

THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1976 - 81

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 8th May, 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); Mr. R. St.C. WEEKES, J.P.; Hon. L. S. CRAIG, (Minister of Housing, Lands and the Environment); Hon. C. L. BOLDEN, LL.B., (Minister of Communications and Works); Hon. H. deB. FORDE, S.C., M.A., LL.B., (Attorney General and Minister of External Affairs); Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER, (Minister of Health and National Insurance); Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE, (Minister of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs); Mr. J. G. ODLE, B.Sc., (Chairman of Committees); Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, Q.C., LL.B., (Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry) (Leader of the House); Hon. L. R. TULL, M.A., (Minister of Education and Culture); Mr. DeL. O. BRADSHAW; Mr. L. L. SISNETT and His Honour E. E. ALLEYNE, LL.M., (Deputy Speaker).

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the Meeting of Monday, 19th day of March, 1979.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, these Minutes have been circulated and subject to any observations as to errors by any hon. member, I beg to move that the Minutes be confirmed.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday, 31st April, 1979.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, these Minutes have been circulated and subject to any observations by any hon. members, I beg to move that these Minutes be confirmed.

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

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

PETITION

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. Michael North West has a Petition re the change of name of the Barbados Agricultural Society.

Mr. ALLEYNE: Mr. Speaker, I beg Your Honour's indulgence to give notice of a Petition on behalf of the Barbados Agricultural Society. The purpose of this Petition is to seek leave of this Honourable Chamber to amend the Agricultural Society Act of 1890. The principle purposes of the amendment are:

- (1) To change the name; and
- (2) To commit the Society to hold real estate not exceeding a value of \$1 million.

I think, Mr. Speaker, the appropriate procedure is that I should read the Petition.

Mr. SPEAKER: Copies are available for circulation to hon. members and I take it as read.

Mr. ALLEYNE: Thank you, Sir, Your Honour. In that case I would ask Your Honour leave for notice to be given to proceed.

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

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

PAPERS LAID

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Prime Minister I beg to lay the Local Government (Pensions) (Amendment) Regulations, 1979.

On my own behalf I beg to lay the Nineteenth Annual Report and the Financial Statements of the Board of Tourism for the year ended 31st March, 1978.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

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

- (1) Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Bonnetts, Christ Church, for the purpose of Housing Development.
- (2) Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at King Street, St. Michael for the purpose of Housing Development.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) (Amendment) Order, 1979.

NOTICES OF BILLS

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: On behalf of the Prime Minister I beg to give notice of the following Bills:

- (1) A Bill to amend the Immigration Act.
- (2) A Bill to amend certain enactments relating to the payment of pensions, gratuities and other allowances.
- (3) A Bill to amend the International Monetary Fund Act.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to repeal the United Kingdom Designs and Standardisation Marks Protection Act.

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to provide for the exemption from the payment of duties or taxes on certain articles imported into Barbados for the purpose of being used exclusively in connection with the Bridgetown Sewerage Project.
12.25 p.m.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Immigration Act 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. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend certain enactments relating to payment of pensions, gratuities and other allowances be read a first time.

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

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

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the International Monetary Fund Act be read a first time.

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

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

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to repeal the United Kingdom Designs and Standardisation Marks Protection Act 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.

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to provide for exemption from the payment of duties and taxes on certain articles imported into Barbados for the purpose of being used exclusively in connection with the Bridgetown Sewerage project, 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.

ORAL REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 29 is now ready.

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice that the Reply to Parliamentary Question No. 56 is now ready.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Government Business be now taken and that Item No. 3, a Bill standing in the name of the Hon. Attorney General be now taken.

BILL TO AMEND THE MARRIAGE ACT, 1978-40

The Third Order was called to move the second reading of the Bill to amend the Marriage Act, 1978-40.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, this is a very short Bill. Its purpose is mainly to provide for the payment of a prescribed fee where a magistrate's licence is granted for a marriage. There was an omission in the main Act, although the regulations provide for this. The main Act was brought into being on 23rd April, 1979, and this Bill merely seeks to rectify the position.

