations made about honouring members of Parliament, that I am perfectly happy if the hon. member for St. Michael South would like his picture in beautiful colour hung in the Ministry of Education, I would be glad to hang it. As for me, when I leave the Ministry of Education I do not want any monument of that sort for me. I am like the hon. member for St. John in this regard, we do not always agree on many things, in fact I do not agree with a lot of the things he does. I do not always agree with everything the hon. member for St. John does, but I do not want any monument to be devised for me either, I believe that any monument that will be left after I have passed on will be in the hearts and minds of the people of Barbados, and particularly the people of St. George South who think that I have done enough to serve them, and that is good enough for me. I do not want any pictures, portraits, monuments and so on. I do, however, feel that a Prime Minister is not his own man, but he is the property of the people in the country, and I do not at all agree with the hon. member for St. John when he thinks that if we put a bust in Parliament, or a portrait, or a painting it has anything to do with him. If the people of Barbados feel that they should honour their Prime Ministers, the hon. member for St. John should step in line, and I believe that it is — I do not want to say petty — but I believe it is ungracious for the hon. member for St. John to get up and so lightly brush aside what we in this country — I do not mean the Government now — what the people of Barbados believe should be the due reward of people who are leaders in this country.

He says he does not like the idea of testimonial dinners, but he does not mind testimonial lunches. He does not like testimonial dinners in the House of Assembly but he likes testimonial lunches at Colleton Factory with all the dust blowing into what he is eating. He does not like testimonials of any sort, but he takes half the clergy in Barbados up to St. John's Church last Sunday for a testimonial. The hon. member cannot blow hot and cold, he must state his position clearly and unequivocally, not that we on this side could understand where he stands, because we do not care much about that, but that the people at large, particularly his own supporters, will know where he stands on these issues.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass. In moving that the Resolution do now pass, I am respectfully putting that the figure for Head 15(12) Item 4 should be 267,915 instead of 264,915.

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

On the motion of Hon. H. deB. FORDE, seconded by Hon. C. L. BOLDEN, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of two Resolutions in Committee, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of Hon. H. deB. FORDE, seconded by Hon. C. L. BOLDEN, the Resolutions were read a second time, agreed to, and passed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: I beg to move that the House be suspended until 2.45 p.m.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly.
1.55 p.m.

On resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER: This Sitting is now resumed. Order No. 4 is the instant Order of the day.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT BRIGHTON AND SPRING GARDEN

The fourth Order was called — To move the passing of the Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Brighton and Spring Garden, St. Michael, for land development.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I am seeking permission to deal with a Resolution in the absence of the hon. Minister....

Mr. SPEAKER: I would like to help at this stage. If an Item stands in the name of a Minister any Minister can get up without seeking leave and move the resolution. The hon. Minister may proceed.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, as regards Items 4 and 5 on the Order Paper, what I say in respect of the first item would also apply to Item No. 5. The Government, in order to further the industrial development of the country, and taking into consideration the development which has been taking place within recent years, is committed to the construction of a major highway which will go from the junction of President Kennedy drive at the south end

going along Highway 1 in the vicinity of Warmer Lodge and University Drive. A study has been commissioned and the feasibility studies have been submitted to the Minister of Communications and Works. We have not yet finished the analysis of the feasibility study, but if you look at the development taking place in recent years you would notice that many businesses have been spread out from the Broad Street area on to Fontabelle, and one can now find banking enterprises, supermarkets, newspaper offices, hardware stores etc., in this area.

This Resolution seeks the approval of Parliament for the compulsory acquisition of certain parcels of land between Exmouth and Warmer Lodge, over which will be constructed a major highway which it is estimated will be between 1.38 and 3.12 kilometers, depending upon the design accepted by the Government. The development of such a highway will also encourage industrial development in the Lands End area and the areas stretching from Lands End to Exmouth. It will also take into consideration the development that has taken place because of the site of the electricity generating plant at Spring Garden and the expansion of a Bridgetown Port.

There are a number of parcels of land which will be involved. These have all been identified and the necessary advertisements published. The only thing outstanding at this stage is the approval of Parliament, and therefore we are seeking Parliamentary approval to acquire the parcels of land set out in the Resolution.

