THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION 1986 - 91

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, May 29,1990.

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 12.20 p.m. on Tuesday, May 29,1990.

PRESENT

His Honour L. A. WEEKES, G.C.M., J.P., (Speaker)
Rt. Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD, B.A., (Econ.), J.P., (Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs)
Hon. H. deB. FORDE, Q.C., M.A., LL.B.
Hon. B. M. TAITT, B.A. (Hons.), M.P.A., LL.B. (Hons.), (Minister of Health)
Hon. P. M. GREAVES, Q.C., B.A., (Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of International Transport, Telecommunications and Immigration and Leader of the House)
Hon. E. E. GREAVES, B.A., Ed.M., (Minister of Trade, Industry and Commerce)
Hon. Dr. D. G. BLACKMAN, B.A., M.A., (Minister of Transport and Works)
Hon. M. A. KING, Q.C., LL.B., (Attorney General, Minister of Legal Affairs and Minister of Foreign Affairs)
Hon. W. O. FRANKLIN, A.I.C., M.I.A.S., J.P., (Minister of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries)
Hon. N. K. SIMMONS, (Minister of Employment, Labour Relations and Community Development)
Hon. H. A. BLACKMAN, B.Sc. (Econ.), (Minister of Housing and Lands)
Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS, Q.C., LL.M.
Hon. C. V. WALKER, (Minister of Education and Culture)
Mr. L. L. BRATHWAITE, J.P., (Chairman of Committees)
Mr. E. BOURNE
Dr. E.A.SIMMONS, M.D.
Mr. C. A. NEBLETT, B.A., (Parliamentary Secretary, Prime Minister's Office)
Mr. R. L. MORRIS, B.A., Cert. Ed. Mr.
P. J. M. MILLER Mr. R. P. BYER,
LL.B.

Prayers were led by Father Ivan Harewood.

Mr. SPEAKER: The House is in session.

MINUTES Mr. SPEAKER:

Minutes of Tuesday, May 22,1990.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I move that the Minutes of the proceedings of this Honourable Chamber of the meeting held on May 22, 1990 be taken as read and confirmed, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there are no observations, let those Minutes stand confirmed.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I give notice of a Bill to amend the Education Act.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' NOTICES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Christ Church West.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I give notice of a Resolution to annul the General Elections Allocation of Broadcasting Time Regulations 1990.

FIRST READING OF BELLS

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I move that the Bill to grant an additional sum out of the Consolidated Fund and appropriate the same for the service of this Island for

the financial year ended March 31, 1990 be read a first time, Sir.

Hon. E. E. GREAVES: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: I move, Mr. Speaker, that the Bill to implement the International Convention Against Apartheid in Sports be read a first time, Sir.

Hon. E. E. GREAVES: I beg to second that.

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

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: I move finally, Sir, that the Bill to amend the Education Act be read a first time, Sir.

Hon. E. E. GREAVES: The question that this Bill be now read a first time was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

Mr. SPEAKER: Government Business is the Order of the Day.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, at this point I am moving the suspension of Standing Orders 6,16,18,20, 42(5), 43, and 44 for the remainder of today's sitting, Sir.

Hon. E. E. GREAVES: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

ORDER NO. 2 - TO MOVE THE SECOND READING OF A BILL TO GRANT AN ADDITIONAL SUM OF MONEY OUT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FUND AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SAME FOR THE SERVICE OF THIS ISLAND FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH, 1990.

Rt. Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Speaker, Under the Constitution of Barbados at Section 109(5), it is required and I quote, Sir, from that section:

"In respect of all supplementary expenditure voted on by the House of Assembly in pursuance of Subsection 4, the Minister responsible for Finance may at any time before the end of the financial year introduce into the House of Assembly a Supplementary Appropriation Bill containing under appropriate heads the aggregate sum so voted and shall as soon as possible after the end of each financial year introduce into the House of Assembly a Final Appropriation Bill containing any such sums which have not yet been included in any Appropriation Bill."

Sir, in similar terms, Standing Order 73 sets out thaO requirement as well. It is, therefore, in accordance with our - Constitution and the Standing Orders of this Honourable House of Assembly that this particular Final Appropriation Bill is before this Honourable Chamber. It is a matter that is required but we are also enjoined not to indulge in tedious repetition and the regurgitation of matters that have already occupied the attention of this Honourable Chamber. All of the matters referred to have been the subject of Supplementary Resolutions but they have not been included in a Final Appropriation. Therefore, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and the Standing Orders, ^ am presenting this particular Bill for the consideration of this Honourable Chamber.

The Bill makes provision for the grant out of the Consolidated Fund of the sum of $57,362,852 and for the appropriation of that sum for the services and purposes specified in the Schedule. The Schedule merely details both under Current and Capital the sums of money that have been passed by Supplementary Resolutions in thisC[1] Honourable Chamber already. Inasmuch, Sir, that these have been the subject of discussion already and approval by this Honourable Chamber, I do not think that there would be any controversial matters relating to these matters. I, therefore, move that this Bill be read a second time.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: I second the motion, Mr. Speaker, and reserve my right to speak.

The question is that this Bill be now read a second^ time was put and resolved in the affirmative without 'J *division.*

On the motion of Hon. P. M. GREAVES, seconded by Hon. E. E. GREAVES, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. L. L. BRATHWAITE in the Chair. 12.30p.m.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The House is in Committee.

Clauses 1 to 4 inclusive were called and passed.

The Schedule was called.

Rt. Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD: Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that this be the Schedule to the Bill. ^

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

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

On the motion of Hon. P. M. GREAVES, seconded by Rt. Hon. L. E. SANDIFORD, 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. L. E. SANDIFORD, seconded by Hon. P. M. GREAVES, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ORDER NO. 3 - THE PREVENTION OF APARTHEID IN SPORTS ACT, 1990

Hon. M. A. KING: Mr. Speaker, the measure before the House is a Bill to implement in Barbados the International Convention Against Apartheid in Sports.

On May 16, 1986 Barbados became the first signatory to that International Convention. On October 2, 1986 we deposited with the United Nations the Instrument of Ratification of the Convention. On August 21, 1986 the Cabinet took a decision that Barbados should ratify that International Convention and that legislation should be introduced into Parliament to give effect to Article 6(c) of the Convention.

Enactment of this legislation, Mr. Speaker, would ensure that the International Convention Against Apartheid in Sports is enforceable in accordance with the laws of Barbados, and more specifically what that Bill will do is that in accordance with Article 6(c) of the Convention it would ensure in Barbados the non-enforceability in a court of law in Barbados any contract which is entered into by any person to take part in any sports activities in a country which practises apartheid, or with or against a team or any individual sportsman selected on the basis of apartheid.

The Bill is a short Bill, Mr. Speaker, the Convention is an Appendix to the Bill and against this background I move that this Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. C. A. NEBLETT: I beg to second that, Sir, and reserve my right to speak.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, the Barbados Labour Party supports this Bill which introduces into local law the terms of the Convention. For years the Barbados Labour Party had adopted a stance in this country that made it very clear in Barbados and beyond that we were not going to have any truck with the proponents of a system of apartheid.

In the early fifties this parly banned all trade with South Africa.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: I am told it was as early as 1949 and since then we have, I think it is fair to say, been consistent in our opposition to the system of apartheid.

I suppose what has given rise to this type of legislation and the need for its discussion in the UN was the effort made by the South African Government to encourage sportsmen from the world to participate in sports in South Africa for the lure of the South African Rand and in defiance of the higher principles which should guide sportsmen, but to whose adherence few sportsmen seem to pay much regard.

In Barbados this matter came to a head in 1982, I think, when a group of Barbadian cricketers decided to join forces with their colleagues from other parts of the Caribbean under the leadership of Lawrence Rowe and go to South Africa to play sports for very handsome sums. There can be no doubt that the methodology used by these sportsmen was deceptive and devious in the extreme, , because up to the very day they were leaving they denied that they were in fact going to play cricket in South Africa. 12.40 p.m.

At the time I happened to be Chairman of the National Sports Council, and I had the pain of learning at about 5.30 that afternoon that this group of Barbadian cricketers had gone to South Africa. The then Minister of Sports, Vic Johnson, made a statement denouncing the visit. I was very strong in my condemnation and I was one of the few in Barbados in 1982 who took a public stand against these cricketers going to South Africa. I say I was one of few because the numerous letters to the press and the call-in programmes were clear evidence that very few Barbadians seemed then as a matter of principle to condemn that visit. All kinds of excuses were made for them to go.

One of the greatest disappointments in my life was to have sat in the Senate shortly after to have debated this matter and to hear Senator McClean support the visit by the cricketers. It is in Hansard. Senator Wendell McClean made all kinds of excuses for them to go, on the ground that third world people don't have money and need to get money and all kinds of rubbish like that. I am not misrepresenting anything, Sir. I say lhat it was a sad day for me to hear that coming from someone whom I thought had the intellectual capacity to deal with the issue at a different level. I went further. I said then, before this Bill which now makes provision for it, that if it was left to me to make the decision, they could not play on any facilities owned, managed or operated by the National Sports Council. People all about this country cursed me. Today I am happy to sec that what I was foreshadowing then is now engrained in the law.

Asides.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: I am consistent, Sir. The Honourable Minister of Transport and Works does not have to say "hear Solomon". Solomon has always been consistent.

Now, Sir, as black people we have to approach the question of apartheid and our people having contact with South Africa at a different level from the sportsmen in white countries. The empathy that we should feel with people who look like us in South Africa at an emotional level is something that may not be easily expressible in language, but it is a gut feeling that we have to show solidarity with them.

I was in London in 1962 and had been there for two years with Mandela. When I say with Mandela, when Mandela was locked up and we had all kinds of anti-apartheid demonstrations in London and throughout my time in London I was sensitised to the problems. I must confess I only demonstrated once, but I was covered because lots of Professors from the Law Department went In fact one of them got convicted for obstructing the police. That was neither here nor there, but I was sensitised and I have never forgotten the experience, nor have I forgotten what we are called upon to do as legislators and leaders in the community of the West Indies in respect of apartheid. So that when we call for harsh punishment to mark down our disapproval of what people looking like us were doing, it was in pursuance of an understanding that these are our kith and kin. Just as Harold Wilson refused in 1964 or 1965 to send troops into what was then Southern Rhodesia on the grounds of kith and kinship, similarly I feel, Sir, and I speak for the Barbados Labour Party, that we must stand with our kith and kin who look like us in South Africa to ensure the ultimate dismantling of the system of apartheid.

Subsequent to that very harsh decision being made that the cricketers who went would be banned for life, various cracks appeared in the international sanctions, if you like, Sir, to the extent that ways were found for persons who had gone to apologise and to promise not to go again, and therefore be reinstated into the system, particularly in cricket, and be allowed to play cricket. You had to write to the UN and get a clean bill of health and so on. We know of that. Now it created another problem for us, that to the extent that we were saying that our people should be banned for life, we found that in England, for example, there was a fixed time limit of I think three years, and on the expiration of three years you could go back and play cricket. Now that created lots of problems, as we saw not on the most recent tour, but the tour before when Gooch went to play in Trinidad and was met with placards, because we had the circumstance then where our own people were banned for life, English people had been banned for three years, and could come back to the Caribbean and play whereas our own people could not, so it was bound to create some dissatisfaction and there was indeed an incongruity in the situation.

I was therefore persuaded to resile from my former uncompromising position which was publicly expressed and to use the analogy that even though a man might be sentenced to death for murder, it was possible and indeed commonplace that that sentence could be commuted and the person not die, but serve a long time of imprisonment; or you sentence a man to ten years for manslaughter and he behaves himself so he gets three months remission every ;."> year and he does not in fact serve ten years, and perhaps in --the context of sports where the sportsmen were dependent upon their talent as sportsmen to earn a living and their years of greatest earning potential were few, that perhaps it was too harsh a punishment, and so I revised my opinion and said that if there was something less than ban for life, having regard to what was happening in the international community, I would accede to that. But I will never apologise for saying that they had to be dealt with, and if they go again until the system is dismantled, they must be dealt with in the most severe terms, because I think it is a-^ < piece of treachery.

I never like to comment, Sir, not on articles appearing in newspapers because I presume that when people write articles under their names and soon, that they are fairly accurately reproduced. 12.50 p.m.

I do not like to comment on Press summaries of [s]-statements made by persons in public life. Too often- they get it wrong. Too often they miss the point and it may be doing violence to the author of a comment to criticise him on the basis of something that is summarised by a reporter. But, as I said, they always get it wrong.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: In "The Nation"? Particularly. That is my newspaper but they are the worst. I ^ am coming to that. I was laying the ground to say that there ' _ arc certain statements attributed to a black professor at the University which caused me the greatest disquiet. As I say, I am not going to purport to comment too much on him because I do not know if he has been accurately quoted.

All I would say is that if he has been accurately quoted, I am amazed that someone who is assumed to have the kind of intellect to reach the heights of professorship, could deliver himself of the most reactionary nonsense that^ we could read in 1990.

Some people like to be out of the main stream of contemporary thought to attract attention to themselves. I am not saying that that is his case. I do not know but the main stream of contemporary thought among the vast majority of black commentators and white supporters of thc-^ anti-apartheid movement...

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: I do not know him. I have never met the man yet.

The vast majority of black commentators and white opponents of the apartheid system have all agreed that you cannot talk about easing sanctions in South Africa at this time because certain token movements or gestures have been made. The thing needs to firm itself up a lot more. There is a lot more that has to be done to convince the international community that South Africa is serious about tearing down apartheid before we could talk about easing sanctions.

Black people have always been hurt before and since sanctions, have always been oppressed but I would have thought that the Professor ought to have been cognisant of world opinion, been cognisant of what Mandela himself had said since his release, been cognisant of what Sir Shridath Ramphal on behalf of the Commonwealth said after Mandela's release, Dame Nita and all of them, that now is not the time; and I wish to say that I verily believe that they have been closer to the issues and the nuances than the Professor and they ought to be better informed to help us fashion our own position.

Immediately after Mr. Mandela was released the Labour Party issued a statement and I think the weekly article, the pseudonymous article that appears in "The Nation" carried the Labour Party's position on it.

I just say that I find that what he is saying, assuming that he is correctly reported, and I hope that if anybody is carrying what I say they would add that rider, then I find he is out on a limb by himself in such a way that I can only describe him as reactionary.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: I cannot say "Uncle Tom".

I know that there is no political leader in Barbados in any of the parties who would find himself aligned....

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: No. I am pretty sure. I believe we have our disagreements and so on but I am satisfied that there is no-one who would find himself aligned to that kind of backward thought in 1990. I am saddened. I have not seen the whole speech and I do not know how he justifies his premise but I am sure it is a premise, whenever it is published, that can be kicked down.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Do not tell me about Ijordon Matthews and these kinds of aberrations. He is a Barrow Dem.

I believe and it is gut feeling but, at the same time, I would-say that it is a feeling that is also informed by what I have read over the years that the cracks that are taking place in the system in South Africa have happened because of the stance that has been taken by the international community as a whole to ostracise South Africa and to let them know that as far as we are concerned no way would we ease up, as Stalin would say, until the system finally crumbles. There must be a lot of empirical evidence to support that.

South Africa's economy has been in decline, certainly, for the last 5,6 years, and I am saying that internationally - I mean, they will say if you ask them that it has nothing to do with sanctions. That is, the people in politics who are maintaining the system will deny that sanctions have had that effect, but more objective commentators have established clearly that it is international pressure that has caused the South African economy to be faltering and to go into recession as it has in the last five or six years and it is in recognition of that, because you can break any man by hitting him in his pocket.

It is in recognition of the fact that the international shoe is pinching that we are seeing the gradual release. But there are other leaders in prison in South Africa which the regime has not condescended to release and there can be no question of easing sanctions in South Africa until all those other leaders who have been imprisoned for political reasons are released and I want to hear the Professor talk about that.

We are dealing here now at the realm of human feeling and human suffering. Mandela is one. There are lots more in prison and he is saying ease sanctions and keep them in there languishing in there for God knows how long? I said "No, Sir." Release them first. Let me see some more sincerity about what you are saying is your objective before we talk about easing sanctions.

I want to say to Honourable Members that the Bill before us has been the result of a long period of gestation, if you like, has been the result of a lot of hard work put in by the various committee members at the United Nations and in that regard Barbados played an outstanding role.

There is a Permanent Secretary - I think his level is Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education now. I do not suppose I-can call his name, although I would like Hansard to record it. I am not calling it in a pejorative way, Sir. l.OOp.m

I am talking about Mr. Besley Maycock who was at the UN for many years and who sat in the Committee. I believe he may even have headed the Committee at one stage - Chairman of the Committee - and who was a prime mover to ensure that what we have enshrined in Barbados law today finally gained acceptance in the UN as a world

body, Sir. I think Mr. Maycock is to be congratulated and that this House should record its sincere gratitude and appreciation to a Barbadian public officer who has done outstanding work on behalf of his country and indeed the international community.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: What?

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Who? They are telling me that the former Prime Minister, Mr. Errol Barrow once called him back on forty-eight hours notice. That was before my time.

Hon. B. M. TAITT: On a point of order, Sir. He got that entirely and completely wrong. The late Errol Barrow's name was not mentioned.

What we were trying to point out is that he had an ignorant Foreign Minister who called back the same gentleman he is now praising before the gentleman was able to finish the good work which he is talking about. That is all we were trying to say. A big ignorant Foreign Minister.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: These Barrows seem to be confused. But I stand on my first submission, Sir, of which I have knowledge that the former Prime Minister once called him from his foreign posting and told him you have forty-eight hours to get back in Barbados and he said, "What, what?" He said, "You heard me? I want to sec you in Barbados within forty-eight hours." Barrows are funny things, Sir. They are neither one nor the other.