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

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

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

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

Mr. SANDIFORD entered the Chamber and took his seat.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, with your permission, before you leave the Chair, I would like to suggest that you instruct the Chairman of Committees that the method used with the Clauses on the Marine Bill in Committee should apply. The Marine Bill has been read a second time, but I have given an undertaking that I would not move into Committee stage until some time has elapsed so that any representations might be made by those interested. In view of the fact that Your Honour is putting the House into Committee I would ask that Your Honour instruct the Chairman of Committees along this line.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to inform the Hon. Minister that his request is a departure somewhat from what has been the custom in this House and I would need some time to consider the matter.

The question that the House go into Committee on the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. ODLE in the Chair.

Clauses 1, 2 and 3 were called and passed.

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

On the separate motions of Hon. H. deB. FORDE, seconded by Hon. L. R. TULL, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

BILL RESPECTING MARINE INSURANCE

The Second Order was called to move the House into Committee on a Bill respecting Marine Insurance.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on the Bill.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: 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 on the Bill, Mr. ODLE in the Chair.

12.35 p.m.

Clause 1 was called.

On the motion of Hon. C. L. BOLDEN seconded by Hon. H. deB. FORDE the question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On separate motions of Hon. C. L. BOLDEN seconded in each case by Hon. H. deB. FORDE Clauses 2 and 3 were called and agreed to without division.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, if you would give me one minute, this Bill has about 100 clauses and it is not divided in parts. I do not believe that there is any parliamentary method short of calling the separate clauses. There is only one amendment to a clause in the Bill. I wonder if the Opposition has any objection to calling all the clauses, otherwise we will be in for a long drawn out process.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am very sorry to inform the Hon. Minister that the procedure which he proposes to adopt cannot be adopted. We will have to have all the clauses called.

The question that Clause 3 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On separate motions of Hon. C. L. BOLDEN seconded in each case by Hon. H. deB. FORDE, Clauses 4 to 35 inclusive were called and agreed to.

12.45 p.m.

Clauses 36 to 80 inclusive were called and passed.
12.55 p.m.

Clauses 81 to 94 were called and passed.

Clause 95 was called.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: I beg to move that in Clause 95, subsection (2) that we substitute the words "sub-section (1)" for the words "section 95" appearing in the sixth line thereof. The Clause should now read:

"(2) Any broker or other person through whom, and any insurer with whom, a contract by way of gambling on loss by maritime perils within the meaning of section 94 is effected is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to the like penalties as provided under subsection (1), if the broker, other person or insurer acted knowing that the contract was by way of gambling on loss by maritime perils within the meaning of section 94."

I therefore beg to move that the words be substituted.

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

The question that the words be so amended was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clauses 96 to 101 were called and passed.

The Schedule was called.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that this Schedule be the Schedule of this Bill.

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

The question that this Schedule be the Schedule to the Bill was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that you do now report to His Honour the Speaker the passing of one Bill in Committee with amendment.

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

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

Mr. SIMMONS entered the Chamber and took his seat.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Bill be now read a third time.

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

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

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: I beg to move that this Bill do now pass and be so cited.

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

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

Mr. GREAVES entered the Chamber and took his seat.

BILL TO AMEND THE LAND DEVELOPMENT DUTY ACT

The third Order was called — to move the second reading of the Bill to amend the Land Development Duty Act, Cap. 78.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: I am asking leave to give notice of this Bill. It is in the name of the Minister of Finance.
1.05 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, the object of this Bill is to implement the proposals set out in the Budgetary proposals, that is, to abolish the Betterment Levy. We have had a rather long debate on the implications of this Bill and I think the Bill commends itself to all honourable members in that the Betterment Levy, as members will recall, was charged in any area of Barbados which was affected by substantial government expenditure. The feeling is that with the new system of property taxation which is on the capital value, it would be unfair to charge annually at the rate of the capital value and at the same time still have the betterment levy. Accordingly Government decided that the best thing to do in the circumstances was to abolish the betterment levy which really sought to attain the same objective.