I beg to move that the Resolution do now pass.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I am not rising to oppose the Resolution in any way but I want to say that we are having difficulties being put in the way of the speedy execution of projects. We have come into office two and a half years now and came in with certain definite ideas, and we are finding over and over that where these ideas involve and call for positive action like making a new highway, the development of a new industrial park, construction of a new housing area in such cases we are constantly meeting a wave of inertia and conservatism; not opposition, because nobody wishes to express himself as opposed to improvement or development; but it is just these barriers that we constantly have to overcome and get past.

Members of the public may indeed be wondering why there has been so much talk about the new Spring Garden Road which is an imaginative concept. It is the first integrated road project that has figured in recent developments in this Island. The project is designed to relieve our busiest highway and at the same time create new commercial and industrial development along its length and to improve industrial and commercial

development close to the Harbour and also make use of formerly waste land. And I think there must be many people in Barbados who appreciate that we are dealing with about ten hectares of bush along the road no more than 3.5 kilometers from Bridgetown. In connection with this land acquisition we had already published the notices and then came the difficulty. Persons along the line of the road who previously had no wish to hold on to their land, person whose land consisted of ponds and swamp and waste land dating from the last century, persons who were willing to sell when the Government was a willing buyer, now cannot find their plots, thus creating difficulties. Its not a question of price; reports have shown that in this country you can go to the court and get a windfall price for your land under land acquisition. But there is just this wave of inertia.

And I want to take up the words of the Leader of the Opposition when he spoke some months ago on the subject of this road in connection with the international funding agencies. As hon. members will know, the Spring Garden road is the subject of a loan application to the Inter-American Development Bank. We have been discussing this at every level of the Bank, from the President back down and we are constantly getting the frustrating conditions which the hon. member referred to in his speech and which bedevil negotiations with the international agencies. You have to start with a prefeasibility study, then a feasibility study. All the time you have everything waiting to go. The study then has to have an assessment, then further consultants to discuss problems, etc. etc. 2.55 p.m.

We have as our local contribution to be able to complete that part of the road which runs between Fontabelle, Black Rock, Brighton and Spring Garden. The operations of the Ministry of Communications and Works, especially for the last few months are still being blocked by some persons; and I am appealing to all Barbadians to assist in the development. We have the pulverisation plant where we offered one owner of land the most generous terms possible; but one land owner is holding out even though the work is going on.

I remember a case in Christ Church when they put a bulldozer to a person's front door, and he found himself standing by himself in the Street. This Government does not want to have to take drastic measures like that, and we are appealing for the co-operation of land owners. We have a case of two persons, one of whom wants to site a rum bond or a rum bottling place while another construction firm wishes to construct a depot. I want to see these projects in operation. I want to see this road busy. I want to see people working on the roads and that this Government run programme is allowed to proceed. We want to see businesses on that by-way when it is completed.

We have done better, and the Government's financial position has improved, and we are able to carry out the projects which the last administration thought of.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, now that the Hon. Prime Minister has said certain things, I believe that it will be useful for me to give more information. One of the things which has been highlighted is that the section of Highway 1 at Eagle Hall has reached the end of its usefulness. A number of tourist amenities have sprung up in that area; and therefore it has been found that there are numerous traffic delays; and the delays occur in the traffic areas which are nearest to Bridgetown. It has been shown that the Government will have to employ an alternative method of moving traffic in and out of Bridgetown in the near future if we are going to reduce these delays.

This Government has been castigated in the years 1976 to 1977, and we have been accused of preventing people in Barbados from buying things like stoves, cars, refrigerators and so on. If this is studied, it will be seen that it began in the years previous to our coming into office. It is estimated that there is a 4.85% growth in vehicular traffic on the roads of Barbados; and it shows what will be necessary in road development in this country. When it comes to figures dealing with road construction, in 1975-76 it was \$1,680,208,000 — that was election year. In 1977-78 it was \$2,250,507,000. The figures are not available for 1978-79 but I can assure you that the figures will be.....

Mr. SIMMONS: I wonder if the Minister can tell us the amount of mileage of roads.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: From figures given to me it would appear that we have 850 miles of paved roads which we have accepted as our responsibility. The money for this project will be expended from year to year.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT SPRING GARDEN

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 5 stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Housing and Lands to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land required for the construction of the Spring Garden Access Road and for further industrial development.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, the same facts that are related to Item 4 are related to Item 5. It is the continuation of acquisition of land through which this main highway would pass, and therefore I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: I beg to second that.

