

THE House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1976 – 81

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 19th February, 1980.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12.20 p.m. o'clock.

PRESENT

His Honour W. C. B. HINDS, J.P. (Speaker); Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, M.A., (Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Planning); Hon. H. deB. FORDE, S.C., M.A., LL.B., (Attorney General and Minister of External Affairs); Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER, (Minister of Health and National Insurance); Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE, (Minister of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs); Mr. J. G. ODLE, B.Sc., (Chairman of Committees); Mr. M. C. C. WARD; Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, Q.C., LL.B.; (Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry) (Leader of the House); Hon. L. R. TULL, M.A., (Minister of Education and Culture); Mr. DeL. O. BRADSHAW; and Mr. L. L. SISNETT.

Prayers were read.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN and Dr. HAYNES entered the House and took their seats.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, 29th January 1980.

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

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

Mr. SPEAKER: If there are no observations from hon. members, let these Minutes stand confirmed. *(Pause)* The Minutes of the meeting of the 29th January, 1980 are confirmed.

The Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, 12th February, 1980.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I understand that these Minutes have not been circulated in sufficient time for hon. members to check the accuracy thereof and in the circumstances, I beg to move that further consideration of these Minutes be deferred.

Mr. SPEAKER: Let consideration be deferred.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: It is my duty to report to this Hon. House on an incident which occurred on Tuesday last whilst this Hon. House was in session.

There is presently a Commission known as the Sir Denis Malone Commission investigating unsolved murders in this country and a document coming out from that Commission, addressed to an hon. member of this House at the hon. member's home address, I refer to the hon. member for St. Michael South East, that document inviting the hon. member to attend the next day's session of the Commission was served on this hon. member within the precincts of this Hon. House whilst the House was in session. Such an action constitutes a contempt on the dignity of this Hon. House.

I must say I have discussed the matter with the Hon. Attorney General who has expressed to me his deep concern for the preservation of the dignity of this Hon. House and has given me the assurance that the matter is receiving his immediate attention as he is of the opinion that there was really no intention to trespass upon the dignity of this Hon. House. Under the circumstances, we

will have to await the Hon. Attorney General's action in the matter.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay the Report of the Study of the Barbados Sugar Industry.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, on behalf of the Minister of Housing, Lands and Environment, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at St. George for the construction of the new St. George Primary School and for Housing Development.

On my own behalf I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$923 000 from 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 1979-80, No. 26, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Mr. SPEAKER: Did the hon. member say Part II - Capital?

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Part II - Capital.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$6,679,658 from the Consolidated Fund and to place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1979-80, Part I - Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1979-80, No. 25, which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I also beg to give notice of a Resolution to amend the Note to Item I, Head 108 - Ministry of Finance and Planning.

It is necessary that the first Resolution certainly be passed this week. The second is a very simple matter. It is in the laps of the House whether it wishes to deal with it or not. This is a Resolution relating to travel allowances for a large number of Ministries. These allowances have fallen in arrears since the rates have been increased during the financial year. There is also a Resolution containing \$1½ million for teachers. Effectively, Sir, this represents the fact that the teachers' salary increase was paid during this year and therefore, naturally would have exhausted the funds voted. As I say, Sir, it has to be done this week and arrangements have been made for copies to come to the House if it pleases hon. members to do it today rather than to come back another day during the week

and in due course the opinion of the Opposition will be taken on this matter to see if we can accommodate it during today's part of the session, Sir.

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Medical Registration Act.

12.30 p.m.

FIRST READING OF BILLS

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the Bill to amend the Medical Registration 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.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the suspension of Standing Orders 6, 16, 18, 20, 42, 43 and 44, for the remainder of the day's sitting.

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

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Item No. 2 be the first Order of the day.

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

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

BILL TO AMEND BARBADOS DEVELOPMENT BANK ACT AND TO VALIDATE CERTAIN LOANS MADE

The Second Order was called - To move the Second Reading of a Bill to amend the Barbados Development Bank Act and to validate certain loans made by the Barbados Development Bank.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Speaker, this is a simple Bill. It has two purposes - one is to increase the number of Directors of the Barbados Development Bank and the second is to validate certain actions taken by the bank in respect of loans which may have been made prior to an increase in the loan limits which was inadvertently delayed, so that the bank was operating on the basis of

an increased limit before the 1975 Order was made. The matter of invalidation is, I think, perfunctory; the matter of the increase in the number of Directors is a matter of policy.

The Barbados Development Bank has greatly been expanding its activities and its relationship to the Barbados National Bank at the same time and these are the two fundamental reasons why it is thought that the Bank requires more Directors. It is intended that the equity of the bank be expanded and I have put an upper limit of \$25 million on it and the Government very shortly intends to subscribe further equity and a quantity of the new subscriptions will be assigned to the Barbados National Bank, thus giving it a substantial shareholding in the Barbados Development Bank and thus bringing the two institutions closer together in a manner which was promised in the Manifesto of the Barbados Labour Party. As a result of transferring shareholding to the Barbados National Bank — because it is sometimes forgotten that the Barbados National Bank is not a statutory corporation in the sense that most of the old corporations are — it has a capital structure and has to operate within a proper debt/equity ratio — hon. members who follow the history of the Bank will remember the illegitimate loan to Bath so disturbed the debt-equity ratio that no further loans could be made. The capital structure will now include the shareholding of the Barbados National Bank and as a result the Barbados National Bank will require representation on the Board of Directors. The Board is at present a little small for an organisation operating on this scale and we are therefore seeking to increase the number of directors from the present five to seven.

Now I spoke also of the operations on the Barbados Development Bank and I would not spend a great deal of time on it were it not for reports having been made to me of one of the typically misleading speeches outside this House by the hon. Leader of the Opposition in which it was suggested that the Barbados Development Bank did not have funds available to lend to fishermen. In one sense this is true; the Barbados Development Bank does not lend to fishermen anymore — that function was transferred to the Barbados National Bank. I therefore forgive the hon. Leader of the Opposition for not being up-to-date and aware of what is going on. But lest any doubt may have been created in the minds of the public as to the availability of funds at the Barbados Development Bank I want to say a word about its operations in this financial year now coming to an end. It is not generally realized that the Barbados Development Bank is one of the principal financial sources of tourism in this Island. There are 120 hotels in this Island and no less than 86 of them have received loans from the Barbados Development Bank. The entire structure of local ownership of our tourist industry, the entire build up of local ownership, would not have been possible without

the Barbados Development Bank. Seventy percent of all hotels in Barbados have been assisted by the bank.

With regard to the availability of funds generally, the Bank at present enjoys the use of a \$4 million fund on a roll-over basis from the Central Bank at a favourable rate of interest — although I do not wish at the moment to say what that rate is. In addition, the Government is going to subscribe more equity to the Bank in order to allow it to support a debt/ratio to which it is at present limited by law and the ever increasing number of loans it is making.

12.40 p.m.

It has had a grant of \$6 million recently from the European Investment Bank of which \$2 million is still available for use in Industry. It is currently engaged in raising \$4 million in funds through the issue of Development Bonds of which I am told \$3 million has already been realised. There are just adequate funds at the Barbados Development Bank for lending purposes and at present, as I am informed, there is a record number of over 220 applications at the Bank for Development Loans of one sort or another.

Persons in every walk of life have been helped, from the small shoemaker who has borrowed \$1,500 or \$1,700 to buy some equipment for his shoemaking shop to the owner of a mobile canteen who has borrowed money to set up his canteen to assist workers in and around Bridgetown in attaining a cheap lunch, right up to persons who have borrowed money for building apartment hotels.

During the first nine months of the Current Financial Year, 1979/80, the Barbados Development Bank has committed over \$10 million in loans to Barbadians for development enterprises. The scale of this sum can be realised when one examines the Records of the Democratic Labour Party during the first eight years of the Bank's existence, 1969–1976, and realised that in those six to eight years only \$10 million was lent. In the nine months of this year alone the Barbados Development Bank has lent out as much money for expansion to our Industry and our tourists facilities in Barbados as the Democratic Labour Party lent out in the whole eight years that it ran the Bank.

Five hundred and forty-four permanent jobs have already been created by the Bank in the first nine months of this year and over 2,000 jobs have been created on the construction work on Bank Projects. There are 98 Bank Projects which have been going on during this year employing more than 2,000 people. That is the record of the Barbados Development Bank which I have brought up-to-date from the situation that it was in when the Annual Report was laid in the

House earlier this year and when I said what I had to say upon that occasion.

On that occasion it was indicated that there were 462 job opportunities during the last Financial Year. Already, this year there has been 544 created. With all of this, Sir, the Bank is now making a profit. In our first year in office it did not make a profit. The reason for that was that it had to carry a number of loans, many of them, and I do not hesitate to make this accusation, of a political character which had fallen into arrears and which had to be written off when we came into power in order to give the true picture of the Bank's operation.

One such loan, and I am not going to call the name, Sir, was granted to a person who was twice a candidate for the Democratic Labour Party, was granted in January, 1974 and it fell into arrears by July, 1974. It is now in the hands of the Lawyers.

Another such loan was apparently guaranteed by a member of the Opposition. It was disbursed in February, 1974 and it fell into arrears by October, 1974.

Another such loan was granted to the brother of a member of the Opposition. That was granted in June, 1974 and fell into arrears by August, 1974.

Another such loan is the famous Norwood Holdings, Sir, which was granted to Mr. DaCosta Edwards. No money was ever paid on that until we came into power and that is one of the largest of the bad debts. Even today it is carrying \$58,000 in arrears. I mention that name only because it has been mentioned in here already.

We have to put up with a lot of misrepresentations and abuse and accusations and it has to be understood sometimes, Sir, that we have teeth as well. I will ask the hon. member for St. Michael South Central to have deep faith in that remark. We have teeth as well.

I do not believe in the light of what I have said, Sir, that the House will have much difficulty in supporting the expansion of the Directorate of the Barbados Development Bank in these circumstances. The Bank's records under the Chairmanship of Mr. David Seale was one of the proudest and most impressive records of any Statutory Corporation of Government which has ever existed in this country. Mr. Seale took the Bank which was in a loss position, was unable to get seed funds from overseas because of improper loan qualities which it had followed in the past, had no funds consequently to lend out to anybody and it performed on thoroughly tainted loans.

I believe the expression is "corrupt" loans but I do not want to use a word like "corrupt" which has other reasons. I am not as others, Sir. I believe "corrupt" in banking sense means that they are corrupting the portfolio because no payments are being made on them. That is a matter of terminology.

Mr. Seale took the Bank under these conditions and has maintained in every year that he has been in charge of the Bank a level of disbursement of funds which has ensured that at least 1,700 Barbadians have been working on projects funded by the Bank. The number as I say is now over 2,000 and which has ensured a steady level of job creation.

The Estimates which are coming up, Sir, and I am not going to anticipate at any length, will indicate a very substantial sum of money committed for factory building in Barbados and indeed, we are finding that we cannot build factories financed by the IDC or financed through the Barbados Development Bank as quickly as the demand for those factories is occurring.

When this year I questioned the amount of money sought for factory building, quietly a file was laid in front of me showing the waiting list of investors in Barbados and outside of Barbados waiting for factories to set up enterprises in Barbados and giving work to Barbadians. That is the reason why we have 94,000 people working in Barbados on record, Sir. The greatest number who were offered work in this country exceeded even the figure of 1960 which was the previous record. I remember the year Sir. The previous record was 1960.

It is precisely because of the activities of these Institutions of Government which we have determine must pursue policies of expansion which we have determined must not be used to cushion and feather the nests of persons who are not in a position to repay loans which they received and not in a position to repay the loans. That is a very important factor to remember. It is because we have insisted on lending for useful and viable enterprises that I am able to get up in the House and tell the House that 2,000 people are working because of the work of the Barbados Development Bank under a new Administration.

Sir, the Bill contains just three Clauses and I beg to move that it be now read a second time.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: I beg to second that and reserve my right to speak on it.
12.50 p.m.

Dr. HAYNES: Mr. Speaker, the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, no doubt thoroughly chastened has introduced

this particular Bill with remarkable restraint and since he has avoided calling names in respect of — I would not use the word “corrupt” which he used — I think the more appropriate term would be the contaminated loans. I shall essay to do the same. However, let it be known that there are loans that have fallen into arrears, loans which were made to members of the Barbados Labour Party before this Government came into power, and after this Government came into power. I will say no more about that at this point in time.

However, the final tenor of his speech is a tribute to the foresight of the Democratic Labour Party in establishing the Barbados Development Bank and establishing development banking in this country in order to make available to all the people of Barbados, some avenue to increase their capital worth in this country and to contribute to the development of Barbados. So let it be understood that when in these days of inflation you look at the dollar disbursements per year and you compare what is taking place now with what took place ten years ago, it is but the logical extension, the logical development, when you correct for the difference in dollar values, the cost of building and construction and so on it is but the proper gradient that you would expect for the bank, over a ten year period of development.

We have no quarrel with the increase in the number of directors of the Bank, although I must say and on this matter, Mr. Speaker, in all honesty I have two minds. There can be no question that in the Barbados Labour Party's manifesto it stated that at the apex of the Government financial institutions was the Central Bank of Barbados. It mentioned a series of other institutions including the Barbados Development Bank, the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank, the Agricultural Credit Bank, the National Housing Corporation which performs a limited lending function and the Government Savings Bank and made a clear statement that it was the policy of the Government to amalgamate into one all these financial institutions for the purpose of reducing overheads in cost and streamlining management. The Government has taken a position in relation to the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank. I do not wish to go into the manifold problems facing that today. It has also taken a position in relation to the Agricultural Credit Bank. I am not happy about the way in which that was done, in which the assets and liabilities were transferred to the Crown and only some 22 of the active loans of the Agricultural Credit Bank were taken over by the Barbados National Bank.

One funding organisation has queried why it is, that although the Barbados Development Bank was made a scheduled institution, I believe it is under Clause 38(1) that is subject to correction, in the National Bank

Act I think of 1978, the Barbados Development Bank was made one of the scheduled institutions, to be taken over by the Barbados National Bank in accordance with the manifesto of the promises of the Barbados Labour Party. Now, that has not been done and what I understand the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister of Finance plans to do, is to increase the equity of the Barbados Development Bank, give the Barbados National Bank representation on the Board of Directors and get around that particular problem in this way, whereas in my view, it certainly does not conform with the positions taken in relation to other banking institutions and I am replying to a statement made by the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister. I do have some sympathy and I want to say this: I want to have some sympathy with his position and for the position of Mr. David Seale because I do not think that the Barbados National Bank is equipped today to take on any other institution of lending judging by what is happening within that particular institution at the moment. However, Mr. Speaker, we have heard many things.

I want just to quote, this is a document of the House, Mr. Speaker, it is the Barbados Development Bank's Tenth Annual Report, 1978-1979, a decade of development financing and I am pleased to see that at least one Government financial institution can have its report available early in the year. Many international banks with thousands of branches all over the world already have their financial reports available. No one has seen financial reports or statements from the Barbados National Bank and that is a matter of some concern. However, Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw to the attention of the Honourable Minister of Finance a pattern that is of some concern to him and I quote from it. (Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: At what page?) Page 4. “By far the largest investment has been in tourism representing 60% and more of the bank's commitments in virtually every year of the decade.” It goes on: “This sector has been the bank's best performer to date with the creation of 480 direct jobs in the period 1975-1979.” The point I am trying to make, Mr. Speaker, is that there seems to be an imbalance between the level of investment in the hotel industry and the amount of jobs created. I accept that this is a capital intensive sector. I accept, Mr. Speaker, that it is a rapidly growing area, nothing to do with the Barbados Labour Party, the logical development of background work done by the Democratic Labour Party over a decade and more and economic activity overseas. We will see what happens to tourism in the eighties which will give us some idea of what is being done by this present administration. There is always a lag of some four years or so. However, I believe that this discrepancy has come about because a lot of the investment has gone into the apartment sector of the hotel industry. Mr. Speaker, I know of many a malefaction or infelicity that has taken place in this area

but since the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister and Minister of Finance has contained himself today I will follow suit and I hope in his final reply he continues in the same mood. All of this courtesy would not be extended in the future.

1.00 p.m.

When you compare this — I am not calling any names, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: It is only that if you know of these infelicities that you have a duty devolving upon you.

Dr. HAYNES: I would describe the type of infelicity where for example someone buys a piece of land, probably obtains a bridging loan from a commercial bank and then obtains a loan from the Barbados Development Bank, draws down on the loan from the Barbados Development Bank and pays off for the original purchase of the loan so that the Barbados Development Bank has financed the entire project, and then the commercial bank is then paid out of the disbursements from the Barbados Development Bank. Now it is true, Sir, that when the proposals go to the Barbados Development Bank that the officers of the Barbados Development Bank may now know what is going on. Now that is the type of infelicity I am talking about which is more in my view in the nature of a malefaction, and I think I have fulfilled my duty to this Honourable House to that extent.

Now, Mr. Speaker, where 60% of your total disbursements over a ten year period to the hotel industry provided some 40 direct jobs in the five year period 1975-1979 or four year period, I am not sure what these months will take in, then when you look at the manufacturing sector you will see that the manufacturing sector, Mr. Speaker, actually got only 22.5% of the total disbursements during this period and actually provided almost the same number of jobs during the same period. Therefore I would feel as a matter of policy particularly with the levels of liquidity in the bank that the Minister of Finance should look again at the freedom with which the Barbados Development Bank is lending to finance apartments. I suppose he knows of certain other aspects of this new mixture of condominiums and apartments and the sale of shares instead of the sale of real estate and so on in which certain things are happening, but I presume that he is smart enough to spot that. There is one other major point I wish to bring to the attention of the Hon. Minister of Finance, and it is this, Mr. Speaker: that of the total disbursements only I think it was 4% over a ten year period really went to what could be classified as small businessmen. Now this has got to be unsatisfactory; it is certainly not consistent with the

fundamental principles which the Democratic Labour Party foresaw, what they thought of and what they hoped to put in effect via the Barbados Development Bank down the years. But I will say, this; again this may not be a problem with the bank *per se*. I believe that the bank needs in the area of small businessmen extension services to deal with the many small people whose, from what I can gather, loan requirements, their presentation for loans, the handling of what limited equity they have in order to justify loans, access to proper advice in relation to the management of their business to meet reasonable banking standards and so on, are things that have to be developed over the years. The Democratic Labour Party made some efforts in this area, the area such as BIMAP and other areas, but I believe....

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: If the hon. member doesn't mind....

Mr. SPEAKER: On what has the hon. member risen?

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I am asking if he would give way on a point of clarification.

Mr. SPEAKER: I think you have risen on a point of elucidation.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: On a point of elucidation, the figure of 4% to small businesses, if he doesn't mind, there are two figures because 4% is the amount but in fact 31% of all loans granted have been to small businesses. In its nature small business isn't going to get the most money, but 31% of all loans have been granted to small businesses which is the biggest amount. The greatest number of people who have benefited are small businessmen.

