
THE

House of Assembly Debates

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION 2003 – 2008

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, January 27, 2004

Pursuant to the adjournment, the House of Assembly met at 10.20 a.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2004.

PRESENT

His Honour I. A. ROETT, G.C.M., B.A., Dip. Ed. (Speaker)

His Honour J. M. Edghill, J.P. (Deputy Speaker)

Rt. Hon. O. S. ARTHUR, M.Sc. (Econ.) (Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs and the Civil Service)

Mr. D. J. H. THOMPSON, LL.B. (Hons.)

Mr. L. R. TULL, Q.C., M.A. (Oxon.)

Hon. G. A. CLARKE, B.Sc., Dip. Ed., J.P. (Minister of Public Works and Transport)

Mr. R. D. MARSHALL (Chairman of Committees)

Hon. H. F. LASHLEY (Minister of Social Transformation)

Hon. R. St. C. TOPPIN, LL.B. (Minister of Commerce, Consumer Affairs and Business Development)

Mr. D. St. E. KELLMAN

Mr. T. A. PRESCOD, B.A.

Rev. J. J. S. ATHERLEY, B.A., B.Sc., J.P. (Parliamentary Secretary to the Attorney-General and Minister of Home Affairs)

Hon. N. A. LYNCH, B.Sc., M.B.A. (Minister of Tourism and International Transport)

Hon. A. P. WOOD, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.Phil., J.P. (Minister of Energy and Public Utilities)

Hon. R. R. FARLEY, B.Sc., J.P. (Minister of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports)

Hon. Miss C. Y. FORDE, J.P. (Minister of State, Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Sports)

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT, M.B., B.S., (Edin.), F.R.C.S., J.P. (Minister of Health)

Hon. D. D. MARSHALL, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (Minister of Industry and International Business)

Hon. K. D. SYMMONDS, B.A., LL.B. (Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade)

Mr. C. A. MASCOLL, B.Sc. (Econ.) (Hons.), M.A. (Public Finance) (Leader of the Opposition)

Mr. R. D. JONES, B.A. (Hons.), M.A. Ed., J.P.

Dr. D. C. ESTWICK, B.Sc., B.M., B.S.

Mr. M. A. LASHLEY, LL.B.

Dr. W. F. DUGUID, B.D.S. (Comm.), F.D.S., FDRCS, J.P.

Mr. R. L. SEALY, B.Sc., M.B.A.

Prayers were taken by Rev. Canon Ivan Harewood.

Mr. SPEAKER: The House is now in session.

MINUTES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Minutes of Tuesday, January 20, 2004.

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: I beg to move that the Minutes for the Honourable the House of Assembly for its meeting of Tuesday, January 20, 2004, which Minutes have been circulated, be taken as read.

Rt. Hon. O. S. ARTHUR: I beg to second that, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: If there are no corrections or observations, then let these Minutes stand confirmed.

PAPERS

Rt. Hon. O. S. ARTHUR: I am commanded to lay the Annual Report of the Insurance Corporation of Barbados for the year 2002.
10.20 a.m.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Standing Orders Nos. 6, 16, 18, 20, 42(5), 43 and 44 be suspended for the rest of today's Sitting.

Rt. Hon. O.S. ARTHUR: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Mr. SPEAKER: Government Business is the order of the day.

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that Order No. 7 be withdrawn from the Order Paper as it is incorporated in Order No. 8.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order No. 7 is withdrawn as indicated.

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

Hon. G. A. CLARKE: I beg to second that, Sir.

On the motion of Hon. R. R. FARLEY, seconded by Rt. Hon. O. S. ARTHUR, the House went into Committee of Supply, Mr. R. D. MARSHALL in the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

ORDER NO. 8 – RESOLUTION THAT THE SUM OF \$19 838 133 BE GRANTED FROM THE CONSOLIDATED FUND AND BE PLACED AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE GOVERNMENT TO SUPPLEMENT THE ESTIMATES 2003-2004 AS SHOWN IN THE SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES NO. 9, 2003–2004

Mr. CHAIRMAN: This Honourable Chamber is now in Committee of Supply.

HEAD 13 – PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE – \$204 000

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. Chairman, I rise to move this Head seeking supplementary expenditure in the amount of \$204 000. This amount, by way of its monetary value may somewhat understate the significance and importance of the expenditure. Barbados is one of the first countries in the world to have the kind of comprehensive and progressive approach to the fight against HIV/AIDS. It is an approach

which citizens in other countries had to take their countries to court in order to have them implemented but one which we have implemented by way of choice.

Sir, this matter speaks more to our commitment and resolve to discharge our responsibility as a member of the international community of nations, than it does to what we are doing here at home, even though that is significant. The reality is that this contribution, which we are making under this Head, is intended to be Barbados' contribution to the Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. We have a responsibility as the leading developing country in the world, as stated in the statistics in all the documentation of the Inter American Development Bank, The World Bank, International Monetary Fund and the various independent economic groupings, when they look at almost two hundred countries that are members of the United Nations, Barbados is listed as a middle-income country.

In this western hemisphere, Canada and the United States of America are the only two countries which rank higher on the Human Development Index of the United Nations that measure the quality of life, where Barbados ranks twenty-seventh in the world. We therefore have a responsibility to assist other countries that are not in as fortunate a position as Barbados. This is not to say that we live in utopia here in Barbados. This is not to say that we are not trying to accelerate our development and full movement into the rank of high-income countries and as a fully developed country.

Sir, decades ago Barbados would have benefitted from concessionary loans provided by the world Bank and other financial institutions but because of our level of development and our per capita income we are no longer eligible as a beneficiary. We now have to discharge our responsibility to put something back into the international community to help the poorest in the rest of the world.

Therefore, not only in this contribution that Barbados is making to the Global Fund but also to the International Development Agency (IDA), an agency of the World Bank, of which Barbados is a net contributor. We pay a contribution into the International Development Agency which provides a Fund from which those countries, which are in the lower income grouping of the world's economic calculation, are able to draw and develop their societies in the way that we have developed ours.

Sir, this is part of Barbados' small but meaningful international outreach. It marks a turning point in our affairs where we, in terms of our relation with several international agencies, are now net contributors to the pool of funds available rather than net drawers from those funds.

Sir, it is not merely our contribution by way of money which makes this so significant. The fact is that to persons around the world, in the international fight against HIV/AIDS, Barbados has been recognised as a leader in terms of its proactive approach to the fight against this threat to humanity.
10.30 a.m.

Sir, the second annual national consultation on HIV/AIDS was held on October 10, 2003. Indeed, Sir, the theme last year for the expanded response to HIV/AIDS was, "Get Involved". At the end of that, Sir, the Director for US/AID in the response to their HIV/AIDS Caribbean Regional Programme, Ms. Aurora, made the observation that US/AID was extremely impressed. Indeed, to use her words, she was 'wowed' by the degree to which Barbados had truly institutionalised a multi-sector approach to addressing HIV/AIDS.

Her comments, Sir, indicated that not only were we a model in the Caribbean Region but truly, we were a model which had surpassed the United States and Western Europe, in the area of having a multi-sectoral response to the challenge of HIV/AIDS.

Therefore, Sir, we not only have to offer this contribution of approximately US\$100 000 to help those in less fortunate economic circumstances in the world with this programme, but we also have a pool of experience and talent in the public and private sectors and in civil society which, we hope, would be employed in helping countries across the world to achieve some of the results that we have achieved.

Again, Sir, I make these points not by way of boasting, but by setting the record straight. This is not to say that all is well in the western skies. This is not to say that we have the problem completely controlled. This is simply to make the essential point that in terms of the progress which countries have been able to make, in what is in fact a common problem for mankind that Barbados has put its shoulder to the wheel. Sir, this effort is being recognised around the world, and we should also recognise it. It should not be used for celebratory purposes, but it should inspire us to move on to the next stage to work harder, faster, put more resources and to keep up the fight. The old cliché holds true that a chain is only as strong as its weakest link. As a family of mankind, as a Barbadian family, as communities and as individual households, Sir, if one person fails to capture the message, not be vigilant, and takes an unwise step, then, that jeopardises tens upon tens of others.

The reality, Sir, is that with the openness of our borders these days, tourism, international business, and more relaxed regimes in terms of immigration and travel generally, we cannot sit here in Barbados and take the position that

because we have been able to evolve an active programme, a programme which by way of statistical evidence has clearly been successful as a start, that we should ignore what is happening in the rest of the world.

It is clear, Sir, that we cannot take the position that because we have been able to improve economic circumstances here, even though we still have some challenges and certainly this money could have been employed in doing several things in Barbados, the reality is that Barbados cannot stand isolated from the problem as it occurs in the rest of the world. Those of us who are in the upper and middle income earning categories in the world have a responsibility to contribute to whatever global funding mechanism has been created, because the lives we save will not only be those in countries half way around the world, but they will be our own.

In fact, Sir, another old cliché holds true. It is said that wherever you go, you could find a Bajan. Therefore, the lives of our kinfolk, our kinsmen and kinswomen, will be at stake in far-flung places in the world, if we do not pitch in to help.

I start from that perspective of where we stand amongst the family of nations, as the country in the western hemisphere with the third highest quality of life, as a middle income country and one that, increasingly, in several other situations will have to take its responsibility and contribute to international development for the poorest of the poor. For example, in Sub-Sahara Africa which has many of its members listed amongst the lower income countries but which also is a region more stricken with HIV/AIDS, and of course, Sir, malaria and tuberculosis which are some of those opportunistic infections which would seem to have come to this programme.

Sir, let me speak about this global fund because I have a responsibility to this Parliament to indicate to it, the agency and the entity to which we are proposing to remit these funds. The purpose of this Global Fund, Sir, is to attract and disperse resources to prevent and treat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. The Fund, Sir, provides for grants which are for programmes, whether in Government, non-governmental organisations, the private sector, in community-based organisations, or otherwise.