It may be that he had a little difficulty in operating with the Barrows, Sir. But do not let us get into that, Sir. That is something the details of which we do not have any knowledge and I do not think that we should condescend[1] upon an investigation of that here.

I think that there is something larger that this House ought to recognize, Sir, and that is that each one of us has idiosyncrasies, failings, shortcomings and so on, but in the performance of his duties, Sir, he did an outstanding job at the UN to ensure the final passing and acceptance of this Convention which we have now put into local law, Sir. That is where I want my remarks to remain, at that level and to congratulate him sincerely, I am sure, on behalf of all of us, the Members of the House for an outstanding job in a very sensitive area. I think he was a very sensitive man to the various issues involved.

Sir, I regret however and I say this with a full knowledge of the implications political and otherwise, that, at the time when the cricketers went off to South Africa, the Governments of the region, in an attempt to prevent a mass exodus of our best cricketers to South Africa, held out to those who resisted the temptations that a fund would have been created out of which they would have been paid a kind of retainer. I think all of the Governments, except the Government of Jamaica and this is subject to correction, I say I think, Sir, defaulted on that commitment. Some money was raised in Jamaica through the private sector.

Barbados approached the matter a little differently. Barbados allowed certain of its international cricketers, certain concessions, duty free concessions in respect of motor cars and so on. The Prime Minister would be aware of that, Sir. But I think, not I think, because I speak as one who is close to the West Indies Players Association, but I say that there is still in 1990 grave underlying disquiet within the West Indies Cricket team by the players who were around at the time when that Agreement was fashioned. An Agreement is in existence. They feel that they have been used and duped and tricked. They have been let down by the Governments. It is one of the things that is seething in West Indies cricket and it is causing some considerable unhappiness and disquiet

I regret that the Governments could not have got together and voted something that would not have been of any great magnitude. I do not know what it is, Sir, $50 000 cannot break any Government in the Caribbean, not even Guyana, and put it in a fund to show sincerity. Those players who have remained for the eight years did not get the money that the others got when they went to South Africa, although they have obviously earned more, if they played for the eight years because they are quite well paid now. You cannot gainsay that. But I think when Governments make public commitments to a group of people like the West Indies team who mean so much to us at the regional level, who inspire us, who keep alive a hope for Caribbean unity and integration when Governments make promises to those kinds of people, Sir, we have a duty to honour those commitments.

If anything can be done I should like to urge that at the next Heads of Governments Conference this matter be reviewed by the Heads with a view to rationalizing the situation, Sir. I just trust that the Prime Minister would treat what I am saying seriously. That it has led to a lot of unhappiness and the unhappiness is still there and will not easily go away. 1.10p.m.

So that on the whole, Sir, we are pleased to be supporting this Bill today. The work on it started during the lime that Barbados Labour Party was in office and we are happy that the matter has now been finalized and that this Government could introduce the legislation today, Sir.

So that once and for all no one hereafter can claim that he was ignorant of the consequences of going to South

Africa. This will now hereafter become the law of Barbados. You would not only be butting about in the realm of vagueness attaching to the Gleneagles Agreement. Now every resident in Barbados is presumed to know the law. This will now be the law of Barbados and no one can say that he will not be aware of the consequences of going to South Africa or having sporting contact with South Africa after today, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, I am obliged to you and Members of the House.

Mr. R. L. MORRIS: Mr. Speaker, one of the great things I think of a country like Barbados where democracy is freely practised and where it flourishes is that persons like the goodly professor at the University of the West Indies as well as other persons who write in our newspapers from time to time, and a well known member of the cloth, 'and a real estate valuer, are given the opportunity to air their views freely in our country. I maintain to those to whom I speak that I think it is a very good thing that we have persons like Professor Reid in Barbados, quite frankly. I think that he is an excellent ideological and philosophical caricature of the right wing type of person. He carries things to the extreme. That is why he is such a beautiful caricature. By having that type of person I think you are able to expose a number of impostors of the same persuasion who are really an example of a milder malady that that person suffers from, the malady characterized by hatred of self and lack of identity. There are a lot of people who have that malady but who do not expose it in the same way but who are exposed nonetheless and everytime they speak representing their party political views or themselves[4] they expose the malady full bloom to those who can access and diagnose that malady.

I would like to compliment the Honourable Member for St. Thomas on a very good address and to join with several of the things that he has said today. The Democratic Labour Party and the Barbados Workers Union, two organizations to which I have pride to belong, have taken an unswerving view -1 dare say an immutable approach on the question of apartheid. I will say for Professor Reid, if there is one thing to say in his praise, that he is consistent in his views. The views that he happens to be espousing for Barbados, he is espousing for South Africa. They are very consistent views. There is nothing wrong with that. But the more he speaks I think we will begin to understand why persons of his persuasion will continue to espouse those views for Barbados as they will for elsewhere.

Now I would wish to follow the same path that the Honourable Member for St. Thomas has taken. But while he used a broader brush, I would like to use a No. *4* sable point, a smaller brush to fill in some details. I would want to examine the beast called apartheid a bit more so that we •^*an look at exactly what we are talking about today. The well known war leader, Paul Kruger, on his death bed in 1904 made two statements which are very important. He said, "Those who wish to create the future must not lose sight of the past." Now those of us who talk about the importance of understanding where we come from in order to understand where we are and where we are going are sometimes castigated for that. They are called revisionists and all sorts of things. He also said, "Never forget the serious warning which lies in the saying 'divide and rule'. May these words never be applied to the Afrikaner people." Now there are some among us who do not understand the concept of divide and rule and they do not have to be divided by somebody else. They set up their own divisions not realizing that that is the easiest way to be manipulated by those who intend to manipulate people like ourselves.

Now the Afrikaners had a principle of consolidation so that they could not be divided and ruled in Africa, meaning that if they continue to be close together and hold their philosophy then the blacks in South Africa would not be able to take control of them. But here in this country we , blacks like to divide ourselves so that we can be manipulated and ruled by others. The Kruger philosophy was applied by successive regimes in South Africa to establish the system we know as apartheid. Now when the Honourable Member for St. Thomas said that we cannot remove those sanctions until all of the major vestiges of apartheid are removed, we have to look and see what are the real symbols of apartheid and we have to look at the deKlerk changes to see what they really represent.

Now a lot of us know that apartheid started really in the 19th century in South Africa, the really strong basis of apartheid, when they used things like the hut tax and the head tax to run the Africans from being peasants and to give up their land. That is the first thing they did. By placing taxes on the African peasants, they made them landless people in their own country. Having done that when they ran into the suburbs, they established a pass system to regulate the movement of these people. Then in the Land Act of 1913 Parliament declared that 86.3 per cent of the land in South Africa belonged to the whites and 13.7 per cent belonged to the Blacks. Needless to say, the 86.3 per cent of the land that belong to the whites is the land in which you will find all of your mineral wealth and your best agricultural lands. That is the system that still exists. The law still gives support and succour to that.

They went on and formed land reserves and ended up with the bamboo stands into which the blacks were pushed. They passed the Master and Servants Contract Acts which set out the length of time that the blacks had to work for masters and where they could be located while they were serving. If that were breached in any way, there were severe penalties attaching to the black people. They set up a compound system where those workers who were working in the mines and factories had to live within a compound. Again, we do not have the opportunity here to paint a picture of what those compounds mean, the bear essentials

and worse than anything we can think about They were all males. There could be no females in the compounds. We cannot begin to paint a picture of what the compounds meant for the black African.

They set up the Industrial Conciliation Act where trade unions could not be established by blacks. Trade unions could only be established by whites and membership of trade unions were restricted to whites only. They established the Bantu Education Act in 1953 whereby Government set out the syllabuses and the curricula that would be used for teaching black people. Where before the mission schools gave a broad and liberal education, the mission schools to which people like Albert Luthuli and other great blacks would have gone to before, the type of education that was offered to Blacks and is still being offered to blacks in South Africa was completely watered down so that it would be as we call it "hewers of woods and drawers of water". They were training them to be the minions in the South African society. We know about the establishment of the Riotous Assemblies Act and the Suppression of Communism Act because the communists were the only persons that were working at that time with black people in South Africa. They introduced them to establishing systems and structures that could fight against apartheid. They passed the Mixed Marriages and Immorality Act as law that people could not marry persons of their choice because of colour and even to cohabit with a person not married, but cohabitation with a person of a different colour was against the law and segregation in the use of public facilities and, of course, the whole question of lack of political action. 1.20p.m.

Where the vote had been given before the establishment of apartheid, it was taken away from those who had it. If you look at the situation today there are two encapsuled symbols of what this means in South Africa. Five per cent of the whites own 88% of private wealth in South Africa, while the entire black population owns 2% of the wealth in South Africa, in their own country, and we need to understand what that means.

If you look at the political and human rights aspect, more than 30 000 political activists were incarcerated in South Africa between June 1966 and the beginning of 1982 and some spent three years behind bars before facing any charges. Again, when the Honourable Member for St. Thomas asked how can you go ahead with the question of sanctions and so on when there are so many people in goal, and then when you remove the sanctions there is no guarantee that they will get their freedom, 30 000 political activists who were trying to change the political system in that country were put in goal in that very short period.

If we examine the changes that President deKlerk introduced into Parliament in February 1990, a Parliament that cannot be considered democratic, that does not represent the majority of people in South Africa, he lifted restrictions on 36 prescribed organisations, including the African National Congress, the Pan African Congress, the South African Communist Party and the Congress of South African Trade Unions. He relieved some of the imprisoned persons. Of course Nelson Mandela was in goal for 27 years, Walter Sisulu and some others, Joe Slovo, some more of them came out. He lifted some restrictions relating to the media, some to education and he released about 374 persons who were detained during the emergency regulations. These are pursuant to other changes that had been made in South Africa, the lifting of the Mixed Marriages and Immorality Act and the removal of segregation in the use of public facilities in a few restricted areas.

When I said to you these were the early pillars of apartheid, and when you look at the changes that have been »• brought about by the deKlerk administration, you can see" basically he has not even begun to address the entire question of apartheid. Remember, deKlerk is walking about saying that the focus now has to be on negotiations. He wants to make the transition away from where he is in South Africa by using the technique of negotiations. Let us understand also that deKlerk is under severe pressure in South Africa from the extremists. Do not let us forget people like Eugene Terre Blanche and the neo Nazis. Do not let us forget Dr. Andries Treurnicht of the Conservative Party and the fact that these extremists seem to be gaining popular support in South Africa and that deKlerk may not be calling all of the shots in that country. We have seen a wave recently of white extremism in South Africa leading to the murder of several Blacks.

I want to be very clear. This deKlerk bandwagon of going around to meet his ethnic, Caucasian brothers in Europe in order to sell the end of apartheid, but which is only a disguise of strengthening the liberal stranglehold at this time over South Africa, must not fool any of us, must not beguile any of us about what is actually happening. DeKlerk is nothing more than a mild reformist, and we have to understand that. Ever so often in politics we get those people who believe that impressions are more important than the truth, and they have a way, because of certain personality gifts, of being able to sell their point of view and making it acceptable to several people, but we must not be taken in by the camouflage that is used by this type of individual.

We have to be very careful about deKlerk and what he is trying to do by going through Europe and getting some acceptance for his system by meeting the leaders of these European Governments. That is a very dangerous thing he is doing. I understand that Mandela is now saying he is going to be doing the same thing, going out to speak to same persons who were addressed by deKlerk. What are doing now is externalising and internationalising the campaign at another level in terms of putting their positions

as the correct position in South Africa. In any argument about the South African position I am going to be supporting the position taken by Nelson Mandela and people of that persuasion. I will not be persuaded by anybody else. I want to be very clear about that

As far as I am concerned there are three real areas that need to be stressed in order to bring down the apartheid regime. The first one is internal struggle, a vital area. I fully support the African National Congress, including their use of Umkhonto we Sizwe, the Spear of the Nation, in their quest for liberalising....

Aside.

Mr. R. L. MORRIS: Armed force, yes. Very, very necessary in that situation. I do not talk about it in terms of Barbados, we have a different ball game here. We have to ^deal with the Barbadian situation head on, straight out, but I do not think in our situation the question of armed force is necessary. Anyone who has understood the struggle of the African National Congress - I want to make it very clear, I am a proud black Barbadian, West Indian. The African National Congress was started by West Indians and the whole anti-apartheid position in South Africa was started through Marcus Garvey's Movement. Black Garveyites who went up to South Africa trading at Durban and other places carried the message from the Caribbean. They knew the system they were in here, that they were beginning to fight the battle carried by our people like Charles Duncan O'Neal. These Caribbean people went to South Africa and started the struggle there. That whole ANC was started by activists from the Caribbean. We can stand tall as Caribbean people anywhere, we understand ourselves. We will have some reformists, we will have some conservatives, we will have some chameleons, but we deal with them. History will deal with all of them in whatever forms they appear. I support the African National Congress

~ because I am convinced that Mandela was always a reasonable person. In fact, within a South African context Mandela could never be considered to be of the revolutionary type. Not this royal aristocratic member of the Xhosa clan. His persuasion was always through discussion, as most lawyers are. They tend to believe in the constitutional approach to things. There is nothing wrong with that; I think it is part of their training. They believe in the rule of law and they believe that you should try to use that as far as possible to get solutions. But even a lawyer would recognise sometimes that is not always possible. In terms of the generality of lawyers they think of looking at the constitutional way of doing things. The Trade Unionist would want to use negotiation and if that fails then he has to use something else. I am saying that he was not one of the wild headed radicals one would think about, but when he was pushed towards using the spear it was because of

" despair. Nothing else seemed to work and he was forced in ᵛSat situation. I am saying that because of the action of the spear, a lot of changes we have seen in South Africa came about. The role of the ANC and the Pan African Congress, which broke away from the ANC because they felt that the ANC included too many whites and they wanted basically a black movement, these are philosophical things that we have to understand, that at one time of the strategy you use one tactic and at another time you use another tactic. 1.30p.m.

This whole position about whether whites or blacks should be in a revolutionary struggle is a matter of a person's heart, how a person feels; it has nothing whatsoever to do with colour. It is a matter of philosophy and ideology and Christian understanding. And then the United Democratic Front was formed especially at the time when members of the ANC were banned, then the well-known churchman, Dr. Tutu and others had to get together and form a wide-based coalition in order to carry on the work of the ANC. I am saying that for that internal struggle we have to give full praise to the work not only of the political sector because these persons I am talking about are politicians including the South African Communist Party, but the trade union aspect, the work of S ATU, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and NACTU, the National Council of Trade Unions; we have to understand that they were doing the grass roots work against apartheid. When the politicians were out because they were banned and so on, it was the shop stewards and the trade union leaders who were having stay-aways from work, who were organising the workers in strike action and so on; they were the cutting edge against apartheid. I hope that whenever the politicians sit down to negotiate an end to apartheid and a new beginning for South Africa, that the trade union movement will be part of that negotiation process, because they were part of that hard work of bringing us to where we are so far in South Africa.

The second area that we have to use against apartheid is the whole question of United Nations and their role on sanctions and divestment, and again I want to go there with the Honourable Member for St. Thomas. I am told by the latest economic analysis that the policy of sanctions has cost South Africa $40 billion Rand in foreign exchange; that the total standard of living losses account for something like $100 billion Rand; consumer spending has been cut by 15 per cent, GDP has been cut by 10 per cent, there has been a net capital outflow of nearly $30 billion Rand, which is about $US12 billion. Of course there are some negatives. There have been about 500 000 jobs lost. I want to note here that in 1989 three major companies pulled out of South Africa, one of some local reference, that is Mobil. Mobil has decided to pull out of South Africa. I know Mobil is very much in the news and they have developed a social conscience; they sold their interest for about $600 million Rand to the Gencor Mining House. They have not shown the details of the contract to the trade union that they are negotiating with yet, and there is a feeling that they might still have some non-monetary equity in the company that they sold out to, so that is still

something that is being held under review, but Mobil has moved out, Good Year has moved out and Gillette has not moved out, but it seems that in 1989 there was a softening because no new sanctions were introduced, and I believe that people are keeping a wait and see attitude at this particular time.

I feel that the effect of sanctions is what has driven the deKlerk administration to make those minor reforms and we have to keep those sanctions on. We have to say that to Reid and all the others who are making us look ashamed quite frankly. This black Barbadian trotting into the United States of America, Philadelphia, one of the old main line states where a lot of the really rich live, and he goes down there telling them and speaking as a Barbadian, recognised as a black Barbadian, a position that we should take up, and people down there might be confused that Bajans think this way. Clearly they might begin to think that Barbadians think this way, because we all know the policy of the United States of America and Britain to apartheid. They have not hidden it too much, and when you can get somebody like that to use as a tool, while the Barbados Government is sending a completely different message all over the world, we have to be very concerned about that type of person.

Now again the Honourable Member for St. Thomas alluded to an economic decline in South Africa which I believe we can't totally say whether the causative factor was sanctions, but it might be related; but the truth is that the rate of inflation in South Africa which has so much potential for wealth and growth is 18 per cent. For people who want to compare with Barbados, this little rock here, there was 18 per cent inflation rate, interest rate 21 per cent, GDP growth less than 1 per cent average over the last five years, and in fact last year it was minus 1.1 per cent. That is South Africa. All the wealth you can think about, you compare that with Barbados and people don't understand the relationship between economics and social formation and social structure. People don't understand there is a direct relationship between these things as well as the political state of a country. Everybody believes that potential wealth is always turned into wealth, but they don't understand the social relations are important in terms of economics.