I beg to move that the Bill be read a second time.

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

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

On the motion of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, seconded by Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee, Mr. ODLE in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 12 inclusive were called and passed.

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

On the motion of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, seconded by Hon. H. deB. FORDE, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

BILL TO AMEND THE NATIONAL SPORTS COUNCIL ACT, 1977-55

Order No. 4 was called, to move the second reading of a Bill to amend the National Sports Council Act, 1977-55.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, the object of this amendment is to ensure that those officers of Government who were transferred from the public service to serve with the National Sports Council which is a specially incorporated sports body set up in 1977. The amendments are necessary so that the pension rights of these officers would not be affected through their transfer to this statutory body. It is a simple amendment and should not cause any controversy as it only deals with the preservation of the right to pension which would accrue to these officers. I think the time has come when we should have a comprehensive bill dealing with the pension rights of officers where they serve in such bodies as the Public Service Commission or any other body which the Government creates from time to time. I understand this is now engaging the attention of the Ministry of the Attorney General, but in the mean time we have to do a series of these Bills to preserve the pension rights of the officers concerned.

I beg to move that the Bill be read a second time.

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, the principle of this Bill is not one which should be controversial and I would state that I support the principle of the Bill. At the same time I want to make a few comments about the National Sports Council.

As I understand it, the creation of this Body gives it the responsibility for the day to day administration of sports in this country. I am concerned that last year some land was handed over at Chapel in my Constituency to the National Sports Council for a playing field and the erection of a pavilion. I was informed then that work would start within a matter of weeks but this had to be shelved because a club which competes in the BCL competition was using the ground.
1.15 p.m.

I wish to make a public appeal to the National Sports Council, Mr. Speaker, to do something positive towards the implementation of their promise to have a

playing field and sports pavilion at Clapham this year. I would like to see it started now, before the cricket season gets underway again and it is further delayed. There is an area of sport with which I am concerned. We have a number of West Indian cricketers, and specifically Barbadian cricketers, who have made a name at international level; and it was this party's pledge to utilise the services of Barbadians who had reached eminence in sport within the umbrella of the National Sports Council, or some national sporting authority that may be set up.

I know that something has been done for Mr. Darcy Beckles, and those who had a hand in that should be complimented, but I still believe that in that area of cricket and athletics we are short of trained personnel within the aegis of the National Sports Council. At some time I would like to see a policy statement as to what is Government's intention towards utilising the services of our sportsmen who have done credit to this country, and who ought to be brought within the umbrella of the National Sports Council.

All cannot be done by private enterprise and by banks and Banks Breweries who have tried to help in these areas. I believe that there is some way in which people like Holder and Gordon Greenidge, for example, and others could have their services engaged, and that in the long run the sporting services of the country would be done better if these players would know that when they finish a season abroad, providing that they have no more overseas commitments, they could return to Barbados and be incorporated in some scheme run by the National Sports Council in which they can be of assistance to the young people of this country.

That is looking at it from the short term. Looking at it in the long term, I think that the Government should look towards using their services on a permanent basis when they retire, so that the country can benefit from the talent which these sportsmen are able to offer.

Those are the points I wish to make, and I hope in due course to get some indication from the Government as to what is their policy on these matters.

Mr. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I want to make just a short contribution on the matter relating to the National Sports Council. I recall that some time in 1977 this House passed the National Sports Council Act and Section 4(1) read as follows: "The functions of the Council shall be (a) to stimulate and facilitate the development of sport generally in Barbados and (b) to develop, maintain and manage sporting facilities, including all playing fields and the National Stadium, provided by the Government for public use and (c) to administer the funds of the Council and all Government grants allotted to sporting organisations."

There are two points I wish to make on this matter relating to sports in Barbados. In the first instance one gets the impression that very little is being done in the area of sports, and the National Sports Council does not seem to be functioning in the way one would expect. One would expect that the National Sports Council would have brought some new dimension, some new outlook on the organisation of sports in this country; but ever since the National Sports Council was formed and brought into being, one gets the impression that nothing much is being done.