Dr. HAYNES: Mr. Speaker, I take the point. I can read, I have selected the figure that in my view is more meaningful in terms of the amount of capital being made available to the vast majority of small people in Barbados, the question of loan capital being made to the small man, and it is 4%. Now one of the problems with these reports of the Barbados Development Bank is that you are dealing essentially with small numbers.

Now the Hon. Minister of Finance is an expert with numbers and I am not getting involved in any quarrel with him about numbers, but he knows perfectly well that when it comes to a statistical exercise that if you make one loan this year and one loan next year you can say the loans have gone up by 100%, but that could mean absolutely nothing. Therefore for a proper statistical exercise volume is important, the numbers you are using for the

interpretation of percentages; so when you think in terms of the amount of loans made available to the small people in Barbados in order that they can develop and improve on their capital stock and ownership in this country, in fact it represents only 4% of the loans.

Now I stress this for an important reason, that is, I believe I saw a report somewhere not so long ago that perhaps one of the areas where you can make the greatest impact on employment in Barbados is to give maximum support to the small man in this country. I have said before I understand the reservations of a bank and the difficulties that the small man will face, but I feel that is the duty of the present administration to reflect on that particular figure of 4% and recognise that it cannot redound to their credit or to the credit of any Government if 4% of the total disbursements of a development institution lending soft money with long periods of repayment only 4% of that could have gone to the small people of this country, and what you have to do, Mr. Speaker, and I would suggest to the Hon. Minister of Finance that he has a duty to create a proper environment at the bank with proper supporting staff dealing specifically with the problems of small people, because they are not going to come for the loans unless they are assisted in coming for the loans. They cannot get the loans unless there is adequate preparation of feasibility studies and all kinds of things like that, and it is also important that this should be done because the bank has to be funded by international banking institutions and other institutions, therefore their loan policies and criteria for loans must be properly satisfied.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I wish to stick to the earlier promise. There are loans made recently the morality of which is highly questionable; at least one, the legality not in respect of the obtaining of the loan, but the immediate disbursement of the money after it has been paid out by the Barbados Development Bank. However, Mr. Speaker, I think from the contributions from both sides of this House so far that it is generally agreed that there are certain areas in this country if democracy is to survive, where there must be no political interference. Mr. Speaker, I refer to the financial institutions of this country and I take the point made by the Hon. Prime Minister. Mr. Speaker, I refer to the institutions for information of the public, the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, and finally, Mr. Speaker, Statutory Boards. 1.10 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: Please.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Since there has been an interruption, Sir, on a point of elucidation, I wonder if the hon. member would care to inform me privately of this illegal disbursement so I can investigate it. Once he

has done that I give him my assurance that it will be investigated and dealt with.

Dr. HAYNES: Mr. Speaker, I respect the anxiety of the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, but I don't have those documents here with me. I promise that I wouldn't call names but what I can tell you is that I could give you the name privately outside, but the details, I can furnish you with them. I have them in my possession and I am not going to quote any wrong figures. It is figures we are dealing with.

So, Mr. Speaker, no political interference with respect to financial institutions we all agree to, none with respect to that organisation I mentioned a little while ago.

(At this stage certain remarks were ordered to be expunged from the record by His Honour the Speaker.)

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: There are a number of points that I think it is the duty of those of us on this side who are interested only in honest presentation of facts, unlike the hon. member who just spoke,.....

Dr. HAYNES: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sure the Hon. Minister would be willing to withdraw the remarks.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: I withdraw that. If it takes offence, Sir, sometimes the cap fits. The position is, Sir, that the record of the Barbados Development Bank in the last three years is a record of substantial progress, accelerated granting of loans, a better administration of the financial objectives of development finance than ever before in its history, and this is not the judgment of this political party, this is the judgment of the most important people of all, namely the people who lend money to the Development Bank. I have been repeatedly told by institutions such as the World Bank, the European Investment Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank that one of the greatest things that has happened in the course of the last three years is that this Government had the courage to clean up the nastiness left in the Development Bank by the Democratic Labour Party. And further, that in the administration of loans by the existing Director of the Development Bank, that purely financial criteria are used and not political criteria which used to be the criteria under the Democratic Labour Party.

Now, Sir, my Ministry has to deal to a large extent with the Industrial Development Corporation and the tourist Board in many areas where funding is granted by the Development Bank. I am going to deal specifically with the area of small business, because no administration in the history of Barbados has done more in the last three years, and we still have further programmes to implement. It was this administration that implemented the

programme of permitting the participation of the tourist sector by small people such as taxi drivers, water sports operators, restaurant proprietors and others in obtaining loans, so that a greater part of the tourist dollar could be filtered among a larger number, and in addition this administration fought to obtain loans from CIDA and other international organisations so that BIMAP would be sufficiently funded to create a better service to small business.

In addition this administration introduced the export finance credit and insurance scheme so that small businessmen would be able to have export credit and insurance when they are exporting. In addition, Sir, one of the greatest things that we have done, and one of which I am justly proud, is the fact that we amended the Customs Act of this country to permit young small businessmen to get out free raw materials, equipment, etc. once they are registered with the IDC or registered with the Labour Department. When we were introducing the law dealing with registration so as to have an information base so that we could flow aid to those who needed it, the other side fought it strenuously, they were obstructionists, but that is their policy, their policy is to obstruct, but this Government is sufficiently strong willed to overrule, ignore their obstruction and get on with the job. That is why today in this country small businessmen can now by the registration with IDC import their raw materials duty free, and I am very glad to see that in a speech very recently the President of the Small Businessmen's Association at BIMAP said that he commended the Government for that.

That is not all the programmes we have been doing. We have also at the Pine built a number of units for small manufacturers. We are now negotiating with the World Bank, and only last week the Head of the Ministry of Planning, Mr. Williams, together with the General Manager of the IDC and others were in Washington negotiating the final terms of the World Bank's Agreement for free loans so that we can extend that programme, and I know, Mr. Speaker, you will be glad to hear that, so that we can fund the development of the industrial estate in Speightstown.

Mr. SPEAKER: I know you mean just outside of Speightstown.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, as far as I am concerned Speightstown starts from the end of St. James and even includes St. Lucy. The hon. member has no reason to fear, absolutely no reason to fear. We are dealing with development of the north and we have embraced his constituency, we do not think like them of any victimisation, they can talk that but we act and demonstrate that we know that it is necessary that between St. Peter, and St. Lucy, that there should be

greater development so that employment could be created down there.

Now, Sir, there has been a lot of other talk about small businessmen. We have had over the last nine months committees working on various requirements for these small businessmen. We shall wait for the whole report, but we are now in a position to go to Cabinet with a comprehensive programme for small businessmen whereby opportunities for quoting for certain Government projects will be created. We will recommend that up to a certain limit should be reserved exclusively for small businessmen. 1.20 p.m.

The Central Bank, the Industrial Development Corporation, BIMAP and my Ministry are all represented on this Committee. Mr. Speaker, they have got a common definition among themselves as to what is a small businessman and these comprehensive proposals – some of them are already implemented – the Export Credit Finance, duty free raw material, the programme of training, BIMAP – all these programmes are being implemented; and we have more proposals but they will require amendment of such things as the Financial Rules.

Now the Government of this country is one of the biggest procurers and if we were to say that we are going to give preference in relation to certain contracts and supplies and materials specifically for small businessmen we have to come with amendments to the law so that the implications of a total programme for the small businessmen are far greater than some seem to know – which is very difficult. As a matter of fact in the United Kingdom there has been a committee, and in the United States and other places, and certain laws have to be changed to give a preference in this area. That exercise in relation to Barbados has been done and where changes to the law are necessary we will be bringing down legislation and will see whether the Opposition will be obstructionists or not.

Now some other statements were made in respect of the tourism industry. In 1976 there were a number of defaults in repayment by a number of borrowers from the Development Bank. I am pleased to say that as a result of special efforts made not only by the Development Bank itself but by accountants and receivers and other advisory services in Barbados a number of those people who were in default are in a position where they have paid off some of their arrears and have made a special scheme for repayment whereby the Development Bank is not in danger of losing its money. The tourism industry as a whole has increased phenomenally in recent years. As to the future of the 1980s everybody knows that one of the most worrying things is the question of escalating fuel prices. In 1979

between January and December the average rise in the cost of airline fuel was 66%. These figures have just been placed before the Caribbean Air Fares Committee. International airlines, whether IATA or not, have all had to undergo pressures on their finances. Now it is obvious that if airlines are not to be charitable institutions their prices must reflect the increased costs and it is a matter of some concern to all tourist administrators as to what impact the rise in air fares is going to have on the demands for travel in the tourist industry. A considerable amount of research is being done in that direction. Many people feel that those destinations which are nearer to the source of visitors will benefit; there are others who feel that whatever the rise in air fares people will still travel.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that there will continue to be growth in the level of tourists to Barbados. I do not expect that we can reach the phenomenal growth rate we had previously, but what is more important to us now in Barbados is that we have an eleven or twelve months season rather than phenomenal growth in the winter time and a reduction in numbers in the summer; I am reasonably hopeful of that. But the Development Bank itself is aware of the fact that there are limits to the amount of growth there is in the tourist industry and they themselves have been encouraging other than tourist-oriented people entrepreneurs to come forward with schemes for loans. In manufacturing, one of the greatest achievements of this Government has been that a large number of people are now coming forward with entrepreneurial skills and entering into manufacturing. From the time we went into the Ministry of Trade, from the time the hon. member for Christ Church East assumed the role of Chairman of the IDC, we have been continually inviting the Chamber of Commerce and other sectors in Barbados to come forward and participate in manufacturing in Barbados and leave the traditional areas of retailing. It obviously takes some time to convert a saltfish and rice merchant into a manufacturer, but the evidence is abundant now not only from the Development Bank but also from the applications for fiscal incentives that this is happening. There has been an upsurge in requests for fiscal incentives, for loans from the Development Bank and requests for manufacturing space from local people. I am very happy to say this and am even happier over the fact that it is in areas outside the traditional areas of garment manufacturing — in areas of food processing, in areas of providing services for tourists and things of that kind other than hotel keeping. There are a number of other areas than can be identified. A survey is going on now in the IDC where we are evaluating the progress made under the Development Plan to see whether the targets are too small, not too big. The target of 1,200 jobs a year will be broken. We have run out of factory space and are now having to buy land in St. George

and St. Peter and we are looking around for other land as well.

1.30 p.m.

The necessary infra-structure is in the South, Sir, and we now have to go in the North. We are a little behind, Sir. This is the record basically that we can put forward. All of this talk about interference of the loans and all of that foolishness, that is tripe, Sir, complete and utter tripe.

No person in the Development Bank nor the Barbados National Bank, none of them can say that any member of this Government asked them to give anybody loans. The Prime Minister was quite right when he said it was created from the beginning and he said we would not be creating an Institution which politics will bedevil its financial viability.

We want the Barbados National Bank to succeed because we want to give the lie to all of those who say that black people cannot run anything successfully. That is one of the reasons, too, Sir, that we had a complete review of our statement in the Manifesto. I had some work on it too and I notice that our Multi-National Banking Institutions like Barclays Bank and all of them have subsidiaries in specialised areas. There is Barclays Bank Inter-National who has Barclays Credit Financing, Barclays Leasing, Barclays Aero Services, Barclays Insurance, Barclays Merchant Banking, Barclays Long Term Loans, Barfincor and all kinds of subsidiary Institutions. (*Asides*).

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the concept is in the Manifesto. The particular manner in which it would be implemented depends upon the Government in power. The Barbados Development Bank will become a subsidiary of the National Bank just like the Mortgage Finance is. That will be the integration. The basic position will be this, Sir, that there will be co-ordination of the total effort to ensure that there is no risk of duplication. That is the basic point. As to the methodology in arising at that, that is within our power, not theirs. They are not in power and they will not be for a long time.

When we look at all of these things, Sir, it is therefore no wonder that the other side spends all of their time in vulgar abuse rather than getting down to deal with the real issues in Barbados like how much unemployment has been reduced, how many more people have been given opportunities that were not given before and things of that kind. This is what we are dealing with and we will continue to deal with it and I am very happy to be associated with the amendment to the Law of continuing to facilitate our endeavour in this respect.

Mr. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, I was listening to the hon. member for St. Michael South Central in responding

to the Prime Minister on this Bill and I was careful to note some of the observations that he made with respect to what he regarded as the imbalance in the present distribution of loan resources to the various sectors in our economy. He pointed out that he was going to pick words to this effect and that he was going to pick those statistics that best suited his argument or words to that effect.

When the hon. member for St. Thomas, the Hon. Prime Minister pointed out that the 4% that he referred to in terms of the amount of loan capital made available to small businesses may not have been the best employed, he said he picked the one that suited his purpose and I believe that we must look at the difficulties which we are confronted with when he started to make comparisons with respect to the various capital appropriations that are made.

I do not believe that the 4% figure with respect to capital outlay for small businesses is necessarily a good indication of the performance of the Bank in the area of small businesses. What we have to bear in mind is that the system that we are employing for defining a small business is not necessarily the best system. We see a small business for the Barbados Development Banking purposes as an Institution that applies for less than \$50,000. Obviously it is not possible that a great proportion, may be 95% of the total loan portfolio may be assigned to small business but in terms of the total capital outlay it may look as if it is grossly out of proportion.

We have to bear in mind that the reality of the situation is such, and the member for St. Michael South Central did pick it up, that the Tourist Industry in a large measure is a capital intensive industry and if the bulk of the loan is in the area of Tourism obviously you are going to have a bulge in terms of the capital appropriated to that sector of our economy. It does not follow that small businesses are being neglected. As a matter of fact, figures have revealed that of the 232 loans outstanding in the portfolio of the Barbados Development Bank, 118 of these are in favour of small businesses.

We ought to bear in mind, Sir, when we are talking on this matter is that it is not enough to get up and make political speeches. What we have to look at is the fundamental difficulties that occur in the lot of the small businesses. I do not believe that anybody can remember that in about 1973/74 the Small Business Association was formed in Barbados under the aegis of the Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity.

I, Sir, was assigned as the Officer at BIMAP at that time to look after the setting up of the SBA and I am sure everybody has long since forgotten a meeting in Queen's Park where the small business group met and where I was accused of hand-picking the officers of that Institution but in those days, everyone of those members present at the meeting, all of them including the ones that are now successful men and no longer classifiable as small businessmen, all of them were just struggling people who under the Democratic Labour Party Administration and the Barbados Development Programme were not able to get the kind of loan assistance that was necessary to bring them out of the realm of the small and into the realm of big or medium.

I do not believe that we can avoid looking at some names of Industries that have prospered in Barbados in recent times that over three years or so ago were knocking on the shores of free enterprise in this country. In those days, Institutions like the Solar Heating people were just dreams. Men frustrated by a dream which they could not get fulfilled because the funds they needed and the backing which they needed were not available through the Barbados Development Bank.

It was CADEC that had to come to the rescue of one of those businesses in 1974/75 with a loan of \$20,000 to \$25,000. It was CADEC that had to come, not the Barbados Development Bank which had the resources but refused at that time to back what has turned out in Barbados to be one of the most valuable and enterprising ventures that has come about in a long time.

1.40 p.m.

The Barbados Development Bank under the Democratic Labour Party did not see it possible to use development risks capital for that purpose but are going to come here today and talk about the fact that the Barbados Labour Party has been able to uncork the funds of the Barbados Development Bank and direct them into the areas that will go into productive purpose for the development of small people in this island.

In my constituency, Sir, last year, a small, barefooted man with a flop hat came to see me at BIMAP looking for assistance in the area of well digging. He was a well digger who used to use the traditional methods of a long drill, hoe, and peck and that sort of business to dig wells. We evaluated his proposal at BIMAP, sent it down for him and sent him

down to the Barbados Development Bank. BIMAP, not Vic Johnson the politician. The Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity, a management institution in Barbados. I am sure the hon. member for St. Michael South Central is familiar with it. He went down to the bank and was able to persuade the officers down there that he should be allowed funds for a compressor to assist him in digging wells. I met him last week driving around in a Suzuki wagon and he was telling me that he has more work than he can handle because he now has a compressor that would make it possible for him to dig 10 wells where he used to dig one and he is now applying for a second compressor. A small man floundering around in Barbados for a long time but now, because of the fact that the Barbados Development Bank is more humanely oriented towards taking risks and viable propositions because of that, Sir, he was able to look to the future with confidence because he now has a say in what Barbados has to offer.

In 1974, there were four small business counsellors at the Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity and I was one of those. Today, we have 10. One of the reasons why we are able to have that many, I am no longer directly associated with small loans, but now that we have the Barbados Development Bank operating in the way it is operating, now that we have the Barbados Labour Party's total programme for small industries in this country, we are able to attract from Caribbean International agencies funds that are going to provide services, free of cost, to any small business that comes to the Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity and asks for that assistance. As a matter of fact, Sir, only last week we held a special training seminar for a number of small business men, about 30 of them and we are now in a position where we are going to start advertising for small businessmen in this country to come forward to BIMAP so that they can get assistance free of cost to themselves. Assistance which will help them make the evaluation of their project proposals, help them in the securing of funds from the various lending institutions and that will help them in the long run to be better managers of their assets. These businessmen range all the way from the well digger that I just told you about, to taxi drivers and to some of the medium entrepreneurs whom I mentioned only a few short moments ago.

Sir, the record of the Barbados Labour Party in this area is exemplary. It is foolish for anybody to get up and pretend that prior to November 1976 there was a policy favouring small business in this country. The hon. member for St. John is fond of saying that the Barbados Development Bank is not lending money to fishermen, for example, because they would go and take the engines out of the boats. The Barbados Development Bank is now making funds available to all classes of businessmen and I can point again to a

fisherman who had money to build the hull but did not have money to put in the engine. He got assistance through the Barbados Development Bank, paid off his loan and is now on his second boat. These are the fishermen of Barbados that I am talking about. The ones who, when they go into a bank, are not able to put a case for themselves and who used to be turned back because they were not wearing collar and tie. Contrast that with the fact that aliens could come from North America on a vacation, walk into the Barbados Development Bank and command a loan of \$35,000 in 15 minutes. Non-citizens of Barbados who could get that kind of loan assistance and our own people were not able to get it. The fact, Sir, is that the gentleman to whom I have just referred was able to come on holiday and get a loan approved for \$35,000. He had the gall to call on me as his representative since he lived in Brighton, to represent his interest. I represented his interest all right.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe that if we look at the whole picture in cold calculated terms we are bound to come to the conclusion that the Barbados Development Bank has performed admirably over the last three years. I know sometimes, Sir, that people tend to focus on other than objective criteria for making evaluations and comparisons but I believe that if we keep our eyes fixed firmly on the matter that we need to look and we will see a lot of people, mobile canteen operators, go down by the Harbour Road and you will see what I am talking about. Look across from the Barbados Marketing Corporation and you will see what I am talking about in the parking lot. Those are industries and if after you look at that, a small operator starting off with a little canteen, go down in Black Rock, down by Carlton Supermarket and compare the name on what used to be Bounty Chicken and come back down by the Harbour Road and look at the name that is on the little canteen and you will see what I am talking about. Men who were able through the policy of the Barbados Labour Party to secure funds for a little mobile canteen and because of the proper utilisation of that capital, they were able to go and expand and become viable businessmen in this community. I believe, Sir that we need to focus on those case histories in order to be able to examine and see precisely what we are talking about. I am being told here that mini bus operators as well as people who have benefitted because they have been able to go in and get loans to purchase vehicles and pay them back. No more of this hanky panky where you could go in, like a certain gentleman in Lower Carlton was able to do and borrow large sums of money strictly on the basis of who he was without any representation, without any kind of feasibility analysis or anything of the sort. He was able to get a large appropriation of the Barbados Development Bank's funds for his own private purposes that had nothing at

all to do with the industry that he applied under. That sort of thing does not happen any longer in this administration.