Essentially, the Global Fund which is administered by the World Bank, in terms of acting as trustees to manage the finances of the Fund, and the World Health Organisation which provides the people, the human resource, to run the actual operation, Sir, but the Fund has a very strong preference for programmes which utilise local expertise. It is not about having a programme where a few international

experts travel around the world to give out a 'one-size-fits-all' solution to fighting HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

It recognises, Sir, that there are social, cultural, economic and political differences between countries. Therefore, the solutions which work on one environment would fail miserably in another, so it is a Fund which is built on sensible principles.

In this regard, Sir, it will support programmes which reflect national ownership, and a consensus approach in the country. Therefore, those programmes which are national in scope, whether organised by the Government or non-governmental organisations, once they are able to show national ownership and common support, they would be likely to get funds.

The programmes can include prevention, treatment and care and support for those persons affected indirectly. For example, Sir, orphans in the world, where both parents were afflicted by either of these three diseases.

Sir, contributions are accepted from Governments, the private sector, foundations and individuals. All of the monies go into this Global Fund which as I said is used for the purposes as identified.

So far, Sir, the Global Fund has approved a set of proposals from a number of countries. Somewhere in the region of 121 countries have approved proposals worth more than \$2 billion. To date, of that amount, in terms of disbursements, some \$232 million have been dispersed. The gap between approvals and disbursements would most likely be a reflection on the fact, notwithstanding how good a proposal may sound when submitted and may get the support of the trustees, that there needs to be an institutional framework on the ground in each country to ensure that the funds disbursed will be applied to the purpose for which they were given and that the institution in the community or country has the ability to get the job done.

10.40 a.m.

In the case of Barbados, we have established a 25-member coordinating team to deal with the preparation of the projects for submission to the Global Fund and the implementation of those projects if they are approved. Our country's coordinating committee is headed by the Senior Medical Officer, Dr. Ronald Knight and the Deputy Chairman is the Chairman of the National HIV/AIDS Commission, Dr. Carol Jacobs. The actual coordination of the project which would be funded by this Global Fund would be undertaken by this country's coordinating committee. The other members in this 25-member team represent a range of interest.

Sir, the work of the National HIV/AIDS Commission would be central to what is done by way of the projects supported by the Global Fund. Therefore, this contribution we are making to the Global Fund under the Head of Subscription and Contributions cannot be divorced from what we are already doing here.

In terms of this commitment, several other governments around the world are making commitments to this Global Fund but the size of the commitment varies from country to country because we are not all of the same economic means in the world. Therefore, there are countries which are making smaller commitments than Barbados and countries which are making larger commitments than Barbados, but each would contribute to its own capability. For example, Andorra pledged the same amount as that of Barbados, US\$100 000, Brazil, \$50 000; Burkina Faso, \$75 000 and Cameroon pledged \$100 000. Of the larger countries, Zambia pledged \$25 000; Poland, \$10 000; Monaco, \$44 000; Liechtenstein, \$100 000; the European Commission, \$524 million; France, \$627 million; Germany, \$340 million; Liberia, \$24 000 and Kuwait pledged \$1 million. Sir, those contributions were cited to give an example of the range of contributions so that one can see that the levels of contribution are based on economic circumstances.

Sir, we are prepared and committed not only to commit further as far as funds are concerned to discharge our responsibility as the leading developing countries in the world but also to making available the expertise that has been grown in the two decades or so in this fight against HIV/AIDS which we will speak further on.

Sir, in June 2001, the Barbados HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Project was the first project approved by the World Bank under the multi-countries HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control Adaptable Programme for the Caribbean region. Sir, I must say that this was a significant achievement for Barbados on several counts. First of all, Barbados has already been graduated from the World Bank as far as its eligibility for financing for a range of projects are concerned. The last project we would have had out of the World Bank would have been financing for a number of schools which would have been some time ago. However, we were able to make the case that in relation to this matter of HIV/AIDS that other considerations should apply.

Sir, the point must be made that the Government of Barbados had committed to spend \$100 million of its own resources over a five-year period in order for us to tackle this matter of HIV/AIDS. So it is not a question of World Bank funding or no programme, it was that we made this commitment because we know that the health of the nation is the wealth of the nation. We know that the people of this

country are our only true resource and that no amount of economic reform; no amount of constitutional reform; no amount of reforms to the legal framework; no amount of improvements in our education system and no amount of improvements in our physical facilities, our roads, our parks or other amenities, would be worth anything if we do not have our people in the finest of health. Therefore, this World Bank programme augmented the finances that we had agreed to commit in any case, which is significant.

The other significant point is that while the Government of Barbados was actively pursuing this, we committed our resources, we indicated that we would start and we made anti-retroviral treatment available in the first instance to pregnant mothers and then to all persons who were at a critical point in the HIV/AIDS continuum, there were countries in the world, for example, South Africa where its citizens had to take the Government to court in order to get certain concessions made.

Long before the Clinton initiative and other international initiatives were pushing the international drug companies to make anti-retroviral drugs and other treatment affordable, we had committed, first of all, to negotiating directly with those companies and secondly, to committing to what resources were required to get the programme going. Therefore, this was not a case of a programme only being implemented because it was advanced to us by international financial institutions, this programme was developed in advance of the availability of these stocks. We pursued the funds and we were fortunate to obtain them, but we would have gone ahead one way or the other even without them.

Sir, the impact of that programme has been dramatic. The programme would be implemented through the National HIV/AIDS Commission which is under the Prime Minister Office, which indicates the level of our commitment. First of all, it represents the determination that this would be a multi-sectoral programme. There is a strong health component but it is not only about health, but the Ministry of Health continues to play a pivotal role. In order to ensure the coordination of the national effort both across government ministries as well as incorporating the private sector, civil society and all of the people of Barbados, we felt that nothing less than the stature of the Office of the Prime Minister was suitable for the location of the National HIV/AIDS Commission.

The Right Honourable Member for St. Peter, the Prime Minister of Barbados, must be commended for his personal commitment and involvement in this project. It is not just there in his office for ceremonial purposes so we can say we have it in a 'big up' office. He has been personally involved in driving this programme in ensuring that we can achieve the results that we need to achieve from the programme.

We have also committed the staff of the government ministries to be a key part of the programme. Recognising that the Government employs in the order of 27 000 persons, one could reasonably argue that there is a Government employee in almost every house in Barbados.
10.50 a.m.

Mr. Chairman, most of us would have a relative who is employed by Government. Therefore, if Government's employment covers the entire demographic spread and permeates the family and the social structure of Barbados, then being able to undertake that kind of educational programme within Government ministries, was a good point of entrance into the area of work we needed to do.

Mr. Chairman, in terms of the nature of the programme that was developed, including the communication and advocacy to include Government's commitment to HIV/AIDS, in raising the awareness, knowledge and understanding, we have done a number of things that are different. As you would have noticed, we do not allow the erection of many billboards across Barbados because we do not want to have a billboard-jungle country but in relation to the HIV/AIDS awareness and education, a number of things have been done.

Asides.

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. Chairman, this programme also included other support activities such as the establishment of a number of key institutional support systems, for example, the opening of the Leadymeade Reference Unit by the Ministry of Health, in 2002, which was a key instrumental strategy in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Chairman, that Reference Unit has been able to provide for a number of services such as enhanced family counselling, medical diagnosis, and a range of other support services, intended to the care of persons with HIV/AIDS in Barbados.

Mr. Chairman, what has been the result? The number of hospital admissions for HIV/AIDS patients has decreased by 42 per cent, which is important. The total hospital days which are spent by HIV-positive persons have fallen by 59.4 per cent, while the average length of stay has fallen by some 39 per cent.

Further, there was approximately a 43 per cent fall in death of HIV/AIDS persons after the anti-retroviral treatment became available in January 2002. We have also noticed that the public education programme seems to be paying off because there is a higher level of attendance at the Leadymeade Reference Unit, along with other programmes

This is all important because in the early days, part of the challenge that we had in the fight against HIV/AIDS, was the reluctance of persons so affected to come forward because of the stigma and shame which was attached. There was also the absence of treatment. Sir, the number of HIV/AIDS persons who now attend is an indication of the public education programme.

Mr. Chairman, we have noted that since the introduction of the Leadymeade Reference Unit, and the wider availability of the anti-retroviral treatment, there has been a high adherence to the regime as prescribed, and an improvement in the general health of those persons so affected.

The research which has been carried on by way of a two-year structured survey, focused on the needs, experiences, *et cetera*, of more than 1 000 persons who are living with HIV/AIDS, and has indicated that 90 per cent out of that 1 000 persons surveyed, were satisfied with the quality of medical care being provided by the Leadymeade Reference Unit and other support groups. They have all considered such care to be excellent or good.

I, therefore, would want to commend those persons or agencies at the several levels, such as the HIV/AIDS Commission, community groups, operators of the AIDS Hotline, *et cetera*, that have been working in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Barbados.

In fact, I would like to commend one of my constituents, Ms. Carletta Carter who, for the past 13 years, has been a volunteer at the HIV/AIDS Hotline, in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Barbados and who has been awarded the HIV/AIDS Volunteer of the Year Award for her hard work. Sir, that is to be the spirit, that is not someone in a paid position.

We are talking about persons who might not have someone in their families who are affected but who, on their own free will and accord, have committed themselves to this fight, while recognising that the spirit of community must prevail and that it is only by that spirit, that commitment to self-reliance, that we in Barbados could control this problem.

Sir, out of the recognition of our responsibility to the wider international community, we are committed to this contribution of US\$100 000 to the Global Fund for the fight against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. We have also recognised that we have come a long way but that we have yet a longer way to go, and that we would not be able to achieve it, if we wrap ourselves within a cocoon of complacency. Sir, rather than doing that, let us be honest about what work that has to be done and about the concerns which still exist about the individual behaviours and approaches of persons.

Sir, these too have to be treated as an international fight and today Barbados is saying to the international community that we will bear our fair share of the cost of this fight.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you.