I would really like the National Sports Council to fulfil its functions, the functions allocated to it under the National Sports Council Act, relating to the first two aspects — the stimulation and facilitating the development for sports generally in Barbados. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that Sport can play a very useful role in the development of various interest among citizens, and people who are, generally speaking, involved in sports in this country.

I therefore believe that there is a need for some very serious direction and certainly some clear quality regarding Sports in this country. Now, there are a number of sporting activities which take place in Barbados; and I believe that an attempt should be made to ensure that those sports which are popular sports should be further popularised and organised in such a way that the large majority of people can become involved, and benefit in a meaningful way from the kind of direction which should be forthcoming from the National Sports Council.

I would like, Mr. Speaker, to impress on those people who comprise the Board, and who formulate the policies of the National Sports Council that they look at the other functions which relate to the National Sports Council which are the development and management of sporting facilities including all playing fields and the National Stadium provided by the Government for public use.

I believe that if the National Sports Council is to pay serious attention to this matter, and if we accept that Sport is an integral part of our whole developmental process, then I believe that some new look has got to be taken in Barbados, and we have to look at areas particularly where there is a thick population in villages where playing fields do not exist; and try to get some areas for the youngsters to play generally and for the whole island to have access to playing fields.

Mr. SPEAKER: In Boscobelle?

Mr. GREAVES: Yes, Sir, In Boscobelle. I realise that from your position, Mr. Speaker, you cannot make a contribution; but from this side Boscobelle being almost

contingent on my constituency, I would like to indicate that there is a need for one at Boscobelle, because the youngsters have to come into Pie Corner to participate in sporting activities; but I seriously think that in relation to the National Sports Council, the Government should develop a policy by which it would identify areas of land in various parts of the country, and particularly in the thickly populated villages where provision should be made for youngsters in those areas.

1.25 p.m.

Certainly on the question of upgrading the existing playing fields, the hon. member for St. Philip North referred, I believe, to a situation in his constituency, and I would want to draw the attention of the House and especially to the National Sports Council that Rockfield playing field needs upgrading. Indeed you will recall that I raised this matter under the last administration and promises were made, and I should like once more to draw to the attention of the House that there is need for levelling of Rockfield playing field in St. Lucy. It is a good area, it has a good batting strip, but the only drawback to it is that it is not properly graded and this has restricted in some way the development of sports, and I am sure that the youngsters of that area who also include the youngsters from Boscobelle could easily raise a team which could go into the BCA and eventually reach the First Division. That is the nature of the drawback.

I should like further to draw to the attention of the House that there is an area of land in St. Lucy which used to be used as a cricket and football field up to I believe last season, Foresters, which used to be occupied by the Leeward Cricket Club. There is some problem there. I understand that it is either that the land is for sale or that the owners might want to turn it back and put the plough on it. I would hope that the Government would look into the probable taking over of this particular area and turn it into an area where sports can be played in the constituency of St. Lucy. I think that we should, as I said earlier, pay some very serious attention to the development of sports in this country.

One other matter relating to this matter of the National Sports Council that I would want to draw attention to is that one gets the impression that with the coming into being of the National Sports Council there seems to be a centralisation of decision making under the auspices of the National Sports Council. People seem to get the impression that this is the be all and end all of sports. I should hope, Mr. Speaker, that this is not the position and I sincerely would like to see encouragement being given to groups on a regional level, groups in the various constituencies, to play a much more meaningful role in the development of sports. Certainly the members from the Sports Council could be more or less consultants

and advisers to the various groups, but when you get that kind of participation, then I am submitting that you will have greater progress in the area of sports, because I believe that this is what we are interested in — promoting sporting activities on as wide a basis as possible in this country. When we level criticisms at the National Sports Council it is because we want to see it functioning in an efficient way and as it were delivering the goods, because we consider that sports is a vital and integral part of our national development.