There are about 4.5 million people unemployed, and you know who those are. You are not going to find white people unemployed in South Africa. Those are 4.5 million black people unemployed, and they are unemployed for a number of reasons, because the economic system is structured against them, because of the level of education they get in the Bantu system, there are structural then, and frictional reasons why the black people are unemployed. Do you know what it is to have 4.5 million people, those human resources, being wasted in a country, almost the whole amount of people in Caricom, black people, and those human resources being wasted because of an apartheid policy in a country? Can we ever minimise what this means? I am a black man, and wherever a black man anywhere in the world suffers, I suffer. I want that to be understood very clearly. It is an indivisible race, and where they suffer we suffer.

The third issue is the issue of political pressure that has to be brought against apartheid. I applaud-Sir Shridath " Ramphal, the members of the Eminent Persons Group. I applaud all of the Commonwealth Heads of Government except the Leader of Great Britain, Mrs. Thatcher, for whom so many people make excuses, the so-called Iron Lady. I am ashamed sometimes to recognise that the former leader of the Barbados Labour Party seemed to have cast uhimself in the camp of the Reagans and the Thatchers and so on in terms of a whole lot of policies. The former leader of the Barbados Labour Party, the dead one, Mr. Thomas Adams, was of a persuasion similar to Thatcher and Reagan and that type of person. Don't defend Tom, Henry, because ^ you and he are not the same kind of person. You can't defend certain things. His thinking, his outlook and his philosophy were of the same as those persons.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member's time is running out.

Mr. R. L. MORRIS: I would like to compliment the Government of Barbados quite frankly for its constant attitude towards apartheid. I would also like to join in complimenting Mr. Besley Maycock for the tremendous work he has done, and let us understand that cricket is considered to be next to religion in Barbados, but we must know that even in heaven some persons erred and the Lord had to cast them down, and if we have to tell our cricketers that they are wrong, we have to do so from time to time. I thank you.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, first of all I rise , to support this Bill. It is not often that I agree with a lot of - what my friend, the Honourable Member for Christ Church East Central says, but today is one of those exceptions and I sat here and listened to him carefully and as a good historian and a good teacher, he did enlighten me on a few points about apartheid; most of them I knew already, but it is always good to be reminded, because one must not lose sight of what we are dealing with.

Mr. Speaker, one of the things I have tried to do since I entered this area of politics is to try to fearlessly adhere to - things that I believe in, no matter sometimes what the consequences are, and when I have to speak on matters from my heart or my conscience, there is no one else in my party or any Honourable Member in here or elsewhere that will stop me or dissuade me from so doing. You see, Sir, I heard the Honourable Member for St. Thomas allude to a „ Member from the Other Place at some time in the past,~ before he was an NDP. We may have to enlighten him thes*- days, but before he was an NDP I heard him allude to thai

Member having said that he had a difficulty with not agreeing with those of us who felt that our players should have gone to South Africa, and he felt that as poor people they could do with the money. Sir, I believe that from a principled position, no amount of money or no amount of poverty that was mentioned about these players should encourage them to go to South Africa, first of all to go against what most of us right thinking black people and many white people around the world felt about South Africa in terms of sanctions, and in terms of highlighting South Africa in any way. 1.40p.m.

I will get back to the sanctions a little later too.

Here you were with a group of West Indian cricketers, the cricketing stars of the world, not of the West Indies, but of the world, going to South Africa and black cricketers at ~that going to South Africa to play and there is no way that any of us should condone or encourage those players to do so. I do not care what kind of money you are talking about In the final analysis the money would have to be blood money. It is blood money from the blood of all the black people who have died and suffered trying to dismantle that wicked regime and so no amount of money should have encouraged our players to go there.

Sir, I understand clearly how I feel about my blackness, Sir and persons who know me well will also understand that. It is not necessary. I do not feel it is necessary for me to have to get up anywhere in here or elsewhere and pontificate and use a lot of emotive clap trap about black to prove to anybody how I feel about the' development of black people here or anywhere so I have no problem with people saying what they feel about it. I have no problem with "people, as the Honourable Member for Christ Church East Central holding their own position that I do not agree with but I say this. Not one of them can speak for me. No-one in this party, no-one in this Honourable Chamber, not even the Leader of this party can speak for me when it comes to something like this. It comes from my heart and my conscience. I have no problem with that

Aside.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: I will deal with all of the people that you are worried about shortly.

Now, Sir, what I found painful - the Honourable Member for St. Thomas talked about something paining him - but I think it was last year some journalists were invited from Barbados and elsewhere to go to South Africa to see what was going on. I believe they had to go as honorary whites to see what's going on. "Going on where?" Was my first question.

^: Whether these persons were members of any party in here is irrelevant to me. They were Barbadians who went. They were Barbadians whose heads were clearly not in the right place. I believe they are still not in the right place because they came back here and tried to write some very stupid articles. I cannot think of a word good enough to describe the type of articles they wrote as to accept foolishness, to try to encourage any of us in here or anywhere in Barbados to believe that there was anything good at all about what the whites were doing to the Blacks in South Africa.

Aside.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: I do not know if, as the Honourable Attorney General is saying if the man was a Barrow Dem or not I do not know. I am saying that I do not care what he was or who he was. I am saying that it is an insult I do not mind if he was a member of the Democratic Labour Party. I am saying it was an insult for him or anybody in Barbados to come and try to tell us nonsense about anything being good.

The fact that they had to go to South Africa as honorary whites, the fact that they had all kinds of difficulties in getting there should tell them something right there and then.

Aside.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I even spend time on the Honourable Minister of Health sometimes so I do not see how Matthews could not be fitted in.

Mr. Speaker, this is a very serious matter we are dealing with here and I would wish sometimes that the Honourable Minister of Health would recognize serious things sometimes and do not try to make fun of everything so I would like to ask, you, Sir - I know you do not hear asides but he is getting a little loud.

Hon. B. M. TAITT: On a point of order, Sir.

The Honourable Minister of Health has not participated in this debate. I think it is unreasonable for the Honourable Member to be putting the name of the Minister of Health in the debate and washing his mouth on me, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: I thought the Honourable Member was helping me to control order in the Chamber.

Hon. B. M. TAITT: On a point of order.

I was just merely pointing out to him that given that he only has half an hour that it is not worthy for him to spend any time on Gordon Matthews but he does not appreciate help, Sir.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: The Honourable Minister of Health, Sir, as he has clearly pointed out does not really

participate in too many serious matters anyhow so I would not be surprised if he is not participating in this either, but let us get serious. I do not mind a little joke in-between because when you are under so much pressure as a people sometimes you have to have a little fun in-between to ease the pressure. I believe the Honourable Member who is a doctor....

Mr. SPEAKER: Are you assuming that we have fun in Parliament?

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: I beg your pardon, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: Serious indictment on Parliament to have fun in Parliament? I understood the fun thing. I take your point. It is a serious debate.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: We normally have a lillle fun in the precincts of Parliament but not necessarily in this Chamber, Sir.

But, seriously, last year, for instance, a gentleman came here, a General Castor, and he is the Executive Director of the World Conference of Mayors. It is located in Washington, D.C. He came here, he met with me and he made me an Honorary Mayor, whatever that is, Sir. Shortly after he called me from Washington and said, "Look, my wife and I had such a pleasant stay here in Barbados that we have 60 Mayors going from the United States to South Africa, predominantly black mayors and I am going to fit you in to come along with us if you so desire."

The first thing I asked him was whether I would be allowed to go as a black person or whether I would have to change my colour to go. He said he did not understand. I said, "Well, I gather that you have to become an honorary white to go to South Africa. I have never been there so I do not know. I only go by what I hear." He said, "Well, there would have to be some adjustment to your travel documents. You would have to travel on a document that would indicate, yes, that you are an honorary white, but it is for your protection." I said " okay, next question. Would I be free to go anywhere and talk to anyone I want to in South Africa?" He said, "Again for your protection we would not want that to happen. We have been invited by a large number of mayors from major cities in South Africa." Obviously, I think we all know that these major cities are in Johannesburg and so the mayors would have to be white mayors.

I said to him, "I have serious difficulty with this. First I do not want you changing me up to be able to go to South Africa. I have been to several countries all over the world and I have always travelled as me, a simple black Barbadian. I have been to countries where there arc white majorities, never mind a country where there is a while minority and I never had to change my colour to go. In fact, I used the Barbados passport. I never even had to have any other documents apart from the visa here or there."

He said, "Well, I am sorry you feel so because I thought it would be a fantastic opportunity for you to go and see for yourself first hand what is really happening in South Africa." Well I explained to him and told him about _ the case of the journalist that I spoke of before and I - explained to him that there is no way at all that I would go to South Africa to see anything until that wicked apartheid regime is dismantled.

I also pointed out to him, and this is the interesting part, Sir, what the Honourable Member for Christ Church East Central said before that I fully support the ANC and the internal struggle that is taking place in South Africa because I believe that coupled with the sanctions, that is one of the surest ways to bring down that regime and 1^ believe that even so the internal struggle will even play a~ greater role than the sanctions.

He said to me that he was very sorry that I had that feeling, that he did not think I was fair and I did not give the South Africa regime a fair break by going and seeing what was happening.

Aside.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: He is white. He is not dead.

And he mentioned that fact that things were being put in place to assist in removing the apartheid system which I did not believe. Needless, to say, I have not heard from that organisation since then. They have not even written me or called me since then so I do not even know if I am still an honorary mayor. 1 may have lost my position.

Now, Sir, the question of the removal of sanctions. tT believe that I have to disagree with the honourable member for Christ Church East Central and I have to disagree with him for this reason. He felt that there are certain people and he named the Professor at the University of the West Indies, and someone else of the cloth, who are consistent, and it is a good thing that we have these kinds of people around. I would agree with the first part. They are consistent, consistent in the kind of stupid rantings but I do not believe that in the interest of the development of our people that they are that good to have around, and not be given much prominence either. 1.50p.m.

It has been proven and has been said by someone else that the sanctions are working. When you hit a man in his stomach, he has to feel it. The sanctions are working because, as the Member for St. Thomas would say, it ir cuffing the leaders of South Africa in their stomachs. Anyone who would even consider, at this juncture, remoO of the sanctions and especially a black Barbadian would

have to be out in the street. You can put whatever meaning you want to that. The Minister of Trade knows that you do not have to go to South Africa to find out the problems of the black people. You can stop here and discover it in Barbados. Leave me out of it. Deal with the other company.

The Minister of Trade was privy to a report that that same gentleman was also privy to and he saw first hand what he talked about, that a number of small black people in Barbados should be closed. And it is strange that I heard that same gentleman on the radio, on a call-in programme talking about the small business of Barbados that they should remain open. It is a bad kind of symptom that when I check, the head of that company is a white Barbadian.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: On a point of order, Sir. He then described him as acting white, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: No point of order.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: So when the Honourable Member talks about concern, yes, he is right. The person is consistent. But he is not good to have around. That is the problem. It is a serious social insult on the masses of the people in this country. Confusing people. Let me say again, you talk about finding employment in the private sector. Keep dividing the private sector. You are talking about a certain segment of the private sector. You do not speak for the private sector. So when you understand that kind of thing you need to spend a lot of time discussing what that person feels about South Africa.

Mr. Speaker, let me say now that that gentleman does not speak for the National Democratic Party. Let me say now that the position that he follows on some things does not parallel with anything that the National Democratic Party follows. Let me make that quite clear. I do not want to go any further because my colleague said something about that.

As far as the gentleman of the cloth described and to the best of my knowledge, he is a born dead. Barrow is dead. There are no Barrow NDPs. Mr. Barrow is dead as was described by the Hnourable Member for St. Thomas. So if you want me to talk about him, I think you are in a better position to tell me about him.

Asides.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, please.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: There are Barrow Dems in the same NDP. That is a different thing. Everyone can talk about the entire position.

Asides.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order, please. Order, please.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: Barrow is dead. So, Mr. Speaker, I just thought that I had to make this intervention because Members in here may have allowed some of us to believe, give the impression, that these kinds of people who talk, from time to time about things that they believe in had something to do with the philosophy of the party.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at this point, I beg to move that this sitting be now suspended until 3.00 p.m. today.

Hon. B. M. TAITT: I beg to second that, Sir.

The question was put and was resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER suspended the sitting accordingly at 2.00 p.m.

ON RESUMPTION Mr.

SPEAKER: This sitting is resumed.

Mr. R. P. BYER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a saying in Barbados, "the more the monkey climbs, the more you see his tail", if I may put my best Barbadian dialect into practice. This can be said....

Aside.

Mr. R. P. BYER: That the more he climbs, the higher he climbs, whatever. This can be said for many Blacks in Barbados.

I live in a very strange society, strange because of the fact that a lot of what arc considered to be right wing views always seem to dominate the thinking, always seem to dominate the intellectual landscape of Barbados.

I am certain, Sir, that one of the consequences of the debate in here today on this measure is that a lot of the right wing columnists that write daily in the newspapers would take many of the Members of Parliament who spoke in here earlier to task for the views that they expressed today on this matter of apartheid in sports. And more particularly, on the wider question of sanctions and what effect the removal of sanctions in South Africa would have on the political situation and what effect the continued keeping in place of sanctions would have on the political situation in South Africa.

Mr. Speaker, the views of this political party on the question of apartheid in sports and the the question of apartheid generally are no different from the views of the

other two parties. I believe that there is a coincidence of thinking when it comes to this whole question of apartheid, whether we are examining apartheid in sports or whether we are examining the questions of sanctions.

I have listened very carefully to the speakers that have gone before and I agree with the positions as expressed by them. This political party has no difficulty in saying that we will only agree to the removal of sanctions in South Africa when the political climate in South Africa is right for those sanctions to be removed. In other words, when Nelson Mandela says that sanctions should be removed, I believe that is the time that we should say that sanctions should be removed. That is when sanctions should be removed. They are close to the situation and they know exactly what they are talking about.

The Eminent Persons Group went to South Africa and they said that sanctions ought to be kept in place. Yo have other notable organizations like Trans Africa Watch which is headed by Randell Robinson, an American organization, one that came out of the Black Caucus in the Congress of the United States of America and they have said that sanctions have played a great role in helping to dismantle some of the apartheid system. They do not claim that sanctions is the only reason for the fact that apartheid seems to be rolling back some of its approaches, some of the laws that have kept it in place for all time. But they and most of the progressive and liberal thinkers in this area have accepted that the continued imposition of sanctions is hurling South Africa and as a result, it is causing the Afrikaners to think critically about the apartheid system. 3.05 p.m.

Now this measure deals with the Bill to Implement the International Convention Against Apartheid in Sports. Now when the West Indian cricketers went to South Africa under the captaincy of Lawrence Rowe - they went on two occasions - I had to sit down and critically examine that departure. I did not think that it was right at the time for West Indian cricketers to play in South Africa and I am stiir of that view. What this Bill is seeking to do when it is passed as an Act is that it is putting cricketers in Barbados on notice and sportsmen in Barbados on notice that the law is that you should not go to South Africa and that if you go you go at your own peril. If you enter into your contract, for example, that that contract would not be enforceable in the Courts of Barbados. This is what this Bill here is seeking to do today. That is a laudable objective and it is one I believe that expresses the majority of opinion in Barbados. It is not one that expresses any minority right wing opinion at all. My view about this thing is that sacrifices have got to be made at all levels.

So that when I hear arguments that because the Frontline States trade with South Africa and that by extension sportsmen can also trade with South Africa, and that anything apart from that is a double standard, those arguments do not in anyway move me from my position. Those arguments to my mind do not take into account any knowledge at all about international trade and the way trading blocs and nations trade among themselves. One has got to have a sense of history to understand this. It was very enlightening when I heard the Member for Christ Church East Central put the whole question of apartheid in the .--limited time that he had within a historical context. Of course, he missed the Pass Laws which was one of the most dreaded pieces of legislation to keep the apartheid system in place. But what actually happened was that the colonial power in that part of Africa at the time made sure that what we now call front-line states had to trade with South Africa. Mozambique and Zambia, all of those countries, have interlocking trading relationships with South Africa which have been established over time. To my mind there is an enormous difference between a contract to provide goods and services within the context of international trade and .-> one which is seeking to allow people to play cricket at a″ professional level or any sport for that matter.

There is a huge difference and I do not think one can extend the argument that because the Front-line States trade with South Africa that therefore I can trade with South Africa because I am cricketer or sportsman. The two things are different. The nature of the contracts are completely different and the historical perspectives that would inform the decision to trade in South Africa and the decision to play sports in South Africa are completely different. -As I said, the trading arrangements were so constructed by the colonial power that those states now known as the Front-line States had to trade with South Africa.

For example, a state that is not a Front-line State, Lesotho is completely surrounded by South Africa. Now who else can they trade with? They have to use South African air space to access Lesotho. If you travel over land, you have to travel across South African territory to access^" Lesotho. That just goes to show that the argument is a foolish argument.

Now I believe that we have to maintain sanctions. I do not agree that the time is yet right when sanctions ought to be removed. Upon Nelson Mandela's release from imprisonment, one of the first things he said was that sanctions had to remain in place. He also said that the armed struggle had to continue. Within the South African context as other Members have said, I believe that this is so. r Britain would know why it wants to have sanctions removed and the United States of America is in a similar position because they trade a lot with that country and they have huge investments in South Africa. The imposition of sanctions is hurting those countries. So anybody, whether it be a professor or otherwise, who can say that sanctions ought to be removed because black people are suffering ^ does not understand the importance of sanctions. Th^tt, person docs not even understand his own blackness and he is having particular difficulty in coming to terms with his

other two parties. I believe that there is a coincidence of thinking when it comes to this whole question of apartheid, whether we are examining apartheid in sports or whether we are examining the questions of sanctions.