Hon. H. F. LASHLEY: Mr. Chairman, I rise at this time to make a brief intervention under this particular Head.

First of all, I would like to express my sincere thanks to all Barbadians who would have joined Government in this fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic, especially the HIV/AIDS Commission, the United Nations, particularly the United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO), *et cetera*.

Sir, I would also like to join with the Leader of the House (Ag.) in congratulating the Right Honourable Prime Minister for his fight against HIV/AIDS in Barbados and for taking the lead on this most vital issue, which would most likely threaten the existence of every individual in this country. Therefore, in our fight and in our quest against the HIV/AIDS pandemic, "Protecting today's children to secure our future tomorrow" should be the theme for every Barbadian who resides in this country.

11.00 a.m.

Sir, for the record I would like to put to this Honourable Chamber the Ministry of Social Transformation's performance in relation to Government's programme on the HIV/AIDS fight in Barbados.

Sir, this document is so vital that I ask for it to become a document of this Chamber. I also want to quote from the document since these are actual events which took place in the Ministry that would benefit all Barbadians.

Sir, the Ministry of Social Transformation is charged with the mandate of empowering individuals and groups and providing assistance to the most vulnerable sectors of this society. In our fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic, a core group was launched in September 2001 which was basically responsible for overseeing and tracking the activities outlined in our Ministry's programme for HIV/AIDS. Sir, the group met on a quarterly basis and eight meetings were held.

The core group consisted of committee members from the line Ministry, the National Assistance Board, the Community Development Department, the Urban Development Commission, the National Disabilities Unit, the Welfare Department, the Bureau of Gender Affairs and the Poverty Alleviation Bureau. .

Sir, every staff member at the Ministry of Social Transformation has been totally sensitised about this pandemic. This training was coordinated by the Community Development Division Department and each department has developed programmes aimed at reaching its particular target group with a view to effect changes in behaviour and reducing the incidence of the disease in the community particularly among our youth.

Sir, in relation to funding, so far we have expended \$2.2 million on the programme. I want to speak to the programme because the public of Barbados must be aware by now that they are getting their money's worth in relation to the programme as expedited by the Ministry of Social Transformation on HIV/AIDS. The lead department in the Ministry in this fight is the Community Development Department. This department has started a programme to sensitise the community on the prevalence of HIV/AIDS which basically seeks to minimise at-risk behaviour through the changing of attitudes and practices. It has also implemented a variety of projects and programmes aimed at reducing the effects of this pandemic.

In addition, there has been collaboration with twenty-one committees working in conjunction with the Youth Affairs Department through the Ministry of Education which have developed different methods of outreach to engage the attention of communities which are targeted.

The following strategies have been used:

- (1) Community participation to enable communities to take ownership of the programmes.
- (2) Partnership working with the community-based organisations (CBOs), the faith-based organisations (FBOs), the non-governmental organisation (NGOs), HIV/AIDS support groups and the use of diverse method and media to transmit these methods.

Sir, we have developed myriad activities. We have used drama, dance workshops, presentations, music, folk, singing, writing and all the cultural elements which are the best vehicles to educate persons in Barbados about this dreaded pandemic. Sir, I call the HIV/AIDS pandemic the most recent weapon of mass destruction because it has the potential to do that.

In addition, we have used the element of visual arts. The Honourable Member for St. Michael East has spearheaded a project in collaboration with the Community Development Department in his constituency, in the Ivy as this is a densely populated area with many 'rootsy', energetic persons. I thought these initiatives, spearheaded by the Honourable Member, were important in that regard.

Sir, in terms of getting the message across to Barbadians, a number of rap sessions were held particularly in rum shops across Barbados. We know that on weekends in the rum shops men like to talk about their sexual prowess so we intermingled with them to get the message across about this dreaded diseases.

We also worked closely with the churches because it is important that they play a critical role. Sir, I believe that the doors of churches in Barbados should be opened seven days each week, not only on weekends and that they should become a resource centre to play an integrated role to stave off the threat of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in Barbados.

Sir, we have used the medium of mobile concerts and this is critical because throughout the world artistes are being used by the United Nations to spread the message. Therefore, our collaboration with CBOs and NGOs is very important if we are to drive this process forward.

Sir, building self-esteem and sexual attitudes workshops were done by the Ministry. This is important because persons must be educated about this dreaded disease in Barbados. Against that background six workshops were held and fifty-six community volunteers were trained. Also, eight workshops have been held for churches and the CBOs. It is our plan to continue this process by establishing a Speaker's Bureau and a bus shelter project with an HIV/AIDS theme. This project will commence in the areas of Baxters Road, Belleplaine, Silver Sands and Checker Hall. 11.10 a.m.

Sir, last October approximately 20 000 posters about the HIV/AIDS pandemic were distributed across the island. Members of Parliament must be in the forefront fighting this dreaded disease. The Ministry also intends to carry out an awareness programme where every worker in Barbados would be sensitised about HIV/AIDS. It is also critical that the news media get on board and play a critical role if we are to educate the public about HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Chairman, there are persons of the National Disability Unit who are also affected by this dreaded disease. We intend to educate students with disabilities about the disease. We also intend to train the parents of these students, teachers and counsellors how to deal with students who are infected with HIV/AIDS.

Sir, I want to explain what the Ministry is doing regarding persons living with AIDS. The Ministry has conceptualised a programme called "Keeping It Real". This programme focuses on homosexuals and prostitutes who are HIV positive and there are persons who are working closely with those persons.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Member, you can wind up and come back later.

Hon. H. F. LASHLEY: Sir, I want to urge all Honourable Members to get on board.

Mr. K. D. SYMMONDS: Mr. Chairman, I rise in an effort to make a brief intervention in this matter. In the same vein that the Honourable Member for St. Michael South East spoke, the reality is, this matter before the Honourable House is a matter which reflects the struggle and fight against HIV/AIDS which must consume this nation's attention. Sir, it is not by itself a matter of national concern but the mere fact that the Prime Minister has gone as far as the United Nations and committed Barbados to supporting the Global Fund in the way it does, suggests that there is an understanding that this is an international matter.

Sir, Honourable Members on the Other Side who are nascent to these things would trivially and lightly seek to dismiss the importance of the international aspect of this debate. I think that it is important that we spend some time on this matter, even if it is only for the purpose of educating the Honourable Member for Christ Church East Central. This is not only a domestic fight. As recent as last year, in Cancun, the World Trade Organisation came to an understanding and commitment that an agreement would be reached whereby an initiative, led by Brazil and ably supported by a number of small developing States such as Barbados, would enable us to overcome the limitations imposed on us through the regime on trade and intellectual property rights and services. Mr. Chairman, this is an important point because for the first time in international law, it allows small countries, such as Barbados, to be in a position where we can license companies to use generic drugs irrespective of the issue of international property rights.

Sir, there are Honourable Members who may not wish to appreciate immediately the importance of this development but what it does is effectively take us out of the situation where we languished before, where commitments have been made by large companies to control trade in matters relating to the medical care and supply on anti-retroviral drugs for HIV patients.

Mr. Chairman, the development which I alluded to at the beginning of my speech indicates that a new era has dawned in the Caribbean. Part of the process of our development is that we are now able to treat persons who are living with AIDS, and in a manner which is fundamentally different to the way in which they were treated before. Therefore, it means that a significant strain has been taken off the public's purse. Sir, new opportunities of treatment are available to persons in the region who are infected with AIDS in that a less expensive form of treatment is available. Sir, that is a fundamental benefit which was derived from the

exercise that took place at the World Trade Organisation last year.

There are many people who would want to point to the negatives coming out of the global process. There are many people who would only want to condemn, castigate and say that we participated in this exercise but nothing useful has come out of it. However, the point must be made that Barbados and several other countries in this region are now in a better and more competitive position because we have been able to achieve some success in this exercise and there is much to be proud about.

The Honourable Member for St. Michael South East indicated that it is a matter that must be approached by every Ministry in this country. It is not simply a matter for the Ministry of Health or the Prime Minister's Office because the Commission is located there, it is a matter that must attract the attention and energies of every Ministry and that is the reason I rise to speak on this matter. There is much that this Government can justifiably be proud of in the way it has carried out the struggle against HIV/AIDS.

Sir, in the same vein that the Honourable Member for St. Michael South East spoke about the excellent work that his Ministry is doing, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a significant effort is being made to forge a technical cooperation agreement with Brazil. Brazil is one of the most outstanding countries in this hemisphere that has led the charge in the fight and struggle against HIV/AIDS. It is against that background that the question of cultural awareness and the sensitisation of our people arise.

Sir, we must look towards the rest of the world and see where people have been successful in the fight against AIDS, where people have managed to effectively sensitise their populations and implement cultural awareness and educational programmes.

It is regrettable that Honourable Members who would wish to see themselves in leadership positions in Barbados, such as the Honourable Leader of the Opposition, would want to treat this matter lightly especially when significant efforts have been made in neighbouring districts of his constituency as part of the struggle against HIV/AIDS.
11.20 a.m.

Mr. Chairman, what I would want to stress is that the effort to forge technical agreements with countries such as Brazil is really a critical part of the effort that Barbados is undertaking. In an effort to successfully fight this battle, we must merge and align ourselves with other societies which have found themselves economically in a similar position that we have, and understand that their principal resource is

a human resource product, but that they are able to find innovative means of protecting that human resource and struggle against the scourge of HIV/AIDS, in a way that has caught the imagination and attention of the outside world.

If we are prepared to look towards other societies such as Brazil, which has demonstrated excellence in this struggle, then the efforts made by the Honourable Member for St. Michael South East in the Ministry of Social Transformation are made so much easier, because from the association of those experiences, we can distill something of our own which is perhaps as effective and as useful in the fight that we are waging here in Barbados.

Sir, there is one other final point which has to be made. There is a critical reason why we fight this fight. It is not only because of the fact that it is a domestic scourge, but that here in Barbados we have to understand that we have a regional destiny. I make no apology for saying this and part of our regional destiny is that we have invested heavily.