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: Mr. Speaker, I believe that I am in a position to answer a few of the comments made by both hon. members. As far as the hon. member for St. Philip North is concerned, I am the person who had a very active hand in providing the people at Chapel in St. Philip with a playing field. We turned over the land to the National Sports Council at the time, but as I understand it, there has been quite some difficulty in getting the playing fields under control. Barbados is a very small land mass. For people who, for example, use the Bay Pasture — I am just using this as an example — as a playing field, it would be almost humanly impossible to bring the Bay Pasture up to the standard which the Government would like to see, because at the Bay they use the grounds every evening, every morning and sometimes in the midday. I think my colleague the hon. member for St. Michael South when he was in charge of sports had that as one of the problems, not only with the Bay, but with almost all of the playing fields. The grounds are used every day of the week and if you decide to go and plough these grounds up and have them properly grassed and provide the type of playing field which the Government would like to see, then that particular team would have to be out of the competition for at least one season. If they are not playing football on that ground they are playing cricket; so I would like to tell my colleague on the back bench that I have no doubt that work is going to be done at Chapel, and in the Estimates which I have before me for this year, I recognise that there is a vote in them for Chapel; so I do not think my colleague should have much fear.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is there anything for Boscobelle?

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: If you look at the Estimates, and I know you are a very close watcher of things, you will observe that there is money there for Boscobelle, and I can assure you that I am in the process of acquiring land at Boscobelle and that you are going to have the playing field which the people of Boscobelle are in so much need of.

Let me turn my attention now to the hon. member for St. Lucy who has now suddenly become the spokesman on sports. I would challenge the hon. member now that if you put him on a football field or a cricket field

he would not know where to stand at first slip, he would not know where point is, extra cover, cover, mid-on or mid-wicket. He has not got a clue. He has never played a game in his life, but all of a sudden he is shadow spokesman for sports and has got the gall to ask what is the Government doing about this dynamism in the National Sports Council.

The first thing the Government did, I recall when I was in the Ministry, was to recognise a number of small associations that carried on sports in Barbados which the other Government never recognised. They recognised lawn tennis, they recognised cricket, they recognised football, but let me tell you what the National Sports Council did. They called in the Paddle Tennis Association, what we call road tennis — you would not know about that — and asked them to form an association and gave them money. We had money in the last Estimates which was given to them, a grant I think of \$500 or \$1,000. We called in the Soft Ball Association whose Secretary was Joe Connell; this is where the little man makes his fun on Sundays. We called them in and gave them some recognition where for the first time in the history of Barbados a Soft Ball Cricket Team had ever ventured overseas; they went to Trinidad and won the series against Trinidad. You would not know about that either. You would know about looking in a book and quoting something wrong. I am not sure you did not quote something wrong just now or can't even find it at all.

We have also, Mr. Speaker, if you go through the Housing Development in Deacons Road, a complex at the Farm where you play netball, paddle tennis, and for your comfort road tennis. That may be more applicable to you to help you to understand what is going on, volley ball, and you will see them there with proper backboards and proper nets and proper rings which the other administration never gave them. Mr. Jeffers at the National Stadium then was crying out for rings; nothing so you gave them, and you have got the gall to get up in here asking what dynamism there is. We moved from \$57,000 to \$180,000 in the Estimates this year, and you built a netball stadium for young ladies to use; I believe you probably use it too because it is for young ladies. I mean the hon. member for St. Lucy. He may have been there. Netball is the ladies business.

1.35 p.m.

Netball is a ladies game, Sir. I believe that is the game that you would have played or attempted to play and they built a Stadium there where the courts had to be paved at 6 o'clock in the evening to start a regional game at 7 o'clock at Election time. That is what you all did. There were no toilet doors, no seats, no accommodation at the National Sports Stadium. You talk about dynamic. Instead of being in a position to buy equipment, they had to go and do what you did not do to the building. That is where some of the money went.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think you mean the National Sports Council and not the Stadium as you said.