I have listened very carefully to the speakers that have gone before and I agree with the positions as expressed by them. This political party has no difficulty in saying that we will only agree to the removal of sanctions in South Africa when the political climate in South Africa is right for those sanctions to be removed. In other words, when Nelson Mandela says that sanctions should be removed, I believe that is the time that we should say that sanctions should be removed. That is when sanctions should be removed. They are close to the situation and they know exactly what they are talking about.

The Eminent Persons Group went to South Africa and they said that sanctions ought to be kept in place. Yo have other notable organizations like Trans Africa Watch which is headed by Randell Robinson, an American organization, one that came out of the Black Caucus in the Congress of the United States of America and they have said that sanctions have played a great role in helping to dismantle some of the apartheid system. They do not claim that sanctions is the only reason for the fact that apartheid seems to be rolling back some of its approaches, some of the laws that have kept it in place for all time. But they and most of the progressive and liberal thinkers in this area have accepted that the continued imposition of sanctions is hurting South Africa and as a result, it is causing the Afrikaners to think critically about the apartheid system. 3.05 p.m.

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blackness. Nobody can tell me that black people are going to suffer any more than they have suffered before. We were born in suffering and for the last 300 or 400 years we have continued in suffering. Whenever black people talk about their suffering in slavery, you also have some blacks who say you live in the past It is okay for the Jews to talk about the holocaust but it is not right for blacks to talk about what happened to them during the crossing from Africa to the Caribbean. I do not care if they call me racist or not because I am going to be forever talking about these things. As long as you have the so called Reids about, then you have got to continue talking about slavery and blackness.

Asides.

Mr. R. P. B YER: I am talking about a class of persons who are of a similar mentality, focus, mindset as he is. As rlong as they are about, we have got to continue talking about these things because they do not seem to understand what the whole thing is about. They do not seem to have any sense of history at all. He examines things within a context of marketing. He looks at certain modules and set patterns. It is good for the market that sanctions should be removed; therefore, sanctions should be removed - the kind of obtuse and foolish argument that I cannot tolerate in this day and age.

Asides.

Mr. R. P. BYER: Right. We can even extend it into that sphere. But it is not the kind of thing that I would want to associate myself with. If you are a lawyer, you have got to put legal arguments sometimes within a historical context. In other words, the point I am making is that you have got to be able to see outside of your narrow discipline in order to make some sense and put some intelligent analysis on matters. If he is doing this just to get money for the department at Cave Hill, that is unfortunate. I cannot sec how anyone can prostitute himself in such a manner by going on the circuit in America where you get large fees for speaking and telling white people what they want to hear. It is foolishness. You do not quite understand what you arc talking about at all if you engage in any such activity.

I believe. Sir, as the Member for Christ Church East Central said, that Blacks have got to be united. One of the things that distresses me about the struggle in South Africa is the continued fighting between the Zulus and the United Democratic Front, so the international Press has been reporting. That is unfortunate but I hope that those warring factions would realize that the South African Government is 'playing the old divide and rule tactic. For as long as they (jontinue fighting, then the dismantling of apartheid will lake a significantly longer period.

Now my view, Sir, is that South African's isolation in sports should continue whether it be in cricket, football, hockey, or rugby. 3.15p.m.

Efforts like Zola Budd's effort to get around the sanctions or that ban should not be tolerated and everything should be done. I believe that worldwide people are slowly beginning to understand and appreciate the importance of having sanctions in sport. If you recall when the West Indies cricket team went to South Africa there were hardly any demonstrations, but by the time Calling's team went back to England recently, they could not even complete the tour, so that the compelling argument and the compelling opinion and the lobby in this regard against apartheid in sport, the anti-apartheid lobby is becoming more organised, and that is beginning to take effect.

The fight must be on more fronts than one. We have to have the fight against apartheid on several fronts and ii is always important that we as blacks recognise this. When I see somebody like the neo-Nazi, Tcrre Blanche, come on television and telling me that if the blacks get political power they will laVe away their lands, they will rape their wives, and so on, my blood churns, because he is saying exactly the kinds of ihings that they did to blacks, but yet he fears it.

I believe lhat there is a large segment of the South African population that have misguided fears about blacks allaining poliiical office in Soulh Africa, because they believe lhat the blacks will do to them ihc very things they did to blacks, but that is not necessarily true. I remember when Dr. Boesak was here at the Frank Collymore Hall he spoke of an occasion when he addressed a university in the Orange Free Stale and ihcy asked him a question aboul aparlhcid. He said if ihey understand how apartheid opcralcs on Ihe black person, ihcy should go through the laws and wherever ihcy sec "black" ihey pul "white" and wherever they sec "white" they pul "black" they would understand cxacily whal he is lalking aboul. He said il as a joke but he said nobody laughed. They did not think of it as a joke, so ihcy quile undersiood in lhal bluni way the kind of dehumanising effect that apartheid has on black people.

I support this Bill, Sir. I think it is a laudable piece of legislation lhat this House will pass today. There will be many commcnis on il ihroughoul the next couple of weeks. The right wing Press will dominate Ihe newspapers wilh ihcir spcwings or whaicvcr, bul who cares? This is Ihe supreme law making body in Barbados and ihis is the law from today or from whenever it goes to the Other Place. It is a laudable piece of legislation and Ihis parly has no difficulty al all in supporting il, because I do not think thai ihc views of ihis parly in any way dcvialc from the views of

the other two parties in relation to apartheid in sports, or in relation to apartheid period.

Thank you.

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

On the motion of Hon. P. M. GREAVES, seconded by Hon. B. M. TAITT, Mr. SPEAKER left the Chair and the House went into Committee on the Bill, Mr. L. L. BRATHWAITE in the Chair.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: The House is in Committee.

Clauses 1 to 5 inclusive were called and passed.

The Schedule was called.

Hon. M. A. KING: I move that this be the Schedule to theBill.

Hon. E. E. GREAVES: I beg to second that.

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

On the motion of Hon. M. A. KING, seconded by Hon. E. E. GREAVES, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Bill in Committee and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of Hon. M. A. KING, seconded by Hon. B. M. TAITT, the Bill was read a third time and passed.

ORDER NO. 4 - RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE VESTING OF CERTAIN LANDS IN THE NATIONAL HOUSING CORPORATION

Hon. H. A. BLACKMAN: Mr. Speaker, this' Resolution seeks the approval of Parliament to vest certain areas of land in the National Housing Corporation. As everyone knows, the National Housing Corporation cannot sell or dispose of land until the land is vested in it.

The lands are set out in the Resolution. The first one is at Cane Garden in St. Thomas. Most of that land will be used for the remainder of the Venezuelan houses. One hundred and two houses will be built up there and a number of house spots will be available. 3.25 p.m.

The next area of land is at Lancaster in St. James, almost 12 000 square meters. That land has already been utilised to relocate persons from the pathway of Highway 2A. The next area of land is at Rices in St. Philip, and this is under the National Low Income Urban Development project where the Government has undertaken to develop certain tenantries and to carry out certain works so as to have a good idea of how they can proceed in future. Along with Rices in this first phase of this National Low Income project is Valerie in St. Michael and Thomas Gap in Westbury Road. Valerie is almost finished and I believe Rices is about finished by now. The fourth area of land is at Walkers, St. George, and most of this land has already been -, used, if not all, in the Glebe relocation that took place in St. George some time back.

I believe that this to all intents and purpose is non-controversial.

Oh, Mr. Speaker, there is one more, and this is the Hope in St. Lucy where the Government has acquired land where I think 65 house spots will be provided. I am not quite sure of the number, but I think it is 65. It is^" Government land that the Government is utilising to provide house spots for the people of St. Lucy.

With those remarks, Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this Resolution to vest those several areas of land in the National Housing Corporation do now pass.

Hon. C. V. WALKER: Mr. Speaker, I beg to second this Resolution, and in so doing I just want to make a few ^ brief comments. I am going to be specific about the land at Walkers in St. George which, as we know, the first section was acquired originally by the Government for the construction of the school, and then Mr. Davis did offer the additional lands to the Government since it was felt that it was not convenient for him to continue any viable agricultural function there on that site. Following that, we all know that the Government had developed it and had then planned to utilise it for a Government development. Along came the Glebe development, Sir, and the purpose of my intervention is strictly to ensure that those people who- -< were then moved from the Glebe development over to this site, who qualified like their former neighbours as tenants of the Glebe under the Tenantries Freehold Act - I have already discussed this with the Minister and the National Housing Corporation - will get the land which they reside on. They were forced to move from the Glebe where they were resident and entitled to all of the benefits under the Tenantries Freehold Act. The Government of the day and the National Housing Corporation gave them notice and moved these people from that location to the Walkers area,^ and I just want to go on record as saying, since they have made representation to the National Housing Corporation, that with the vesting in the National Housing Corporation, I hope we can sec an amicable solution to this problem, because as I said earlier, the original intention was to acquire the land for the school, and then the additional land was offered by Mr. Davis at Walkers. I am sure that I hav&-" the assurance of the Minister that the people who were #*» the Glebe, not the few who have moved in subsequently,

and who were forced to move from a right on a tenantry through no fault of theirs will be entitled to purchase the land as though they had remained on the Glebe like their other friends.

Just to close, Mr. Speaker, while we were talking about the acquisition of the land for the school, last week in this Honourable House while talking about schools, I made the point that we had had the controversial Common Entrance Examination done and the marks were at the school. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to report to you again that yesterday the allocations to secondary schools were already in the schools to the headteachers in a matter of five working days, and I would like to compliment the people at Data Processing who, notwithstanding the fire we had over the week-end, were able to do that within five working days. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, are we dealing with housing or with data processing?

Mr. Speaker, I don't want to be too contentious, but I have to complain a little about problems in St. Thomas in regard to housing. Now the property here at Cane Garden was well recognised as being suitable for housing development from 1985, and the then Minister, L. B. Brathwaite, was notified in letter from me that it would have been an ideal thing to expand the present Cane Garden development further back towards the quarry site, going back towards the plantation house, and indeed, Sir, leading up to the last general election I had envisaged that the kind of development we would have had at Cane Garden would have embraced houses for sale, a police station and a fire station, and back towards the Cane wood side of the development, house spots. The school could have come on the other side where it is now.

The school is entirely a Democratic Labour Party project and I will never seek to say otherwise, and Members will know that I never opposed it when they spoke of it.

Mr. Speaker, the Honourable Members on the front bench on the other side are very unfair to the Honourable Minister of Education. The Honourable Minister of Education turned the sod. When he was finished, he passed the fork to me and invited me to do similarly and I turned a larger piece than he, being younger and stronger. That is on one side of the road going to Bridgefield. That could accommodate the school and whatever other major construction we wanted, but on the other side opposite that is where we were calling for an integrated development, because there really is no fire station in St. Thomas. The police station all agree has to come down at some stage. It is virtually dilapidated. Some money has been spent from time to time to do cosmetic repair jobs. They can't go in Welchman Hall because of the problem with the cave <=•' underneath and the water supply, and I was suggesting that there is enough land at Cane Garden to accommodate the station. I was amazed when I heard that officials of Ministries went looking on top of Vaucluse Hill to put the station up there. You have land down at Cane Garden, I will tell you this, where the top soil is probably two inches. If you go up on the hill going to Vaucluse you are going to find good, deep agricultural soil up there. Why go up there? 3.35 p.m.

Having regard to the kind of facilities that we are going to build for policemen nowadays, on which I have spoken before, where we do not need to build dormitories, you do not have to build a massive station at Cane Garden to satisfy the Police and I really will encourage the Government to give consideration to that that since you have the land there. If you are going to build a new station for St. Thomas, I would urge that it be at that end of St. Thomas at the Cane Garden site.

Now, Sir, what is a little disheartening though is that on June 15,1988,1 wrote to the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Housing the following letter and I will make it a document of the House -

"Lands for Sites and Services in the Parish of St. Thomas:

Further to our conversation on Wednesday, June 15, I write to recommend three areas suitable for acquisition for sites and services in the parish of St. Thomas: -

1. Lands at Cane Garden Plantation East of the present Cane Garden Development and adjoining the parcel recently acquired would be ideal for Government's programme. I had indicated by letter to the former Minister of Housing and Lands in 1985/86 that this area was suitable for totally integrated development. Indeed, I had discussed with constituents and the then Minister the establishment of a low income housing development, fire station and police station. The land is not good agricultural land and is situated very close to a quarry.

2. At Arch Hall on lands of Bennetts Plantation bordering Highway 2A is another large area of land suitable for housing and recreational facilities. There was recently a fire which devastated the area and very nearly wiped out the residents of Arch Hall. A Sites and Services programme on these lands would provide a buffer and insulation to the people of Arch Hall/Bennetts against possible devastation from fire and would harmonise with the existing residential districts.

3. The third site is Vaucluse Tenantry otherwise known as 40 Acres. This area has presently

' about 10 houses but no services whatsoever. There is additional land and the area is crying out for development.

I would be happy to go on a site visit with officials of your Ministry and the Minister at a time mutually convenient."

That was June 1988. As late as last year July, I gave the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Housing a number of alternative dates about six, that would have been convenient for us to go and look at these sites with a view to acquiring them and having them in a kind of land bank for future development. Up to now they have not arranged anything with me, Sir.

Hon. H. A. BLACKMAN: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order.

I have already responded to the concerns of the Honourable Member for St. Thomas. I told him that with the availability at Cane Gardens of about 40 or 50,1 do not remember the number of house spots, that I could not see the purpose in going to look at other places for house spots in St. Thomas. I answered that in here already because there will be house spots available at Cane Garden in St. Thomas. I said that in here already.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: With respect, Sir. The Honourable Minister did not put it as he has just put it, Sir. When I asked about that what he said the last time I raised it and said that we would have some house spots available, the Minister said that he then remembered from the plan there may have been about 50 lots which could do for house spots and he was going to look at it favourably. He said that and I have told people that. I think the press carried that.

What I was saying is that he did not respond to the other areas but I now understand. They think that they may have enough and, therefore, there is not an immediate need to look at other sites. Fine. Now, if that is so I accept that except in the case of Forty Acres.

Now, the problem with Forty Acres is this. It is a village that is probably half a mile inland from the main road by itself, isolated. The nearest place to it is Glcndale Childrens' Home. There is no proper road. Mind you, the access into the village is long, an undulating old plantation road, very bad road facilities.

There is some electricity. There is no telephone. There are about 15 houses in Forty Acres which do not have running water. Tomorrow evening at 5 o'clock officials of MTW are going with me to look at that because members would be shocked to learn that in a village where there are probably 60 people resident, man, woman and child, bathe under the one standpipe in the open air, naked as they born, flags flying as they like, Sir.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: The Honourable Minister of Health asked about flags, Sir. His is flying at half mast, so it is reported to me.

Hon. B. M. TAITT: On a point of order, Sir. You only fly a flag at half mast when somebody is dead, Sir and I am not about to mourn for the Honourable Member yet, Sir.

Mr. D. A. *C.* SIMMONS: I do not care whose fault it is. If it was a case of Adams neglect, it is now time to give the people of 40 Acres the basic human facilities. It cannot be right that women have to go and bathe at any hour of the day and night, young men, young women, old men, old women, child, have to go and bathe in the open air at this one stand pipe.

Mr. SPEAKER: I assume somebody told you that. You did not go yourself.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Now, now, Sir. Your Honour is definitely underestimating my representational capacity. I have been on the spot as recently as two week ago Monday evening, two evenings from yesterday, Sir, evening 5 o'clock and I saw a youngster bathing, well put away you know. I have drawn it to MTW's attention, Sir.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: They eat well in St. Thomas and they are well endowed.

In all seriousness, Sir. It is really a matter of great shame and regret that in 1990 we should have people existing under those conditions when next door at Glendale there is running water and all the facilities but if there is an illness in the area a night, there is no ambulance that can ~ come to get any of those people out.

I am not making a fuss at this stage about the road because I do not want to be unreasonable. The road is long. In MTW terms they will say that there are a lot of dead miles. They might say that but I do not know it is too much money to give people proper facilities.

It cannot cost MTW too much to put in a few street lights to help them to see to get in there at night because it" is really secluded and down in the back, but water so that each house could have a watcrbornc system is a must.

I am not unreasonable to be calling for the road to be macadamised now. What we would like is for the tractors to go in, level it and put some marl on it and roll it. The ~ barber-greening can come down the road. I think uX residents would be happy with that gesture but as a priority they must have water.

Do you imagine that people are still walking with buckets from a good distance away from the last houses to the one stand pipe - two and three buckets. It is not nice. I just cannot put it any better. It is not right so I am just asking that some urgent attention be paid to the people in Forty Acres. They are not many and I am not doing this out of a sense of politicking because I have been after this problem since 1988 as my letter would attest but I feel that after two years now nothing has been done.

Before I accuse the Government of callous neglect, criminal neglect, I want to give them a chance to give these people at least basic facilities.

Much obliged, Sir.

3.45 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St.

*- Lucy.

Hon. E.' E. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I would just spend five minutes on this to indicate my support for this Resolution and particularly since it includes a parcel of land, a rjarcelof land at Hope Plantation in St. Lucy which would 6e developed for sites and services.