Mr. TAITT: Mr. Speaker, I wonder if the Hon. Minister in indicating the acquisition would give us some idea of what exactly will be the boundaries that will be encompassed after this road has been constructed. There seems to be some question in the minds of some people as to where this road is going to pass, and we have not got a final statement on the position of it. We have heard a number of reports.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, it is difficult for me to relate exactly the boundaries of the road. It is meeting at the junction of President Kennedy Drive and it will cross through the Lands End area. Those of you who are interested will follow the track. The surveyors have cleared one of the centre lines of the road and it goes through basically swamp land with very little housing. There are 36 parcels of land that would be affected and I believe there are no more than 12 houses that will be affected in the area. The biggest point in this area will be the cutting link between Paradise Beach, where it passes in relation to the Paradise Beach Hotel and where it joins up with the entrance to the University Drive or Walmer Lodge. They have put up several alternatives and it has something to do with the shape of the land in that area, whether it goes on the brow of the hill where there is a cantilever; but I can assure you that it will utilise land that is not being utilised at the moment. It takes in part of Brandon Beach, it goes through the swamp lands in Brighton, and goes, as far as I have been told, on the ridge before you get to Paradise Beach Hotel, but there will be very little dislocation in that area.

If the hon. member is worried, I have a report that has not yet been fully accepted, it has not yet been published and there are several alternatives which depend on the cost, to show you the link up between the various inter-sections and Highway 1. What the consultants are trying to avoid in providing what is a high-speed road — and when I say "high-speed" I do not mean 100 km/h — as many intersections as possible, but I would be quite happy to show the hon. member the various sketches which have been produced so that his fears can be allayed and he can inform those who might have complained to him about what exactly is taking place.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Speaker, I do not think...

Mr. SPEAKER: Now the hon. member should realise that the Minister who introduced this Resolution has just made his final reply.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: He never said so. I was under the impression, with all due respect, that the Minister was giving some information to the hon. member for St. Michael South West, and no request was made as to whether there were any other hon. members who wanted to make a contribution to this debate. The Minister at no time intimated that that was his final reply. I just want to get the records straight on that.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is not a question of getting the records straight.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Will the Minister indicate for your benefit and my benefit whether that was his final reply?

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the Opposition knows very well that he has no right, no authority whatsoever to call on the Minister to indicate this or that.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: I am asking you to call on the Minister; I am not calling on the Minister.

Mr. SPEAKER: I will allow the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to make his point.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: I have no objection to making a reply if the hon. member wishes to speak. I have no objection whatsoever.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: I understand that Your Honour is allowing me to make a contribution. I should just like to point out to the Minister in the reply, the assurance or whatever it was that he gave to the hon. member for St. Michael South West that the normal procedure in laying out new highways under the old Highways Act was to bring a plan of the highway into the House and lay it on the Table of the House. This used to be the procedure for years. I have been quickly looking through the Highways Act for the provision, but I know that the convention and the practice were, and also it was the established practice that the outline of the road be laid, not a sketch which is still being discussed in a kind of academic way amongst engineers in the Ministry of Communications and Works and their advisers from outside or inside. As a matter of public and general knowledge any proposed new highway was promulgated and published showing — we used the expression in defining or describing the rights of way — the "*terminus e quo*" and the "*terminus ad quem*" which would be clearly delineated for the benefit of the general public and particularly for members of the House of Assembly. What I am saying is that laying out

a highway is not like a lottery. I got the impression from the Minister that any number can play, that he is not sure whether it passes through Mr. Jones' backyard or through the Prime Minister's front garden. I am sure that the Prime Minister himself for all I know, being a resident of the district, and the hon. member for St. Michael South West — the Hon. Prime Minister from time to time has a dacha or sub-residence; I used to have a dacha, but now it is my permanent home — we are all in the same boat as it were, in the same swamp, in the same kadooment, in the same ling in so far as this road is concerned. It is true that none of us has been the subject matter of an acquisition notice up to now, but if the hon. member is saying that the engineers have not made up their minds and they have a sketch or two which he might in his dispensation and his discretion and act of beneficence allow another hon. member or hon. members of the House to see, I am saying that is not the way it should be done.
3.15 p.m.