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: Yes, Sir, Council, not Stadium, Sir. The Stadium is a different thing. They talk about Rockfield. The hon. member would know that at Rockfield there is a cricket team playing there and we feel the grounds should be condemned. There are bad grounds. If you want to move the people from there, have you been able to identify a site? You live in St. Lucy, have you been able to identify a site near St. Lucy where the people of Rockfield can use when they decide to fix the Rockfield Playing Field? You want somebody to come into the office to discuss Sports? You are not a sportsman, you may be a sportswoman, but not a sportsman. What sports have you come in here talking about? The hon. member is entitled to do that. He opened for Harrison College and scored 100 and then five noughts after that, but that is not the way to score, Sir.

The National Sports Stadium at Flodden at Culloden Road, adjoining Culloden Farm is going to be the home of the Barbados Lawn Tennis Association. Go there and see the work that is being carried on. It is in my colleague's constituency, the hon. member for St. Michael South. You see what sweetens goat's mouth, burns his tail. We put it there for you. You go and look at the Stadium and you will see all the centre tracks were broken up. The Government had to spend money and repair them. You will have to ask Rayside Concrete Products what was the problem. I am not a technician. I heard but I do not know, Sir.

The hon. member has the gall to ask what is the National Sports Stadium doing. Go down into the City where there was a dump. It has been filled in and levelled. I think the hon. member for the City, the Hon. Minister of Health will bear me out on this, Sir, and in the Estimates there is money voted for what is now known as Murphy's Pasture. Murphy's dump heap is now a playing field and the hon. member should not say she wants a pavilion because she knows what problems we had negotiating to clear the land to put a pavilion on. The hon. member is well aware of that.

The National Sports Council and the Government will be having at Murphy's Pasture a whole sporting complex which will go hand in hand with a Swimming Pool. For the first time in the history of this country in the City of Bridgetown we are going to see proper quality in housing. That will also tie in and a new Youth Town, new brand, not an old broken-down building.

Mr. SPEAKER: You mean a "brand new".

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: Brand new, Sir. Right out of cellophane paper, Sir. Not an old broken-down building that you botched up and pushed the people in. It will be

new business. That is what you are going to see there. That is what the National Sports Council is doing. When you examine the Estimates here for 1975/76, listen to whom they gave money: The West Indies Cricket Board of Control, \$2,400; The Barbados Rifle Association \$600; one of the most expensive sports in the country, Rifle shooting; the Barbados Amateur Athletics Association, \$4,000. These were in the great bright years when money was knocking dog. The Lawn Tennis Association \$1,200; The Netball Association \$1,200; The Table Tennis Association \$1,200. You never heard anything about Joe Connell who got Queen's Park filled up on mornings. A Dr. Caddle, or rather a gentleman by the name of Dr. Caddle.....

Mr. SPEAKER: I hope you are not referring to any hon. member here.

Hon. L. S. CRAIG: No, Sir, I will never do that, Sir. A R. B. Caddle then, let me put it that way, Sir, who is supposed to be some patron of the Association. This Government recognised it because we knew it was the sports that the little man was in, Volleyball. We gave them money. Basketball, nobody heard anything for Basketball. Netball, we recognised that and gave them a subvention. The Paddle Tennis Association, unheard of by you all. That is what we call trying to improve the quality of Sports in Barbados because out of these very Associations there will be a future for some young Cricketer, some young Volleyball player, some young Table Tennis player, some young Lawn Tennis player that will some day hit the scene.

If you want to know how well they have done, we produced Darcy Beckles in our time, not in yours. I do not care how long he was training. He became "Mr. World" during the regime of this Government and we recognised his service by giving a Cocktail Party for him and giving him a job as a Coach at the National Sports Stadium, something that you will never have done, or even thought about. If there was some Carlton Brathwaite who was playing football or some German coming in here you would hear all the jazz about holding something for him. Those are the people you all like and care about and the member has the gall to ask what are we doing.