I believe that the small businessmen themselves, even though for various political motives some may be inclined to say we are not doing anything. Any man when he goes in the quiet of his bedroom at night and he puts his head on his pillow and evaluates the situation, he is bound to come to the conclusion that his lot is significantly better under the programme of the Barbados Labour Party than it has ever been in the past 15 years prior to our coming into power.

1.50 p.m.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to give assistance to the mover of this Bill and say that we ought to increase the number of persons on the Board of the Barbados Development Bank so that we can continue to chart the course which was set and continue to follow the course it has charted and provide assistance to those Barbadians who for a long time have been denied access to funds, but who can now walk into a bank, put down a proposal and in cooperation with the Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity, the deficiencies which they always feared can now disappear because they will be able to assist them in evaluating their own proposals and steering them in ways that would help them, and having secured the funds for them to provide the level of management which they will need to employ in order to continue to be successful.

Dr. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot today in this Honourable Chamber about the Development Bank and development generally in Barbados, and while listening to these wide ranging comments, it is obvious to me that the reason why we are here has become lost or glossed over in the discussion. The Bill before us is a very simple and it states in its Objects and Reasons "The Bill would also validate any loans that have been made in excess of the amounts prescribed in the Act.", and that is the reason why we are here, and I listened very carefully and expected to hear at some time the justifications why we are here to pass this type of legislation. I would like to believe that the Minister of Finance is satisfied, although he has not told us why, with the reasons for bringing this piece of legislation before us. The Barbados Development Bank Act and the Orders made under that Bank Act are very specific as regards the amount of loans which should be given to people depending upon the circumstances under which these loans are applied for, and one would like to know, if not in detail, some of the circumstances and conditions which came to bear on the officers of the Development Bank that prompted them to make loans in excess of the Order under the Bank.

It is easy to come before this Honourable Chamber and bring a Bill which will validate these previous actions,

but one of the things which I think is of great importance is that somewhere along the line some sort of protection should be given to officers in this institution which would sort of galvanise them against inroads being made against them which will tend to prompt them to exceed the powers granted under any specific Act. In addition to that, while it is easy to bring this Bill before us and get approval of it, I think that this Honourable House of Assembly is entitled to some assurance that specific steps will be taken in the future to ensure that this type of action or activity does not occur again, otherwise we will find at some time or other in the future, maybe next year or further afield we will be back here again with a similar Act seeking again to validate certain actions taken in the past.

I do not believe that anyone of us who is well interested in the welfare of the people of this country and its total development can stand idly by and feel happy that actions of this nature take place in as important an institution as the Barbados Development Bank. Certainly it smacks of discrimination because one can immediately conjecture that the people who will get loans made in excess of the amount assured under the relevant Order are people who would be either having political strings or people who by reason of their social and financial position in this country will be able to put pressure in some area to get their request acceded to. It is very unlikely that a small man in this country without such strings would be able to influence an officer of any institution to lend him money in excess of the amount guaranteed or assured under the Act, and therefore I will repeat my suggestion that it does appear that in allowing people to obtain more money than they are really entitled to under the Act smacks of discrimination, because it is only a particular set of people in the society who will be so privileged. I hope the Hon. Minister of Finance in his reply will set about to give us some indication of the steps which he will take in the administration of the Barbados Development Bank to ensure that in the future we will not be saddled with this type of effort in the House of Assembly to validate a sort of illegality or infelicities that have taken place before. And I repeat, Sir, before I sit down that while we have sat down here today and heard wide-ranging exposures of the Development Bank and development and banking in this country in general, the reason why we are here has been glossed over, and I hope someone will make an effort to clarify that position.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I rise to make just three points on this Bill. First to reply to the point made by the hon. member for St. Michael North Central. I think he is under the impression that there is an infelicity occurring because a validation Bill is brought before the House, and it is necessary in the early to clear up some of the views which he may have on this matter.

Under the Barbados Development Bank Act it is possible for the Minister to fix the amount or the ceiling at which loans should be made for small loans. The ceiling in this case has been fixed at \$40,000 for small businessmen. A few loans were disbursed above the \$40,000 bracket, but under the \$50,000 bracket. They were properly disbursed; there was nothing wrong in the adjudication or entitlement of the persons to the loan, but the Bank staff were under the impression that the Minister had made the relevant Order increasing the amount to the maximum that could be loaned to \$50,000 instead of \$40,000. Apparently an administrative decision had been taken so to do, but it had not been implemented by the relevant legal Order. The time passed and under the Act the Bank assumed that the Minister could make the Order with retroactive effect. Because it was a subsidiary bit of legislation, my Department advised that the Minister could not make an Order by subsidiary legislation retroactively and the proper legal course was for this application to be brought before the House by an amendment to the legislation. Mr. Speaker, that is a thorough explanation of the reason why the Bill is a validation Bill; there is no suggestion anywhere on the file or from an inspection of anything done that there was any infelicity or indeed any fraud involved, and I think in these days when one hears all sorts of wild allegations, it is but proper that this should be stated in the most forcible terms.

The second point which I wish to make, Mr. Speaker, is on the idea, the concept that people who are in political life do not have the right to borrow from Government institutions. Mr. Speaker, there is nothing in the Laws of Barbados which prevents this. What there is need for in the Laws of Barbados is conflict of interest legislation and I would hope that the Opposition now seeing the point behind the necessity for conflict of interest legislation, will find it appropriate to support such legislation in the Integrity Bill.

2.00 p.m.

The third point which I wish to make on this, Mr. Speaker, is that there is no doubt that the Government has embarked on one of the most impressive courses today to assist small business people of this country. It is usual in these days to denigrate people, to pull them down, to curse them with impunity on public platforms, to say the nastiest things about them because of racial considerations, and no doubt the Chairman of the Barbados Development Bank has been one such person who has had to be subjected to invective and denigration with the intention, no doubt, of running him out of serving his country. There are few of us who withstand it and who will fight it back. I came into public life and I was denigrated in 1971, but it has not stopped me yet.

The Chairman of the Barbados Development Bank has made a suggestion which would help a small but neglected group in our community, a suggestion which has never been thought of before, and there is no doubt in my mind that his suggestion for helping the hawkers and hucksters of this country is a first class one, because if there is a neglected group in our community it is the hawkers and hucksters who play a most important part in the retail trade of this country, and indeed are outstanding examples of small business women — essentially the most of them are business women — and it must not be forgotten that in terms of unemployment in this country that the highest percentage of unemployment has always remained among women in this country. Therefore, when one sees the Chairman of the Development Bank coming up with the brilliant idea of doing things to improve the living and working conditions of hawkers and hucksters in this country, anyone with objectivity and decency would congratulate him as a Bajan like any one of us instead of running down the man on the basis of his colour and parentage. I want to emphasise this most strongly, and I will not join with anyone to run down somebody because of colour when I know that person is doing the right thing.

David Seale deserves the gratitude of people who continue to denigrate him, and I hope he will pursue the course for the betterment of our people, as he started, regardless of what his temporary detractors would want to say.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, the time being a little after 2.00, and it is the usual time, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until 3.00 p.m.

Mr. JOHNSON: I beg to second that.

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

2.05 p.m.

On Resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER: This Sitting is now resumed.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: I beg to move that Order No. 2 be resumed.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 2. The Hon. Minister of Finance is going to wind up his debate.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I wish to thank hon. members for their contributions to the debate. I was informed that the hon. member for St. Michael South East wished to contribute, and if he is within earshot I would not wish to deprive him of the opportunity of saying what he wants to say about the small businesses.

Mr. SPEAKER: I do not now observe the hon. member in his place.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I wish to thank all hon. members who have spoken for their contributions to the debate. Dealing with the speech first of the hon. member for St. Michael South Central, he spoke of the Barbados National Bank and its report. I concede that it is relevant, subject to what we have been discussing today, but I have given the hon. member the assurance that the report will soon be available. It is to be dealt with in Cabinet this week, Cabinet is to see it this week, and I expect that by next Tuesday it will be laid on the Table of the House. The reason for its not coming is not related to inefficiency, the reason is that the accounts themselves have been the subject of discussion between the auditors of the Bank on the topic of how to deal with one of the very matters that the hon. member raised, namely the portfolio of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank, and that has been occupying the attention of the auditors and the Bank's Accountants, and therefore this has occasioned some delay in the presentation of the report.

The hon. member may rest assured that the Barbados Development Bank is by no means the only institution in Government that now files reports within the time laid down by law. As far as I am concerned, at the Ministry of Finance any shortfall in the filing of an annual report, or in the case of the Accountant General, a monthly statement, is met by an enquiry and by an explanation. I set my face really against the days when we will have 18 month's delay in filing statements in Parliament which are required by law within a prescribed time, but certainly I will not tolerate the Barbados Development Bank or the Barbados National Bank in any tardiness in reporting to the House of Assembly from whence they derive their authority.

The hon. member also raised the question of lending in tourism and dwelt on the lending for apartments rather than for the lending for hotels. The Government took this problem in hand very soon after we came into power, and we have phased out the lending for the medium size apartment hotel. When we came in we found that it was then twelve room hotels which were really apartments with a common dining room that were

being accommodated, but we found that they were still thought of as the order of the day.
3.05 p.m.

We found that apartments of twelve rooms and a common dining room were still the order of the day. Applications regarding them were processed and I understand generally that the Ministry of the Deputy Prime Minister has raised the standards as to what constitutes a hotel so as to ensure that hotels are of a size that can give the proper amount of employment for the amount of money invested in them. I appreciate the point made by the hon. member about the size of the investment compared with the amount of the employment generated. He can be sure that this has been the policy of the Government since 1976 to insist that we get full value by way of employment for money disbursed by the Barbados Development Bank.

The hon. member also dealt with small businesses. The point was adverted to in speeches by other hon. members who had spoken and I do not wish to dwell on it at any length. I would like to point out however that when the Development Bank started only one percent of its loans by volume went to small business and only fifteen percent by actual number. Last year the volume going to small business was 11% and by number 31%. The hon. member must appreciate that small business is defined mainly by reference to amount; the speeches of other hon. members will enlighten him. Even if you define small business as less than \$10,000, to my mind measurement by number is a more realistic measurement because that is the actual number of citizens you are helping, the number who are benefitting, and of 98 Barbados Development Bank projects currently under way at the end of the third quarter of this financial year, over 70 were for small businesses. The President of the Small Business Association said on television last weekend that he is satisfied that the Government is doing a lot for small businesses in this country. This is not a tribute which I am aware he has paid to any other government in the past. I too am satisfied that small businesses are occupying the attention of the Chairman of the Bank and the Bank's staff to a degree that all of us can feel proud about when we consider what our real economic needs are and the desirability to build up the small business base in Barbados. The Government has nothing whatever to be ashamed of in its record of small business assistance; indeed it is one of the finest records that any government has achieved not only in Barbados but anywhere in the Caribbean — assistance to small businesses and the development of a class of useful self employed persons that now exists in Barbados.

The question of support staff for the bank is now being pursued at some considerable depth at the moment. The Bank has applied for additional analysts to deal with

the hundreds of applications now before it and has applied for assistance with a Librarian and so on. These things are currently under study and all concerned can be satisfied that efforts are being made to ensure the Bank's capacity to deal with its responsibilities.

The hon. member for St. Michael South Central referred to and drew my attention to a loan where he suggested there may have been illegalities in the disbursement procedures. We are not calling names but I do not know if the hon. member would mind if I said that the incident in question has nothing to do with politics; the person concerned has nothing to do with politics. I think the hon. member will agree with me on that. For the hon. member's benefit I would tell him that you can hear all sorts of rumours that have foundation in fact but when closely analysed do not fully support the allegations involved. The hon. member pointed out that it was an agricultural loan and there was a general allegation that the funds had been used for purposes other than for those for which it had been granted — particularly in the use for legal fees and paying off mortgages and past debts when the loan was granted for the purchase of cows and so on. The first point I would make is that this is not a Barbados Development Bank matter at all now. It was one that was processed by the Barbados Development Bank and handed over to the Barbados National Bank. Secondly, I would give the hon. member the absolute assurance that the component of paying legal fees and paying off the mortgage was always in the loan. The largest portion of the loan was for re-financing an existing mortgage. A sum of \$10,000 was also provided to pay legal fees. So that was contained in the original loan appraisal and the original mortgagees were brought into the discussion and asked to forego a substantial sum of money by way of arrears of interest, and according to my instructions the Board of Directors of the mortgagees of the land were in full consultation with the Barbados Development Bank at all points. I cannot therefore say that on the evidence available to me there appeared to be any illegalities with the distribution of the funds.

In the case of the Norwood holdings which the hon. member did not draw to my attention, it does appear that funds were applied for purposes for which they were not granted. However, I think that is a long story and I think this is another one on which we should bring down the curtains.

Dr. HAYNES: Mr. Speaker, on a point of elucidation, I would like to draw to the attention of the hon. Prime Minister to the size of that loan.....

Mr. SPEAKER: That is not a point of elucidation.

Dr. HAYNES: Sir, I think....

Mr. SPEAKER: You are not addressing the Prime Minister, you are addressing the Chair and you will rise to

elucidate a point when you have made a point and it is misunderstood.

Dr. HAYNES: Sir, the point I wanted to make is that for the Prime Minister to fully understand the significance of any manufacturing element in that loan he must look at the cost of that particular estate, the probable market value of that estate and look and see whether he feels that it could be a satisfactory component.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Does the hon. member for St. Michael South Central expect the Chair to accept that he is elucidating a point? Please take your seat.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: It is true, Sir, that that purchase of the estate was substantially in excess of the loan. But to my mind that is not bad. If you lend a man \$173,000 on an estate which he bought for \$460,000 and on which his contribution is \$260,000, I do not think that is a matter on which a bank has to be worried; that is considerably less than the value of the estate. I take the hon. member's point that the element of re-financing was very tall but again I cannot see the hon. member's worry in the matter.
3.15 p.m.

I am satisfied. Everybody cannot be perfect, Sir. You cannot make correct judgments every time. If a man is such a perfect businessman that when he is working in the Development Bank as an Assessor somewhere down in the middle management of the Bank, if he came absolutely to a correct conclusion everytime, he might not be at the middle level of the Bank, he would be one of the great financiers of Barbados.

I am satisfied that the capacity of the person concerned and his family, as Manager of the estate was properly assessed. I am satisfied that the capacity of the land for agricultural production — it is after all one of the greatest estates in Barbados. It is one of the oldest, largest and best known estates in Barbados of which we are speaking. We are not speaking about a hole in the corner operation in the moon docks. I would not say the moon docks of St. Michael South Central. We are speaking of an estate where the rain falls 15 inches a year over hundreds of acres of cane. I am satisfied that all the necessary factors were examined when the matter was in the hands of the Barbados Development Bank and I see no fault of any sort far less any illegality in the operations. Perhaps it is a matter of opinion but my opinion based on facts which I have before me is that the matter was properly assessed, analysed and dealt with by the Bank before it handed the portfolio over to the Barbados National Bank.

The points of elucidation and explanation have been made by the Hon. Minister of Trade and Industry. I would not dwell on them and I would like to

congratulate the hon. member for St. Michael West, the Chairman of the Barbados Labour Party, for his very striking and impressive presentation on small businesses.

The point made by the hon. member for St. Michael North Central, and I am very glad to welcome him back to the House after an absence of so many meetings, that we have to be careful about this validation has been so completely answered by the Attorney General that to attempt to add to the answer would be merely guiding the lily.

The Bank was informed. I do not know if the Attorney General has the letter in his case. The Bank was informed apparently that its application for an increase was going to be accepted and therefore the Bank apparently went ahead. I am trying to find the letter at the moment. I cannot find the actual letter but the Bank did make a mistake and it did advance sums to 14 small businesses over and above the limit.

I can supply to the hon. member for St. Michael South Central the names of the persons concerned. The sum varied between \$20,000 to \$20,900 which was actually \$900 over since that came in under a Subsidiary Clause of which the limit is \$20,000, not \$40,000, and it went right up to \$50,000. The businesses are of varying types. If I mention, Sir, the Barbados Police Co-operative was one of the businesses, hon. members perhaps would be satisfied that this was a straightforward error of communication relating to the Bank.

The names I do not think would mean anything to the hon. member. I may know one or two of them and he may know one or two of them but certainly there is nobody of a political nature that I am aware of involved in the matter. The validation exercise arose out of the Attorney General's opinion that you cannot make subsidiary legislation of that sort retroactive and really there is nothing to be added to that.

In conclusion, Sir, I would only recommend to hon. members to look at the Report, which has been circulated, of the Barbados Development Bank. I do not think there is need for another debate on it since we have our opportunity today to dwell on the point. Look at the areas where we have been lending money, the Hilton Taxi Co-op, The Water Sports Business, Solar Dynamics (*Asides*). You mean we should not lend it to him because he is a member of the Labour Party?

We have Solar Dynamics, Solar Heating, Energy Conservation and other cases, furniture, makers of meat loaf and patties, small paint manufacturers, wrought iron business, the Police Co-op Mini Mart, that has been mentioned already and it lent money to a young man to do technical services in electronics. They are the people

whom we are helping and those people are the backbone of the business expansion, economic expansion that has carried Barbados' gross domestic product past \$1 billion in the year 1979.

I think that all of us owe a debt to the Chairman of the Board of Directors and his staff and of the Barbados Development Bank for the extra-ordinary effort which they have put forward in the national interest in the last three years.

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

Mr. SISNETT: I beg to second that.

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

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee of Supply.

Mr. SISNETT: 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.

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called.

Dr. HAYNES: One very brief point when we come to the question here of validation of these loans. I did when I spoke refer to the fact that the Barbados Development Bank was made a scheduled Institution to be taken over by the Barbados National Bank at the commencement of that Act. This has not been done. I have heard adverted to why it has not been done and a shift in policy. Will the Hon. Prime Minister care to comment on that?