Let me say that this is not agricultural land in the sense that we think of agricultural land, it is part of the whole area and it is an area which has not been used for grazing or for anything for that matter. I suggested to the Minister of Agriculture that since the land was not being used for any purpose that >[1] could be vested in the National Housing Corporation for the development of a sites and' services programme. I am very pleased that this has been done and to learn from inc., Minister that it would accommodate approximately sixty house spots. As everybody is aware, the whole question of the provision of house spots is something which this Administration is pursuing and it, is something which is very much needed, particularly in the rural areas. I am glad that at least my request would be accommodated in this particular Resolution,

My only hope is that the work would start very soon in getting the roads and the services in so that the spots would be made available to the people generally speaking in the Hope Road area. So I would want to support this particular Resolution.

My reason for the intervention is just to ensure that it is in the Record because the Minister seems to have forgotten it when he was introducing it. I notice also, Sir, that in the coverage in the newspapers that it was also left out. My intervention is for the record.

Thank you, Sir.

Mr. R. P. BYER: Sir, it is pleasing to see the kind of development going up in St. George, especially in St. George North, Sir.

I well recall, Sir, back in 1986, certain representations were made by this Honourable Member for certain developments to take place in the St. George South constituency. The representations were made by way of a Parliamentary Question. I had occasion to complain about this during the Budget Debate in 1988 and even as I stand here and speak, Sir, those roads of which I complained are still to be completed.

Sir, I believe that the development that has taken place in the St. George parish is necessary. As I said, most of it is going in the St. George North area but I would be very pleased if the Minister of Housing would try to see if something can be done in terms of the sites and services development in St. George South.

I wrote a letter to the Ministry - I do not have it here, Sir, I am speaking from memory - some time back, and in fairness to the Minister of Housing, he organized a visit to the constituency and he examined three sites. He examined a site at Mclverton in St. George, he examined one at Ellerton and then another one at Byde Mill. The one at Melvcrton was for good reasons. It was not entertained because what I was proposing was that good agricultural land would have been used for housing development, although the location was good.

I understand that the site I recommended at Ellerton that the cost was prohibitive and the other one at Byde Mill, I do not know what is the Ministry's thinking on that at the moment. Sir, if you would recall, the Eilerton Housing area was the second housing area that was developed in Barbados after the Pine. That was after Janet.

As it stands at the moment there has been some development in that housing area, some development which I contributed personally to out of my own funds, there is a park that was installed and it started when I was a Member of the Democratic Labour Party and by the time I was a Member of the NDP, it was completed. What was very annoying to me was that a similar kind of treatment that was accorded the Member for St. Thomas when he turned the soil the other day was not accorded to me. The Minister of Community Development did not have the courtesy, at the lime, to allow me to address my constituents at the opening of the park. I thought it was an act of childishness. I never had the opportunity to tell him about that. I do not even care to tell him about that. I thought that political differences would have transcended that kind of thing.

Maybe it was too close to the occasion when I left the Democratic Labour Party and maybe his thinking on the subject would probably parallel that of the Minister of Education, the way how he treated the Member for St.

Thomas. Because I believe that courtesy is courtesy and that there are certain approaches that ought to be above party and political division.

But as I said, there is a tremendous need for house spots in Barbados, not rental accommodation. If I know my rural folk, I think that they would welcome the development of a sites and services development where they would be able to go in and buy on whatever conditions, buy or rent the spot and then develop their own accommodation.

I would hope, Sir, that the Minister of Housing would give this urgent consideration would direct the powers that be in the Ministry to, once again look at the proposal that I made to them back in I think 1986 or 1987.

I must say, Sir, that the letter I sent was answered promptly and within a matter of a month or two months, the visit was organized. I thought that we were getting somewhere but I have not heard anything about it since that time. 3.55 p.m.

All over St. George South is crying out for development.

Asides.

Mr. R. P. BYER: Well, I will stick to my side'. All over St. George South, Sir, is crying out for development of some kind. I know, Sir, that this is a Resolution that deals with the vesting of land in the National Housing Corporation but in a way whenever there is housing development in a constituency there is always the i corresponding development in other areas like roads, light, j water, and so on. This is what I am talking about. There are several large tenantries like Drax Hall, and Drax Hall Tenantry covers many acres and many locations. It is just not one location. There is one that really distresses, and one ; that I brought to the attention of the Minister of Housing, the situation in Dash Valley and the situation that obtains in South District. What makes the Dash Valley situation particularly bothersome is the fact, Sir, that there is a lot of slip-shod development taking place in a sensitive Zorie 1 water area. When I wrote the Minister of Housing, I pointed this out to him as well. I think that for the national good that something ought to be done there as well. I would not like a similar situation as developed in the Belle to develop there. > That was solved and I think that as a country that we showed a lot of maturity in how we dealt with the situation. But I would not like a similar situation to develop in the Dash Valley area. You see Dash Valley is a very peculiar place because it is located on plantation lands and also on private development. You have Constant Estates Limited on one side. You have the Hanson on the other and then you have private ownership spreading on the western end leading back to the main road. So that we have got to be very, very careful about it. I think now that you have other development in Dash Valley in the way of the Halfway 'House that it is essential that some of the resources the Government has at its disposal be allocated to dealing with the situation in Dash Valley.

In South District, another sensitive area located on two plantation tenantries, one Hanson and the other Staple -\ Grove on either side of the road as you go east towards St. Philip, you have what I call a jumbled development where my front yard is somebody's back yard. It is a situation that has to be sorted out. I do not know how the Tenantries Freehold Purchase Act will operate in that district whenever the owners of that land upon which that district is located decide to deal with the situation. But I think that we have dealt as a Government with similar situations in other constituencies and other parishes and I believe we should approach these other matters similarly. I know that in a lot of ways a lot of politics come into these situations. There •> are political situations that are made but at the same time no ' significant development has taken place in the neck of the woods where I live. I probably am the only Member of Parliament that lives in his own constituency and I know what I am talking about I see it everyday and I would like very much that some of the resources that are allocated for development be thrown and used in the St. George South constituency whether they are provisions of sites and services or whether they arc the installation of roads in - plantation tenantries or in other areas of the constituency. We had fifteen yearS of Democratic Labour Party representation from 1961 to 1976; There were another ten years of Barbados Labour Party representation from 1976 to 1986 and then from 1986 to 1988 the Democratic Labour Party and now I am a member of the National Democratic Party. But still, Sir, notwithstanding all of that it is not so 'much the person who is representing the constituency as it is the people of the constituency who should benefit in a way that'will make them proud to be residents of the district, parish, or constituency in which they reside. I £* would hope, Sir, that my pleadings in here today will touch the heart of the Ministers responsible and the Government as well. Let them realize that something has got to be done in that constituency. I think something must be done to alleviate the conditions there, Sir. Thank you.

Mr. L. L. BRATHWAITE: Mr. Speaker, I would rise to support this Resolution only because it represents the implementation of Government's pledge to find housing -~~ accommodation for the citizens of our country. Sir, rny voice has been very loud in representing the needs of the people of St. Michael North East for housing accommodation. As the Honourable Minister is well aware, we have done at least one tour of the area and identified two areas which show some potential for such development. However, the introduction of this legislation, Sir, gives me --some hope that since the Cane Garden exercise is so close to the St. Michael North East boundary and since it is vcrjf close to the Canewood Development, Sir, that I might very

well be in the position to have some improvement to the conditions of the people of St. Michael North East. It is to say, Sir, that I am pressured every week that *I* see my constituents for housing accommodation and facilities for house spots and if I can get the assurance that some speedy resolution will be brought to our problems in St. Michael North East, Sir, that might suffice my position. I need to know what to tell my constituents if there is a development for their welfare in the Ministry of Housing and Lands. I do not want to be very long and drawn out in this intervention, Sir, just to support the Resolution 'because it represents Government's intention to implement the promises that it has made and to just add my voice to the call for some speedy remedy to my situation in St. Michael North East Thank you, Sir.

Hon. H. A. BLACKMANr Mr.-Speaker, Sir, I did not want to make this long debate on housing, but I think that I ~ need to say certain things. I stated, Mr. Speaker, early last year I think it was that my philosophy as far as providing house spots is concerned is that ideally I would like to see about 30 house spots provided in each constituency. That is what I stated. When it comes to St. Michael, Mr. Speaker, there is a real problem in St. Michael. There is no available land really in St. Michael for house spots and that is the problem. In your constituency, you will hardly find any. Similarly in other constituencies in St. Michael you will hardly find any. '

So my philosophy starts -'-off wfth a problem in St. Michael. Before I get on to how I Have been tackling that situation with regards to> the provision of house-spots in the constituency, let me say that what the Honourable Member for St. George South said is true arid I syropathizeJJwith him and I sympathize with the*Member for Sit George North as well. Although Uiis Resolution today seeks approval to vest land at Walkers in the National Housing Corporation, all of those lands or the entire area has already been used. 4;05p.m. '< - •-r:; • • • :^i- • ' • . . •• : W' ' ^ : •'•• '

Actually he is not getting any land, it is just that you are regularising a situation - in St. George North, so I sympathise with the two Members for St. George North and St. George Sooth. In fact, I not Only made a lour of St. George South with th©representative, but I atsO made a tour of Sti George North with terepresentative' for Sti George North as well-and he-has not *go* any]yet. I'also made a lour of St-SMie&aerNortfc'East witH the representative for that '"area and he hafe not got any house spots yet. • ' •

You see, there are problems that creep in after you go and visit the areas. Only yesterday I explained to the Member for St. Michael North East some of the problems that we have encountered in St. Michael North East with regard to acquiring the land. I am looking at that matter and I will give him the assurance that that matter and those of ~&. George North and St. George South will be looked at urgently.

Mr. Speaker, since I made that promise to try to provide about 30 or 40 house spots in each of <the constituencies, we have acquired land at St. Lucy aP the Hope, 60 house spots, St. Peter, Colleton, another 60. If you come up to St. Andrew, we have acquired land, for which we will come to the House of Assembly shortly, at Corrjm*s Village. If. you go to St. James, although St. James in my view is" fairly adequately covered for house spots, like Husbands, West Terrace and places liki that. We have acquired land at Hoytes Village, Stv James; If you go to St. Joseph, very shortly we will be coming to > the House of Assembly to vest Lammings in the National Housing Corporation. St. John, Wakefield has been completed toy private treaty. If you go all over Barbados tenders have already gone out for contractors to put in the infrastructure in Wotton, Christ Church, another 50 or 53 house spots and aM'ovef;

This is the philosophy, as I said, Mr. Speaker, where you try to provide about 30 house spots on average in all the constituencies, and that will go to a large extent to satisfy the needs of the persons who need house spots in the constituencies. That may not be enough because we know that there are a lot of people waiting for house spots, but at least I have made a start and the Government has made a start hi providing house spots in all the constituencies. Very shortly we should be coming back to the House of Assembly to vest probably another four or five in the National Housing[1] Corporation in order to get these house spots to the people.

I wiB say here>-noy?i Mri Speaker, that we in the Ministry of Housing and stfie National Housing Corporation have already put in train a system for the predisposal of 5tets. Tuse 4he wool"pfjedisposal'-deliberately, because Wis fl« nccessafiiy-pre-sale>-beoause there are people who will need house spots who will hot have the money up front. We have already-set in train certain mechanisms that' we will dispose of the lots up-front lifcg any private contractor doing it and that will provide house spots quicker and allow the National Housitig Corporation to put infrastructure in the Afferent areas quicker4harinfyw had;to<do them^drie •after the otheflOnce-you predispbie of me lotsyycltfffcan start putting *iw* infrastructure in four or: five tois'at

^ ••• There &re other things-r would like to say; Mr. Speaker, about housing, because recently we have heard a lot of talk going around with what is going to happen if other things happen. Ninety per cent of the things you are hearing arc already being done by the National Housing Corporation.

There is only one other thing I would like to speak about, which was mentioned by the Honourable Member for St. George South, and that is plantation tenantries. I think he mentioned Dash Valley and South District. These are plantation tenantries. The amendment we did to the Act

last year was for non-plantation tenantries, so the problems that exist with the plantation tenantries have been existing for quite some time.

I am saying that there are a lot of plantation tenantries in Barbados today where the tenants have been getting the spots on which they have been living for a long time, but there are other plantation tenantries where there are problems. One that readily comes to mind is Boarded Hall Tenantry. That has been a problem. The Government also has been, in certain instances where the problems are great, going in and purchasing the plantation in order to solve some of the problems. In fact, the last one we have gone on is at Cluffs, St. Lucy. I think that people and representatives for different constituencies have to understand that all the problems cannot be solved overnight, because they are problems that have been there for years. To expect that they can be solved in three or four years is really asking too much.

We also have problems that crop up daily. What has happened recently - one example - is that in certain plantation tenantries, as soon as roads are put in the owners of the lots are asking subtenants to move. That is a massive problem I have in St. Philip. As soon as you put in good , roads, people who have been living for the last 15,20 years are told by the plantation tenants to gel off. It is not something you can solve overnight, we may have to Io6k at the Act again to see how we can relieve this problem.

As I said, Mr. Speaker, I really did not want to 'speak at length on this because it is only the vesting of land, but I \ think I have to mention the sale of Government units. Recently in the news you have been hearing a lot of talk about people being given the houses free and if they want < repairs they will be repaired and given to them for free and they will use rents to offset the cost. At the moment we are selling off the single units, but again whatever you do you '-' are going to run up against problems. """"

You have to understand something, Mr. Speaker. ; There are instances where you would offer the house ib some person for $1 500, a wall house with indoor toilet facilities and everything, and the person would still believe that that is too much because the person probably is accustomed to paying about $15 a week and to tell 1iim $1 500 it seems like a lot of money. These arc the sort of problems you get.

You have to understand that it is all right to say I am going to do this or I am going to do that. The point I am making is this, Mr. Speaker, that if you have repaired or renovated houses over a length of lime, and some of these houses were buill in ihe 1950's, so if you are saying you are using historical cosl, ihe first thing I would like lo know is where are you going lo find ihe records. If you do nol find Ihe records you will have to use arbitrary figures by looking to see whal ihe cost of living was then, what was the cosl of material, etc. and it is all right to lalk. If you say lhal you are going lo use the amount of renls paid by persons in these houses to offsel Ihe price, il means that in many instances you may have to pay the people who are living in the house for ihe houses. 4.15p.m.

You may have lo pay ihem for the houses lhal you- " wanl to give them, so it is okay lo talk, but I think that the ihing has nol been really Ihoughl oul. The idea is lhal you promise a lol and see how much you can perform.

Now, Mr. Speaker, lei me jusl say somelhing. This document is a documenl lhal ihe Leader of ihe Opposition says he wrote, and you can look ihrough ihis documenl on page 20; il is Ihe Manifesto of the Democratic Labour Party for 1986, a fantastic document in my view. The Leader of ihe Opposilion is always bragging and saying that he wrote this document. If you look through this document under - housing, you will not see anything lhal he is saying now. So the point is lhal these promises as far as ihe Leader of Ihe Opposilion and the NDP are concerned are not good enough, we have lo promise a bil more.

This brings me lo ihe poinl aboul ihe 100 per ceni mortgages. The thing thai is going on in Barbados today is that people are given the view lhal the concept of 100 per .,, ceni mortgage originated with the Leader of the Opposition. '-That was nonsense. I mentioned il at Cabinet. The late Prime Minister sat down and asked "Blackie, when are you going to start it?" But now ihe Leader of ihe Opposilion in conjunclion with the lady Senator are going around Barbados shouting about 100 per ceni mortgage as though il is something original to the NDP. Mr. Speaker, lei me icll ybu sbmething aboul Ihis 100 per cent mortgage. I agree with it. and I am giving a reason why I agree with it.

Mr. SPEAKER: I cannot allow that kind of cross talk.

Hon. H. A. BLACKMAN: You all have been talking about it, but lei me give you ihe history of il now. I am going to take my time on this 100 per cent mortgage. I mentioned it at Cabinet in ihe presence of everybody there. The poinl is lhat it did nol originate with the NDP nor with the Leader of the Opposition and I am saying lhat when I became Minister, within about five months of taking office _c I had a meeting with all the banks and lending agencies in Barbados, the trust companies. I put the situation to Ihe trust companies. It was not even the 100 per cent mortgage that I put to them. I was jusl asking ihcm if they could carry up the amount of money they were lending al ihe momenl a lilllc higher. All ihe banks were against it, every single one, including the Barbados Mortgage Finance Company^ Limited. So you start off nol only with ihe banks against the" 100 per cent mortgage, but against even carrying up O amount they were lending.

What happened, Mr. Speaker, is that the banks said that when you do that you are bringing in an element of welfarism into what is essentially a commercial venture.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member does not have to respond to asides. I will ask the other Honourable Members on the other side not to interrupt the Member. I think both Members have had the opportunity to speak and they have spoken.

Hon. H. A. BLACKMAN: He will interrupt because I am pointing out that...

Mr. SPEAKER: The rules of the House permit only certain types of interruptions and I can only allow that type of interruption, not any form of interruption.