The short-sightedness of the Honourable Members on That Side who only jump up and trumpet free education, is remarkable because it is the very investment in that human resource, the millions of dollars that have been budgeted year after year, for decades, in an effort to protect and develop the human resource product of Barbados. It means, therefore, that we must now position our people in such a way as to provide a leadership role within the Caribbean.

Part and parcel of that leadership role, Sir, must mean that we are able to demonstrate to our neighbours and friends, and to assist them with the precise plight that we are facing to enable them to better overcome that plight. It is only when the Eastern Caribbean is in a position of strength, that Barbados will see the maximum return on the investments that we have made in the past.

Sir, part of driving the Eastern Caribbean to that position of strength must be the forging of agreements with them, to lend them technical assistance, and every type of experiential assistance that we can give, on the basis of the achievements that we have made here.

Sir, this is why this Government bends over backwards and fights in the struggle against HIV/AIDS, because of the fact that we do not only have a domestic interest in protecting our people, but we have a regional interest in ensuring the welfare and well-being of the Caribbean. It is only within the Eastern Caribbean that our whole trade regime is successfully recognised and we have a comparative advantage, in terms of any trade.

Sir, I thank you for this intervention.

Dr. W. F. DUGUID: Mr. Chairman, I thank you very much for the opportunity to make my contribution to this debate. I have to start, of course, by supporting the measure to provide US\$100 000 to support the global Fund to fight HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

We can conceive this, Mr. Chairman, as an international cooperative fund. It is through nations coming together and providing monies that we are able, through the Fund, to achieve several common goals in the fight against HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis; goals such as a decrease in the spread of the epidemic of HIV/AIDS and the like; goals such as enhanced research in HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis; goals such as eradicating the viruses or the bacteria or even the mosquito that may cause or be a vector in these particular diseases, and goals such as providing treatment and care to those that may already be infected with these particular diseases.

These are the common goals that monies would be put together, through several countries, so that we would be able to carry on the fight against these particular diseases that affect humanity on a broad and mass scale. It is through these people and Governments coming together, that we are able to put money to the benefit of research, and to the benefit of other countries or groups who may not have access to funds themselves to help eradicate these diseases from our community and the world community as a whole.

Sir, I cannot see why there can be any political divide in this concept. There must not be because this is an absolutely excellent venture on behalf of the Government of Barbados to be able to show that we can stand proud in the international community. Therefore, we, like many other countries can put our money where our mouths are, and we cannot only talk the talk but we can walk the walk. We can also show the people of the international community that Barbados is a proud developing nation, that it is able to put \$100 000, more than some of the more developed countries. For example, Brazil, a country vast in resources which at this time has only put US\$50 000, and the fact that we can double that, I think, speaks volumes for the people and country of Barbados.

I would go further, knowing that there could not be any divide on this particular issue, I would expect my colleague from St. Philip West to make a significant contribution to this debate on HIV/AIDS and the Global Fund. Sir, I would expect him to do it, not only as a medical practitioner in this community, and not only having to treat people from time to time with these diseases, but it would be expected, not only by the people on This Side, but by the community of Barbados that he should get up and make a significant contribution on this Supplemental.

Mr. Chairman, I must publicly congratulate, not only the Prime Minister but also the National HIV/AIDS Commission and its Director. Sir, over the two years of its existence, they have made significant strides on the treatment of HIV/AIDS in this country. They are doing an excellent job. They have been strengthening the prevention programmes of HIV/AIDS through this country. They have expanded the access of every citizen who may be afflicted with the virus to anti-retroviral treatment. They have enhanced the care of those who may have HIV/AIDS. They have also added a research aspect of HIV/AIDS, researching in particular, risk factors and prevalence and incidence of HIV/AIDS in this country. They have dedicated the Ladymeade Reference Unit facility, a dedicated care and support outpatient facility, with voluntary counselling, free testing, provision of free services, as I said, to elderly patients, as well as family counselling and medication adherence counselling. This is important, because if a person who has HIV/AIDS does not adhere strictly to the regime of the drugs necessary, then they run the risk of resistance to the particular drugs.

Therefore, in addition to providing the drugs and counselling, they also provide counselling on how to take the drugs, so that any resistance to the drugs is minimised. Sir, I must say that they have had significant results in this area, and I want to go through the results of the Commission over the last two years, because I think they are important and they certainly have a national context. Seventy per cent of the people who have been taking the anti-retroviral treatment have had significant success with the treatment. Hospital admissions for HIV/AIDS patients have been decreased by 42 per cent. The number of days which people who may have HIV/AIDS have to actually spend in the hospital due to AIDS related symptoms has been decreased by 59 per cent. There has been a 56 per cent reduction in the number of deaths of people who were attending the HIV/AIDS Commission Clinic and an overall 43 per cent reduction in deaths after starting the anti-retroviral treatment.
11.30 a.m.

Asides.

Dr. W. F. DUGUID: It means that the number of people that are dying has been reduced if the Honourable Member do not understand the statistics.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Member for Christ Church West, could I hear those statistics again?

Dr. W. F. DUGUID: I will carry on, Mr. Chairman, I would not bother with the asides.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I said I would like to hear the statistics again, I did not hear them.

Dr. W. F. DUGUID: I will repeat the statistics, Mr. Chairman. There has been a 56 per cent reduction in the number of deaths of the people who have been registered at the clinic and an overall 43 per cent reduction in deaths after starting the free anti-retroviral treatment which shows that the drugs the people have been taking have been successful in reducing the number of deaths due to the AIDS related sicknesses.

Asides.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Member for Christ Church West, let me determine when you are being interrupted.

Dr. W. F. DUGUID: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In addition, Mr. Chairman, we all know of the reduction in transmission from mother to child. There has been a six-fold reduction in that and we have consistently maintained a six per cent transmission which means that 94 per cent of the pregnant mothers who are getting access to the anti-retroviral drugs are not transmitting the virus to their children.

I think these are fantastic statistics that the Commission together with an enhanced programme has been able to achieve.

Mr. Chairman, the Commission has not only been involved in cold, hard statistics. In addition to that, there has been significant patient satisfaction with the programme. A study was carried out to assess the satisfaction that the patients who attend the clinic had with the programme. The response was tremendous. Over 90 per cent of the people who responded to the programme said that the job done by the enhanced programme was very good to excellent. This says that not only is the clinic providing a necessary treatment but it is also putting a human face on the treatment of this epidemic. This is important because when persons are given the news that they are HIV positive, they are staring death in the face, therefore we must show some compassion and we must have a human face in dealing with people that maybe HIV positive in this community.

I must also join with the other Honourable Members and commend the Honourable Member for St. Michael South East for his contribution because it is through his particular programmes that we are seeing a human face being given to people afflicted with this disease. I have seen people who have benefited and I must say that they really appreciate what little the Government can do to assist them in their time of need. This is a serious matter because there is still a significant amount of stigma associated with the disease. Yes, we are maturing in our understanding of the disease and we are maturing in our way of dealing with

people who may be afflicted with this disease, but there is work still to be done. So as we continue on the road towards providing good care and service to our people this can only auger to the benefit of everybody in this society.

Mr. Chairman, these results indicate several things. There is significantly improved survival with the anti-retroviral treatment, the increase adherence of HIV positive patients to treatment regime is high, thus reducing the risk of drug resistance, there is an increase in the health seeking behaviour with considerable client satisfaction and through these regimes Barbados can now be considered a model for the treatment and care of HIV patients in developing countries.

With those few words, I thank you.

Mr. D. St. E. KELLMAN: Mr. Chairman, I rise to make one comment to this House which is that any discussion on AIDS is a very important discussion and it cannot be treated as a financial matter. One would have thought that a matter like this would have been addressed by the Minister of Health and that this Parliament would have been enlightened to new measures that would be put in place to help save the lives of AIDS victims instead of the Government using it as an occasion to use up the three hours allotted to a debate of this kind.

At this point I want it to be known that the Opposition has no intention of stopping the will of Government and that we support what they are saying and they could close the debate and go on to the other Heads.

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I have no hesitation in rising to support this Resolution, understanding the unquestionable commitment which this Government has to fight the scourge of HIV/AIDS in this country and indeed globally, having recognised the dire, not only public health consequences that can occur, but also the socio-economic consequences that can occur if HIV/AIDS is allowed to run rampant in any country in any part of the world.

At a time when recent statistics indicate that there are some 40 million people globally who are living with HIV/AIDS, at a time when statistics indicate that last year, 2003, there were five million new cases of HIV/AIDS globally of which, of importance, 700 000 were children less than five years old and at a time when in that same year there were three million deaths globally from HIV/AIDS, I think the Right Honourable Prime Minister has to be congratulated and praised for showing his commitment to the global fight against HIV/AIDS by the pledging of US\$100 000 to the Global Fund to take part in this fight.

Sir, the goal of the National HIV Programme is clear and remains the same as established in 2001, which is mainly to reduce the mortality rate from this disease by some five per cent by the year 2006, which as you would have heard from the Honourable Member for Christ Church East and Honourable Member for Christ Church West, we are well on the way to this target. I believe they said that the mortality rate has already been reduced by some 42 per cent.

Other goals include the reduction of the incidence of HIV/AIDS, the reduction of the progression of HIV/AIDS to full-blown AIDS in this country, to reduce the number of opportunistic infections which required hospitalisation and to improve the well-being of persons living with HIV/AIDS so as in the long run to facilitate their return to work and indeed to be integrated into the wider society. This is the Ministry of Health's focus in a sort of Phase II in the Government programme against HIV/AIDS. We also heard of the results from those two Honourable Members whom I have mentioned before.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased that the Honourable Member for St. Lucy wanted to find out some of the things that the Ministry of Health is planning to continue to do to deal with the scourge of HIV/AIDS in this country. We have done quite well in the area of clinical management, but we have to look at the area of domiciliary care and also the area of counselling and the psycho-social support which are not as easy as the others like clinical management and certainly not as easy to measure the outcome.