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The hon. Deputy Prime Minister has explained the situation adequately and completely in his reply. There is nothing I can add to his comments. If we chose not to enforce that operation of the Schedule because we feel that a subsidiary status rather than an amalgamated status is superior, that is our decision, Sir. The people have put us here to govern not to be governed.

The question that Clause 2 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

Clause 3 was called and passed.

3.25 p.m.

On the motion of Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, seconded by Hon. B. St. JOHN, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS, seconded by Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY
ACQUISITION OF LAND AT CONSTITUTION
ROAD, ST. MICHAEL FOR THE EXPAN-
SION OF QUEEN'S COLLEGE

Order No. 1 was called – a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Constitution Road, St. Michael for the expansion of Queen's College.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: In the absence of the hon. member I now ask leave of the House to deal with this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: Leave is granted.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Thank you, Sir. This is a very simple matter. We want to improve the facilities of Queen's College, no doubt the Minister of Education can answer all questions relating to what will go on the new property and we will need to take over the land to the East, so that Queen's College can have a straight run through to the river by the John Beckles Day Nursery and it is therefore necessary to acquire the property now used by the Girls' Industrial Union. We are mindful of the interest of the Girls' Industrial Union and the Government is actively involved in negotiations to move the Girls' Industrial Union to a site nearby which indeed is more commodious and would provide better facilities than at present exist. The Government of course supports the Girls' Industrial Union with a grant and we would not in any way want to see the very good work which the Union does interrupted by removal of its property.

It is a very simple matter, Sir, 1124 square metres of land and I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is.....

Dr. CADDLE: There is just one small point that I would like to draw to the attention of the Hon. Prime Minister. In the Schedule to this Resolution, there is reference to the lands of Pierpointe. Speaking as of my past experience I was of the impression that the Government owned all of that land in that area and I wonder if this is true. I am speaking as of my past recollection as a Minister and I was under the

impression that the Government owned all of that land and that no person there owned any land any longer.

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Speaker, I do not know precisely which piece of land he is referring to, but the land that the Government is acquiring in this particular case is the property on which the Girls' Industrial Union stands and it has been the property of the Union ever since 1921. The Union has agreed to the sale to the Government and where we are looking for alternate accommodation is the area at Belmont Road but certainly the piece that we are acquiring has one ownership and that is the Girls' Industrial Union.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I would be glad to help the hon. member and I am really very grateful for his knowledge because I must confess I thought the Government owned all the land too.

I do remember that at the time of the Queen's visit I was told this actually in respect to some old houses that were there when we were trying to get the people rehoused and we were told that all belonged to the Government. Nonetheless, a plan certified on the 21st November a copy of which I have sent to the hon. member for him to look at does show Pierpointe as one of the owners and I do not know if the marking point at the end of the wall represents Pierpointe's former or present boundary. I really cannot help, Sir. (Dr. CADDLE: It needs to be looked into). It does, Sir. You really cannot help with these things. Plots are taken from previous plots, they fail to take the names off a previous plot and it gets continued and makes its way into the plans forever and ever.

I am sure that the Minister will pursue this matter because I would have thought that it is desirable if Queen's College is taking over the Girls' Industrial Union for the Government to think in terms of owning the entire portion right down to the river. I am sure that the hon. member will bear that in mind.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1979-80 No. 25

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The next matter which I would seek to deal with is the Resolution for \$6.6 million which has been circulated today and which relates principally to the increases in teachers' salary and to travel allowances. There are some other matters in it of course, Sir. A number of other small items.

I understand that the Opposition has no objection to its being done today. It has to be done this week and it trenches so closely on matters that will arise

during the Estimates that perhaps all of us will be more comfortable if this is got out of the way quickly so that we do not have two Estimates debates within three weeks.

I ask the leave of the House that this Resolution be dealt with in all its stages today.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of this Honourable House that leave be granted?

Dr. CADDLE: Mr. Speaker, in reply to the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, there is no objection on this side to this matter being dealt with today.
3.35 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the House go into Committee on the Resolution.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: 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.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1979-80 NO. 25

Head 4(1) - Cabinet Office was called.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$3,642 under Head 4(1) - Cabinet Office, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (1) Direction and Policy Formulation - was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$10,133 under Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (1) Direction and Policy Formulation - stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (2) Agricultural Farms and Stations - was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: I beg to move that the sum of \$13,126 under Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (2) Agricultural Farms and Station, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (3) Agricultural Extensions - was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$1,492 under Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (3) Agricultural Extensions, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (4) Agricultural Research - was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$11,150 under Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (4) Agricultural Research, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (5) Markets - was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$8,525 under Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (5) Markets, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 - Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (6) Land Development and Soil Conservation - was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$10,605 under Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (6) Land Development and Soil Conservation, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (7) Plant Protection – was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$12,454 under Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (7) Plant Protection, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (8) Fisheries – was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$23,181 under Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (8) Fisheries, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (9) Livestock Development – was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$28,139 under Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (9) Livestock Development, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (10) Analytical Services – was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$1,862 under Head 9 – Ministry of

Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (10) Analytical Services, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (12) Co-operatives Development – was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$6 103 under Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (12) Co-operatives Development, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (13) Price Control – was called.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$13 330 under Head 9 – Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Consumer Affairs (13) Price Control, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (2) Registration Department – was called.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$10,000 under Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (2) Registration, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 12 – Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry (1) Direction and Policy Formulation – was called.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$9 340 under Head 12 – Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry (1) Direction and Policy Formulation, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

*Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works
(1) Direction and Policy Formulation – was called.*

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$13 321 under Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works (1) Direction and Policy Formulation, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

*Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works
(2) Public Buildings – was called.*

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$18 383 under Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works (2) Public Buildings, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

*Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works
(3) Road, Car Parks and Bus Stands – was called.*

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$112 824 under Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works (3) Roads, Car Parks and Bus Stands, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

*Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works
(4) Vehicles and Equipment Workshop – was called.*

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$20 028 under Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works (4) Vehicles and Equipment Workshop, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

*Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works
(5) Drainage and Safety – was called.*

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$7 099 under Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works (5) Drainage and Safety, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

*Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works
(6) Telecommunications Unit – was called.*

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$2 638 under Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works (6) Telecommunications Unit, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

*Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works
(7) Electrical Engineer's Department – was called.*

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$17 108 under Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works (7) Electrical Engineer's Department, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

*Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works
(8) Water Resources was called.*

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$33 860 under Head 14 – Ministry of Communications and Works (8) Water Resources, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

*Head 15 – Ministry of Education and Culture (1)
Direction and Policy Formulation – was called.*

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$56 269 under Head 15 – Ministry of Education and Culture (1) Direction and Policy Formulation, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 15 – Ministry of Education and Culture (2) Schools (i) Pre-Primary, Primary and Special – was called.

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$1 538 703 under Head 15 – Ministry of Education and Culture (2) Schools (i) Pre-Primary, Primary and Special, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 15 – Ministry of Education and Culture (2) Schools (ii) Secondary – was called.

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$988 088 under Head 15 – Ministry of Education and Culture (2) Schools (ii) Secondary, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

HEAD 15(3) – ERDISTON COLLEGE

Hon. L. R. TULL: I beg to move that Head 15(3) stand part.

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

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

HEAD 15(4) – TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL

Hon. L. R. TULL: I beg to move that Head 15(4) stand part.

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

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

HEAD 15(5) – COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITY

Hon. L. R. TULL: I beg to move that Head 15(5) stand part.

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

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

HEAD 15(6) – HOUSECRAFT CENTRE

Hon. L. R. TULL: I beg to move that Head 15(6) stand part.

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

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

HEAD 15(8) – SCHOOL MEALS DEPARTMENT

Hon. L. R. TULL: I beg to move that Head 15(8) stand part.

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

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

HEAD 15(9) – AUDIO VISUAL EDUCATION

Hon. L. R. TULL: I beg to move that Head 15(9) stand part.

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

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

HEAD 15(10) – INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS

Hon. L. R. TULL: I beg to move that Head 15(10) stand part.

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

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

HEAD 15(12) – CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Chairman, we are seeking the sum of \$115,500 under this Head because we have in fact spent the total allocation in the Estimates under Cultural Affairs.

We have had an extremely busy year in our cultural thrust in the Ministry of Culture, and apart from the very massive Crop-Over Festival last year, which cost a little bit more than we anticipated, we brought in a very famous national dance troupe from Paris, the Aline Roux, to put on a number of performances at the Combermere School last year. We also participated in a very wide, broad capacity in CARIFESTA '79 in Havana, we had a bigger National Independence Festival of Creative Arts in 1979 with an outreach to every parish in the island for the first time. I believe that our cultural programme entails the involvement of every sector of the community in Barbados.

We had also an extended summer vacation workshop. We took the opportunity of bringing over 400 children from the periphery of Bridgetown and took them

through a four week course in the creative arts in Queens Park, Queen's College and Harrison College during the summer vacation. It has been a very highly successful course and we propose during the summer to hold an even larger course at other venues throughout Barbados.

This year, Sir, we also had a visit from the Jamaica Dance Troupe, a troupe of international renown which has carried its act in all the continents, and which has been given the type of acclaim of which we could be proud. I understand from the people who are involved in Barbados that they will be making a request to the Ministry of Culture to bring the Jamaica Dance Troupe back to Barbados some time in the coming year, and I have had discussions with Professor Rex Nettleford, the Director of the troupe in Jamaica, and I believe that some time later in the year we will be able to see the Jamaica Dance Troupe again in Barbados.

We are planning also to have the Senegalese Dance Troupe coming to Barbados some time next month. I do not know, Mr. Chairman, how interested you are in these things, but I would certainly advise you that when the Senegalese Dance Troupe are coming to Barbados that you better get your ticket early, because it is going to be one big show. It is part of the on-going policy of the Ministry of Education and Culture to expose as much as possible the people of this country to artistic and cultural influences that would enhance the quality of their lives and bring something into their lives a little bit more than material emphases that have long been given priority.

I hope also, Mr Chairman, to do a great deal of planning during the coming financial year and we have already started on the next CARIFESTA which we will be hosting here in Barbados some time in the middle of next year. Part of the funds we are seeking in this particular Resolution is to organise a series of workshops in all aspects of the theatre arts, like song and so on, and also to have here in Barbados a meeting of a Regional CARIFESTA Planning Committee where the countries of the Caribbean that have already hosted CARIFESTA — Guyana, Jamaica and Cuba — will be represented. In addition, Suriname and representatives of the CARICOM Secretariat — from the cultural desk, Mr. Frank Pilgrim — will be coming to Barbados in two weeks' time to sit down and discuss the CARIFESTA extravaganza.

We have also this year for the first time in pursuance of the 1973 Resolution that was passed in the General Assembly of UNESCO acknowledged for the first time the Day of Black Civilisation, and we had a few months ago a show that we put on at the Trents Secondary School and a number of activities, art exhibitions, televised panel discussions and so on, to bring greater focus on the black civilisation on the customs and mores of the people of Barbados.

This sum, Mr. Chairman, is to meet some of the expenses of this, and I beg to move that Head 15(12) stand part.

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

Dr. CADDLE: Mr. Chairman, we must admit that the Hon. Minister of Education seems to be doing well for himself, and it is nice to hear what he has done for the past year and what he proposes to do in the coming year, and I hope that his plea will not fall on deaf ears, because I see a lot of finance being necessary to get these things off the ground and in full swing.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The hon. member for St. Michael North Central will no doubt be pleased to hear that having originally refused financial sanction to bring a Senegalese Dance Troupe here. I was not only persuaded by the Minister that, as he put it, the leading black dance troupe in the world, should come to Barbados, but today before I came to the House I even waived the fees of the work permits for the members of the group.
3.55 p.m.

I even waived all payment of fees for a work permit, so that the Government's thrusts so magnificently established and maintained by the hon. member for St. George South will be fortified by a visit from the Senegal Dance Company in due course.

Dr. CADDLE: I thank the hon. Prime Minister for his generosity, and his cooperation towards his Minister of Education.

Head 17(1) — (10), inclusive were called and passed.

On the motion of Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE, seconded by Hon. L. R. TULL, the CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Resolution 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 Resolution was read a second time and agreed to.

HEAD 113 — CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM DIVISION

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the next Item be the consideration of a Resolution for the sum of \$923,000 for the Civil Aviation and Tourism Division.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there is no objection, leave is granted to consider this Resolution.

On the motion of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, seconded by Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE, the House went into Committee of Supply to consider the Resolution, Mr. ODLE in the Chair.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, in moving that Head 113 stand part, I would like to state that the terminal building at the airport was finished a little ahead of time. At the last financial year, it was anticipated that \$7 million would be spent. The work having been completed by the end of October last year, it is necessary to release a certain part of the retention fund to the various contractors that normally would have been released in the new financial year beginning next April, 1. We tried to get the contractors to wait until April, 1 but they did not agree as they felt that the work has been completed and they should have the retention money. For this reason we must seek a supplement for the money involved which is for paying the contractors half of the retention money.

The question that Head 113 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.
4.05 p.m.

HEAD 115 – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Chairman, you are no doubt aware of Government's commitment to the Caribbean Examination Council. In view of that we have had to change a number of the textbooks to give them a more Caribbean flavour. In addition to that we have a problem with the escalation of costs between the time of ordering textbooks and the time of delivery. This sum is sought to meet that contingency.

I beg to move that this Head stand part of the Resolution.

Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE: 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 Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Resolution in Committee of Supply, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, seconded by Hon. L. B. BRATHWAITE, the Resolution was read a first and second time and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, that concludes Government Business for today.

I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 26th February, 1980 at 12 noon.

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

The question that the House do now adjourn until Tuesday, 26th February, 1980 at 12 noon was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER adjourned the House accordingly.
4.10 p.m.

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THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1976 – 81

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 26th February, 1980.

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. 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); Mr. J. G. ODLE, B.Sc., (Chairman of Committees); Mr. M. C. C. WARD; Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, Q.C., LL.B., (Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry) (Leader of the House); Mr. V. L. JOHNSON, M.A.; Hon. L. R. TULL, M.A., (Minister of Education and Culture); Mr. DeL. O. BRADSHAW, and Mr. L. L. SISNETT.

Prayers were read.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday, 12th February, 1980.

Dr. HAYNES entered the Chamber and took his seat.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: If there are no observations by hon. members, let the Minutes stand confirmed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY SPEAKER

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to announce that I have received copies of the Accounts and Statements for the month of December, 1979 as prepared by the Accountant General.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Planning I beg to lay a Statement showing Net Customs and Excise Receipts for ten months ended 31st January, 1980; also, the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the Barbados National Bank for the year 1978.

On my own behalf I beg to lay the Annual Report of the Welfare Department for the year 1977.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Minister of Finance and Planning I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$507,434 from the Consolidated Fund and to place it at the disposal of the Government to supplement the Estimates 1979-80, Part I – Current, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1979-80, No. 27 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$148,070 from 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 1979-80, No. 28 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to grant the sum of \$145,200 from the Consolidated Fund and to place it at the dis-

posals of the Government to supplement the Annexed Estimates 1979-80, as shown in the Supplementary Estimates 1979-80, No. 29 which form the Schedule to the Resolution.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Insurance Corporation of Barbados Act, 1978 and to validate certain Acts of the Insurance Corporation of Barbados.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of a Bill to amend the Landlord and Tenant Act.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, subject to the approval of the House and of Your Honour, I intend to ask that the Resolutions of which notice has been given today be dealt with in all their stages today, subject of course to the concurrence of the other side and at an appropriate time after circulation. They all refer to expenditure relating to travel and subsistence, except for one for Capital Works at the Fire Station. Of course they will have to be circulated first in order to give the other side the opportunity to say whether they are in agreement or not with the request.

FIRST READING OF BILLS

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Insurance Corporation of Barbados Act, 1978 and to validate certain Acts of the Insurance Corporation of Barbados, 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.

Dr. R. CHELTENHAM entered the Chamber and took his seat.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that a Bill to amend the Landlord and Tenant Act, be read a first time.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: I beg to second that.

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

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the Suspension of Standing Orders 6, 16, 18, 20, 42 and 45 for the remainder of the day's Sitting.

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

The question was put and resolved in the affirmative without division

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Item No. 3 be the first Order of Government Business.

Mr. SPEAKER: Item No. 3 is the instant order of the day.

BILL TO AMEND THE MEDICAL REGISTRATION ACT CAP. 371

Order No. 3 was called — To move the Second Reading of a Bill to amend the Medical Registration Act, Cap. 371.

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, the Medical Registration Act Cap. 371, before this Honourable House for the purpose of amendment to Section 6, is really a movement towards a certain degree of reciprocity.

The Barbados Association of Medical Practitioners have made certain recommendations to the Ministry. The situation is that the Medical Council of the United Kingdom has made certain amendments to their Medical Registration Act, creating a situation where doctors who qualify in the Caribbean at the University of the West Indies are under certain obligations. In the Caribbean we have come to the conclusion that doctors who train in the United Kingdom should not be enjoying privileges which our own doctors do not enjoy in their country, and so the object of the amendment is to remove the legal obligation for doctors trained in the United Kingdom to be registered in Barbados.
12.30 p.m.

Under Section 6(2) of this Act it will still be possible for Doctors trained in the United Kingdom to be registered but we feel that since the United Kingdom is no longer automatically registering Doctors from the University of the West Indies in their country that we should not be legally obligated to register Doctors from their country in our country and that really is the intention of the amendment.

It is not that Doctors from the United Kingdom will no longer be in a position to be registered here but that we should not be under any legal obligation for them to be so registered. That is the rationale behind the amendment to Section 6 of our Medical Registration Act that we delete the words as we see here in Section 2 "or from a Medical School in the United Kingdom approved by the General Medical Council", appearing in sub-section 3.

With those few words, Mr. Speaker, I move that this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Dr. HAYNES: Mr. Speaker, I am not clear as to whether the hon. member for the City is not suggesting that this piece of legislation is a sort of retaliatory action because of certain positions taken by the General Medical Council of Great Britain.

My understanding of the purpose of this amendment, of which I do not find any particular fault, is that under sub-section 2 of the Medical Registration Act it was clearly stated that a qualification therein which the owner has obtained from the University of the West Indies or from a Medical School in the United Kingdom approved by the General Medical Council, that is the British General Medical Council, shall be deemed to be evidence of satisfactory medical training.

My understanding is that subsequent to Britain joining the European Economic Community and fundamental changes following the relationship between British medicine and European medicine that the British General Medical Council is no longer prepared to undertake this responsibility for those countries which form part of the British Commonwealth under the old system and hence this is the reason for this particular amendment.

Now there are other matters of course which accrued from this because for many years the General Medical Council of Great Britain also provided a rough guideline for the accreditation of graduates from many other schools within the Commonwealth, for example from India, Pakistan and elsewhere, and our local Medical Council here has been able to follow these particular guidelines in terms of accepting qualifications emanating from Institutions in the distant area of the Commonwealth.