Hon. H. A. BLACKMAN: Mr. Speaker, as I said, all the banks were against even carrying up the amount of money they were lending, including the Barbados Mortgage Finance Co. Ltd., and let me say at the outset why I believe that 100 per cent mortgage is feasible. At the moment we have discovered in our investigations that what tends to happen in Barbados is that a poor person will go to the Barbados Mortgage Finance Company Limited or any other lending institution and they would probably get 90 per cent of the cost of the house. That same person, let's say they get 90 per cent of the cost of the House from the Barbados Mortgage Finance Company Limited at say 9 per cent, then turns around and goes to the credit union and borrows the other 10 per cent probably at 12 per cent; so I was of the view, and that is why I support the 100 per cent mortgage, that if you were going to borrow 90 per cent from the Barbados Mortgage Finance Company Limited and then 10 per cent from a credit union, what was wrong with getting the 100 per cent from one institution, the Barbados Mortgage Finance Company Limited. That is the reason I put forward and I stand by that. I want you all to give the reason. I have never heard a reason that you all believe in the 100 per cent mortgage other than that it is a nice thing to say I am going to give the houses to the people free.

Now let me tell you something, Mr. Speaker. We discussed that concept of 100 per cent mortgage and I am happy to say that the Prime Minister agrees with it, and in fact we have got the Barbados Mortgage Finance Company Limited to say that they will try it. I just pointed out how it is granted, because the person would borrow 90 per cent from one place and 10 per cent from another, and what we are saying is that it is better to get it from one institution at one interest rale than to pay two interest rales. That is all we arc saying. The poinl I am trying to make is that Ihis is somclhing lhal is agreed by Ihis parly, il has been agreed by the Barbados Mortgage Finance Company Limited, and il should be in place when ihe Barbados Mortgage Finance Company Limited is in a position to bring il inio fruilion. Il ~*h* as simple as lhat. There is nothing fantaslic in ihc idea. I jusl ihoughl I would say a few words on a few of Ihc ihings lhal arc going around al ihe momeni, and finally lo say lhal mosl of ihe ihings lhal you say here are going lo be done in Ihe tenantries are being done already, bul I will have a lol of lime in here to speak on what the National Housing Corporation is doing and will do.

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, that is Government Business for loday. We have some lime, Sir, and I am therefore going to move that Private Members' Business be now taken. I see that the Honourable Member for Christ Church West has a motion which he put on the Order Paper today, and I believe he wants to deal wilh this expediliously.

Hon. H. deB. FORDE: According to the rules of the House I gave notice of it today. I notice that it is marked thai I gave nolice of it. It can only be officially in the House when I have given nolice of il, and I gave nolice of il loday. I would expect lhal il would be circulated and I will ask ihe House's leave to deal wilh il next Tuesday if ihe House sits.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Then there is oiher business which I believe ihe House can deal wilh today if Honourable Members are so minded. There are some perhaps that can be taken off the Order Paper if ihey are salisfied, for instance, with the Bill relating to narcotics. There arc some motions relaling lo narcotics. If they want to debate them, ihcn fine. If ihey don'i want to debate them, we can take them off ihe Order Paper. 4.25 p.m.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, I have two mailers before the House either of them could be done today or both. I am sorry thai I was not given notice before lhal we could have done Privale Members' Business today because I have left ihc files in my Chambers bul 1 am prepared lo move ihc second reading of ihc Bill lo amend Ihe Magislrales Jurisdiclion and Procedure Act and I am also prepared to do ihe olhcr one.

Wilh ihe leave of ihc House, Sir, I would be prepared to do Item 8 first.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: I am all ready lo do Item 8, Sir, under Private Members' Business.

The Minister who deals wilh sporting mailers, Sir, is nol in his place. He would be here next week and I am sure lhal he would nol objecl lo my siarting il because he was down lo do ihe Bill on Apartheid today and even though he

was not in his place the Government dealt with the Bill. We all debated it and it passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 8 then? That is it? Mr.

D. A. C. SIMMONS, Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, on October 31 last year I gave notice of the following Resolution:-

WHEREAS it is imperative that the youth of Barbados be encouraged to participate fully in cultural, Sporting and recreational pursuits;

AND WHEREAS the cost of musical equipment and sports goods are extremely burdensome and constitute a disincentive to the development of the full potential of the youth in this Island;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House calls upon Government to take such measures as are appropriate to reduce the present burdens being placed on the youth.

Mr. Speaker, within the past 18 months, there has been a tremendous amount of public concern about the trends towards lawlessness, indiscipline and deviants in Barbados.

All kinds of persons have given their various explanations for the phenomena that .have attended this country in the last 18 months. All of the explanations have been highly unscientific because, to my knowledge, there is no-one who has done any study of the behavioural patterns of young people in Barbados and the causes for social deviants, certainly, in the last 20 years.

I have seen nothing written or published in that regard and so one is left with a lot of subjectivism as to the causes for the social problems with which we are concerned and whereas in a previous debate I ventured some areas that would be worthy of study based on my own study of criminology, nevertheless, I am not going to rehash that ground again but accept for the sake of the argument that there is some societal disquiet and a tremendous amount of restlessness among the youth of Barbados.

If we accept that to be so, then before the siluation deteriorates even further, we have to harness these energies that are being dissipated in the wrong directions and channel them into productive areas.

Any Government that adheres to the principles of democratic socialism would accept as an axiom of that dogma that it is the responsibility of a Government to establish facilities so that the masses can have access to facilities for the development of their leisure time interest.

Successive' Governments in Barbados have, I think, done a remarkable job in the provision of sporting and recreational infrastructure. There is no doubt about that We must not play it down. We have more pavilions, playing fields and so on in Barbados per thousands of population, let us say, per 10 000 of population than any other country in the whole of the Caribbean, no joke about that. There is ? lot that needs to be done but in terms of the provision of the basic infrastructure, Barbados is very well off and politicians, particularly when you are in Government, are bombarded by constituents each of whom wants a little playing field in every little area where they live.

The Democratic Labour Party has carried on in the development of sporting infrastructure in the tradition of the Barbados Labour Party where we moved with great speed between 1976 and 1986. Where the Democratic Labour Party has not, perhaps, addressed itself as well as it could if^ in the area of community centre development. I do not think they have built one yet, an original one, in all their years, but be that as it may, I am submitting that we have basic infrastructure, that we are now into a marriage between tourism and sports which started under the Barbados Labour Party about 1983 and has been developing every year.

It is clearly the direction in which we must go if we see ourselves as a service orientated economy. Sports tourism is but one facet of the development of the service industry in Barbados and what needs to be done in that regard, I think, is for the Government to determine that it is going to really put money into the development of sporting infrastructure that is linked to tourism.

I am not saying that it is to be separate and distinct from what has been happening but I think that we need to identify, for example, a number of playing fields across the country and really upgrade them and make sure we havt proper facilities in them so that when the clubs from overseas write the BCA and ask for fixtures we know that in St. Philip we have four grounds which are of first class standard and the schools and so on.

We need to make sure that we have the physical facilities properly managed, maintained, manicured and kept so that when people come from overseas to play sports in Barbados they are playing on good surfaces, and after the game they have good accommodation in which to go antf have a couple of drinks and some rice and stew with the fellows and so on. In other words, we should be offering to our sporting tourists no less than we receive when we go over to England, for example, as Central did last year when they went on a lour to Wales.

The chaps in the club told me that the facilities at various grounds were something fantastic. Now, they were not doing that by way of promotion of any sports tourism. We are doing it now as a conscious development and I

think we iSve, as I say, to identify some grounds and really upgrade them to make sure that they are maintained to the highest level to be attractive to overseas visitors.

Similarly in the area of providing the golf courses and so on. That is another debate. I do not want to get into that. 4.35 p.m.

But, Sir, it is no good to provide the youth with the sporting infrastructure, unless there is a total co-ordination between the Ministries responsible for offering programmes for the youth and the Ministry of Sports. We have to make sure that the Community Development Division is sensitized to the need to organize young people into group situations, work with the group and make sure that throughout the country there is interchange and interplay of groups. So that as I say, we can productively channel the energies of the young people. *

If we create all of this infrastructure and management for the harnassing of the energies of the youth, the whole scheme would come to naught unless we also make provision for the youths to have the basic equipment to participate effectively in sports and recreational activities.

The file which I have that I did not bring today, Sir, not knowing that the debate would have been on gives a breakdown of the cost of bats, balls, cricket gear, football equipment and so on with duty and without duty. I think that we all know from our own experiences as MPs who are asked to sponsor groups, who are asked to contribute to individuals who are not able to buy a pair of football boots or would be asked to contribute footballs and basketballs and so on, we know, we have an idea ourselves of the cost of this equipment, costs which are high because of the imposition of a number of other imposts on top of the basic GIF, Sir, Consumption Taxes and the various duties, stamp duties and so on.

Young people who are out of work cannot afford to buy the high priced sporting goods. If we are saying to them on one hand, "Get involved in sports or get involved in cultural activities, do some music and so on", they cannot buy the equipment, they cannot buy the goods, if they arc out of work. Even those who are working, it is very costly for them.

A helmet which everybody is wearing now, I do not know why, but in our day, Sir, we used to face Hall, Mayers and Rock from Spartan, and Mayers was the fastest of the three for the first three overs. We did not know a thing about a helmet, Sir. Helmet? Try and get your head out of the way. I never heard of any school boys getting knocked down by Hall, Mayers and Rock, Sir. You would sway with it, go under it, let it go here and if it were short enough, Sir, you hooked. Now they want helmets, Sir. Helmets arc S200 ~ or something like that.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: No. He bowled a beamer and it struck me here. I would hit him for two fours before that.

The history of this thing is that the Governments of the region have, from time to time, through their various sporting departments looked at this and I believe that the CARICOM Secretariat has also addressed itself to this question also at some stage. But nothing has been done and the cost of goods and equipment is going up every day, Sir. My call is for the Government to do something about it.

During the Budget Debate, I announced, Sir, that it would be the policy of the Barbados Labour Party and it is the policy of the Barbdos Labour Party to remove the taxes and duties from sporting goods and musical equipment. That is the policy. We do not believe that the loss to the revenue would be excessive. We are informed that the loss to.lhe revenue would not even approach S2 million.

This year, when the Government finds itself with $33 million in hand, after paying the civil servants, pursuant to the rcclassification and regrading exercise, we think it was very short sighted and indeed parsimonious of the Minister of Finance not to have given the young people of Barbados an case.

He acknowledges that there is a serious problem with unemployment. He knows the high level of cost. He pointed out in the Budget, Sir - he has not replied to it yet, so it must be true - it is a fact, it is a saving that accrued to Government by way of debt service of S59 million.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Have you forgotten that already? We went thorugh that in the Budget. The Minister of Finance has not countered that to show me that I was wrong, Sir.

The debt service this year is S59 million less than last year. You do not have to go and look for it, like you had to go and look for it last year. You have it. He has it, Sir. But they have to believe it.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: No, no, no. That is not economics, Sir. That is financing that if you have the same level of revenue this year or more in fact, this year than last year and you do not have to spend S57 million this year as you had to spend last year you are better off with S57 million.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Yes. That is what I am saying, Sir, that if you look in the Estimates you would see, "Purchases of Goods", he has got another $7 million in there. Where he has given the $33 million to the civil servants, he still has another $33 million. That is $66 million.

Aside.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: They have now seen this for the first time. I went through all of this in the Budget, Sir. I thought they accepted it and saw the point, Sir. For the first time, weeks later, they are realizing that they have some bread that they could have dished out. 4.45 p.m.

But surely, Sir, if we are talking seriously about the young people unless there is some CARICOM impediment of which we are not aware, it would seem to me that the Government could have reduced the rates of consumption tax and duties on sporting goods and musical equipment which would have made a meaningful impact on the young people and the sporting people generally in Barbados.

Asides.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: I had to buy a new trumpet last year, Sir, at a place in Charing Cross Road called McCarcy's for 415 pounds I think it was.

Asides.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Where is the old one? I gave it away to somebody. I should have bought the one in China. But the Prime Minister has just come back from China and he would not even give me a gift, Sir. I serenaded him and all the others who went, Sir, in 1979 with some lovely notes. I took up the trumpet and blew a couple of tunes, Sir, for Senator Wickham, the Honourable Prime Minister, Sir Arnott, and everybody else who was there, Sir. But be that as it may, Sir, the argument that I make in respect of sporting goods and equipment is equally applicable to musical goods and equipment, Sir. I think it is a disincentive to the proper organisation of musical groups. It is really hard when you think that a lot of people in music in Barbados just cannot survive. How many people know that a group which has done a lot for Barbados and which is really indigenous to Barbados, and thank God for its existence, tried to promote Barbadian music and culture, called the Draytons Two, has broken up?

Asides.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: They did not break up in disagreement or anything like that. They have closed down because they cannot survive in Barbados and one has left and gone overseas. They were originals who really promoted the "spouge" and so on. Every group has to have some basic equipment. But they were doing one night a week at a hotel. That cannot keep two men and other musicians in business. So one fellow has had to leave Barbados week before last Friday - Henry Grant, talent gone.

Asides.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: But I would like to see something done,. Sir, about casing the cost on musical equipment. I hope, Sir, that the Government will treat these submissions seriously and look on them favourably. I think, Sir, that we have got to get hold of the youth of Barbados now and make sure that their development for the future is not hindered because of restrictions or impositions which Government can do something about.

Asides.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Sir, they want me to talk about other things. I was going to give them an ease with the debate. Now they want me to talk about other things and I am not therefore going to talk about how the judges are manipulated for Crop Over to ensure that people who sing songs which can vaguely be considered protest songs and anti-Govcmmcnt songs arc not given a chance at the finals. I am not going to deal with that today at all, Sir. That is related to musical equipment because the Festival Band has to back these singers with a lot of equipment that is in need of a change. In fact, the Police Band could do with better equipment now, Sir. There are limes when the band is distinctly distorted. Now it is not only to do with the quality of equipment. I think sometimes when hearing the Police Band that they are pushing some of the junior members in the band who are not quite ready for playing long sessions into the band without giving some of the older people a chance and you get the distortion, Sir. The Attorney General has a little club, Sir.

Asides.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: The real trumpet, Sir. We do not blow our legal trumpet. We blow the musical instrument.

Asides.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Sir, these arc topics that one can speak on for hours and I do not wish to keep the House back on these matters. I just wanted to make the point that it is an area that we must address with a lot of sympathy because it is no point that the youths arc getting away. We know that there arc problems with them and we have it in our power to give a little case that will not break the Government not that we arc asking that Government must be a milch cow. You sec this is one of the reasons that we always had a fear that the alternative Budget would have' led perhaps to too stringent a rein on expenditure where you

could not make selective eases that would be beneficial socially to a vast number of persons. I think this is very important, Sir. I could say quite easily rather than spend $40 million at Sherboume that you could ease the young people of this country tens of thousands who have to buy sporting equipment and the musicians who have to buy musical equipment. You could have given them an ease.

I am not one, Sir, who is prone to beating the chest of the Labour Party to say that we did that. You cannot say that you did that. That is a little bit childish and immature. Sometimes if people are distorting issues you have to make the point. But there is no point running around like little children and saying, "This is mine. This is the Labour Party project. That is the DLP project." It is childish and immature behaviour. The Prime Minister if he really has the political will notwithstanding that I have made the point - Sir, I think it is a point that everybody would support if they believe that Government could afford to do it - can now or a little later on this year make the relevant Order to give an ease to the young people of this country, Sir. I expect that he will have to examine the consequences of the Order and the potentiality for loss of revenue. I understand you have to do that. But I am saying that the information we have had not approaching it with the same depth as the Ministry of Finance will approach it, but looking at who are the suppliers, what arc their levels of imports, what are their markups and making certain adjustments, Sir, suggests that it will be a lot less than S2 million that Government would lose. I think to give the young people of this country an ease of S2 million in their sporting goods and musical equipment will help all of us.

I move, Sir, that this Resolution do now pass.

4.55 p.m.

Hon. H. dcB. FORDE: Mr. Speaker, I beg to second the Resolution and reserve my right to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: Are there any other Members who want to speak? I must draw to your attention that that Standing Order which dealt with the specifics of this Resolution has been suspended, so if there are no other Members you will probably have to ask that further consideration of this be postponed.

Mr. D. A. C. SIMMONS: Mr. Speaker, in that light then I beg to move that further consideration of this Resolution be postponed until another date.

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

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

ORDER NO. 6 - RESOLUTION URGING GOVERNMENT TO IMPLEMENT PROGRAMMES TO ASSIST SMALL BUSINESSES

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: Mr. Speaker, I gave notice of this Resolution on 1st August, 1989 where I urged Government to implement programmes to assist small businesses.

I think it is very easy to use that term "development of small businesses." It is a very wide area and I believe that in fairness to all, those various segments of what is known as small business need specific attention. Even in bringing this Resolution I do not believe that by the time it is all over we are still going to be able to address fully the whole question of small business development. I also believe that it would not be fair of me to try to accuse any administration of not doing anything at all for small business development. I could say that I have not seen enough attention being paid to that area, and I could say that because in a lot of the areas mechanisms have not been put in place to deal with the specific and particular problems.

In a sense, most of what one could say about the development or lack of development of small business in Barbados would have to be seen as non-contentious. I believe I have heard Honourable Members on both sides of this House from time to time express their concerns about the lack of assistance, not only by Government or by successive administrations, but by other sectors of the very private sector.

There are persons who, because they do not understand the kinds of problems that small business people face, would come wilh all kinds of nebulous, to some extent, ignorant in another way and purely academic arguments as to what should or should not happen to small business people. In a lot of cases, by the time the argument is over, because of their inscnsitivity and ignorance, the bottom line is that there is not much you can do for small business people.

Sir, I thought I would deal with this in a way where there arc some areas of small business that I have been watching closely and I thought could be given some direct and real assistance without a whole lot of studies - and I am not trying to cast any aspersions when I say this - done, and without the need for bringing in a lot of so called experts from abroad to tell us what to do to help struggling small black people.