11.40 a.m.

Sir, this is extremely important, and we have not been focusing enough on it but we have to look at the screening of Sexual Transmitted Infections (STIs) support services, realising that there is a synergistic relationship between HIV/AIDS and other sexual transmitted infections, which are occurring in this island. This is an area that has to be addressed and strengthened.

INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

Sir, I also want to say that information, education, and communication are all vitally important and to this end, the Ministry of Health, in conjunction with the Ministry of Social Transformation, have already embarked on a programme throughout the island. We also have Health Information Officers based at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and within the Ministry of Health's HIV/AIDS Programme.

Sir, in the area of mother-to-child transmission, we have heard of the remarkable successes in the reduction rate from 28 per cent down to 6 per cent in approximately six

years, which, I dare say, is better than that of the United Kingdom or of the United States of America. Therefore, we are proceeding to strengthen this programme with the administration of the relevant therapies.

Sir, voluntary counselling and testing are two areas in which we are trying to get as many Barbadians as possible to come forward and be tested, for them to know of their status and to be treated if necessary, and for them to come to the realisation that HIV/AIDS can be treated as like any other chronic disease, such as diabetes or hypertension.

Sir, having said that and having spoken about the remarkable successes that we have so far had in the programme, we must not become complacent. Therefore, we have sought to upgrade our surveillance systems and to monitor those patients on Highly Active Anti-retroviral Therapy (HAART), understanding that in the United States there are examples where persons are put on such medication, could become complacent, could return to healthy lives and therefore would stop taking their medication, which could mean that persons could develop a resistance to the medication, which in turn could ruin the programme.

Mr. Chairman, as I speak to you, I can say that since the opening of our Ladymeade Reference Unit, there are approximately 580 HIV/AIDS-affected persons who now attend. At the end of December, 287 persons are presently on medication but we plan to continue with this treatment and to expand the programme. We plan to set up units in the eight Polyclinics across the island during this financial year. The Ministry of Health has hired eight counsellors to be assigned to the various polyclinics, to be involved in counselling both pre-test and post-test in both educational and community outreach, and in looking after the social welfare needs of persons who are living with HIV/AIDS.

In addition, some of these officers would be assigned to individual groups who suffer from HIV/AIDS. This programme has already started at both the Randall Phillips and the Glebe Polyclinics.

Mr. Chairman, in the case of domiciliary care at the Elroy Phillips Centre, we plan to upgrade the facility there. It is unfortunate that many persons still cannot deal with the fact that their relatives might have HIV/AIDS and, therefore, some of these HIV/AIDS-infected persons are evicted from their homes.

Sir, this centre is very necessary and plays a very important role in the provision of housing and care to some of these very unfortunate victims. Again a massive educational programme has to be done. In fact, it cannot be repeated often enough that we have to educate persons in order to remove that stigmatisation from this island.

SOCIAL WELFARE

This is a very important aspect and, therefore, we in the Ministry of Health are actively pursuing it. We plan to expand it with the construction of a food bank and personal development centre. At present, I do not know how many Honourable Members would know that within the compound of the Ministry of Health, there is an HIV/AIDS Hotline and Food Bank, where a number of persons and businesses throughout the island give donations of food stuff, where members of this community who have lost their work as a result of being HIV/AIDS positive, who might have been evicted, *et cetera*, come to this Unit daily to get food stuff for themselves and/or their families.

Sir, we plan to expand this; drawings have already been done to construct a Food Bank and Walk-in Centre, to provide not only the facilities where they could have their weekly parcels of food but where they could bring their families, could develop certain skills, or where they could all be counselled to be reintegrated into the society.

In addition, nutritionists are involved in showing them how to prepare foods, *et cetera*, bearing in mind that nutritional status is important in the treatment of HIV/AIDS. Again, the Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) programme is very important and there are plans to set up a unit within the Ministry of Health to deal with this aspect of HIV/AIDS, which is often forgotten.

Sir, in addition, we in the Ministry of Health plan to expand the facilities for the HIV/AIDS Management team. At present, these persons are being accommodated in very cramped conditions. At this point we can understand that with the issue of confidentiality, we do not want to have persons being interviewed or counselled while being in close proximity to others who would hear their business. This expansion is expected to be done within this financial year.

Sir, as I close, I must say that I am certainly committed to Government's pledging of US\$100 000 to the Global Fund on HIV/AIDS. We must understand that there are millions of persons throughout the world who are living and who are affected, not only by HIV/AIDS, but by tuberculosis, malaria, *et cetera*, and who have placed tremendous hope in this fight to help alleviate their sufferings. We must, therefore, try to honour their hope.

We must understand and try to make it possible for those persons throughout the world to achieve the state that we are in, in relation to HIV/AIDS. This is something that we have dreamt of years ago and is something for which others are dreaming and hoping.

I thank you, Sir.

Hon. N. A. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman, needless to say, I also join this debate to give support to this Resolution and to the amount pledged by the Barbados Government.

Mr. Chairman, I am somewhat appalled to say the least, that the Opposition would think of this debate as a light one, one which has nothing of importance to it, for them to make a contribution.

Sir, as I usually do, I totally disagree with the contribution of the Honourable Member for St. Lucy, because as usual, his contribution was paltry and did not focus on an important issue, that is the pandemic of HIV/AIDS which strikes at the heart of the most productive members of every society, both locally and globally.

As one thinks of the ages of those persons who are mostly affected by this disease, one would see why it is more than just a joke, as the Honourable Members of the Opposition would like to treat it.

Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member for St. Michael South East has already given some commendation to the Ministry of Tourism and International Transport for the Ministry's programmes, as they relate to HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Chairman, I rise because the programmes of the Ministry of Tourism and International Transport, which form part of the entire national management of the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, are targeted at industry workers and visitors to our country. I therefore, believe that anyone who is a student of what has been happening with our national HIV/AIDS programmes would see why it is so important that tourism forms a central part of any HIV/AIDS programme.

Sir, tourism is considered to be a high-risk activity since it brings both locals and tourists into contact on a daily basis. Therefore, we know that direct workers in the industry, those in ancillary services, and those who provide other services to the tourism industry are, therefore, the ones who would be at risk, and so by its very nature, it promotes behaviours which could encourage the spread of HIV/AIDS.
11.50 a.m.

Since its inception the Ministry of Tourism has focused on programmes which promotes awareness of HIV/AIDS and encourages the use of preventative measures where this disease is concerned. Mr. Chairman, I would like to utilise my time speaking to the programmes which the Ministry of Tourism have put in place relative to HIV/AIDS and dealing with this pandemic. There has also been a comprehensive awareness programme by the Ministry of Tourism and

International Transport to sensitise the tourism industry generally on the impact of HIV/AIDS, on how it affects the tourism industry and on the severe negative impact it could have on the overall economy of Barbados.

The first of these programmes are aimed at educating workers in the industry. There is a workshop which sets out to develop a cadre of trained personnel in the tourism sector. The target groups in this programme are trainers, human resources personnel and the activity coordinators in the tourism industry, particularly those who work in the hotel sector.

In addition to that programme there are a number of sessions to sensitise industry personnel. The target groups in these areas are public workers and tourism stakeholders. All of the Ministry's partners, including the Barbados Conference Services Limited and those agencies that fall directly under the Ministry of Tourism, the Barbados Tourism Authority and Barbados Hotel Tourism Association have benefitted by the sensitisation sessions carried out by the Ministry of Tourism to their staff.

Staff from the Ministry of Tourism and the Barbados Hotel Tourism Association also participated in the UNDP Change Agent Workshop which is aimed at getting people who work directly with HIV/AIDS sufferers to deal with the impact of it.

In addition, the Ministry has been distributing to visitors entering the island, an informative and attractive fold-out. We have distributed approximately 20 000 of these fold-outs and the programme is on-going. Sir, these fold-outs are also available at the Grantley Adams International Airport when people enter the island.

There is also an electronic billboard in the arrival hall at the Grantley Adams International Airport to sensitise visitors to our island that all of their activities on the island must be done in a safe way.

We have also produce a number of forty-five second HIV/AIDS awareness commercials which have been carried on the Visitor Channel on television. Mr. Chairman, according to a survey done, more than 25 per cent of visitors to this country watch the Visitor Channel looking for attractions and it is important that we have those forty-five second commercials on television.

In addition, the Ministry of Tourism has produced a number of intimacy kits which are placed in hotel rooms across Barbados. There were a number of negative comments in the media when this programme was embarked upon because it was felt that putting an intimacy kit in hotel rooms

would have a severe impact on how people see Barbados and whether they would want to return here. Our research has shown us that this has not been so and our objective is to provide tourists with a well-designed adult protection kit. The ones which have been placed during the pilot phase of the programme have been receiving good reviews and they have not had any negative impact on visitors to the island.

In addition, there will be two life-size PVC cut-outs of a traveler with a bag. One will be placed at the Grantley Adams International Airport and the other one will be placed at the Barbados Port Authority and, again, this is to encourage visitors to practice safe sex. To date, a company had designed the preliminary cut-out of this life-size traveler.

Sir, it is okay to 'make sport' about our efforts but this is not a sporting issue. The Honourable Member for Christ Church East Central is involved in sports so he is always 'making sport' but this is a very serious matter. We have determined that this PVC traveler will be our contribution to the programme. In addition, mini cut-outs of this traveler will be placed at every hotel in Barbados and at ancillary services. We are also looking at the possibility of placing a miniature in each hotel room and this will make a difference.

Sir, people think that these things do not have a lot of impact but it will have a subliminal effect on people as it has been tested and tried in our jurisdictions and proven to work.

Mr. Chairman, there are also other planned awareness programmes such as the development of a website by the Minister of Tourism which will cater to all the stakeholders and workers. This is a designated site linked to the HIV/AIDS site which deals specifically with tourism and how we are tackling the problem as it relates to visitors and our interaction with visitors and locals in the industry.