This facility will now no longer be available and whereas it would be a relatively easy task for the Medical Council by regulations or otherwise to designate Institutions in the United Kingdom whose qualifications would be readily acceptable, it would be a far more difficult problem in assessing the standards or comparing standards which other Universities elsewhere in the Commonwealth might attain and whether the qualifications from those Institutions would necessarily meet the requirements here.

It is true that the Act makes provisions for local examinations and so on but I would say this that it seems to me as though it would be necessary for the Medical Council here to visit these places from time to time so long as we have graduates from these Institutions to make sure that there is no hiatus between the service previously pro-

vided by the British Medical Council and the existing service now.

Mr. Speaker, we are dealing with the Medical Registration Act and the question of amendments. There are two other matters which I would like to draw to the attention of the Hon. Minister. One is that unlike the Attorneys-at-Law in this country and in any dispute on any matter relating to their profession they have the right to appeal to the entire judiciary process in Barbados. Doctors are deprived of that right and they can only appeal to a Judge in Chamber whose decision shall be final.

I think the hon. member for St. Philip North brought to the attention of this Honourable House not so long ago, the need for streamlining all these areas of administrative law in this country so that what applies to the Lawyers applies to the Doctors and applies to the Surveyors, applies to the nurses and applies to the ordinary citizens as well. *(Asides)* I think the hon. member for Christ Church East has taken the point. Another fundamental.....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member has taken the point where?

Dr. HAYNES: I do not know, Sir. I am not sure where, Sir. I am not referring to the points in his notes which he is keeping.

Now, Mr. Speaker, there is one other area of concern in the area of amendments of this Act which I would draw to the attention of the Minister. The General Medical Council of Great Britain after which this Council was patterned and it is not uncommon for previous Colonial Territories to accept forms of what existed in Metropolitan countries but when they translate these forms into their own territories they take on a form which is different and can have serious consequences. I refer to the composition of the Medical Council of Barbados. The local Council, if that is what it is called is.....

Mr. SPEAKER: You said the General Medical Council?

Dr. HAYNES: The Medical Council of Barbados. I am comparing the Medical Council of Barbados which was set up with the same objectives in mind as the General Medical Council of the United Kingdom. The word "General" is not used in Barbados. It is just called Medical Council. Like the Medical Council in Barbados, the General Medical Council in the United Kingdom has among its membership persons of a given seniority in the profession and usually persons who are removed from the day-to-day problems which might arise between the professions functioning in the same community.

I believe that the Medical Council in Barbados has a definite barrier that you cannot become a member of that Council unless you have reached a certain degree of seniority in terms of years. I think it is 10 years. I checked on that some time ago. Here in Barbados there is no such restriction and we find a situation where the Chief Medical Officer who is a civil servant is an ex-officio of the Council. 12.40 p.m.

We find a situation where the Chief Medical Officer of Health who is a civil servant is an *ex officio* member of the Medical Council. You have two medical practitioners who may be appointed directly by the Minister and the Minister might not be aware either of the standing status or otherwise which a particular medical practitioner might be regarded by his fellow practitioners. Then you have three members who are recommended by the local Association and one member who is recommended by the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. I raise this point, Mr. Speaker, because in principle, I have always objected to this kind of formation of any professional council but I am not criticising the present administration. I do not think that this is their work. So it really does not matter. It is a matter of principle on which I stand, Mr. Speaker.

There have been occasions when a particular medical practitioner has been appointed by a Minister on a medical council and he used his position on that council to be a total nuisance not only to all other fellow members of the Council, but he used it to harass a large number of medical practitioners in Barbados. At one stage the spate of complaints that that particular practitioner made against his colleagues, or engineered against his colleagues was far in excess of the totality of all other complaints made in Barbados before the Medical Council by the total population of doctors, lawyers and the total community as a whole. He is no longer there.

Mr. SPEAKER: It seems that the hon. member is very unkind to his own medical profession.

Dr. HAYNES: Mr. Speaker, this is a very serious matter and I think that when one is dealing with legislation one has to be total and factual and if one member of a profession behaves in this manner, then here is where you come and you speak about it when the opportunity arises and I am merely reflecting the views of the other members of the medical council, who sat on that particular council, with that particular person. I will not call any names today because he is no longer a member of the Council and the Council, I have been informed are tremendously relieved at not having to cope with the kind of imposition, so I would suggest, Mr. Speaker, if not now that at some future date that these reflections which I make in respect of the composition of the

Medical Council might well be given some consideration by the Hon. Minister.

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, Sir....

Mr. SPEAKER: Is the hon. member winding up the debate?

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: Yes, I am.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is there any other hon. member who would like to exercise the right to contribute to this debate? (Pause) The Hon. Minister may proceed.

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: Much obliged. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the first point made by the hon. member for St. Michael South Central is a point of some substance. He used the word "retaliatory". In my introduction, I prefer to use the word "reciprocity". What the hon. member remarks in respect of the British moving to the European community is a fact. It is also a fact that the ACP countries by way of the Lome Convention have an interest in those European council matters and I should like to believe that there will be areas for reciprocity in the future between the EEC community and the ACP community so I should not like to use an inflammatory word like retaliatory in this connection. I do not think that that is the intention anyhow. I honestly do not believe that that is the intention at the heart of this amendment.

The second point in respect of accreditation is well taken and I am sure that he must know that the University of the West Indies is keeping itself abreast of accreditation matters.

The third point — right of appeal by doctors to a personage or to a Body higher than a judge in Chambers. Again his point is taken, but there is no point his coming into this Honourable House to make this kind of point. The Medical Profession in this country, like the Legal Profession and other professions must pursue these points which are points in their own interest, themselves. It is not the business of the Minister of Health or any other Minister or any member of Parliament to get up in here or anywhere else for that matter in my view in their capacity as a Minister or as a member of Parliament to seek to organise a particular profession or professional body. From the time I went into the Ministry of Health I have tried to make this point to the BAMP, the Barbados Association of Medical Practitioners, that rather than belly-ache and gossip between themselves and they spend too much time doing that, they must push through their own professional interests and even if I say so myself, as a former secretary of the Barbados Bar Association, the Bar Association is the only professional association in this country which has taken itself seriously as a professional body and other professional bodies particularly the BAMP

might take a leaf out of the Bar Association. We did not sit down and wait for somebody to plead our cause. We did not ask any Attorney General at the time to plead our cause, we did it ourselves and this is what the BAMP must do and the hon. member knows that. If he could not persuade his own profession in that direction he is not to believe. Mr. Speaker, Sir, that he can come in here and persuade us to do that for them.

The fourth point made by the hon. member is a similar point, this business of composition of the medical council. The complaint the hon. member is making about a certain Minister's appointee on a former medical council has nothing to do with me. The hon. member knows that. He is talking about a Democratic Labour Party appointee with whom he had trouble. The hon. member also knows that he had trouble. Mr. Speaker, Sir, with a Democratic Labour Party Minister of Health furthermore an appointee on the medical council and the Democratic Labour Party administration dealt with that how it saw fit. This Minister does not operate in that fashion and this is another area where the Barbados Association of Medical Practitioners must make representation to the Minister if it sees fit. This Minister is not going to do that job for you. This Minister also made it clear to all who had ears to hear in October 1976, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that she was not going to interfere in those kinds of areas and to this day, the Association of Medical Practitioners in this country has never made any such recommendation to me. I also made it clear at the time, Mr. Speaker, Sir, that there were going to be no kings, no important personages, no princes or anything of the kind in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and that problem has been solved. There is now a medical staff committee which meets and functions. It was not doing so. Time and time again I have demanded to see the Minutes. I am now seeing Minutes for the first time. These are all the forum which are available to the doctors to ventilate their grievances and points of principle. This is not the function of this Hon. House, Mr. Speaker, Sir, so he is not to come in here and make that kind of point to me or to your, Sir. He must go to the meetings of the Barbados Association of Medical Practitioners and try to persuade them that this is their interests and that they must pursue this at the kind of level and according to the procedures which are laid down for the pursuance of these matters. So properly speaking in this forum I cannot hear him, Mr. Speaker, Sir, but I take the point.

Mr. Speaker, I beg that this Bill be now read a second time.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: I beg to second that.

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

On motion of Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER seconded by Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair

and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. ODLE in the Chair.

Clause 1 was called and passed.

Clause 2 was called.

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: Mr. Chairman, I believe that in the introduction all that needed to be said about Clause 2 has already been said.

I beg to move that Clause 2 stand part.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: I beg to second that.

Dr. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, I have always been under the impression that Parliament in Barbados is the place where laws are made. I have always been under the impression that when one comes here one comes as an hon. member of this House, not as a doctor, as a member of an association or a member of anything else. When you stand here and you speak you speak as a legislator and what position you take in this Honourable House is based on what you as an individual legislator feel in conscience. You are not here to orchestrate the views of any particular organisation, and I find it almost denigrating of this Honourable House to suggest that a legislator in this capacity instead of voicing a matter when amendments to a significant Bill is being dealt with, should take his grievances to an organisation of which he has never been a member.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I am still awaiting the hon. member to speak on Clause 2.

Dr. HAYNES: The point I am making is that I am dealing with this Clause as an hon. member and as a legislator, not as a professional or a member of any organisation, and the point I would like to raise here is whether as of the date that this amendment becomes law there would be any gap between what exists now and what will take place on that particular date.

Now I assume, as I have said before, that some kind of regulations would be made or Council may make regulations as to how they could deal with a graduate from the United Kingdom who applies to practise in Barbados the day after this becomes law. What is the mechanism? This is what I am interested in. How will it be done?

Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER: To say, Mr. Chairman, that the date for the United Kingdom amendment coming into force is June; the date is June of this year 1980, and I do believe that the General Medical Council of Barbados has taken steps, I am not in a position, it is not my job, to know what methods and means they propose to use in respect of adjudging accreditations, but I do know that

they are going to take steps; but the date for the United Kingdom legislation would be June; so there is not going to be a hiatus which might occur after, and that is why we have brought it here at an early stage.

The question that Clause 2 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

On motion of Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER seconded by Dr. CHELTENHAM, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On separate motions of Hon. Miss B. A. MILLER seconded by Dr. CHELTENHAM, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT ST. GEORGE

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 2 stands in the name of the Hon. Minister of Housing, Lands and the Environment, to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at St. George for the construction of the new St. George Primary School and for Housing Development.

1.00 p.m.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT ST. GEORGE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW ST. GEORGE PRIMARY SCHOOL AND FOR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I am asking the leave of the House to deal with this matter.

Mr. SPEAKER: One Minister does not have to ask leave to deal with another Minister's matter.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, this is a short Resolution and the object of the Resolution is to acquire an area of land for the erection of a new primary school in St. George and to increase the housing stock of the people of Barbados by the creation of an additional area in St. George.

As hon. members will recall, it has been the policy of this Government for a very long period of time, even when it was in the Opposition, that it is necessary in this country to have a degree of decentralisation not only in the school system but also in the delivery of such services as housing, shopping, industry and others. Hon. members will also recall that in the last Manifesto of the Labour Party the Government.....

Mr. SPEAKER: Which Labour Party?

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: The Government in power, the Barbados Labour Party, Sir. The Government at that time indicated very clearly that it was of the view that as part of this need for decentralisation, that the area of St. George round the Glebe, Charles Rowe Bridge, should be developed into a subsidiary urban area. A Memorandum of Agreement has recently been signed, I understand, between the Church and the relevant authority in the Government for a redevelopment scheme on some of the Church land in that area.

The Ministry of Education, after a very careful survey, has decided that with the existing population trends in the area and the schooling system at primary level in that area, the best is served by the erection of a new primary school. Accordingly, requests were made to the relevant authority for the acquisition of suitable land, and this area has been identified as being particularly suitable in that it is situated near to the centre of the population, secondly, that it is sufficiently large and so physically situated in relation to the road system that by acquiring it for the primary school, use could also be made for the additional land which was necessary for the primary school to carry out the objective of improving housing, together with associated modern concepts of a playing field and things of that kind.

That is the background to the Resolution, and I commend it to the House, Sir. I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

Mr. ODLE: Mr. Speaker, in rising to second the motion, the area being discussed which Government is about to acquire happens to be in my constituency, and the new school that is about to be erected will take the place of the old school which I attended, and I would like to compliment the Government on its move, but to point out that whoever plans the building, whoever the architects may be, I will ask that the Minister responsible make some provision for the erection or the establishing of gardening facilities for that primary school. I saw this because I remember only too well as a youngster going to school there the garden was one which was the pride of the parish, and indeed of this island. It is there that I learnt, Mr. Speaker, how to prepare beds for growing vegetables, and I would like to think that steps will be taken to make this facility available, especially so in view of the fact that over the past years this discipline seems to have been absent in that particular school. I therefore ask that consideration be given also to things like plant protection, animal husbandry and the like, which the school has provided in the past. The school has thrown out scholars, many of great eminence in our society in Barbados and abroad. I commend this Resolution to the House.

The question of housing is one which was mentioned by the Deputy Prime Minister, but it touches very deeply on us in St. George. This is the one area in my constituency which does not have a housing complex as in other constituencies, and the people there are crying out for house

spots every day, young men and women are leaving their homes, they want to get away and live together, and there is not enough land available for them to put their houses on, nor is there any Ministry housing, so I therefore ask, Mr. Speaker, that these things be considered and that Government sets about urgently, as a matter of urgency to acquire more land in St. George where people can have their house spots.

Dr. CHELTENHAM: Mr. Speaker, I fully support this Resolution and share in the delight which the member for St. George brought to the Resolution. I only wish that as representative for Christ Church East I too will soon hear something in respect of Government's move to acquire some land in the St. Patrick's area with respect to resiting and rebuilding in particular the St. Patrick's Boys' School.

For a long time I have made the point that the children, the male children of the St. Patrick's area, are particularly unfortunate in that the school is built literally in the midst of a burial ground, and week after week both the boys and the masters have got to endure the stench of the dead who are buried in the St. Patrick's burial ground. The school has no facilities, no physical place for physical education, and as a result there is not even the opportunity to carry out drill on for the children to engage in sport and games, and I feel that it is high time that this situation be corrected, this deficiency be corrected, and that Government move to acquire land perhaps situated in the Lowthers area so as to give the children of St. Patrick's a proper school and all the physical facilities, including a playing ground, that should accompany a school building.

I hope that the Hon. Minister of Education has given some thought to this matter and that he is in a position to bring me some good news.

1.10 p.m.

Mr. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, I am happy that this Resolution has come before the House today. When I was at the National Housing Corporation I did have some input to make in respect of this development and I am glad to see that it has at last reached maturity. The concept, from my memory of the plans and discussions, would in fact result in great improvement in that area around Glebe Land in St. George, and I want particularly to commend the Anglican Church because this is another area which illustrates the cooperation that can exist between Church and State in Barbados, and to the representatives of the Anglican Church I must give my heartfelt gratitude for the foresight they had in putting up the scheme to Government and liaising and discussing with the Government a cooperative effort which can only redound to the good of the people. The role taken by the Anglican Church does not deviate from the Manifesto of the Barbados Labour Party which I believe goes back as far as 1966 when this Party was in Opposition. As I remember the Manifesto then, even

though I was not in Barbados at the time, we had conceptualized three subsidiary towns and, if my memory is correct, St. George, was one. It is fortunate that the land was available and that the Church was a willing part in this efforts.

I hope that in the development there will not only be construction of houses or the laying out of lots for house spots, but I have always believed that as far as possible, given the limitation of land and the use to which it is put, we have to ensure that these housing developments embrace not only housing stock but also ancillary services such as playing fields, schools, etc. I feel there should also be allocation of space for commercial activities for small shops such as a butcher's shop in the area which should be a nicely appointed place in the area. There could be shops for shoemakers, hairdressing people, as we now have in Bridgetown in the Insurance Corporation building where space has been set aside for a haircutting salon. These things create a community within a community. If you build houses and do not have ancillary facilities you tend to make the people who live there not fully appreciate the value of the area, but if they have somewhere where they can release their energy — shops, community centres and so on, they will appreciate their community more.

I want, Mr. Speaker, to make a plea for a housing development in St. Philip. During my tenure at the National Housing Corporation we inspected sites in St. Philip which were suitable for housing development. As recently as July last year, I believe, we paid a visit to Lucas Street and there are 29 acres of land available opposite the Windward Cricket Ground, which would be ideal for a housing development. There is already a main road there well serviced by water and electricity, so that the utility services necessary would not be burdensome as in other developments. I know that the Minister of Housing twice last year indicated that there will be a housing development in St. Philip. What I would like to hear today is a positive statement when that development will start.

Mr. SPEAKER: Did you say in St. Peter?

Mr. SIMMONS: Not St. Peter, Sir, I see a lot of money being put up for development in St. Peter — a holiday village, etc. St. Peter is moving at a rapid pace. But there is a need for a housing development in St. Philip. The only substantial housing area in St. Philip is at Six Roads, established about 1956. Beyond that there are a few houses near the residence of the hon. member for St. Philip South at Gemswick. But the demand by rural people for rural people housing comparable with the type of housing obtaining in St. Michael and Christ Church is very great. I can say from my own experience at the National Housing Corporation that I hope that the Government in its social planning is aware of the need to move housing development from the City centre or the

Metropolitan area as much as possible. You should decentralize your housing, and St. Philip is well placed with a lot of marginal land suitable for housing. There is an area at Phinney's Hill which is available if Government wishes to acquire it which would be ideal for housespots. The area at Sanford is also ideal for housing, and I hope that the Minister can give me some indication today as to the status of housing in St. Philip.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I just want to make a few comments on the significance of this Resolution in case the significance is lost not only on the people of St. George but on the country as a whole. I should like to commend the Minister of Education for the programme on which he has launched for the construction of Primary schools in this country. As long ago as 1971 when I first came to the House I made the point that if there was an aspect of our education which called for early attention it was the primary aspect. The plant in the primary schools has been run down for several years and the amount of money per capita which we spend on educational aids for primary schools has been considerably less than that spent on secondary education down through the years. And I said then that we have to re-orient our educational plans to make sure that the bulk of people who never got beyond the primary stage were well catered for in the educational pattern. This point has been taken up by the Minister of Education and I think this school is only one of eight such schools which he plans to construct between 1980 and 1982 to answer part of the needs of the Island. It takes time to make plans and sometimes a longer time to execute those plans. That is a very simple statement but it contains a great deal of truth.

1.20 p.m.

It is something that the public at large are sometimes very slow in comprehending. It does take time to negotiate with the World Bank, with Consultants, with Officials and then comes the time of implementation. In this particular case I am happy to say that the Minister despite the short time that has normally been available to him to carry out such a re-orientation towards primary education has managed to get to the very soon construction stage of some of these schools.

Eden Lodge I believe has commenced and this year a school will be built at Montgomery, I believe, and another one somewhere in St. George. Next year it is intended to build three others at St. Thomas and one at Wilkey just outside Clapham. I look forward to the Minister answering the needs of that area of my constituency as well as the constituency of the member for St. Michael South East.