Sir, I have answered the problem about the Playing Fields. It is very difficult to bring them up-to-date simply because you have problems of not finding somewhere for the teams to play when you are bringing the fields under control. We can do no more in that respect. In St. Peter, Sir, for example, I saw a utility pole in the middle of a playing field. I gave a direction that it should be removed by the Barbados Light and Power Company. There is a sporting complex going on in St. Thomas (*Asides*). I have not heard of St. James either. St. George has a big school and a lovely playing field which the Dems gave them. You could not want more. You have a big playing field

and a big school, all in one, but the boys are still playing at the Church corner. That I know. You cannot get them from the Church corner, Sir.

You had Arthur Standard, for example, a big man who came number 4 or 5 in the "Mr. World" and all you ever had for him was to have him cutting down trees. He came 5th in "Mr. World" and the only thing that Government recognised about the man was that he was cutting down trees for the Ministry of Communications and Works. If you see Arthur Standard now, you will see him in the uniform of a Security Guard, with his big arms and in his uniform going around, Sir, with all the hard work of cutting down trees being finished. He can go and eat some itals during the day, Sir.

You had a big tug-of-war going on at the Stadium. That is what you had going on. We do not have a tug-of-war. I think there are one or two other Organisations that we have recognised, Sir, but they do not come to mind right now. I think, Mr. Speaker, I have dealt with what I believe the National Sports Council is doing. When I was Minister of Community Services I think we were off to a good start. We were going through an economic struggle of drawing up the country's economic position to what it is today, Sir. I believe that the money which the Minister of Finance has been able to accumulate by way of a surplus, that part of it would be able to buy the equipment to do all those things.
1.45 p.m.

When I took over the Ministry they had two hand mowers and two hand carts. I think that these few points I have made will be able to give the employees some ray of hope and also members of the other side, including the hon. member for St. Lucy.

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

On the motion of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, seconded by Hon. L. S. CRAIG the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. ODLE in the Chair.

Clauses 1 to 4 inclusive were called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, seconded by Hon. L. S. CRAIG the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, seconded by Hon. L. R. TULL, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

QUESTION TIME

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, that concludes Government Business for the day. I beg to move that Question Time be now taken.

Mr. SPEAKER: Question Time is the instant Order of the day. The hon. member for St. Michael South, his question No. 29.

Mr. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, to ask the Minister of Communications and Works: 1. Is the Minister aware that there is need for the provision of street lighting in the area off Second Avenue Beckles Hill, on the Southern side of Government Headquarters at Bay Street? 2. If the answer to the foregoing is in the negative, will the Minister investigate the matter, and take the necessary steps to provide the desired number of street lights? 3. If the answer to No. 1 is in the affirmative, will the Minister state how soon he intends to provide the street lights? 4. If street lights are not immediately available, will the Minister consider the alternative of having security lighting installed on the Southern side of Government Headquarters in such a way that the area referred to might be illuminated?

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, the reply to Parliamentary Question No. 29 is as follows:

"Investigations are being undertaken to determine the need for additional lighting in the island, including Second Avenue, Beckles Hill, and remedial measure will be taken as soon as practicable."

Mr. SPEAKER: The same hon. member, his question No. 36.

Mr. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, to ask the Minister of Education and Culture: 1. When is the estimated date for the completion of the present phase of construction at the St. Lucy Secondary School? 2. What is the value of the contract now being executed? 3. Is the present contractor the same who was awarded the contract originally? If not why not? 4. If a new contract has been awarded, what was the value of the original contract?

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Speaker, the reply to Parliamentary Question No. 36 is as follows:

1. June 1979
2. \$1,084,729
3. No, Sir. The original contract was determined because of unsatisfactory performance by the contractor.
4. \$1,860,596.38

Mr. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, a supplementary question: Can the Minister indicate to whom the original contract was awarded?

Mr. SPEAKER: That is not a proper supplementary.

Mr. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, can the Minister indicate the track record of the company to which the original contract was awarded?

Mr. SPEAKER: I think that supplementary would better be tabled as a substantive question.

That brings us to the end of Question Time.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, subject to agreement by any hon. member interested in Private

Members' Business, I think we can adjourn today's meeting. I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, May 15, 1979 at 12 Noon.

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

The question that the House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 15th May, 1979 at 12 Noon was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.
1.55 p.m.