If the hon. member is saying that the engineers have not made up their minds and what he needs is not descriptive enough, what I am saying is that this is not the way it should be done. Once you have made up your mind about the Road, a whole long stretch of road and the areas it will pass through, and the drainage is going to be affected and that kind of thing, all that should be put into the Plan.

I must confess Sir, that I only had a limited time looking through the Highway Act. There used to be a provision where the Plan of a Road had to be brought into this Chamber as long as Land Acquisition was involved. The last time I remember seeing such a Plan, as far as I can remember, was to construct the East Coast Road and when the Road was being constructed at Sandy Lane. The Plan was brought in here by the member concerned. I think the former Attorney General would agree that that was the proper procedure established. I remember the Legislation being brought up and laid down on the Table saying that water resources, the properties which would be affected and so on should be shown on the Plan.

I would like to say that as much as we would prefer the Government to get through with this matter, and in the general construction of this Road, I should like to say, Mr. Speaker, that we are not opposed to it as we actually initiated it. I heard the Prime Minister say on one occasion that where the Road is being put through Spring Garden is not the same Road that was earlier proposed. I do not know whether he means in quality, in length, in design, whether it will be passing through the area which we passed through on more than one occasion with the engineers and other persons in order to draw up the lands bounding on Black Rock.

I think we had discussion already in here on all of that. It was in the Physical Development Plan. For very good reasons I think the Minister should postpone further consideration of this Resolution and let us have a little more information as well as copies of the Plans to see exactly what we are talking about. We ought to have something a little more tangible than just drawings in the idealistic stage where the engineers do not appear to have made up their minds.

In concluding, Sir, I should like to say, and in particular the member for Christ Church North Central, as I suppose he has a neighbour along with himself who will also be affected as was suggested in the way of the introduction. There are members in here on both sides of the House who maybe affected even if it were only on the grounds of the safety of our neighbours. Even if not all of us on both sides, most of us who happen to reside in the area for our own personal good we will be interested as well as for people in the area. We should have more specifics, I hope, of the outlines of this Road and where it is going to begin and where it is going to end.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must confess...

Mr. SPEAKER: Mr. Prime Minister...

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I have not spoken yet.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have appreciated that you have not spoken yet. We have diverted from the normal procedure in debating this Resolution but having permitted the Hon. Leader of the Opposition to make a contribution after the Minister has replied, I cannot now refuse any other hon. member debating. Make it the last time that there be such a performance. I must hear the hon. member.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Sir, I must confess and I must say that it was going through my mind when the Leader of the Opposition raised certain points that we were straying from procedure and really it has come home to me with some force that the Land Resolution needs more detail plans and I will ask the Leader of the House to speak in the circumstances.

I really wanted to say that the Hon. Minister who introduced this Bill felt that this file would have contained the road plan. I think the Hon. Minister unconsciously put our case a little low. To the best of my knowledge the line of the road is correct. What has happened is that it is the design of the round-about at Paradise which is on the line of the road.

I was going to suggest that further consideration be postponed because I think that what the Leader of

the Opposition has said is correct and the House has always been furnished with plans. Road plans are usually available in this Chamber when discussing any Resolution of this nature. (*Asides*). Is this the final plan? The plan which we have, Sir — I think we had better postpone it.

3.25 p.m.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: If the hon. member will give way on a point of explanation, I think the Spine Road coming through Bridgetown was abandoned, but that Spring Garden Road was never abandoned. I should like to point out that the main thing the member for Christ Church North Central is very concerned about is that the roundabout might interfere with his property, and we would really like to see the design of the roundabout. I have nothing against the gentleman who did it, he is a member of one of my professions, that is aviation, but the Town Planner gave permission. We did shift the position of the roundabout because of the gully, the cost of the bridge work at the bottom of the University Hill would have been prohibitive if we had followed the United Nations Development Programme people who apparently just drew lines on a map.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am trying to enjoy the second speech of the hon. member.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Sir, I think to postpone it for a week would be the best thing.