I also want to make this point, Sir. When the Minister has managed to construct this school it will then enable the Ministry of the Attorney-General to commence work on the construction of a new Police Station and Law Court in the Charles Rowe Bridge area, just where

there is at present the existing school area so that his timing is most important with the planning of the Law Court and Police Station for that area of St. George.

This is all part and parcel of the development of the St. George sub-town area of which we have spoken in our Manifesto. It would be a mistake to believe that you cannot within a short time implement all stages of the plan without proper planning and initiative and I am hopeful as the hon. member for St. Philip North has said that the Church's plan which is part of the overall development of the Charles Rowe Bridge/Glebe area will be fitted into this year, next year and no doubt it will go into the years 1982 and 1983.

I hope that private enterprises would recognise the initiative which is being taken by the Government in this area and will itself contribute to the development of not only a strong village life but to a sound sub-town centre in the hilliest part of St. George.

I think it is a fitting Resolution. It is one that we should recognise, Mr. Speaker. I know that you too are recognising the work which is going on in the North, the activity which is taking place at Speightstown and the other areas.

Mr. SPEAKER: And all of the residents in St. Peter who cannot get a house spot are leaving the district and going to other parishes.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: I would not like to think that you are getting diminished in anywhere, Sir. I would not like to think so but with the construction with the hotels going up there and the Speightstown by-pass and the planning for the expansion of Alexander which is going on, I am sure that in all of these areas in particular you will see more construction of houses as well from the Minister of Housing. I know that I could not let this opportunity pass without stressing the total planning of the St. George sub-town establishment to which we are all looking forward.

Hon. L. R. TULL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, a constant refrain of the Democratic Labour Party since it has been in Opposition is that the Government is spending a lot of time carrying out policies that they have devised. Now in respect of this development in St. George and I am dealing specifically with the construction of a co-ed primary school in St. George, I want to point out most categorically that the plan for rehabilitation of the primary schools in Barbados, the physical change, cost effectiveness through amalgamation, the policy of co-education as an important psychological and social tool for children, all of this has been entirely and comprehensively the policy of the Barbados Labour Party Government.

The Government of Barbados has negotiated from the start a loan of over \$20 million from the World Bank and for a Capital Development Programme of over \$28 million to bring the Educational Institutions, the Educational Plans in Barbados up to an acceptable level.

Now the two aspects of this development that I need to point out at this stage is this. One is that there are a number of old school buildings in Barbados which have been serving the Island's educational needs for well over 100 years and now have become in many cases derelict and made them totally unacceptable for the demand of young children. We have schools, Sir, in which there is a great deal of difficulty in keeping the elements out, the rain, sun, and so on. We have facilities that one can reasonably call primeval and we have facilities where children are not safe because of the very location of the schools. We have taken that into consideration also.

Secondly, we have also taken into consideration the demographic considerations and the fact that in Barbados people are moving in large numbers from one district to another. Only two weeks ago I heard of the massive build-up of population in the Husbands/Oxnards/Cave Hill/Wanstead areas. Another such area is the Wildey area, a massive build-up over the past year and in as much as it is the policy of the Ministry of Education not to expose young children, they are starting to go to primary schools at age four and five, and so as not to expose these children to the hazards of traffic in travelling long distances and crossing many roads to get to school, we feel it is going to be necessary to build a number of schools in the location in which people live. This is part of the policy of the Ministry of Education at this point.

In respect of the St. George area, Sir, there has been a fairly massive build-up of population in the Central St. George. The Walkers Development, the Valley Development, the whole lot of them have made it necessary for us in the Ministry of Education to take into consideration the pressure that will be brought to bear on schools in that area gradually from now to over a few years' time and it is for this reason that we sought to clear the land at Walkers in St. George for the construction of a new co-educational primary school.

We will now scrap the use of the St. George Boys' School. That building will revert to the St. George Church and we will also be scrapping the use of St. George Girls' and I believe that there are developments which are being made ready for that site. We will be building these new co-educational modern schools, with modern facilities and separate class-rooms for an enrolment of 850 boys and girls of that area.

Now, Mr. Speaker, it is important for me also not to make a contribution only in my capacity as Minister of Education but in my capacity also as a representative of the

constituency of St. George South and a resident of St. George North. I heard my member of Parliament, the hon. member for St. George North, make certain representations and I am glad to see that he is looking after my interest in his constituency.

I want to talk about the whole parish. For the whole period of the history of Barbados, the parish of St. George has been providing the bulk of agricultural products in this country. Right now everybody knows that the St. George Valley produces more food than any other comparable site of real estate in Barbados.

We know also, Mr. Speaker, that St. George provides more artisans, good ones too, than any other parish in Barbados and that is nothing new. This has been going on for many decades and at a period where artisans are becoming increasingly important in the total development of this country. We believe that the people who are making the greatest contribution should get the largest share of what is going on.

1.30 p.m.

I must say, Sir, that the Democratic Labour Party in 15 years of Government in this country has done one thing that I can remember of any significance or capital nature in St. George. They built a Secondary School at Constant.

Before that, the Barbados Labour Party had built a housing area at Ellerton. They had built a Community Centre and playing field at Ellerton. They provided the hospital facilities in the centre of St. George. The Democratic Labour Party got rid of that. There is no District Hospital in St. George any more and the old people of St. George have to go all the way up to St. Philip, and down at Belle-plaine or wherever they send them these days because of a narrow point of view of the Democratic Labour Party Government.

The people in St. George really are not prepared to wait any longer. If they must feed this nation, if they must plant and reap the canes, plant and reap the food, if they must provide carpenters, masons and electricians to get the economic development of this country going at a pace, they want something back in return and I am very glad, Sir, that this Government is planning a development in the Glebe. This school incidentally is adjacent to that development. I understand, Sir that there will be a polyclinic built by next year in central St. George. I understand, too, Sir, that they would be providing a lot of other services. I hear the hon. member for St. Philip North mentioning the need for recreational facilities, community development facilities, and so on and those are being prepared.

I understand that the church pasture is being extended and widened to provide a full scale playing field for the people of that area. I cannot think of a more suit-

able and convenient place for such a development that people can come together from time to time to relax and get some quick recreation than that of the pasture. Those of us who are familiar with St. George politics will know that that pasture is the arena of many an epic political struggle and therefore it has a certain significance to the people of St. George.

I am very concerned, Sir, that St. George is the least electrified parish in Barbados. St. George has more districts without electricity than any other parish in Barbados. I am serving warning as a representative of St. George South and as a resident of St. George North that we will not be condoning that situation for very much longer. I am being heckled, Sir, by the hon. member for Christ Church East. I was going to talk about the St. Patricks School but if he heckles me, I am finished with that. In respect of the electrification programme, Sir, I understand that after a number of years of my persistence that they are finally running electricity into Drax Hall Jump but we have large areas like Jordan's Tenantry and to me, it is a signal insult of the people of St. George that in 1980 there is no electricity in Jordan's Tenantry and I am hoping, Sir, that whoever is responsible for these things takes warning. The people of St. George are not prepared to put up with these inconveniences for very much longer.

I made reference, Sir, to the fact that there is a housing area in Ellerton that was built many years ago, Sir, long before the Democratic Labour Party was the Government of this country. I keep hearing about new housing areas in this parish, in this district and the other district now going up. I am not making any request for any housing area in St. George at this stage. All I am doing is bringing to the attention of hon. members when people are crying out for new housing areas, all I am asking for St. George South and Ellerton Housing Area is some paint on those old units and some nails and a few shingles and weed the road where all the grass is growing high and the water is accumulating every time the rain falls. I do not think that that is an extravagant request and I will therefore expect something to be done about it before very long, Sir.

I hear about the commercial activity. The hon. member for St. Philip South makes reference of that. I believe it is time that the Industrial Development Corporation put some kind of factories in St. George, some kind of light industries in St. George to provide some work for the young men and the young women up there who, like anybody else, like the ones in Christ Church, Sir, and the ones in St. Michael, Sir. They are taxpayers in this country and deserve to get something of what is going. They say, Sir, a word to the wise is enough, so I have nothing more to say on that.

I want also, Mr. Speaker, to answer my friend, the hon. member for Christ Church East. I share his concern about the condition of St. Patricks Schools. I was fairly

aghast when I visited St. Patrick Schools some time last year to find that on the day that I visited, there was a fresh grave within about eight feet from a classroom at St. Patrick's School. I understand that this is a situation that obtain for a long time. I am not prepared, as a new Government, to carry the burden for all the ills of Barbados. Obviously, you cannot in the space of three years correct all the problems that one finds in this country and particularly with schools, where to bring them all up to a minimal, acceptable level in Barbados, one will need to spend far in excess of \$100 million and we do not know where we get that sort of money from. We are going to take things gradually but I am sufficiently concerned about the situation of St. Patrick's Boys' School, I am concerned about the situation of St. Patrick's Boys' School and its close proximity to an active graveyard. I have instructed the people in my Ministry to take a look in the area to find an alternative site so that we can construct another co-educational school in the St. Patrick's area to cater to the needs of the children in that particular area so I can give the hon. member for Christ Church East an assurance that the Ministry of Education is actively looking at including St. Patrick's School in the present World Bank Programme. I do not know if the hon. member is aware of it or not but that is a four year programme.

There is one other thing, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to say. I go along with the hon. member for St. Philip North who has paid tribute to the work of the Anglican Church to the development of education and indeed to the social life of Barbados. The development in the Glebe which is a development in co-operation between the Government of Barbados and the Anglican Church is the sort of development that would transform the character of central St. George. I believe it would be a fillip to the people up there who for so long have suffered from lack of even basic amenities and I too want to pay tribute to the church and the foresight, and commitment to social endeavour in working in collaboration with Government in going about this kind of development. 1.40 p.m.

While I am on that, Sir, I want to point out quite categorically that I do not believe that the Anglican Church is united on this point, and I have heard people of the Anglican Clergy make some remarks that to my mind are rather startling and I would wish that any division in regard to this policy, not in regard to theology, Sir, but in regard to the policy of development of the Glebe, that they would try and reconcile that division as soon as possible in the over-all interest of the people who live in the area and worship at the St. George Parish Church. I really hope that the divisions I am hearing and the criticisms I am hearing will soon be reconciled and that that part of St. George would become what it should be, a continuing oasis in this beautiful land of ours.

Mr. BRADSHAW: Mr. Speaker, I rise to support this Resolution and I would not wish to repeat many of the arguments as put forward.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Standing Orders forbid that you repeat any.

Mr. BRADSHAW: Mr. Speaker, I am aware of that. However, Sir, the question of acquisition is one which has been getting my attention for quite a while, and I refer to the one which recently took place in the Chapel Gap area, the acquisition of portions of land which would provide for the highway running from Wildey through to Haggatt Hall. This particular acquisition has been posing a number of problems and the constituents living around the Haggatt Hall and Mount Friendship area have expressed concern over a number of things.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to know from the Minister where these people will be relocated. I would suggest that a portion of land which can be obtained from the Haggatt Hall plantation is acquired so that these will be re-located. My reason for suggesting this is that the people who are accustomed to the atmosphere and the environment of Chapel Gap and Haggatt Hall as well as Mount Friendship will find the adjacent piece of land which is now owned by Haggatt Hall plantation ideally suitable. Not only that, but it has been drawn to my attention that some of the officers at the Ministry of Communications and Works have been in the area pointing out where the road is supposed to pass, and some of the residents are a bit concerned since it has been pointed out to a few of them that part of their backyard and part of their houses the road will go through, and they are not quite sure as to whether it is Government's intention to acquire the whole area on which their land now lies or the road will be so close to their backyard that the Government will be acquiring just that portion. I would hope that the officers concerned will make it abundantly clear to these people and would leave no stone unturned in letting these people know exactly what the position is. I have not yet made any representation to the Ministry of Communications and Works, but I do hope that the officers will take a little warning from me because I intend to make representation in case these people are not given a very clear understanding as to what the situation would be.

Now I hope too that the Minister responsible for Housing and Lands will take into consideration the fact that the people in Mount Friendship, Lower Burnie and Mapp Hill areas as well as Haggatt Hall have been complaining over the years for playing facilities. Right now the Haggatt Hall cricket club as well as the Mapp Hill club have got to go over to St. George, over in Parish Land to play cricket and they have been making

representations over the years for a portion of land in the Haggatt Hall area which would accommodate a playing field. I am hoping that while looking for an area of land to re-locate these houses which will be moved from the Haggatt Hall and surrounding areas, that consideration will be given to acquiring a larger portion so as to make it possible for the erection of a playing field and possible hard court. As I said, I do hope that the officers in the Ministry of Communications and Works will make it possible to see these people as early as possible with a view to clarifying some of the concern which they now express. I do hope, Sir, that with the development of that road stretching from the Wildey through to the Haggatt Hall area that not only the St. Michael South East but the entire Barbados will realise that St. Michael East is one of the constituencies that is developing and I do hope that greater development will continue in the area which has seen many developments including the industrial estates. With that, Mr. Speaker, I wish once again to give my full support to this particular Resolution.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, there are a number of points that have been raised which the Minister would have to reply to. The hon. member for St. Philip South and the hon. member for St. George South have raised some questions in relation to the plan of the Government for the development of the sub-towns and the subsidiary infrastructure in these areas. This particular Resolution deals with one aspect of the development of St. George, but it certainly doesn't consist of the totality of development. I would draw to the attention of the hon. member for St. George South the fact as he himself said that it is well known that there are certain areas in St. George which regrettably in the eighties have not yet received electricity, but this has been drawn to the attention of the Barbados Light and Power Company, and I am pleased to say as he himself has just admitted that work has already started for the extension of electricity in the Drax Hall area.

Now with respect to the query raised about industrial development, I am also pleased to say that already the Industrial Development Corporation has earmarked central St. George as a suitable site having regard to its population, its geographical position as being suitable for light industry, but before you can have an area for industrial development there must be certain subsidiary services there; one is water. The hon. member is fully familiar with the fact that part of the water development programme in Barbados includes the strengthening and enlarging of mains through the centre of the Island to be able to cater to any demand for additional water over and above the existing mains, and I am assured that within the year 1980 that that can be done. Anybody who has been driving through that area will see the amount of pretty large bore pipes that have

already been laid for extension of the capacity of the mains to that area. IDC has just been negotiating with the World Bank for loans for future industrial estates, and prominent among them is the acquisition of land necessary for the industrial estate in Speightstown or its environs and for St. George.

1.50 p.m.

Negotiations have already started in respect of a site in the St. Peter area, and negotiations have started also in respect of a site for the one in St. George. Of course, Sir, if it is a fact that the private sector feels that they can make a go of it quicker and faster than the Government can, this Government is willing to do anything in its power to facilitate the development of private industrial estates on suitable land areas by the private sector in conjunction with the Industrial Development Corporation. We have repeatedly said that our aim and our goal is to reduce the unemployment problem in Barbados. We have also said that there is a limit to the amount the Government can do within the time spent, and we welcome opportunities and we welcome any entrepreneur who will come forward and parallel with the Government develop private industrial estates, so that I am positive that there will be an industrial estate in St. George in the very near future as soon as water is there, and I have another interest in it, as I have to tell the hon. member for St. George South that his constituency and mine share a common border and I know a large number of workers in my constituency come from the hon. member's constituency, so that the more we can develop up there, there are more jobs in my constituency, so he knows that I am a friend in this respect and we have a mutual interest, and development is going on.

With respect to St. Philip, the Government has asked the United Nations Development Programme to help it with a physical plan to lay out the particular area in St. Philip as suitable for the development of a subtown, and I must say this. St. Philip in this respect is slightly different from the other areas for the very simple reason that all the geological surveys that we have done so far indicate that the south-south-east corner of Barbados is the area where we have oil protection such as it is. At the present moment a seismic survey is going on, particularly in that area. It means that we have had to delay our whole planning in order to ensure that we do not earmark a particular area for the development of a sub-town only to find that when the geological surveys are complete that the particular area that we earmark for the town is the area where there is oil protection, so that we have to be very cautious in the siting of the particular part of that area for a town. That is a fact, we know that. As a matter of fact, other than the development at Six Roads and the existing industrial estate, we have had to curtail permissions around that

area because of the fact that anybody who knows that area can see oil wells being pumped along that area.

The hon. member for St. Philip North and the hon. member for St. Philip South need not have any worry, because as far as I know the most profitable industrial development....

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member for St. Peter has to worry, he wants a housing estate.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: The hon. member for St. Peter's eye will be filled with the development that is going on now with the by-pass road, the development that will start soon, because with the development of the industrial estate and things of that kind there, so that at least his eyes will be partially filled, and I am sure that the Minister of Housing will in the near future be looking for the housing estate. The Speightstown development plan and the areas have been earmarked.

I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, it being approximately three minutes to two, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended till 3.00 p.m.

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

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

On Resumption:

Mr. SPEAKER: This Sitting is now resumed.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the item "Statements by Ministers" be now dealt with. I understand that there is a statement that should accompany a document which was laid today and the Statement is now ready. This statement should accompany the laying of the report of the Barbados National Bank and I beg that it be now read.

STATEMENT OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND
MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PLANNING,
MADE ON THE OCCASION OF THE LAY-
ING OF THE FIRST ANNUAL REPORT
AND ACCOUNTS, 1978 OF THE
BARBADOS NATIONAL BANK

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: The Barbados National Bank was incorporated on March 20, 1978 by an Act of Parliament and it commenced operations on the following day, March 21, 1978 at the premises formerly occupied by the Bank of America at lower Broad Street.

The Board of Directors of the Bank held its first meeting on March 20, 1978. There is a President, who is Chairman of the Board, a non-executive Vice President and ten other Directors of the Bank.

The Fairchild Street Branch of the Commercial Division and the Agricultural Banking and Mortgage Finance Divisions of the Bank opened their doors for business on Monday, April 3, 1978 and the formal opening ceremony of the Bank was held on that same afternoon at the Fairchild Street Branch of the bank.

The opening Balance Sheet of the Bank shows that its paid-up Share Capital amounted to \$12,118,828 and the liabilities as at the commencement of operations amounted to \$89,090,402. This gave Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity of \$101,209,230 at April 1, 1978.

The Assets of the Bank at that date included Cash-in-hand and amounts due from other Banks totalling \$18,744,052, Investments — \$40,929,419 and a net loans port-folio of \$38,117,173, while Bank Premises and Equipment amounted to \$1,697,339.

The Bank's premises include property at James Street in Bridgetown which was acquired during the time of the project for Financial Institutions and provides Office facilities for the Agricultural Banking Division, the Bank Inspection Department, the General Manager's Office, the Office of the Chief Legal Officer, the Research department, Training facilities along with the Board Room and Head Office personnel. There is also a Commercial Branch Banking facility, and adequate lands are used for purposes of car-parking.

The gross loans port-folio of the Bank exceeded \$40M. at the start of operations, but that amount had to be adjusted because of the substantial provision which was made for loan losses.