Sir, a policy consultation will take place this year to impress upon hoteliers and industry stakeholders the importance of having a specific policy in place for every tourism provider in Barbados. This will be done by the Ministry of Tourism in collaboration with the Barbados Hotel Tourism Association. The activities will inform all tourism facilities, contact persons from various agencies like the legal professionals, insurance companies, facilitators, union representatives, *et cetera*. During the month of October there will be a programme on arts, cultural and tourism relating to HIV/AIDS. This programme will take the HIV/AIDS message to tourism stakeholders through the performing arts. This is scheduled to take place during the second week of October which is the HIV/AIDS' week and will be done in collaboration with the National Cultural Foundation and community group and Mr. John Walcott will be the producer of this programme.

Mr. Chairman, a number of other activities will continue to form part of the programme. For example, book markers are being distributed to schools during our tourism outreach. There is one particular aspect of the programme which is considered to be the most important plank of this activity. A comprehensive research programme will be conducted in collaboration with CARIB, the Ministry of Health and a few universities. It is a peer education programme and the target groups are sex-workers, taxi drivers and those persons who CAREC call 'beach boys'. Sir, the object of this is to develop a cadre of trained personnel selected from their community and have them served as peer counsellors. We are hoping to see a decrease in the incidence of HIV among these groups and a distinct alteration to their behaviour.

12.00 noon

The concept of the 'beach boy' phenomenon was analysed in a survey sponsored by the Caribbean Epidemiological Centre regarding the sexual health risks of locals and visitors. This survey, which was carried out in 1997, tested a small group of people. Sir, although the samples were small, the findings were alarming enough to necessitate a follow-up survey in 1999. This survey provided more information on the definition of the 'beach boy', the area where this behaviour is prevalent, the education level of those persons and the perception of the visitors and the tourism stakeholders. It focused on persons who are involved in sexual activity with the tourists.

Mr. Chairman, we will continue to collect information because this is not an issue to be taken lightly. It is an issue that strikes at the heart of the productive people in our society and I think that we should treat it with the importance that it deserves.

I am obliged to you, Sir.

Dr. D. C. ESTWICK: Mr. Chairman, there is no debate on this matter as far as the Democratic Labour Party is concerned, and that would have been established by the Honourable Member for St. Lucy. We support this Fund and the allocation of the \$204 000 to help fight the scourge of HIV/AIDS infection worldwide as well as the growing resurgence of infectious diseases.

Sir, however, there are a few things that I want to raise. Basically, it would be to highlight areas with respect to the capacity of many of the Government programmes to achieve their objectives.

The Honourable Minister of Health and the Honourable Member for Christ Church West mentioned a number of statistics. I understand statistics and I am aware that there is no individual in Barbados that knows the number of persons who are infected with the

HIV/AIDS virus. There are projections since there are no mechanisms to definitively determine this. We estimate, based on the individuals who would walk in to be tested for the HIV virus and those who are detected when they are being treated for other medical conditions. We extrapolate from that information what we believe the incidence of HIV infection happens to be, in what age cohort and by extension what would be the necessary prevalence. I am concerned when I hear those statistics but they mean nothing to me as a medical practitioner, Sir.

I am aware from population studies that the impact of AIDS infection can be significant. There are many populations that have been decimated. We have seen the plight of persons in sub-Sahara, Africa, where the productive age group, between 15 and 59, have largely been decimated by HIV/AIDS. We have seen persons over the age of 60 having to return to the workforce in order to keep economic production positive and we have also seen persons over the age of 65 having to take care of babies in families. Therefore, my concern would be an understanding of the epidemiology. How the disease is transmitted and we need to work at that level. There is no vaccination available so we cannot apply that element within a primary care setting or as part of a public health strategy. Therefore, our major public health strategy must be education. It must be an education that is executed at all levels of the society. It must start in primary school, intensify in secondary school and by extension it must be brought into the homes. There also must be continuing educational components for mothers and fathers because many parents do not have a clue about how AIDS is transmitted.

Sir, I listened to the Minister of Social Transformation and he is on the right track in terms of utilising the community-based components to try to reach individuals at the grass-root level, whether they are on 'the block' or in the homes. It is via those sets of educational strategies that we would have our best chance of fighting the continuing development of HIV/AIDS in Barbados.

I do not believe that it is a situation where there is any divide on this. However, I would like to raise the issue of paternalism of the Government in terms of protecting the rights of individuals in Barbados. If it is an accepted principle that part of Government's responsibility is to protect the citizens from a known assault, then it is by extension the responsibility of Government to put the necessary strategies in place.

Sir, I want to know from the Barbados Labour Party Government or the Minister of Health if there are any strategies that look at protecting the rights of individuals who are not infected. This is important because, as the Honourable Member for Christ Church West said, an individual who contracts HIV/AIDS is essentially given a

death sentence. I also want to know if there is a mechanism in place where an individual knows that he or she is infected with the HIV virus and knowingly and willfully passes that virus to another individual, whether there are any penalties under consideration or any strategies to look at this whole component. I think this is very important.

There are many countries that are currently dealing with this matter and the aspect of informed consent. Information with respect to infection is used only within certain components and in areas where disclosure needs to be kept to a minimum. I am more concerned with the transmission and the rate of transmission because I am not sure that it can accurately be said that anyone in Barbados knows the rate of transmission of HIV/AIDS.

Sir, it cannot accurately be said that anyone knows how many individuals are presently infected. I would like to see strategies put in place to protect the population in general and I will not just accept the educational component. Irrespective of the statistics being indicated today, I heard the Ministry of Health raising concerns about the ineffective nature of the educational programme in reaching young people. I have heard them lamenting morning, noon and night about the behaviours of young people. Therefore, I am not going to be caught up in this statistical discourse whatsoever.

12.10 p.m.

I also want to say, Sir, that much more needs to be done with respect to the clinical management of HIV/AIDS. I think the Minister alluded to extramural treatment options. I think the Ministry needs to move with haste towards that component. I do not believe that there is any treatment modality that can be done in a hospital setting which is not acutely required that cannot be done in other institutions.

As a result, I think they need to move with haste towards the development of extramural treatment strategies in Barbados. I think it is also important that we do much more in the workplace to educate workers, with respect to understanding how this particular infection is transmitted, so that the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS could be lessened significantly. I have seen some programmes being run on television to that effect. I do commend that effort which I think is part of the work the Ministry of Social Transformation.

I do believe that much more is needed to be done specifically in the communities. The reason why I say this is because I had the opportunity of working at the Sir Winston Scott Polyclinic and if one would quiz those individuals who come into the Sir Winston Scott Polyclinic that are involved in activities that may be considered high

risk, one would be surprised that many of them are not knowledgeable, with respect to the risk that they are presently taking, and their patterns of behaviour. I had a similar experience at the Randall Philip Polyclinic and Black Rock Polyclinic. This suggests to me that we are failing with regard to educating the public effectively with respect to the risk, and trying to get their behavioural patterns changed.

I am not going to accept that, in a hardcore scientific discourse where you can say that you have given treatment to a certain number of mothers who are pregnant, and are HIV/AIDS infected, that you have had a reduction in the rate of transmission from mother to the child. Even if that is so, and the evidence suggests that this is so, I am not going to say to you that we are positive that we are doing enough. I am not going to accept that if you are simply improving the quality of life, and prolonging life when one considers that as "a success", I have to ask one question, how are we affecting the initial rate of infection? This is the critical question for me. When I speak to young men and women in Barbados, they are still as promiscuous as they were ten years ago or even more so, Sir, and many Honourable Members on the Other Side know this, but I came to this House and heard all sorts of statistics this morning, as if they believe they are speaking to foolish people.

Mr. Chairman, as said earlier, there is no divide on this matter. We support it and we want to commend the contribution of this country to the Global Fund. We hope that it would be used to assist in areas where there are much needed educational programmes, as well as medications to help combat the scourge of HIV/AIDS worldwide.

I thank you, Sir.

Rev. J. J. S. ATHERLEY: Mr. Chairman, I must confess that I remain rather unconvinced as to the level of concern regarding HIV/AIDS that the Honourable Member for St. Philip West, who last spoke, generally senses. I believe others who sat within hearing distance of his voice would remain, perhaps similarly, unconvinced as to his concern.

Mr. Chairman, I am looking at the Democratic Labour Party's most recent Manifesto. It is a 66-page document and entails about 20 broad subject heads. The issue of health is given about two or three pages. The matter of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases are given three lines. This leaves me unconvinced as to the Party's concern over the issue, and the last submission to this House leaves me entirely unconvinced. You can contrast that with the Barbados Labour Party's Manifesto which gives about two pages to this subject. You can also contrast that with the fact that this Government has seen it fit to locate the primary responsibility for response to this issue, in the highest office in this country, that is, in the office of the

Prime Minister. I would have imagined, Mr. Chairman, that as a health professional with a very wide practice in Barbados, as I understand it, the Honourable Member for St. Philip West would have informed the Democratic Labour Party as to issues relating to the matter of health and specifically the issue of HIV/AIDS which, in fact, constitutes a principal concern, either for the Honourable Member or for the Party.

Mr. Chairman, perhaps the Honourable Member for St. Philip West, since the publication of this Manifesto, has come to a newly emerging position on the issue and is therefore possessed with a fresh level of concern subsequent to the publication of this Manifesto. Sir, perhaps the Honourable Member therefore by implication, is repudiating this Manifesto with his very meagre offerings on the subject of health, and with his nonexistent offerings on the matter of HIV/AIDS.

We could understand if the Honourable Member is repudiating this Manifesto because it was soundly rejected by the people of Barbados. I think that I am left entirely unconvinced, as to the Honourable Member's concern or the concern on the part of the Party.