Mr. SPEAKER: I take it that the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister has risen to second the motion as moved by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition. That is as I understand it.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Whatever the records of the House show, but I will just say this. The first alternative, unless I am mistaken, suggested that the Little Page Hotel itself be in the centre of the roundabout. In other words, we build a roundabout around the hotel. (*Aside*). The hon. member for Christ Church North Central would have a choice between destroying his ancestral home.... (*Asides*). If hon. members look at the Resolution hon. members would realise that we are seeking to acquire Little Page land to the east of the hotel. I think the hon. member for Christ Church North Central will also be relieved that we are not going to have to pay half million dollars for his house, we are only going to buy a few portions of that land that adjoin the highway. He will not have so far to walk to the bus stop.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: For the record, did the hon. member say "grieved" or "relieved"? I did not hear him so well.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I beg to move that further consideration of this Resolution be postponed.

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

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the item Government Notices be taken again. (PAUSE). I am informed by the Clerk that notice of the Shops Order had been given earlier. I will also be seeking leave to re-open Government Notices to give notice of two supplementary items today.

Mr. SPEAKER: Perhaps you may wish to give notices now of those Government Notices.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I beg to give notice then, Sir, of the following Resolutions:

Resolution to amend the note to Item 2 – "Equity and other Contributions" under Head 108 – Ministry of Finance and Planning of the 1979–80 Estimates.

Resolution to grant the sum of \$71,000 out of the Consolidated Fund and place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1979–80, Part I – Current, No. 3, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

The first of these, the note to Item 2 under Head 108 which relates to the Barbados Port Authority, I will be asking the leave of the House to deal with it in all its stages today. The Leader of the Opposition has already indicated his willingness to do it.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SHOPS (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) ORDER, 1979

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Speaker, again this year as part of the annual Crop-Over Festival the Ministry of Education and Culture has proposed that a Bridgetown Market be held as part of the Festival and the 30th June, next Saturday, is the date slated for the Bridgetown Market.

This Resolution is seeking the permission of the House to have the shops open from 6.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. on that day. We have consulted, as usual, the Employers Confederation, the Chamber of Commerce and the Barbados Workers' Union.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: I beg to second that.

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

3.35 p.m.

BILL TO PROVIDE FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A CORPORATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING THE EXPORT TRADE OF BARBADOS

The Seventh Order was called – To move the First Reading of a Bill to provide for the establishment of a Corporation for the purpose of developing the export trade of Barbados.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be read a first time.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Speaker, I now want to move the Second Reading of the Bill. This Bill was given notice of already. However, if you need time to deal with it, there is no rush.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, if the other side wishes instead to consider various Bill of which notice has been given by circulation, we are quite willing to agree to that. This would apply to Item 6, 7 and 8 on the Order Paper. I spoke with the hon. member for St. Michael South before the hon. member for St. John came in, and agreed to postpone Item 6. If the same applies towards Items 7 and 8 we will agree to the postponing of these Items until next week.

As regards Item 3 I would report that the meeting of the Select Committee scheduled for last week was abortive because Parliamentary Council was ill and so we could not proceed with Item 3.

RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE NOTE TO ITEM 2 UNDER HEAD 108 – MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING

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

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Chairman, the purpose of the Resolution is to ask for a vote of \$61,760 to

purchase 604 shares in Port Contractors B'dos Ltd., owned by the following Statutory Bodies: The Insurance Corporation of Barbados, The Barbados Development Bank, Barbados Industrial Development Corporation, Barbados Agricultural Corporation and Barbados Board of Tourism. These shares are to be transferred to the Barbados Port Authority in fulfilment of an obligation between the Inter-American Development Bank and the Government of Barbados. Section 5.07 (b) of Loan Agreement No.277/OC-BA entered into on 21st February, 1975 between the IADB and the Government of Barbados for the Loan of 9.1 million to finance the expansion and improvement of the Port. Under the agreement the Port authorities must within six months of the date of creation of the Port Authority transfer all the assets including the 604 shares in Port Contractors (Barbados Ltd.) to the Barbados Port Authority. These are the only outstanding shares which have not been taken over and vested in the Port Authority, and the purpose of the Resolution is to seek the necessary funds, and by amending the note to Item 2 under Head 108 we will be able to achieve this.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, there is just one point on which I would like to get some information. The hon. Attorney General said that under the loan Agreement the assets of Port Contractors Limited should be transferred to the Barbados Port Authority. The Addendum to the Resolution mentions the assets of Port Contractors Limited but does not say anything about the liabilities. I know that when we speak of assets we also usually think of liabilities, as one normally goes with the other. But not always, so I would like the hon. member to state whether we are taking on the liabilities of Port Contractors, for we might find ourselves with Bills submitted by somebody or other. I would just like some clarification on that point.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Chairman, I do not think there are any outstanding liabilities, so it is a question of transferring the remaining assets to the Port Authority; but in case there is any further information which is not now available I will inform hon. members of any liabilities which may be discovered.