The relatively large allowance made for loan losses at April 1, 1978, of \$2,179,909 reflects the difference in accounting treatment accorded Loans and Interest in arrears, as between the Bank and its main agricultural predecessor institution, the Sugar Industry Agricultural

Bank. All such loans are fully secured, and substantial collections therefrom are expected, management however believes that given the amounts involved and the absence of repayments in some cases for more than three years, a provision is warranted at this stage.

The Agricultural Division is a developmental activity, and although management's strategy is to make it self-supporting, necessary adjustments to the figures and accounting policies of predecessor agricultural credit institutions will make it appear unprofitable in the early years of the Bank's existence.

An examination of the Consolidated Balance Sheet at the end of the nine-month period of operations — December 31, 1978 — will reveal a loss of \$155,525. The out-turn of operations, Division by Division within the bank will show that the Commercial Division operations made a profit of \$270,751 for the same period. That amount had to be offset by a net loss of \$208,253 on the operations of the Agricultural Division and expenses of \$218,023 which are connected with the setting up of the Bank and making it operational.

In all the circumstances, the net loss of \$155,525 represents a reasonable outcome of the operations for the first nine months of the Bank's existence and should be viewed against the provision made in the Income Statement for doubtful debts of \$260,785 in respect of the business done during that period.

During the nine months of operations, the Bank's investment increased from \$40.9M. to \$49.9M., the net loans granted by the bank increased from \$38.1M. to \$65.2M, while the value of Bank Premises and Equipment increased from \$1.7M. to \$2.5M. In addition, the Deposit Liabilities increased from \$56.5M. to \$74.5M., the long-term debt of the Bank increased from \$.6M. to \$9.6M. and the other borrowed funds increased from \$26.3M to \$37M.

Meanwhile, Shareholders' Equity increased from \$12.1M. to \$13.5M. and the total liabilities and Shareholders' Equity as well as the total assets of the Bank increased from \$101.2M. at April 1, to \$137.3M. at December 31, 1978.

During the period under consideration, the Bank along with the Crown in its right of Government purchased the shares of Barbados Mortgage Finance Company Limited which were formerly held by the Commonwealth Development Corporation, and at December 31, 1978 the Bank's shareholding in the Company amounted to \$1,450,000. The balance of shares in the Mortgage Finance Company Limited — \$10,000 — are owned by the Insurance Corporation of Barbados.

During the period under review, plans were advanced enough to enable the Bank to open its third Branch in the

City of Bridgetown on premises at James Street. Operations commenced on January 2, 1979 and the Branch has been able to attract substantial business since that time.

In addition, planning commenced for the extension of operations at the Grantley Adams International Airport and since that time full banking services have been provided firstly at premises formerly used by Citibank and more recently in the new Terminal Building where there is a banking facility on the mezzanine floor. There are also exchange facilities in the In-coming/Out-going Passengers area.

Management of the Bank is presently reviewing its plans for further commercial banking outlets at Wilkey in St. Michael and Speightstown in St. Peter.

It would be remiss on me not to mention to the Honourable House that the Bank did not meet the deadline for providing its Financial Statement in respect of this period by April 30, and in accordance with the powers vested in me by Section 25 of the Act, an extension was granted to permit the Board to transmit to me the Annual Accounts certified by the Auditors along with their report at a later date.

In accordance with the provisions of Section 25(3) of the Barbados National Bank Act, I now lay a copy of the Annual Accounts of the Bank together with a Certificate of the Auditors, the Report on the Bank's operations for the year and included in this report is a report of the subsidiary Company – the Barbados Mortgage Finance Company Limited – and a copy of the Barbados National Bank Act.

Mr. Speaker, it only remains for me to say that it is proposed to give the report wide circulation inside and outside of Barbados. There is no point having achievements as a Government if you do not make proper use of them.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Government Business be now resumed and that Order No. 1 be now taken.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 1 is the instant order of the day.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

Order No. 1 was called – To move the House into Committee of Supply to consider the grant of sums of money for the service of this Island.
3.10 p.m.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that Your Honour do now leave the Chair and the

House go into Committee of Supply and while it is in Committee of Supply I beg to move that we consider a number of Resolutions which have been circulated today and which I understand the other side have no objections to they being done today in all of their stages.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: The Hon. Leader of the House is seeking leave to deal with some money Resolutions which have been circulated today. There being no objections leave is granted.

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 I, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS UNDER HEAD 108 – MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING OF THE 1979-80 CAPITAL ESTIMATES

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the purpose of this note is to permit the use of funds which are already voted and in existence and are available to pay a subscription fee for Barbados to join the International Finance Corporation. The International Finance Corporation was established in 1956 and is an International Developmental Institution with 108 member countries of which 88 can be classified as less developed.

I have a file copy of the Annual Report for last year of the International Finance Corporation and I will pass it over to the other side. Unfortunately, I will have to get it back as I only have one copy but I will ask the Marshal or the Clerk to take it so that hon. members can have an opportunity to see the sort of work done by the Corporation.

The Corporation operates within the following framework, Mr. Chairman. In association with private investors the Corporation assists in financing, establishment improvement and expansion of productive enterprises which can contribute to the development of its member countries in cases where sufficient capital is not available within those countries.

It also seeks to bring together with investment opportunities domestic and foreign private capital and experienced management. Technical assistance in management is one of the important areas of activity and it also tries to create conditions which are conducive to the flow of capital of both domestic and foreign into productive investments in member countries.

The Corporation, Sir, works with wholly private businesses, businesses which are owned partly by the

public and by private investors and it also in certain circumstances can work with wholly owned Government enterprises as well. There have definitely been some shortage of funds available to private investors in Barbados from outside on a concessionary basis and the International Finance Corporation undoubtedly can fill some of those gaps.

It is expected that it can assist small private businessmen in Barbados through local developmental agencies and negotiations to this effect are on the way. I can give a list, Sir, of activities that are financed around the World. It has lent money to the Manila Electric Company in the Philippines and in the Philippines the Telephone Company as well. It has lent money to set up a Plywood Factory in the Philippines. It has lent money in other countries for ship-building. At a similar level it has even lent money for Coconut oil processing, Copra processing and matters of the like.

There is only one rule, Sir, that it is attached to the disbursement of its funds. This aid is not really tied but it is limited. You can only spend the funds in countries which are members of the World Bank or in Switzerland. I do not believe that in Barbados we would ask for it to lend money for the repainting of high powered cars, repainting or even renumbering but I must not make jokes about St. George, Sir, where we both live.

In Barbados, Sir, some of the potential products that it is anticipated could have been of interest to the International Finance Corporation would include utility development, that would be the Electric Company. I also anticipate that a Cement Plant, if we proceed any further with the Joint Project with Trinidad, that some funds would be available for this. The Housing Programme, the General Public Housing Programme, Kaufus Programme which is to start the 1st April, projects of this kind could attract financing from the International Finance Corporation.

The Natural Gas Corporation, I am told by my friend the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister, that all it needs is \$22 million to extend Natural Gas really widely in this Island and bring down the cost of cooking to families all over the country, as long of course as we have the reserves and this is one of the areas that we would be looking at. We certainly would need overseas funding because we may be expanding. The National Bank's assets may now well be past the \$137 million of which I spoke but we have not reached the stage yet where our own resources would allow us to fund the whole \$22 million for Natural Gas expansion.

Also the Sugar Cane Processing Plant, the making of hardboard; that is considered another area in which the International Finance Corporation can help and, of course, the Barbados Development Bank would also be in a position to use funds from the International Finance Corporation to onloan small businessmen.

The Cabinet has agreed that we should join. The subscription has been assessed as an amount of U.S.\$74,000.

I therefore beg to move that the note be amended by adding as Item (vii) "International Finance Corporation — Provision for subscriptions."

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: I beg to second that, Sir, and reserve my right to speak.

Dr. HAYNES: Mr. Chairman, I rise to give qualified support from this side for this step being taken by the present administration and one was indeed somewhat encouraged by the fact that the Hon. Minister of Finance succeeded in overcoming his natural predilections and to slip only on one occasion during his speech into unworthy asides.
3.20 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, I think this matter has to be taken seriously. I think it is important to understand that this Resolution is here before this Honourable House today because of steps taken by the Democratic Labour Party over a number of years to give the Barbados economy access to a wide range of international funding institutions. But, Mr. Chairman, I have a sense of shame, I believe the Romans called it pudor and when I hear excessive claims being made for example by the contributions which the Inter American Development Bank funding is made to the projects in Barbados, I get goose pimples from time to time on behalf of the present administration, bearing in mind the attitude which they took towards our entry into the OAS and a similar though less politically articulated on that side, related to our membership of the IMF. You can only be a member of the World Bank if you are involved with the IMF and you can only be a member of any of its affiliate organisations or associated organisations with the exception of one I think, if you are a member of the World Bank. This, Mr. Chairman, is a large sum of money certainly large by my standards \$186,000, so we have to properly assess whether this subscription out of the Treasury of Barbados is a worthwhile exercise.

As far as I am aware, arising out of the Bentley Woods Conference I think it was of 1944, the IMF and the then International Bank for reconstruction and development, later to become the World Bank was established in 1946 and in 1956 in fulfillment of Article 2 of the World Bank Charter, the World Bank Articles of Agreement I think the IFC was set up primarily to deal with the flow of private funds from developing countries into other areas including undeveloped countries of course.

In 1956 the primary aim, the primary thrust was in the private sector. I believe the International Development Association was formed in 1960 or thereabouts

and subsequently you have to be a member of the World Bank to be a member of this. The ICSID, the International Centre for Settlement of International Disputes was set up at an early stage. Recognising that membership of the IFC could only have taken place if you are a member of the World Bank and bearing in mind that the ground work for any such step has already been made by that great political party, the Democratic Labour Party of which I am proud to be a member. (ASIDE: You sound like Gordon Matthews.) Mr. Chairman, you can be quite sure that I will ignore what they say. Membership of course is only open to Governments and no investment can be made in any country unless there is Government approval.

There is one point I want to make. I do not think the Hon. Minister of Finance is correct in saying that the International Finance Corporation would be prepared to finance only owned government enterprises. I know for example that initially the exercise was totally for private enterprises and this matter is a matter that has been monitored from time to time by the Democratic Labour Party. It is important to understand that substantial changes have taken place not only in the attitudes but also in the investment policies of the International Finance Corporation over the past ten to fifteen years.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to cite a few:

1. Their initial investment was entirely in the form of loans. A significant change was when the International Finance Corporation was prepared to participate on an equity and loans basis provided that the equity did not exceed 25%.

2. Another important change, Mr. Chairman, was, as far as I recall, that they were prepared to invest in enterprises in which there was government participation, in fully owned government and in a sense, this distinguishes somewhat the pattern of their investment from that of the World Bank itself.

3. Whereas they had a range of loans which fits the minimum at US\$1 million which would not necessarily be particularly advantageous to many small businessmen in Barbados and a maximum of US\$20 million that they had made loans which I will quote later on well below the range of US\$1 million.

There are one or two questions that I would like to ask the Hon. Minister of Finance. Whether he is aware for example that the Government of South Africa has an investment of some \$1.1 million in the International Finance Corporation and a bloc voting of shares of some 1,358 votes. I certainly have looked at the articles, Article 1 of the IMF. I think that there have been sufficient modifications that there is nothing in

that I can consider to be offensive. I have looked at the capital structure of the International Finance Corporation based on the June 30, 1978 statement and I certainly did not have the benefit of a 1979 statement but from what I saw, the subscribed share capital of the IFC at that time was some \$290 million with a general reserve of over \$99 million apart from a reserve against losses and that the Bank was empowered to borrow up to four times its unimpaired subscribed capital and a surplus. However, I think it was in November, 1977, that the Board of Directors recognised that in order to meet the demands of a wide range of countries, it would be necessary to increase the authorised stock of the International Finance Corporation in order that funds could be made readily available whether they are borrowed on the private market or whether they are borrowed from World Bank sources or others and I would like to know whether or not that Resolution to authorise the increase of the capital stock from \$110 million to \$650 million has been put into effect because that would mean that the loan potential of the International Finance Corporation would be increased from about \$US975 million to approximately \$2.2 billion which means that there would be a considerable increase in the availability of funds for lending.

3.30 p.m.

Now the question is why do we on this side support this Resolution qualitatively because we would want to see to whom the money is being lent and where Government is going to lend its assistance for what projects in Barbados. Now I have looked very carefully at the portfolio of loans of the International Finance Corporation since 1956 and I note that they have made loans in tourism, manufacturing, utilities and agriculture. Now this seems to be relevant to the Barbados economic base. I was also most interested to see that they have made loans for cement plants in Argentina, Brazil, China, Chile, Columbia, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Peru, the Philippines and Thailand. There has obviously been a heavy input into the development of cement plants both financially and certainly in terms of the kind of expertise that is required, and I was just reflecting as I was doing my research into this matter, whether or not anything has happened since the Hon. Prime Minister and Minister of Finance made his very unusual trip to Switzerland searching for a cement plant. I believe I can make that remark in his absence because I made it in his presence.

In tourism, Mr. Chairman, there have been investments in Columbia and nearer home in Jamaica, Kenya, Mexico, and Tunisia and other places.

The second reason why I am prepared to support this is because there has been a definite shift in the emphasis of the investment policy of the International Finance Corporation which was a most conservative arm of the World Bank group, and about the late 1960s I

think it was they took the position that investments that they participate in would be not only for profitability but for the over-all benefit of the economy. In other words, we would not expect the kind of activity that say Roebuck Traders are involved in would qualify them for any Government support and Government endorsement from a loan from this source, nor the traditional major activities of a lot of the Big Six, although one could hope that the new Big Two which I think include S & S Development Ltd. and probably the St. John group of companies, I believe that if they get themselves into productive sources that they might have the kind of capital works to justify taking advantage of loans of this order.

I have also adverted to a reduction in the loans limit, the limit of loans, because prior to this there was a definite stipulation that loans must be between the \$1 million U.S. and \$US20 million limits, but when I saw that countries like Brazil, the Cameroons, Columbia, Cyprus, Ecuador, India, Korea, Malasia and Nigeria all benefited from loans well under the \$1 million dollar limit, and I think as low, Mr. Chairman, as \$300,000, this seems to be more in keeping with the kind of parameters which we would perceive for Barbados except in certain areas. I have already referred to my concern that they were willing to be involved in equity participation, but of equal concern, Mr. Chairman, is the fact that it is their policy not to hang on to their equity. In other words, they seek to sell the equity in order to provide a revolving fund for the Corporation, and indeed in their 1978 statement I think they realised something like \$58.1 million from sales and participation which would seem to me that that particular aspect of their policy is one that is being actively pursued.

I have already said that another factor that would suggest to me that this might be the right time to take this kind of step is because they have moved away from the stipulation of purely private enterprise and are prepared to support mixed undertakings although I have seen nothing that would suggest from the statement by the Hon. Minister of Finance that they are prepared to support wholly owned Government projects to be correct, because then in fact there would be hardly any difference between the World Bank and the International Investment Corporation except that the International Finance Corporation does not require a Government guarantee; and in any event this business of concessionary rates as far as I am aware, although they are probably lower than what we have been getting on the open market in North America, they are not that concessionary and the terms of the loans that you get are not very different from many commercial banks in the sense that you can get seven to twelve year loans with interest rates clearly varying with the circumstances, and on top of that you have to pay your one per cent on any undischursed portion of the loan as you would expect from any commercial

source, and in a situation where interest rates in North America have been considerably higher, the prevailing interest rates for many a year now have been considerably higher than those prevailing in Barbados, I don't think that either the terms of the loan or the levels of interest would be that much different or that much attractive, but I do not know whether there has been a significant shift in the liquidity in the banking system in Barbados and hence the need to find access to additional finance of this kind.

I have not seen the projections over the next six months or so but certainly looking back through the retrospectroscope so to speak there seems to me to be a significant level of liquidity in Barbados apart from the short period between 1973 and 1974. Mr. Chairman, this administration would have less to do because thanks to the work of the former Minister of Finance, it's amazing how he dominates whether he is here or not, out of Government for four years or more, everything that takes place in this Honourable House, stipulations as to repatriation of investments and earnings of investments that is already covered in the Central Bank Act which I am sure the hon. member for Christ Church West is very familiar with both in his capacity as Attorney General and privately.

Now there are three other important areas apart from direct loans and the condition of those loans, which I consider there is a reasonable chance if this facility is used wisely that it could be of considerable help to Barbados. Mr. Chairman, I refer to the emphasis over the past five years which will be very well documented in another document other than the one which the hon. member for Christ Church Central is holding in his hand, where through stand-by and underwriting arrangements in support of public offerings and private placement of shares, debentures and other securities they have been able to contribute considerably to a mobilisation not only of domestic money, local money in getting it in the market place, but also they have been able in some countries, and I would like to quote Brazil for example, in creating a very substantial capital market in that particular area, making a major contribution in that area.

3.40 p.m.

Now, there is also an interest in the last two years, I think, and only the last two years, where this Corporation having acquired a considerable amount of expertise, not only the transfer of funds, the transfer of technology, but also in the techniques of linking local capital resources to foreign resources to have been prepared for the first time to get involved in the pre-feasibility studies and feasibility studies of various projects and to provide their expertise at that stage even if that does not commit them either to equity or loan participation.

And so, Mr. Chairman, it is for these reasons that I think that we on this side can support this measure. It is a continuation of steps taken by the Democratic Labour Party, and I believe that the changes in the attitude of the International Finance Corporation make it much more worthwhile today in 1980 for Government to participate in that exercise than it would have been say ten years ago or five years ago.

I was rather satisfied when the Hon. Minister of Finance started talking about possible projects, and he started talking about Natural Gas Corporation, cement projects, sugar cane projects, and probably the Barbados Development Bank which I imagine would qualify as one of those institutions through which the Corporation would lend money and also help to provide additional expertise to be involved, for its money to be put into projects which are not only profitable but also have a developmental goal, but, Mr. Chairman, it is important to look very carefully and see where you are putting money. As the hon. member for Christ Church South Central knows only too well, when you are buying shares in a company it is important to see who the other shareholders are. Also it is equally important to see what the viability of the company is.

But what interested me is that the income from the operation or some \$12 million and was up \$4 million from the previous year, and that it was totally transferred to a special reserve fund against losses, which suggests to me that the organisation is quite concerned about the security of the investments of its members. I also note that the organisation is prepared at all times to buy back the average input from any Government which wishes to withdraw at any point in time and I believe that the Government of Cuba after the revolution actually withdrew from the IFC. I think Cuba was a member of the IFC in its early days. (Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: They pulled out). They were initially in 1956, the hon. member for Christ Church South Central is so hard-ears and he wouldn't listen.