Mr. Chairman, I support this Resolution wholeheartedly, because it reaffirms for me what I have been able to reaffirm over time, and that is, that Barbados is always ready and willing to assume a position of responsibility in the global community of States, a position of some responsibility, both at the international level and at the regional level. This country has been willing and ready to take its posture and demonstrates a sense of responsibility in the affairs relating to the lives of people in the community of States, both regionally and internationally. That is as it should be, Mr. Chairman, because that is only in keeping with our national goal, that within your lifetime, Mr. Chairman, this country shall become a developed State in the international arena. The goal and objective of this Government is to lead this country to that place. If we aspire to that, then I think we ought to aspire to taking a responsible place among the community of States. In keeping with our national goals and objectives that are very much in sync with our regional status as a leader in the Caribbean, our status as a respective developing State in the international mix of States and is very much in sync with our own economic endowments.
12.20 p.m.

We have done well as a small developing country both in difficult times and not so difficult times and always in the presence of an absence of natural resources. Therefore, it is only but fitting that we adopt this kind of posture and do the responsible thing. I think that this contribution, which in substantive terms may seem to be small, in relative terms is quite significant for a country like Barbados.

Therefore, from that perspective I want to support this contribution to the Global Fund. We have to put that in perspective because we have to look at this against a backdrop of a situation where it is often the practice among CARICOM States not to pay their legitimately due obligations under the various regional and international arrangements. Often we find, unfortunately, that Barbados is among the few who are ready always to step up to the plate to pay its due. We see too often a situation where regional States are delinquent, not only in making contributions of this sort but actually paying dues and legitimate assessments to which they are obliged in terms of regional and international arrangements.

I see, in the Government circles where I operate and move, often a failing to pay their dues to the international postal service set up, failure to pay dues to regional disaster mechanisms and it goes on and on. There are some States which are notorious for this and are very delinquent in paying their dues. It is often a sense that one gets that we want the world to pay for us to participate in certain fora, to pay for our institutions so that they might retain viability, to pay for the expertise that we need in terms of our development thrust and to pay for our quality of life. However, I do not think that charge can be laid against Barbados. It is against that backdrop I am saying that this contribution for this purpose, though in substantive terms is seemingly small, in relative terms it is absolutely significant and a thing to be lauded.

One must consider the nature of the threat when we speak with reference to HIV/AIDS as well as some of these other infectious diseases cited in the Resolution. The nature of the trend is a global one, but the nature of the threat is a very personal one and so every Barbadian I believe will feel a sense of having contributed to a fund that is being used towards this purpose. We are all threatened with this scourge, Mr. Chairman. The difference maybe perhaps the level of exposure, but we are all threatened because we are very much a part of a world which is becoming increasingly small and our interplay with others becoming increasingly immediate and frequent. This threat is one that is global, but at the same time it is personal. Of course, it is a threat to our human capital and that therefore means it is a major threat.

Our human capital is the significant resource of which we can boast and when the presence of HIV/AIDS erodes at that capital base, then the country stands substantially to lose. We spent a lot in terms of training, developing and educating our human resource and when these kinds of scourges erode at what we are able to achieve, then the investment hard earned by our people and gladly put into things like developing our human resource becomes negated and we do not want to see significant investment of this sort negated.

This impacts, as has already been stated, on our productivity. The presence of AIDS in the workplace erodes at the most productive base of the economy, our men and women in the prime of their working lives when they are at the height of their energy and for them to be struck down in this way means that our productivity is being nullified and our capacity to produce is being nullified as well. Of course when that happens, it reduces the level of experience and expertise in the existing workforce which has implications for the prospective and future workforce as well and brings significant cost to Government. To treat to a problem like this, one has to appreciate that there is going to be cost both on the preventative side as well as on the preventative and the curative sides of the issue and one would even suggest monies that could otherwise be spent in other developmental areas of the economy and other developmental areas with respect to that same human resource of which we just spoke.

Mr. Chairman, there are social implications for the impact of the presence of this disease on the family, which is a story already being told and being seen. Part of the problem is the culture which would develop because a large number of children who would have grown up in a society where traditionally there have been a large percentage of single-parent families, would move to a situation now where that would become further entrenched or moved further down to a situation where there would be an absence of parents altogether because both of them have been removed by the scourge of AIDS. There is the trauma in being diagnosed and there is the trauma of stigmatisation, so there are social implications in dealing with this issue, and we are happy to be able to respond to this.

The Honourable Member for Christ Church South, the Honourable Minister of Health, has already spoken to some of the programmes which are outlined not only in the Barbados Labour Party Manifesto but some of which are actually being implemented responding to the issue from a perspective of treatment, of care, of counselling and enhancing the actual clinical physical facilities to respond to the problem. Although the Honourable Member for St. Philip West might want to decry the role being played by facilities such as that of the Reference Unit at Jemmotts Lane, I cannot subscribe to that kind of thinking because from what I have been able to learn several persons have been the beneficiaries of that Reference Unit which is doing a tremendous job.

There is the matter of continuing the great work of reducing the incidence of transmission from mother to child and the provision of anti-retroviral treatment and drugs to persons. There is provision in the Manifesto agenda of the Government to treat to the issue of legislation. I think I heard some calls in this regard coming from the Other Side of the House.

Mr. Chairman, the response to this programme is principally located in the office of the Prime Minister of this country which is fitting because it is a major issue to which we are responding. This Government, possessed of a sense of concern, gives much energy in terms of trying to respond to this problem. Unlike those on the Other Side, it is not only concern which is being verbalised but it is concern which has been properly conceptualised in terms of the response to be made and it is concern which is being properly actualised in terms of the treatment being afforded today of which Barbadians can boast as the programme being implemented under this Government.

I have two concerns which I would like to cite before I sit. One of them has to do with the public awareness programme which is mounted by various agencies of Government or quasi-government agencies.
12.30 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, I have a strong concern that some of the public awareness advertisements carry a strong anti-male bias and that if we are to treat to this problem, then that is something that has to be corrected. We cannot send a message throughout the community that the male species is principally responsible for the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Mr. Chairman, there is a necessary emphasis on condom use but I am also concerned that there is an overemphasis on its use, at the expense of promoting the theme of abstinence. I think that they should go hand-in-hand and, therefore, that imbalance needs to be redressed.

Mr. Chairman, I thank you.

Mr. C. A. MASCOLL: Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the granting of a fund of US\$100 000 to the Global Fund, to deal with HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

Mr. Chairman, let me say that as a Government, we have to first find out the real nature of AIDS within the context of Barbados. Is it of the kind that is being experienced in sub-Sahara Africa, where poverty, population density, overcrowding, *et cetera*, are responsible for the kind of numbers that we have had in some African States, where one out of three males might be infected? I think we need to study the issue because it has to come down to a more micro analysis within the context of Barbados.

Therefore, in terms of characteristics, could we say that a person with HIV/AIDS is from St. Michael, is a male or is between the ages of 25 to 40? Do we know it because it is important from the point of view of being able to treat truly this matter as a pandemic.

We have not yet reached the stage in Barbados where it could be regarded as such but certainly we have to guard against saying all that we are saying in public, without doing the kinds of research necessary, to be able to understand this very significant problem which confronts us.

Sir, in the last Budget Speech, I have already identified that there are more males than females below the age of 25 in Barbados, and that in the absence of migration 20 years from now, the situation would be the same. Therefore, we need to look very much at this problem because it could have severe implications for future Barbados.

Sir, to demonstrate what I mean by having current information, the Honourable Member for Christ Church West has quoted a reduction in deaths of 56 per cent, hospital days having fallen by 59 per cent, *et cetera*.

Sir, would you believe that if one were to check the Manifesto of the Barbados Labour Party, one would see that those figures are already quoted. In the Manifesto it says that in the first year of the programme, deaths in clinic patients from HIV/AIDS have been reduced by 56 per cent and the total hospital days have fallen by 59 per cent.

Sir, these are the exact figures which have been quoted by the Honourable Member for Christ Church West, almost one year later, that is why I am saying that perhaps it explains the nature of this debate on HIV/AIDS today; that it is really an attempt to filibuster the Opposition in getting to other Heads within this Supplementary.

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: On a point of order. The Honourable Member is in breach of the Rules for imputing improper motives on the part of Government. The Government will not, as a true believer in democracy, prevent or in any way frustrate, the freedom of speech of any Honourable Member in this Parliament.

The Honourable Members of Parliament who are elected by the people in their constituencies, have considered this matter of HIV/AIDS to be a matter which is serious enough to merit their comments and consideration. Therefore, neither the Government nor I as Leader of this Honourable House, could force them to extent it or to truncate it and, therefore, the Honourable Member clearly would need to withdraw those statements, as they are as far from the truth as day is from night.

Mr. C. A. MASCOLL: Mr. Chairman, I wanted to demonstrate that in his contribution, the Honourable Member for Christ Church West was suggesting...

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, the Honourable Member clearly has not withdrawn those statements which are in breach of the

Rules of this Honourable House, and we still have rules in this House which state that Honourable Members cannot impute improper motives on the part of other Honourable Members.

Mr. C. A. MASCOLL: Mr. Chairman, the important thing is that the Honourable Member for Christ Church West has given the impression that the statistics being quoted were, in fact, updated statistics. I am, therefore, suggesting to the Chair, that at page 37 of the Barbados Labour Party's Manifesto, the exact statistics were quoted almost one year ago.

Mr. Chairman, it has been noted in this debate that the Honourable Member for St. Michael South East has spoken to the need to use churches in order to give the opportunity for wider education and debate.

Mr. Chairman, I wish to suggest that since we have established that the prevalence of this disease is more urban than it is rural, there is need for us to carry the education to the schools, in a more vigorous way.

I am, therefore, suggesting that there is opportunity for us in St. Michael to use the primary and secondary schools to effectively reach the adult population within the urban St. Michael area. In fact, the urban Barbados area has about 106 000 persons, that is from Rendezvous, Christ Church, across the Highway to Holders Hill, out to the sea.