Mr. TAITT: Mr. Chairman, just one question. You will recall that this matter was being discussed on the occasion of the annual Estimates and we raised the question about the settlement of the matter of charges for the inner basin of the Port. We were given the assurance by the Leader of the House at the time that the matter was receiving attention and that we would soon receive a Report in this House.
3.45 p.m.

I can appreciate that the Hon. Attorney General might not be in a position to give this assurance. I

wonder if he could tell us what is the present position as regards small traders and the general problems relating to the higher cost of freight as a result of moving the inner basin of the Careenage to the Port which has been brought about because of the agreement that the rates would have to be the same for the inner harbour and the outer harbour as well.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: I can only give the hon. member the information that there have been meetings between the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Communications and Works and the Ministry of Trade, and as a result of these discussions they have come to some decisions which have not yet come before the Cabinet. I do not have the figures to hand; but I assure the hon. member that I will make a request to the Leader of the House, and by next week he should be able to give some indication.

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

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report to the Speaker, the passing of one Resolution in Committee.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: Mr. Chairman, the Resolution was for \$61,760, but the note which has been amended does not mention that. I would suggest to the Minister that he amend the note.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: The position is that within a certain time we want to spend this amount. We will eventually be spending more and that is why we have amended the note in the terms in which it was circulated.

The question that the note as now amended be agreed to was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On the motion of Hon. H. deB. FORDE seconded by Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Resolution in Committee and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Hon. H. deB. FORDE seconded by Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE the Resolution was read a second time and agreed to.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: That concludes Government Business for today, but I am reminded that notice has to be given of certain Bills.

Mr. SPEAKER: You may proceed.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to enable certain banking and other

business to be carried on from within Barbados in foreign monies, securities and properties, for foreign customers be read a first time.

On the motion of Hon. H. deB. FORDE seconded by Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS a Bill to amend the International Business Companies (Exemption from Income Tax) Act, Cap. 77 was read a first time.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Item relating to the matter in respect of the Public Accounts Committee by the hon. member for St. Philip North be the next order of business.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: I beg to second that.

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

LETTER OF RETIREMENT

Mr. SPEAKER: Item No. 1 stands in the name of the Hon. Prime Minister, to move that the House consider the letter of retirement by the Honourable Member for the constituency of St. Philip North from the Committee of Public Accounts.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I do so move.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to second that.

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, I should like to say that in the light of certain statements made by the Hon. Leader of the Opposition on the day in question when I tendered my resignation to the effect that he intended no discourtesy and I have accepted that, I have been prevailed upon by members on this side, I will continue my membership of the Public Accounts Committee, and I hope that we will have among ourselves in future a little bit more respect for each other — I am talking about members on this side too — in turning up at meetings and forming a quorum.

Mr. SPEAKER: Accordingly the hon. member for St. Philip North remains a member of the Public Accounts Committee of this Honourable House.

THE ADJOURNMENT

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, that concludes Government Business. We have not had any information that it is desired to do Private Members' Business.

In moving that the House do adjourn until 10 o'clock on Tuesday next, 3rd July, 1979, I should just

say that next week in the House it can be expected that a great number of important matters will be debated and we need the extra time. We will have the Immigration Act; the Select Committee is due to meet on the 29th, that is, on Friday of this week, and I sincerely hope that during the day of Tuesday, 3rd the Bill can be prepared so that we can deal with it. We will also have land acquisition matters and we have two separate Bills relating to Offshore Banking and Tax Havenry generally. There will be the Export Corporation Bill and also the International Business Companies Act. By any standard, the tax haven legislation and a revamping of the Immigration Act are important matters which may consume the time of the House, and I hope hon. members will come prepared to deal with these matters.