Now, Mr. Chairman, to get back to much more serious matters, looking at the 1978 exercises of that organisation, I note that the total funds deployed was something like \$1.94 million and that the borrowings were in fact something in the region of \$13.4 million, over \$35 million in capital subscription as stock for the Corporation, which again suggests that it is a very worthy exercise and seems to be certainly based on sound principles and good financial management, and I don't think that the taxpayers' money of this country would be wasted, so for these reasons that the IFC has changed the emphasis that it has run an investment portfolio considerably well over the past 24 years. It is because

it is clearly a logical development from the steps taken by the previous Democratic Labour Party administration when it involved this country, that it is of benefit as has been shown clearly, that with the present administration of the Barbados Labour Party Government it is a logical development from that.

It is for this reason that I must give my support to the present administration for taking this step, but at the same time I qualify it, I think that the administration has a responsibility since access to this money is due to the fact that taxpayers' money is being expended to buy share capital in the International Finance Corporation, it has a responsibility that any loans which it approves — because IFC will not give a loan to anyone in Barbados unless the Government approves — to make sure that such loans would not only fall into the category of profitability for the private individual, but also some element of productivity and contribution to the total economy, and if we can get a marriage between the articles of the International Finance Corporation and a firm determination on the part of the present administration to make sure that these criteria are met, because sometimes simply because unlike World Bank loans you do not require a Government guarantee, because Government does not have to give a guarantee, then I imagine there are many people out there who would be prepared because this facility is made available to jump in there for loans purely to enrich themselves or expand their own businesses that may have absolutely nothing to do with the common people of Barbados, so my support is in the tradition of good statesmanship which is shown always by Her Majesty's loyal Opposition. We oppose when we have to oppose, Mr. Chairman, and we support when we feel we should support, and we qualify that support when we feel we should qualify it.

I would only wish the Government well and hope that access to this finance would be of benefit to Barbados, and the kind of projects that I hear being talked about — and I do not know about a Natural Gas Corporation which as far as I know is a whole Government owned Corporation — but certainly for things like a mixed investment in the cement plant, the Barbados Light and Power Company probably could benefit from this kind of exercise.

3.50 p.m.

I think that once it is used wisely we will support it, but the fact that we support it here will not stop us from making a noise if we discover that there is any deviation from the principle of profitability of the investors, and the venture must have some importance to the general economy because we feel that when funds have to come from the public Treasury we should never lose sight of our responsibility to make sure that any benefits accruing should go to the common man.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, it is fairly obvious that the hon. member for St. Michael South Central knows himself very well and all that that characterizes. The decision to join this International Finance Corporation was a decision which we had no difficulty in reaching at this period of time. We considered very carefully the reason why the previous Government rejected the idea over the long period of time when they were eligible to join.

But there are two matters which I think should be brought to the attention of this House. The position is that since 1973 all developing countries have been called upon to look to multi-national institutions for the exchange they need to finance investments in their countries. Despite all the protestations of the OPEC countries about their genuine concern for their poor brethren in the Third World, the facts of the matter are here that the recycling of petrodollars up to now has gone through the market via the medium of private multi-national banks.

We have reached a stage now in Barbados where we are faced with an even more acute problem because of the fact that the terms and conditions under which the Euro-currency markets with respect to interest and things of that kind are beyond the resources of projects we would like to finance. At the same time, by their decision to systematically and regularly increase the price of oil, the oil producing countries — whether Third World or not — are gobbling up more and more of the foreign exchange earnings of other countries. It is a very serious matter because of the fact that at the present moment despite every effort that has been made — whether in the non-aligned movement, COMECON or any international political movement — there has been no tangible and responsible attitude by the few oil producers to dish out aid in any meaningful way except they are Moslems.

I think we must face up to these facts. Our position is that this Government is determined to continue in its path of great reduction in unemployment in Barbados — which we have already achieved. It means that we have to look at all sources of international finance to ensure that the necessary capital inflows flow to the investments in Barbados which are needed to ensure that there is an extension of our industry to cater to the employment needs of Barbados.

Now the International Finance Corporation is such an institution and it seems very clear that its role will increase in the future because the private multi-national institutions, particularly the large banks, appear to be not as interested as they have been in the past in being the agency in recycling the excess monies of oil countries. It may be because they have too much at risk; some countries will have to default — there is no doubt about that.

We have a number of projects which we feel can benefit from our membership in the International Finance Corporation. Mention has been made about natural gas. I know that it is popular to feel that it is easy to extend natural gas to every household in Barbados. I have previously explained in this House that the calculation of the capital cost of connections only — excluding the pipeline — was \$22 million. I have also explained that at the present moment we do not have enough natural gas resources that we can supply every household in Barbados. We are hopeful that we will be able to increase our resource, but after a very careful examination of the whole situation we have come to the conclusion with the advice of many consultants that the best way of ensuring the flow of benefits most fully throughout Barbados is to get as fast as possible any excess gas we have into the Barbados Light and Power Company who will use it in substitution for Bunker C fuel. And because of the fact that we have over 65,000 connections to the Light and Power Company, the reduction in price will be spread among the 65,000 consumers. To the extent that we use natural gas as a substitute for Bunker C, you ensure that any difference in price — and there will be a difference — will go to all house-holds in Barbados with electricity and they will benefit by way of a reduction in the fuel charge. And the most interesting thing is that the total expenditure will be less than \$1 million. That is why tomorrow morning I will be visiting one of the series of projects necessary to accomplish this, namely, the creation of an alternate pipeline to boost the system. Plans are being made also for another pipeline from Warrens to Spring Garden. So that is our plan.

It was interesting when an hon. member from the other side raised the question to hear the Leader of the Opposition say not to bring any resolution in here for \$22 million to extend gas to all households as that was foolishness. I well remember that. But I know there are other projects that we have which, because of inflation today, the capitalization is so great and the equity contribution is so great that we need to get a reasonably long time for loans and reasonable interest terms. In the Euro-dollar market the interest rates are now well above 12%. I believe the average interest rate at the International Finance Corporation is better than the Euro-dollars rate. And this can be for projects which the private sector is interested in or which the public sector is interested in or whether they are wholly owned subsidiary corporations or companies in which the Government has a substantial shareholding.

4.00 p.m.

I will say this that it is a fact that IFC will finance and participate in Corporations which are wholly publicly owned. That is a fact, whether by way of statute or otherwise. That is a fact. If you look in the latest Report you will see some 17% of these loans are to wholly publicly owned Corporations.

I feel there are great benefits to be obtained, Sir, and I think that what is attractive too, Sir, is that they do not call for Government guarantees. Of course, I take very seriously the suggestion of the hon. member that we monitor the projects very carefully. I think the hon. member has benefited somewhat from our Government. At least he is now learning to appreciate the needs by Government to monitor public capital when investing very carefully. I think our record in that respect is much better than any record his Party has ever had or will ever have.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I need not detain the House any longer in replying since on all sides the Resolution is going to be supported.

I would like to congratulate the other side on its reversal attitudes. When the opportunity to join the International Finance Corporation was in the hands of the hon. member for St. John, he did not join and I would think that the present welcoming of our joining by the hon. member for St. Michael South Central at least shows that one or two up-to-date ideas have penetrated the Democratic Labour Party's spokesman of Finance.

He is, however, wrong when he relates the joining of the World Bank or the IDB or whoever to the membership of the OAS. They are not connected.

Dr. HAYNES: On a point of explanation, Sir. What I said is that the amendment to get money from the IADB you have to be a member of the OAS. That is one side. To be a member of the IFC you have to be a member of the World Bank. There are two separate things I was speaking about. I am not linking the two, the OAS and the IFC or the World Bank. I was just talking about your change in attitude, the way how you did that quick dance over in supporting OAS and IADB.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: I am very glad although I am not expecting to hear the announcement in here. I would have thought it would have been heard in Georgetown or in Washington. I am very glad to hear Guyana is a member of the OAS because the hon. member just said that to be a member of the IADB you have to be a member of the OAS. I have sat down next to the Minister of Finance for Guyana and at the Governing Council of the IADB and I probably will be going with him to a meeting in a few weeks times and Guyana is not a member of the OAS.

The point that the hon. member would understand if he was present here during the 1966 Elections campaign would be that the hon. member for Christ Church South Central and myself made the point that you do not need to join the OAS in order to join IADB and that was contradicted by the then Prime Minister and so persistent is the falsehood that he has persuaded the hon. member

for St. Michael South Central that it is true something like six or seven years after it has been proven false. Take your economics from even the *Advocate Newspaper* rather than from the hon. member for St. John. That is what I would say to the hon. member.

The hon. member is new and I have seen signs that he is interested in raising the level of economic debate in here and I do not wish to discourage him too early. I only hope that on the political platform he ceases to talk about his patients, people who have done him nothing and so on and people who are not even in politics. That is a side issue. His patients will no doubt deal with him before the Medical Association.

Now the question of liquidity in the local system. The hon. member suggested that there is plenty of liquidity in the local system and appeared, this did not go very far, it was not well developed, and appeared to question the need to bring in large amounts of money for private enterprise. Liquidity in the local system was very high a year ago because the Government's financial position was exceedingly good. It was unprecedentedly good. Around this time last year February/March, the Government of Barbados had never perhaps enjoyed so bountiful revenue and so enormous a turn around from a deficit position to a surplus position and therefore the Government had no need whatsoever of funds even to finance its capital activities.

The Trents School and the starting of projects which were just going on-stream at the end of the Financial Year 1978/79 effectively were being built out of taxation for this reason the Central Bank did not even have a Debenture or Treasury Bill to sell and they had to ask us for a fresh issue of Debentures so that they can always have Debentures on hand for when they are needed.

The rate of Capital development in Barbados has expanded very greatly in the last 12 months. In all sorts of areas, Mr. Chairman, as we are now beginning to see as we collect the statistics for last year, there has been a tremendous investment in housing, construction and, of course, in major Government Projects. In just two quarters of last year there were 1,200 new electrical connections in Barbados. Perhaps 100 or 200 of these related to houses which did not have electricity before but the other 1,000 related to houses that were new houses in the second half of last year so a lot of money was spent and the liquidity in the system has gradually been absorbed so that at the beginning of this year the Central Bank which had had no Treasury Bills and no Debentures at the beginning of the Financial Year had something between \$30 million and \$40 million in Treasury Bills.

The significance of this is apt when the Banks have a lot of money and nobody to lend it to they have to buy the Government Treasury Bills and they buy them from the Central Bank. When the Banks need money to lend people they sell the Treasury Bills back to the Central Bank so that when in a year the Central Bank buys \$40 million in Treasury Bills from the Commercial Banks it means that the Commercial Banks had lent out that \$40 million for development in Barbados generally and the liquidity of which the hon. member speaks has been very largely dissipated out to intense developmental activity over the last 10 to 11 months.

The Governor of the Central Bank is just on the point of the checking of today's figures because he is again selling Treasury Bills and he said there has been a lot of house repairs, house extensions, house building and a lot of other small business activities going on as well so I do not think it is right to say there is unlimited liquidity in the system.

Dr. HAYNES: On a point of explanation. I was asking whether or not there has been a significant decline in the liquidity that would alter your attitude towards joining. I was asking a question.
4.10 p.m.

Rt. Hon. J. M. G. M. ADAMS: Yes, I know that the hon. member was not making an insertion. Of course, the Minister of Finance now takes the trouble to get a daily report from the Central Bank on the Government's financial position, as well as, the country's and it is a very useful thing to have because it keeps the finger every day on the pulse of what is going on, Sir. I am liable to be better informed than the hon. member but they are the facts.

Without seeking to expose any client's business or any bank's business, one bank which has a very large customer to which it wishes to lend more money and I am talking in millions now, one bank has effectively run out of money and it no longer has money to satisfy customers who have a legitimate call upon it and there is a crisis of a minor financial nature going on surrounding this particular bank and its particular account. It is a matter of interest to the Government, Sir, because it goes above and beyond any question of private relationship between a bank and a customer. It is a wider issue than that. The system is not quite as liquid as it may have seemed.

Indeed, the Central Bank has, I think it is something like \$24 million in Treasury Bills at the moment and that is a fair indication of money being a little tighter than otherwise. The hon. member is correct in taking me up on the point about wholly owned Government enterprises. I did not express myself accurately. Of course, the International Finance Corporation does have to define privately owned in a somewhat limited way in the case of Yugoslavia because all of the loans in Yugoslavia, Sir, have

the major recipients of IFCA. All the loans are made to organisations that are owned by Government of one sort or another but you have central government. They are owned by municipal government or provincial governments. The hon. member will also find, I think, if he looks at that brochure that the Royal Swaziland Sugar Corporation which is also nationally owned is a recipient of loans by them. He is quite right in saying that wholly owned government enterprises do not normally qualify.

The controversy at the moment is how far you go before you disqualify an institution on the grounds that the Government's share in it is too much. The IFC had no problem lending institutions in which Government owned a 15% shareholding. Then they began to lend institutions where the Government had a 25% shareholding but I went to see the IFC's director for the western hemisphere. I saw him in Belgrade a couple of months ago and this problem was discussed.

In the case of the Government of Barbados, it might be necessary for us to emphasise that there are certain corporations set up by Statute with a shareholding which should as much qualify for IFC aid as for example, Yugoslavia. Enterprises which are set up as directly controlled Government enterprises and perhaps, arising out of this matter, I may have been a little confused in what I said to the House. The Hon. member is correct, the World Bank lends Government institutions, the IFC lends Government private and private institutions, not as the hon. member said, that Government guarantees, but always with Government monitoring because you do not lend unless Government approves. The Government is not to control it but the Government has to approve and it has to be discussed with the Government and that element of monitoring is always present.

The hon. member for Christ Church South Central has fully and completely made the point that you do not have to have any more capital with the IFC than with the IDB because we have had examples in Barbados with loans made by international agencies to developmental corporations in Barbados where the activities of the corporation were so badly monitored that eventually they disqualified us from access any longer to loans. The hon. member should never forget that although he was no part of it, he was no part of the previous Government and no ostensible or visible part of such activities as the the purchase of Bath Plantation. The purchase did disqualify the Barbados Development Bank from getting any more money from overseas. That was not properly monitored and international institutions made it clear that the Barbados Development Bank was no longer qualified while the Bath loan was in its contaminated state. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank the two hon. members who have spoken and I beg to move that the note be amended in the terms set out in the Resolution.

The question that the note to Item 1 – Head 108 be so amended was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1979–80 No. 29

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, this is one of the many Resolutions which deals with the increase in expenditure by Government.

In this case, it is the Post Office and the increase is due to a change in the rate of the National Insurance and in the rate of travel and subsistence vote and operating expenses. Therefore, I beg to move that this Resolution do now pass.

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

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1979–80 No. 28

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, this Resolution is to provide the necessary funds to ensure that the votes relating to travelling and subsistence and other personal allowances – it was impossible for us to estimate these amounts at the time because of the increase in the cost of gasoline and things like that. The Ministry of Finance had to agree with the Unions to the increase in the travelling allowances and we have to supplement them.

I beg to move that Head 110 stand part of the Schedule.

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

The question that Head 110 stand part of the Schedule was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.
4.20 p.m.

Head 114 – Ministry of Communications and Works – was called.

Hon. C. L. BOLDEN: Mr. Chairman, this is a supplementary Resolution in the sum of \$24,000 in respect of traffic lights. We had ordered these lights from the United States. At the time of the order the quotation was one figure, but after they arrived we found that the cost was different, the cost of freight was also different, and we are therefore asking for the sum of \$24,000 to complete the purchase of these traffic lights.

I beg to move that Head 114 – Ministry of Communications and Works, stand part of the Schedule.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: I beg to second that.

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

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES 1979–80 No. 27

Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (1) Direction and Policy Formulation – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, this has been circulated. This is another one of those areas. The notes are very explanatory, and I beg to move that the sum of \$12,866 under Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (1) Direction and Policy Formulation, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (3) Crown Solicitor's Department – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Again, Sir, the revision in the travelling rates and allowances from the 1st January, 1979.

I beg to move that the sum of \$3,000 under Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (3) Crown Solicitor's Department, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (4) Probation Department – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, once again the sum of \$9,984 is required to supplement the revision of the travelling rates and allowances.

I beg to move that the sum of \$9,984 under Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (4) Probation Department, stand part of the Schedule.

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

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

Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (5) Prisons – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: This is a similar sum needed for this particular Department.

I beg to move that the sum of \$48,598 under Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (5) Prisons, stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. SISNETT: I beg to second that.

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

Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (6) Fire Service – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: I draw the attention of hon. members to the notes which are explanatory.

I beg to move that the sum of \$9,000 under Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (6) Fire Service, stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. SISNETT: I beg to second that.

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

Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (7) Police – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: I beg to draw hon. members' attention to page 2 of the document circulated. It is self-explanatory.

I beg to move that the sum of \$371,250 under Head 10 – Ministry of the Attorney General (7) Police, stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. SISNETT: I beg to second that.

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

Head 18 – Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment (1) Direction and Policy Formulation – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Similarly in respect of this particular Ministry, travelling, subsistence and maintenance.

I beg to move that the sum of \$1 802 under Head 18 – Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment (1) Direction and Policy Formulation, stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. SISNETT: I beg to second that.

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

Head 18 – Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment (6) Town and Country Planning – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: I beg to move that the sum of \$13 000 under Head 18 -- Ministry of Housing, Lands and the Environment (6) Town and Country Planning, stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. SISNETT: I beg to second that.

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

Head 19 – Ministry of Labour and Community Services (1) Direction and Policy Formulation – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, this is to supplement the telephone and telegram vote, and the external services costs have increased and this needs to be supplemented.

I beg to move that the sum of \$6 000 under Head 19 – Ministry of Labour and Community Services (1) Direction and Policy Formulation, stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. SISNETT: I beg to second that.

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

Head 19 – Ministry of Labour and Community Services (2) – Labour Department – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, travelling and subsistence for this particular Department.

I beg to move that the sum of \$3 700 under Head 19 – Ministry of Labour and Community Services (2) Labour Department, stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. SISNETT: I beg to second that.

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

Head 19 – Ministry of Labour and Community Services (3) Welfare – was called.

Hon. H. B. ST. JOHN: Travel and welfare for the Welfare Department.

I beg to move that the sum of \$29 618 under Head 19 – Ministry of Labour and Community Services (3) Welfare, stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. SISNETT: I beg to second that.

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

Head 19 – Ministry of Labour and Community Services (4) Youth and Community Development – was called.

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the sum of \$2 600 under Head 19 – Ministry of Labour and Community Services (4) Youth and Community Development, stand part of the Schedule.

Mr. SISNETT: I beg to second that.

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

On motion of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN seconded by Mr. SISNETT, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of

four Resolutions in Committee of Supply, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.
4.30 p.m.

On the separate motions of Hon. H. B. St. JOHN, seconded by Hon. H. deB. FORDE, the Resolutions were read a first and second time and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. H. B. St. JOHN: Mr. Speaker, that concludes Government Business for today. There is no other business on the Order Paper, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn till Tuesday, 4th March at 12.00 noon.

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

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