I will start off with the first example that comes to mind and this is in the area of small craftsmen. We are all aware of the laudable job that the IDC through its Handicraft Division has tried to do over the years in terms

of real assistance to the development of the small craftsmen, but I think that beyond the assistance by way of training, because over the years there has been a lot of training, I know we have had the Chinese here at one stage and they did a lot of work with people, a lot of them from St. Andrew, in terms of basket making and weaving. We have had lots of workshops in training in terms of pottery and other forms of handicraft, using a lot of indigenous material. We have had where the IDC Handicraft Division has used the centre at Pelican Village as a showroom of sorts, but it became a bit narrow in its outlook, in that the showroom was basically an IDC Handicraft Division showroom and not necessarily a showroom for all crafts people, I know that other crafts people can display their wares there, but I am not looking at it in that narrow sense.

What I believe is necessary, if we are going to give these people the kind of marketing assistance, because I think that is where we fall down, we have fallen down where we have trained these people to produce some very high quality and tastefully made handicraft, and handcraft, and we have not gone that one step further where we teach them to package and present these objects in a very tasteful and modern way.

We have not gone that step further where we are providing very well done marketing outlets. Let me give you an example, Sir. If one wanted to buy expensive crystal or china - not to be confused with crystal that some people have renamed Dresden - if one wanted to buy that sort of ware and one went to an outlet on Broad Street like Harrisons, you would see right away what I am saying. It is tastefully done, well decorated, nice staff and everything else, well displayed and it sells for a high price too, but when you want to buy a piece of pottery made in Barbados, looking at it from the eyes of a visitor, you have to find wherever this IDC handicraft place is, and unless you are coming off a ship where you will most likely walk past it, a lot of people do not know.

I am saying that one of the first things about marketing is that you have to put your goods or services in an area or in a position where the person you want to sell it to can see it and access it easily. I saw where this administration allowed the use of the ground floor of the old Harrison building, which I believe is now a Government owned building, for people to display their wares at some particular time when it was some special occasion. You may want to look either at that place or some other place centrally located like that on Broad Street or somewhere central - not on the back of the Wharf somewhere or on Roebuck Street - on Broad Street or on another central street in Bridgetown, the waterfront or whatever, to set up that kind of place for display of the ware, after you have created the kind of packaging and the kind of presentation that would go along with that.

I believe also that with that kind of development where you are going to give people opportunities to move more of their goods, apart from the fact that you would be earning a lot more foreign exchange, you would then be in a position, a position that I would support, where you could cut down if not ban the importation of all these handcrafts that say "Barbados" and when you turn them over you see they were made in Taiwan or China or wherever.

—

5.05 p.m.

You would be in a better position to deal with that, and apart from now earning foreign exchange by selling goods that we have made from indigenous materials, we would be saving foreign exchange by not having to buy a lot of these other souvenirs that say "Barbados" and nothing about them is made in Barbados at all.

I have heard I believe it is the Honourable Deputy_ Prime Minister say that there arc plans to put some new facility in the Port, a cruise ship facility of some sort. Of course one would expect it is going to be far superior to what you have now, which I am not criticising because that evolved, it just went along and you improved it as you needed, but now you need a real facility because you are in the cruise ship business. I would like to think that the Honourable Minister of Trade would collaborate with the Honourable Minister of International Transport in getting -^ facilities included up front now - I don't know how ^ advanced the plans are, but if it is still possible - where we do not see a situation where those facilities in the'Port suddenly now are occupied again by the bigger business houses in Bridgetown, but that some of these same people, even if they form some sort of cooperative, and I am sure that the Honourable Member for St. Lucy can advise them on that cooperative because he is well versed in that sort of thing, could have their own outlet in or quite near to the Bridgetown Port. In other words, I am saying that if your plans are so far advanced that it is difficult to include thenrs. now in a very tasteful way, I don't mean just add it on, you - may even want to look at, as I am told, that development that is going to take place from the Port right up to Pelican Village. You may want to look at fitting them in somewhere in that overall plan.

The other thing, Sir, is that I had mentioned in this Honourable Chamber before, even when I was on that side, the whole area from what is known as the Lower Green bus stand down to Pelican Village, I think is an area that can be-^ developed, and I don't think at much cost, and when I say" not at much cost, I mean relatively speaking, for mainly if not totally small business people. I have already said that if the engineers, the experts determine that the structure of the old City Hall is good enough to withstand some renovation without totally demolishing it, one could look at creating a sort of craft centre there mainly in the area of fine art, a niccx gallery, maybe even a national gallery could be created" there. If it can still withstand two floors, you can have a O floor where paintings arc hung or objects of art are there for

people to view, and maybe on the ground floor we could have a situation where young artists, struggling artists, call them what you like, can have an opportunity to display their ware and sell, again trying to put them in a central area.

To further improve and enhance that area one could look at the possibility of looking at the plan again - I don't """ know if it has been shelved or if it is something that is =» being looked at - but looking at the plan again of removing the Lower Green bus stand and removing the buses from where they presently go in the Lower Green and. the expansion of the other bus stand beyond the Post Office to incorporate both bus stands. 1 gather that that was a plan at some time. I don't know if it is still included. I have not checked it out specifically in the Development Plan. 1 don't know if it is in there. But one could look at that, because I would think, and I have said this before, that the present bus stand which is known as the Lower Green was part of - " Jubilee Gardens. I don't know that as having seen it, but I was told so by people who know, and that that could again be part of a small park in the centre of the City. All of us in here have done a lot of travelling and we have seen in other cities where you have these little parks very similar to that sort of thing in the middle of town. It would do a lot of things, because in keeping with what the Honourable Minister of Agriculture has told us in here where there is going to be a redesigning and redevelopment of the Chcapside vegetable and meat market, the terminal market at Chcapside, I would think that all these tilings can lock in, not necessarily overnight. I am not expecting a magic wand, but over time a development plan could be designed for that area, again in keeping with your wishes to provide better conditions for these small people to operate in.

In the case of the facilities at the Port and the possibility of looking for some other central location in Bridgetown to assist, I don't want to suggest for one minute _, that you should take up taxpayers' money, put it in and people get a free ride. I am suggesting that it be a business venture, that you may want up front to assist people at minimal cost or no cost, but understanding that as it goes on they would have to pay their way. I believe too, Sir, that it is important that the whole thing be handled in a professional way and be handled in a commercial way and not that we allow these people, because they are the craft people to run it themselves, because in most cases a lot of us who may have skills in these kinds of areas, joiners who become furniture manufacturers, various other craftsmen "^ who become manufacturers of some sort, arc our worst enemies because we believe that we know how to manage, and that is not always true. We know how to make the item, but we do not necessarily know how to manage, and sometimes it is better if we arc managed. That is a consideration I would like to include if one would look at that kind of programme.

•»«?• Now, Sir, there is another area that is bothering me and I don't know how many people have taken a look at this. If you look at the small retail sector, your average village shop, your mini-mart, call it what you like, particularly the food retail sector, there is a sort of phenomenon, maybe that is too strong a word, something is beginning to happen in that sector with the small operator. First of all, a lot of the small shops around the country are being replaced by mini-marts. That is not a problem, that is development, and it is development if in fact the same type of small people are the ones owning the mini-marts. There is nothing wrong with a fellow going from a shop and improving and putting in some refrigeration facilities where he can sell items that he never was able to sell before, if in fact it is him. What I am seeing happening is that a lot of these small shops owned and run by small business people in Barbados have their main competition coming from gas stations owned by the large oil companies who now have mini-marts in the gas stations. As a matter of fact, the mini-mart at Black Rock I believe it would be safe to argue does probably more business than the gas station, that there is probably a better turn over there than at the gas station, and if,you look around you would sec that there are a number of other large business houses in Bridgetown who have now opened so-called convenience stores, mini-marts again. They have gradually crept into these areas where a lot of small business people used to operate before, and because of economics of scale, because of their purchasing power, they can afford even to offer prices that the small shopkeeper cannot offer. There are many cases where one of these persons can buy, say, 100 case lots. I know it is a fact of life. I am just saying that one may need to look at the kind of assistance that is needed.

I am dealing with this matter from a sociological point, because if we look carefully we will sec who arc the people who own the bigger ones. That is what we have to look at. It is not only the whole economic thing, so you may have to put in place some sort of assistance where these other people can move ahead and improve their stores and be able to compete. 5.15p.m.

I am saying that because of these other persons ability to purchase and so on, it is almost like a discriminating factor. The other fellow just cannot make it.

As far as the manufacture of frozen yogurts and things like that are concerned, I think it would be safe to say that by this time tomorrow evening we would have had a very long meeting with the Pine Hill Dairy and look at the possibility of deepening the process where we could offer some 100% Barbadian product using Barbados milk and I think that the Honourable Minister of Trade and the Honourable Minister of Finance would be happy to hear that because it would help to cut down .....

Aside.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: No. We would be able to supply them with mix. They are not any more of them.

But, Mr. Speaker, as I was saying, the Honourable Minister of Trade likes to look for contention where there is none. I made it quite clear that the points I would try to make regarding the development of small business people were non-contentious. I am looking at some concerns that I have that I am sure all Honourable Members on that side share.

I know one Honourable Member oveV there who shares these concerns because we have discussed it before, how the old shopkeepers are being pushed out of existence and these are things you have to watch because sometime later on when it produces social conditions that we wonder how they have come about, if you go back to this you would find that maybe that is where the genesis was because some people feel they have no place in this society after a while and we as political leaders must make sure that that does not happen.

Sir, as I was saying, unless these people are given not only financial but managerial assistance.... I know when you talk about these so-called "C" stores, Convenient Stores, I saw a computer programme that showed you how the store must be laid out, where you put certain items, where you place the cash register in proximity to the rest of the store, and all of this came in a package from North America that was done, again economies of scale, to handle a few thousand of these stores in the United States of America, Canada and Europe. The company here that put up one did not even have to purchase that kind of information. The store was almost put up like in modules and that was it.

Now, how is a small fellow who had a shop and is going to try to make a mini-mart going to be able to compete with that kind of thing so all I am saying is that when you talk about assisting the small business, we have to understand what you really mean. What areas do we want our small business people to concentrate on? Arc we telling them get out of the shop-keeping business because if we are we have to state that clearly. If we arc not telling them that then we have to give them the kind of managerial and financial assistance that would allow them to slay in there and compete with the big guns. As I said, Sir, I have no objection to these big people going into that sort of business but I am just saying that the situation must be made fair.

We need too, Sir, to address the role of the small entrepreneur, the small business person in the service sector particularly in areas like tourism where we know that that is one of the striving areas in terms of generation of money. We need to look at their roles not only as it relates to the small hoteliers, but as it relates even to those persons involved in the other ancillary services.

If I could dwell for a few minutes on the small hotelier, I believe there have been several studies, several reports on this question of the small hotel in Barbados, the guest house, the inn, call it what you like, and the role that it should play in overall tourism development; but without having in front of me any knowledge, any facts, any figures on what assistance is being given to this segment of the^ hospitality accommodation industry, I have to go with my"^ __ gut feeling that not much is being done for them in terms of their promotion, in terms of research of market places that they can access, in terms of development of those market places.

I know that if one picks up any report from the Barbados Development Bank one would say, yes, lots of money have been poured into these small properties, lots of money are still owing to them too and I will tell you now. Lots of them cannot pay, not that they will not, they cannot-^ and if the BOB knew how to run hotels they would have *a* lot of hotels to run right now if they so wish and it is only because of the fact what are you going to do with them if you foreclose on all of them. It is like the plantations. What are you going to do with them? So they go along running as best they can with no serious assistance in terms of development, in terms of management. There are several owner-operated properties like that.

Aside.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: No. I do not think that the BOB should run them. I believe that is a good slogan too.

Aside.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: I do not speak for anybody. Mr. Speaker, I do not say that the BDB should run them. What I would say is that like in other areas of endeavour, in other areas where the BDB provides financing, I am of thq^-L^ view that there should be a small business advisory service.

Years ago Barclays Bank started a project like that and it had a lot of successes. I do not know why they closed it down. I believe it was one of those things that they did not really earn any money from and we know how private commercial banks operate. They do not operate like the Government Bank.

BIMAP is one that comes to mind. Maybe BIMAP-*v along with the BDB could come up with some sort of small business advisory service. I am not suggesting to the Honourable Minister of Finance that we go out there now and create some other institution. I am saying that you have the institutions in place now and that the marriage of some of them or some of their services can bring about this kind of a system.

One of the problems we have as small business pcopw in Barbados is that sometimes you lend us money and it

chokes us^Because a lot of people do not know what to do with the money once they have got it and I do not mean that in any way disparaging. I do not mean that they do not know how to spend money. What I do mean is that some people look at cash flow and misunderstand how it works. Some people see a lot of money in their account now and believe that well, it is time to spend; but you have payments that are coming up. You have debt service and a lot of things that you have to pay attention to and leave that money alone because it is already spoken for, to put it in simple terms.

I am saying that a lot of these small business people whether they are hoteliers, manufacturers, retailers, they need that kind of managerial assistance. They need that kind of basic managerial training. I am not saying that a lot of them can afford to hire a financial controller, an administrative assistant, a production manager but if you give them the basic and fundamental training regarding the management of their money, that would be a step in the right direction.

I also believe that, as has been said before, it is nothing new, these small people cannot afford on their own to market their property anywhere, not even next door in St. Lucia. It is a costly thing. Marketing is a costly exercise and this is why, as the Honourable Minister of Finance was saying *sotto voce*, you may have to look at say, a thing like "Inns of Barbados" where you market a group of these small properties, have them tastefully done and market a group of these small properties as inns of Barbados.

Honourable Members who have lived in North America or visited North America know that there is a certain type of tourist that likes to go to these small properties that are mainly owner-operated properties and especially in the New England part of the United States these inns are very popular. Most people like to stay at • these roadside inns, quite different from motels. I am not talking about motels. I am talking about these nice little inns. The meals are always better there. Anytime you are on the road driving from one state to another and you sec one of these little inns more than likely the food is always very good because it tend to be homemade type of food and there are tourists out there who like this kind of thing. I am saying that there are millions of them. If we can get a small percentage of mem coming, I think you would solve half of the problem or more than half of the problem of these small operators but enough on that, Sir. 5.25 p.m.

Now, Sir, one would not expect me to speak on the development of small businesses without coming around to manufacturers, particularly export manufacturers. Mr. Speaker, if there is one thing I cannot say is that there is no -. assistance for export manufacturers. That would be dishonest. I cannot say that there are no institutions in place To assist. As a matter of fact, I would say, to the credit of whoever the Administration was at the time that that Export Credit Guarantee Scheme at the Central Bank was started, that it was a very enlightening step in providing the badly needed working capital for export manufacturing, and in providing the kind of incentive that was necessary then and now.

In fact, it was a very forward looking step because if one looks at the EXIM Bank, for instance, in Washington, the American Export and Import Bank, there is nothing they have on us, except one thing.

Aside.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: Not money alone because all these are relative. They need to deal in billions, we only need to deal in millions. If they have the billions and we have the millions, we are equal.

They lend you money for pre-shipmcnt financing, that 'is, if you have an order from abroad and the client is one that was accepted that has a good credit rating, *et cetera*, you get the pre-shipment financing and where, the Central Bank, in the case of Barbados would guarantee that money needed to prepare those orders to a commercial bank and then the commerci rl bank would then on-lcnd these funds.

Then there is post shipment financing which is basically discounted in the paper that you ship off. You send off the goods to Mr. X, because you only get a percentage for pre-shipment - obviously you only need for the cost - and the balance is then discounted from your paper and you get it into your account.

So that you are financed 100% by the time you ship those goods, so that your working is not tied up. I thought that was a very forward looking step so much so that it is right, even today. Where we have not gone any further with that scheme is that what the EXIM Bank would do now is provide finance for equipment that is directly related to export manufacturing.

I know that the technicalities would have to be worked out because one would have to look at how you are going to secure that. In a lot of cases, all of us who are in manufacturing, whether export or otherwise, we arc in up to our ears. Everything we own is already spoken for. There is no more security to get. That is why I said that the Export Guarantee was so useful because here you were getting money which you did not have to secure with any fixed or floating assets. You secured it with an order.

I know that it is not widely known or widely used, I should say, but the Development Bank also tries to assist people with local orders. For instance, if you had an order from a *bona fide* local company that is doing well you can take the paper in and once buyer agrees to pay the money directly to the Development Bank, the Development Bank

would lend you money to provide these goods - to local manufacturers - which I think is in the interest of export manufacturing, in the sense that unless we are able to build a very serious domestic base, you are not going to get very far with export manufacturing.

One of our major problems as export manufacturers is the shrinking or the lack of a good domestic base. It is sad to see that there are some large companies in Barbados which have a tremendous domestic base and had to be cajoled, prodded and all kinds of things to get into export.

I can think of an example like Banks Breweries. Successive Ministers of Trade - this present Minister of Trade *I* heard him almost appeal to them to get into export. Finally I gather that they have set up the plant in such a way that they are now producing and packaging for export.

I do not know how much they are doing, in terms of actually going out there and selling the product now, but they are now prepared for export. We have a difficulty of course. I saw it in Canada for instance, where because of trade mark problems with the Bank of Guyana the Banks Beer that we get in Toronto is the Guyanese Banks Beer and it does not taste like ours either. That is a bit of a disappointment. Banks may have to develop a new brand, a new label for export to get around that problem. They are even going in now to private branding where they are going to make a popular European beer here in Barbados. But you have other large companies here which arc even highly protected. You take Miller lightly.