In conclusion, I should like to say how pleasant it is to be in the House in the circumstances of today when we know that we are all Barbadians and we can all take pride in the cost of living being down and unemployment being down and we can have the business of the House conducted without having any rancour and quarrel in here and perhaps letting ourselves down in the eyes of the general public.

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 3rd July, 1979, at 10 a.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I take it that on the next occasion when the Rt. Hon Prime Minister wants to make a statement on the motion for adjournment, that he would first seek the permission of the Chair before he attempts to do so.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: I hope that is not a reply. Speaking on the motion

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no motion before this House and I will not now entertain the hon. member, that is why I took the opportunity to warn the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister.

Rt. Hon. E. W. BARROW: The motion is that the House adjourn until Tuesday, at 10 o'clock. That is what I am speaking on. When the Hon. Attorney General came over and spoke to me, I was under the impression that he was saying that he was going to adjourn until the 10th, Tuesday being the 3rd and I heard him mention ten and I said I had no objection. Adjourning until 10 o'clock — it was my misunderstanding, not his fault — is a slightly more difficult problem; so I just wanted him to know that there was a misunderstanding on my side in so far as the time of the meeting is concerned.

I was really speaking on the motion for the adjournment of the House, but while I am on that, no

one has mentioned the discourtesy to the Chairman of the Committee of Privileges, Your Honour. I had counted something like eleven meetings of which I believe only one took place, and I had taken the trouble of telephoning and finding out whether there was likely to be a quorum. A quorum of the Committee of Privileges is much smaller than that of the Public Accounts with as many as nine or ten members and a quorum of three and we have not been able to have meetings as frequently as Your Honour would like or at all.

Now the point I am making is that it was mentioned that we are going to have a Select Committee on Friday on one of the Bills. I wonder if there could be a little more liaison between the various Committees, and the Clerk himself would be in a position to know that we are having a meeting of the Committee on Public Accounts on the same day, and Your Honour has had to suffer the frustration of having members flitting from the Senate Chamber to the Committee Chamber and then to another Committee. Surely Friday is not the only day of the week, but we seem to be suffering from Friday afternoon fever in so far as Committees are concerned. So I think that Your Honour could have a discussion with the Clerk and ask him to try not to arrange two or three Committees on a Friday and then maybe we can have a meeting of the Committee of Privileges. This has arisen out of what Your Honour has said. I do not want to say any more because you are well aware of the difficulties which encompass us.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to second the motion for the Adjournment. I believe the membership of the Committee of Privileges can be changed, and I believe that with new membership it will be possible for the Committee to meet. I myself am not a member of the Committee because of my position as adviser to the House on Legal Matters, but if the Committee wants me at any time on legal matters, I would lend my assistance.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am grateful to the hon. member.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I should like to reinforce what the Leader of the Opposition said about this. I was not originally a member of the Committee of Privileges, but the House has appointed me to serve. There are certain outstanding matters. I think it is time that we get away from this allegation that the Speaker has banned a Reporter for life, because I am sure the Committee of Privileges will not so find, to take an example, but we have had the circumstances where the hon. member for St. Michael South West, I do not want to be contentious, said, that he does not think he will come to any more meetings of the Committee of Privileges, and I think that the Committee of Privileges should be summoned so that we can straighten out these matters.

Mr. TAITT: On a point of order, the hon. member did say part of what I said. I am not asking him to repeat all of what I said, I merely wish to say that he left out half of the sentence.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I do not mind if the hon. member set the record straight. What I know is that it is in the interest of all of us to have a meeting of the Committee of Privileges.

Mr. SPEAKER: This is the second occasion on which mention has been made of banning a reporter for life from this House. I had intended making a statement on that matter today, that no reporter had ever been banned for life from this House. It is just not true, and I think in the interest of the Chair and this Honourable House I will make a statement on that matter at the next sitting of this Honourable House.
4.05 p.m.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: I must say that this matter was *sub judice* and the statement which he should make should bear some regard to that.

The question that the House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 3rd July, 1979 at 10 o'clock was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.
4.10 p.m.