I would not mind if I had one per cent of the shares in Miller Brewing company.

But, Sir, you take other companies here, large companies which are well protected in the sense that the only competition they have to worry about is a little competition from CARICOM and I do not know what they arc doing about exporting. They are so happy and comfortable with this large domestic base they have that they do not seem to be too concerned about exporting.

So when the Honourable Minister of Finance keeps talking about people earning foreign exchange in manufacturing, I think that he has to separate the sheep from the goats. There is no pun in that. I know that you are a sheep farmer. I just mean sheep from the goats, in terms of manufacturers.

You have to understand clearly, Sir, that there are those....

Aside.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: I heard they were six. They might have lambs by now. But the person who told me so - anyhow .....

Aside.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: You know, Sir, as well as I do, that when it comes to those French territories that they say one thing and do something else. They say, it is easier for me to get my product into Paris than it is to get it into Fort-de-France because those French Islands in the Caribbean are more French than the French themselves and they have -. extreme difficulty in getting in there. ~~_

I have had cases where I was selling to someone in St. Lucia and they would then export it. I do not know how they got it in to Martinique and I do not know how it got there. The labels do not even have French on them. But these are some of the things that happen in the Caribbean and as some people like to say, that is life in the tropics.

I am saying that to ask the export manufacturing sector - and let us be honest - there are some people in any-v sphere of human endeavour who would be unscrupulous but we cannot spend time bothering ourselves with that minority.

Most of us have the interest of this country at heart. It is in our own enlightened self-interest to earn money to want to export. I am proud to stand here today working for a company which assists - do it in a very small way because we do not have much money - in earning some ^x foreign exchange for this country. I can boast that where lots of other large companies in Barbados cannot even-boast of earning a single cent. They spend what I earn. That is what they do.

I am saying, Sir, that tangible and realistic assistance has to be given to the export manufacturers. I know that the Honourable Minister of Trade is wont to say, from lime to time, that manufacturers seem to think you have to do everything for them. Whatever you try to do that they - I am not even going to try to go down the line of triat^V argument today.

Suffice it to say that if you have an Export Promotion Corporation and I gather recently that there is some possibility that the two organizations, IDC and EPC would be merged. I am very glad to hear that. I hope it would be done in a way that all of us would benefit and not that we just put one inside of the other and carry on business as usual because I am not happy with the way they are doing it anyhow.

''* —*

But you have an EPC which is supposed to have a presence....

5.35 p.m.

Mr. SPEAKER: I would just like to draw to the ^ Honourable Member's attention that a debate on such a,. Resolution only allows each Member 30 minutes. No\v~~

clearly I do not want to cut you short like that, but I would think that you should start to wind up.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: I can wind up, Sir. I am sure that I will have other opportunities to speak on this at length.

Asides.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: Well, I am too tall to ever be short. I have been accused by your friend, Branford, of being too short. But Sir, if I can just quickly wind up then although it is a difficult thing to do on a point like this. What I am saying is that I would urge and caution the Honourable Minister of Finance. He said recently that he would put I believe the term was "Trade Commissioner" or some kind of trade attaches. We have tried that before. Be careful with that because we had a Mr. Charles Hinds in Washington and he was a Trade Attache.

Asides.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: But he was a Trade Attache. What I am saying is, Sir, that we have heard of the possibility of some trading corporation being tried in the United States. I have not heard about that recently. I have heard through the grapevine that it was thrown out of .the window. I do not know if anything could have been salvaged but some expert came here and did not think that it was a good idea. So that we are now going to put a trade attache. I do not know what we expect to gain from that trade attache. We have to go into that market place like other first country market places and be as aggressive as our competitors. The Jamaicans and now the Trinidadians have become extremely aggressive in the marketing of their produce and they produce similar products to us. Let us bear that in mind. What we have on them is probably belter : quality or what we have the potential to do is produce better quality. Because we know that we start off with a higher price than they have so we could only aim now for quality. As has been said by a number of commentators, the market niche that we have to target in North America and Europe has to be that specialty gourmet, or call it what you like, that high end of the market in anything that we are going to market. This is why, as the Honourable Minister knows, there are several new ranges of sauces with special packaging that will be leaving from Barbados to make another attempt at trying to access that market niche. I thank you, Sir.

Mr. E. BOURNE: Mr. Speaker, I second this Resolution and reserve my right to speak.

Mr. SPEAKER: Are there any Members who want to speak?

•~- Hon. E. E. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I had no intention of speaking this evening, but inasmuch it would seem as if we could engage in discussion on this particular matter I think it would be appropriate for me to respond to some of the comments made by the Honourable Member for the City who introduced this Resolution. In introducing the Resolution, the Honourable Member made the point that it is not a contentious matter. We are agreed on all sides that the role of the small business sector in Barbados can be an important one for the development of the economy. In truth and in fact, it is our belief in the Democratic Labour Party and I want to state this very clearly that there is a place for small business in Barbados and we will ensure that there is a place carved out for small business and the development of small business in this country.

Now in the first place let me say that to demonstrate our commitment to this particular idea that through the Industrial Development Corporation a number of things have been done in the past and continue to be done. The Honourable Member made reference to the craftsmen and what the IDC is doing in that particular regard. It is a fact that the IDC has trained and continues to provide training for some of our craftsmen in a number of areas. We do this sometimes with assistance from other countries, for example, the project which we had with the Chinese in the training of people to work in a number of areas. The question of therefore continuing in this particular area with people in basketry and embroidery is something which we developed. Certainly in the area of basketry, there is still work going on in that particular area and from lime to time the Industrial Development Corporation does workshops not only at Ihe training centre in the Harbour but also in other parts of the country.

We have identified the development of pottery as an area which is of considerable importance to us and in this particular respect I would want lo reiterate that we feel so commitlcd lo ihis particular idea thai Ihe Governmenl through ihc Induslrial Dcvclopmcni Corporalion has taken the decision to establish in the Bclleplaine area just before you reach the East Coast Road a complex which is going to be designed specifically to cater the craft people of that area. Just about two weeks ago Cabinet took a decision to acquire an area of land just outside of Bclleplaine for this particular purpose and emphasis will be placed on providing facilities for people in pottery, basketry, and a number of other crafts which are indigenous to that particular area. It will not only be providing an outlet, but it will also provide workshops and opportunilies for training of our people from this area in Ihe further development of those particular crafls. So lhat is designed for development of the small people in thai area.

Lei me also say lhat through the Industrial Development Corporation this Administration has also built a food processing factory al Wildey which will accommodale about ten small businesses in Ihe food processing area. Thai factory has been constructed. I believe the prior cosl is aboul $1.5 million. But it is the kind

of facility that will enable those persons who occupy it to move from their kitchen and to move as it were from their back yard in their small area of operation into a hygienic location and one which will enable them to produce their produce in comfort and also to the standards that we in this country lay so much emphasis on while at the same time give them the opportunity - certainly one would hope that this will be the case - if they have to export that they will be able to pass the normal test which is laid down as the Honourable Member for the City would know by the Food and Drug Administration in the United States of America. Only today I had a meeting with one of these persons who is producing a particular product. Through the Export Promotion Corporation, a study was done on a number of small companies in Barbados with export potential and this company - I am told their products will be pushed and the study has indicated there is a market in North America.

We are aiming at the niche market which the Honourable Member has indicated and which I think certainly this Administration has indicated that we should try to develop. There is no point, as the Honourable Member for the City has pointed out on more than one occasion, in our trying to say that we are going to export to the entire United States of America. It is pointless in that. But there are certain products and certain areas which we can aim at and this is exactly what we are doing.

I agree entirely with the Honourable Member when he says that we have to be aggressive in our marketing. This is one of the things which has been of concern to me and certainly we are revamping our whole export thrust in terms of representation both in terms of quality and the thrust of that particular area. We have to do some reorganisation - I will leave it at that at this point both in terms of the Industrial Development Corporation and the Export Promotion Corporation - to give it further direction and to certainly sensitize not only those institutions but also, as the Prime Minister has said, to ensure that people in certain key missions overseas are sensitized to the fact that one of the objectives which they should have would be to ensure that they do whatever is possible to assist in getting Barbadian products into the countries in which they represent Barbados. 5.45 p.m.

This is going to be very important. We think that this will add that kind of aggression to the approach which we consider to be necessary. We arc not at all going to be deterred by any bad experience which a former administration might have had by putting a so called Trade Attache in one of the Embassies. The people whom we will select will be real Trade Attaches, persons who will know the ropes and who will be aggressive, and who really understand what is required in this particular area. I want to assure the Honourable Member that this is an area that we arc particularly concerned about.

The Honourable Member has identified a number of problems that we have been grappling with and basically we are trying to find solutions. We are not successful with all, but as he very well knows, we have met with some measure of success in some of the areas.

The question of marketing assistance which he has__ identified as a problem is one which we have identified?- Linked with that is the whole question of the design of the packages and the presentation of the packaging. It is for this particular reason that the Export Promotion Corporation is working feverishly to have our Design Centre established. As you might be aware, advertisements for the staffing of that centre are already in the newspapers and one would hope that this will get off the ground in the not too distant future, but it is designed specifically to provide that kind of assistance in the presentation and the packaging of the goods which are produced in this country and for which w£^ recognise that there is need for some very radical transformation of the presentation and packaging which is used. We think this will play a significant role in this particular area, because that is going to be one in which there is going to be a lot of thrust.

The Honourable Member made reference to the plans for the redesigning of Pelican Village and the general Port area. I would want to give the Honourable Member the assurance that in any such redesign proper attention would" be provided for the small business operators in Barbados. They will certainly be given their opportunity, but it would be encompassing the whole redevelopment. If you look at Pelican Village as an example, you find that there are a lot of shortcomings. Pelican Village was suitable, I suppose, when it was conceived, but so many things have happened since then. We have to open up Pelican Village, because if you drive down alongside Pelican Village you really are looking at the back of the shops in there and you have to go inside the village itself to recognise what is in there. Th£X, redesign, hopefully, will open up Pelican Village so that there will be a better display of the products.

This is not the only thing which is going to be done. I believe at the appropriate time further announcements will be made about the whole general area and development which is proposed for that particular area. I would not want to speak on the proposals for the Chcapsidc Market, I think the Minister of Agriculture is more versed in that particular area, but again, as I understand it, there will be som^v developments in that area.

I would not want to get into any quarrel which there may be between the Professor at the University and the Honourable Member for the City, but we know that today he has been on the Professor's back.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: On a point of order, Sir. Trus" Honourable Member has no quarrel with any Professor at any university.

Hon. E. E. GREAVES: The Professor may be a little insensitive. He may be a bit academic and he may be somewhat ignorant of business operations. Let me say though that sometimes we do require to conduct studies on various areas for us to get a clear understanding of what the nature of the problem is, and the Professor, as I understand, it was employed by the Export Promotion Corporation as one of the people who were studying the whole question of small business and the possibilities which exist for a number of small businesses, particularly those at the Government institutions - the IDC, the EPC and the BDB - wanted to identify as companies with export potential.

The Honourable Member need not fear. As he has indicated, there are good possibilities for companies like his, so I do not think he should bother too much. Once of course he gets his prices right, once he ensures that his *product* is properly presented, once he ensures that he meets all of the standards which are required and that the product tastes good, he has no problem whatsoever.

I think this is very important. I think we have reached a stage in Barbados where we have to recognise that there are certain standards below which we cannot fall. It is for this reason that the Barbados National Standards Institution is being called upon more and more to establish standards for a number of these products, standards which will be made mandatory. As far as I can recall, we have very few, if any, mandatory standards in Barbados. We need, for example, to have standards that when once we have agreed on these standards that they would be mandatory, that is, that they can be enforced and not just standards which producers would comply with if they feel like.

I have said to the Barbados National Standards Institution that I would certainly want them to produce standards which I can then take the appropriate legislative _j)utc to ensure that they are made mandatory, so I think that is another development which will be taking place.

The Honourable Member also made reference to the role of the Barbados Institute of Management and Productivity and the Barbados Development Bank and the possibilities which should exist for these two institutions in particular to come together possibly to establish a small business advisory service. He was making the point that when small business people obtain loans from the Barbados J)cvclopmcnl Bank, for example, that they may not be in a . position to manage these loans effectively and therefore run inlo all sorts of problems. 5.55 p.m.

Now this is a problem which has been identified. One of the difficulties which we have found, and I think the eabnourable Member would know it, is that the Industrial Development Corporation at one stage and at another time thc^" Export Promotion Corporation, had attempted to organise some workshops and some seminars to introduce management techniques to some of the small business operators. They had difficulty in getting them to attend. One of the things which we would hope to do is to maybe, and this is being discussed, have a pool of management and financial, people who would be able to go in and spend some time with some of the small businesses and work with them. When this was discussed, however, I seem to recall that one of the objections which they faced from some of the small business people was that if they were working with more than one company, then these particularly people would have access to the company's information and the company's secrets. There was this fear that such would be made available to the competitors and this would put the company in difficulty, and all sorts of problems. In short, what I am saying is that the problem has been identified. We have to devise a way that we will be able to deal with that particular matter.

What I am saying is that this Administration is conscious of the need and certainly has indicated clearly its commitment towards the development of the small business sector in Barbados, and we would be continuing to work with the various institutions, and certainly from the point of view of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Commerce, we will continue to work with the small business people in order to ensure that they are put on a sound fooling.

It is for this reason, Sir, as you will recall, that for the first time we have further identified our commitment towards the whole question of the development of small business in Barbados by making provision of a token which is included in the Estimates of this year, but it shows the Government's commitment towards the development of small business. I know that the Members of the Opposition sometimes would tend to make sport at the provision of the token vote in the Estimates of SI00, but I think it demonstrates the Government's commitment in this area, and because there is a token vote of $100 it docs not mean that it will remain $100 forever, but we are through the Ministry developing programmes. We have put together a group which is made up of particularly the small business sector, WAND and WID and the National Development Foundation of Barbados, the small business sector which used to function some years ago, and I would want to say that there is provision even on top of all this in the finances of the Industrial Development Corporation for money to run an office for the small business sector as has happened before. What has happened with that is that it just went into abeyance. The office ceased functioning and every year we put money in case it is resuscitated. So what I am saying is that we arc trying our best through various means to give encouragement to the development of the small business sector in this country. I think it is very clear that this Administration has demonstrated its commitment towards this by the areas which I have identified, the area in Wildcy, the area which we arc going to be developing in St. Andrew, and I would also want to make the point that we are looking for an area somewhere in the central area of

Barbados which will be used for people in the small services sector. For example, if you wanted to have some repairs done to some equipment, whether it is a television set, video or what-have-you, have shoes repaired, or want to get a muffler fixed on a motor car, as the Prime Minister has said on more than one occasion, let us say that you have a little problem and you may want to get your muffler fixed on your car and you may need to get your shoes fixed, you could probably go into this particular area, and while you are waiting to get your motor car fixed, you could go next door and get your shoes fixed; but it is a small ^service area which we are going to be developing.

Again I would want to say that provision is made in the Estimates of this year under the IDC budget for the development of that particular facility. We think that it is a facility which is going to be a useful one for this country, and we are pursuing it with the utmost haste and dedication. It is interesting to note that in the food process facility which we have developed at Wildcy, all of the shops have been committed out. There is an over-commitment. As a matter of fact, we have about an additional twenty people who would like to be accommodated who cannot get any, so we may very well have to consider putting up another facility. This demonstrated very clearly that there is a need for that particular facility. With these kinds of commitments and the understanding and the empathy which this administration has demonstrated to the development of the small business sector, I think that the Honourable Member for the City and his party would undersland certainly and appreciate very clearly the commiuncnt of this administration to the development of small business. I would therefore, Sir, like to move the following amendment to this Resolution. I will delete paragraph 3 and substitute it with the following paragraph, but, Sir, let me read the entire Resolution.

"WHEREAS there are small businesses in need of financial developmental, marketing and other assistance,

AND WHEREAS such small businesses can and do contribute significantly to the social and economic well-being and aspirations of our nation,

AND WHEREAS Government has taken significant steps to improve the position of small businesses in Barbados,

BE IT RESOLVED that this House urge Government to continue with programmes to assist the small business sector of our country."

I thank you, Sir.

6.05 p.m.

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, I would like to second the amendment and reserve my right to speak thereon.

Mr. R. P. BYER: Sir, I want to make a comment on the amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: You are speaking on the main Resolution?

Mr. R. P. BYER: Sir, I wanted to make a comment on the amendment.

Mr. SPEAKER: The amendment would have to be put now. That is what would have to be done. It would have to be put before the House before you could speak on that.

Mr. R. P. BYER: I agree then.

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

Mr. SPEAKER: If you want to speak on the amendment you surely can.

Mr. R. P. BYER: Sir, I was going to ask the House to postpone further consideration at this stage.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is nothing wrong with provided that no other member wants to speak.

Mr. R. P. BYER: Yes, that is it, Sir, provided that nobody else wants to speak. I was going to move postponement for further consideration. I so move.

Mr. P. J. M. MILLER: I beg to second that.

Mr. SPEAKER: Further consideration will be now postponed.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. P. M. GREAVES: Mr. Speaker, Honourable Members seem to be gelling a bit tired. You yourself have been there all day, Sir.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the House be now adjourned until 12 o'clock noon on June 12,1990.

Hon. B. M. TAITT: I beg to second that.

The question that the Sitting be suspended until 12 o'clock noon on June 12,1990 was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. SPEAKER suspend the Sitting accordingly. 6.10p.m.

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