Sir, if we are serious about educating the public on this matter, it means that we have to get into the communities. Therefore, I agree with the Honourable Member for St. Michael South East that churches ought to be used on an ongoing basis, to provide part of the education that is required.

Sir, this brings us to another issue regarding the question of cost. How do we find resources to enhance the HIV/AIDS programmes? How do we make the issues regarding HIV/AIDS more available to the public? How do we find the necessary money so to do?

Sir, let me, therefore, confine this to an area, for example, some place in St. Michael. We know that some cruise liners have brought homosexuals to Barbados. We also know that there is an increasing use of beaches in the immediate area of the Port Authority. I can speak to the Brandons Beach area which is being more and more utilised by cruise ship passengers. The recent event we had where the cruise liner had to be docked is evidence that Brandons Beach became an area for those individuals to enjoy our beach, sand and sun next door to the Barbados Port Authority.
12.40 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, if we are permitting such cruise ships to come into Barbados we also have to be conscious of the fact that it is possible that passengers from these ships could make increasing use of the coastal area around Brandons Beach. The same way years ago we were tempted to say that sailors got off the boat and came on shore to enjoy themselves it is possible that it could happen with respect to homosexuality.

I am saying that the tendency for it to occur would be more around the Port Authority which would impact on the constituency of St. Michael North West.

Sir, I am therefore saying that there is not only a need for us to address the school population but the adult population across St. Michael. I identify St. Michael because I feel that AIDS is more prevalent within the populated area of St. Michael and urban Barbados where there is more overcrowding and obvious promiscuity because we know that people descend on the city especially at night to enjoy themselves.

Mr. Chairman, I wish to suggest that we can save quite a lot by making sure that when we indulge in providing facilities that could encourage people to assemble for such education that the way in which we manage those facilities should reflect efficiency.

In this regard I want to speak to that area surrounding Westbury Road. I wish to see the Government engage quite soon in minimising the lost that has occurred at the St. Leonard's Boys' School. The savings of more than \$3.2 million could be used to execute the HIV/AIDS programmes for the adult population of Barbados. I am, therefore, suggesting that the financing required for the HIV/AIDS programmes could actually be realised from better management of projects, which could be used to educate persons within the immediate environs of these same facilities. This is why I am suggesting that an immediate area for concern is the St. Leonard's Boys' School where there has been cost overruns of significant amount and massive amount of consultancy fees over the last two or three years. We have also seen substantial misuse of resources within that project that could have been redirected towards an HIV/AIDS programme for persons within St. Michael.

Mr. Chairman, if we are thinking in terms of savings and how we can effectively conduct HIV/AIDS programmes, then we must think in terms of how we can effect savings from other projects to be redirected towards HIV/AIDS programmes within this country.

Sir, the same way we are thinking in terms of enhancing the lives of those persons affected by HIV/AIDS, I would like to see those persons enjoy an honourable burial.

In this regard, I speak about the Westbury Cemetery where there could be concentration upon providing a better environment within which to rest the dead. Similarly, we can try to get the kinds of cost savings necessary from the projects designed for HIV/AIDS education to effectively give expression to a more commodious surrounding for the dead by being more efficient.

I identify the area outside the Port Authority for special consideration because if there is a boast about the increasing numbers in cruise ship arrivals, we have to be concerned about the implication for our social good in Barbados resulting from the increased level of tourist arrivals.

Mr. Chairman, I suggest that the way to seek proper financing is to try to execute the programmes we have currently in place far more efficiently and effectively. I especially identify the St. Leonard's Boys' School where there have been significant cost overruns and where persons have enjoyed contract fees of more than \$1.4 million without being able to complete the project, where consultants have been paid double for the same projects.

Mr. Chairman, in this regard, I am suggesting that the overall attempt is to more effectively manage projects of that kind.

I thank you.

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I had no intention of speaking in this debate again but after hearing the Honourable Member for St. Philip West, I am disappointed that he tried to play down the success of our national HIV/AIDS programme. I thought that for once the Honourable Member could find it within his heart, if there is such an organ near to him, to understand that this is not an issue for partisan politics. This is an important issue where the country is trying to come to grips and deal with the scourge of HIV/AIDS. Sir, this programme is recognised internationally as being quite successful. It is recognised throughout CARICOM and South America and persons from these areas are trying to get insights into how we have been so successful yet this programme is being cried down by the Honourable Member for St. Philip West. This programme has been beneficial to many unfortunate citizens of this country...

Dr. D. C. ESTWICK: Mr. Speaker, on a point of order. The Honourable Member for Christ Church South is deliberately misleading the House. At no time did I cry down any programme. I attempted to suggest areas where the programme could be enhanced and that could not be considered as crying down the programme.

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: Mr. Chairman, I have got accustomed to these ludicrous outbursts from the Honourable

Member but he has indeed outdone himself today. Sir, as I listened to him, it took me back to my days at the Lodge School in the classes of English Literature, I believe that it was in Shakespeare's "*Twelfth Night*". It reminded me of something that I heard in Shakespeare many years ago. It sounded so much of a sad tale told by a fool, full of sound and fury and signifying nothing. Sir, I said that it was not Shakespeare, this is something completely different.
12.50 p.m.

Asides.

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: The Honourable Member seems to have a fundamental problem with terms of incidence and prevalence. He was at pains to point out that no one knows the actual incidence and prevalence of AIDS in Barbados and that they were all projections. Mr. Chairman, I do not know where the Honourable Member was for the entire debate.

I heard all the Honourable Members who spoke and no one gave a figure for the incidence or prevalence of HIV/AIDS in this country. I challenge him to check Hansard. In my contribution, I was at pains to say that one of the...

Hon. D. C. ESTWICK: On a point of order. Mr. Chairman, I never said that any Member in this Honourable House made such claims. I said that based on mathematical application of statistics, it was impossible for any individual to determine specifically and definitively the infection rate and by extension, the incidence and prevalence rate. It is not just a suggestion that is my point.

Asides.

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: The Honourable Member said that he heard statistics being quoted the entire day and he does not believe the statistics. He then juxtaposed his comment about incidence and prevalence and I had no choice but to make the connection.

The Honourable Member said that he does not understand epidemiology or the transmission of this disease process.

Asides.

Hon. D. C. ESTWICK: On a point of order. The Honourable Member needs to have his ears examined. It is a fundamental requirement for listening attentively. I may have to add that something is also wrong with the interpretation of information because that was never said.

I made the point that epidemiology gives an indication of the transmission and how transmission occurred but in

this case we knew what the transmission of AIDS is and we know how AIDS is transmitted. Therefore, we should concentrate on education. How it is transmitted is difficult to counter because we are dealing with sexuality and human sexual behaviour patterns.

Asides.

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: Sir, on the matter of the ear examination, I will certainly seek the assistance of a specialist but I believe that the Honourable Member would understand more about the transmission of the epidemiology of this disease if he would do more reading and less traveling to Trinidad and Tobago trying to develop fictitious fishing agreements, like some modern-day Don Quixote.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Member for Christ Church South, we are on the debate on AIDS not fishing.

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: Sir, I was confused when the Honourable Member for St. Philip West referred to extramural treatment and believing in his strenuous approach that only treatment that is acute should be given at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Sir, since the opening of the Ladymeade Reference Unit, a pharmacy and clinic, patients are assessed at that Unit and their prescriptions are filled there as well as at some of the other polyclinics. I do not understand what the Honourable Member is ranting and raving about.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Member for Christ Church South you cannot use those words to an Honourable Member of this Chamber. Would you please withdraw those remarks?

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: Sir, I respectfully withdraw them.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Please, continue.

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: Sir, the Honourable Member referred to epidemiology and he said that he worked in polyclinics and spoke to people and nothing has changed. As far as I know, he has been employed by the Government of Barbados and he is working at the Geriatric Hospital, not as a consultant or a specialist but as a junior doctor. I know that he has not been in the polyclinic system for at least four years.

Sir, the expanded programme was started in 2001, so he is in absolutely no position...

Hon. D. C. ESTWICK: On a point of order. The Honourable Member cannot determine any position for me. Sir, position depends upon your intellectual fortitude. He

cannot determine that for me and I would not allow him to determine that for me. I will not allow him to get away with that castigation in this Honourable House.

Asides.

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: We agree on some issues. I agree with the Honourable Member and I said so. I said that the Ministry of Health is going to focus more on mass education but the Honourable Member mentioned the need to go into primary schools and this is already being done. Sir, secondary schools, Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic, Barbados Community College and the University of the West Indies are already involved in the programme. I spoke about having a Community Health Educator and this person is already on board and going into various communities, especially on Saturdays.

Sir, if the Honourable Member for Christ Church East Central was vigilant, he would have known that nurses and the Health Educator utilised the services of the Transport Board bus a few weeks ago and went into the community of Gall Hill and spoke to the people in the community. They did voluntary counseling and testing for the HIV virus.

Sir, the Honourable Leader of the Opposition said that the figures quoted today were the same that were in the Manifesto but that is basic. The Honourable Member for St. Philip West should have been able to explain that to him. The Ladymeade Reference Unit was opened in May, 2002. We did a comparison of one year by taking figures from April 2001 to May 2002 as a period when there was no Ladymeade Reference Unit and you compare with the first year of operation, May 2002 to April 2003. Those are the up-to-date figures. The Ladymeade Reference Unit has not been in existence for two years so we cannot compare that.

Sir, the Honourable Member is an economist and a statistician and he should know something as simple as this.

Asides.

Mr. C. A. MASCOLL: On a point of order. The Honourable Member is misleading this Honourable House. The fact that you started in April 2001 means that you can do a monthly trend and, therefore, you do not have to wait until the next year. I find it ridiculous that you should even mention that comment. You can do a monthly trend based on the previous year, for example, December or January. It does not make any sense.

Hon. J. X. WALCOTT: Sir, that is how I know that up to the end of December 2003 that 580 attended the programme and 287 are on treatment. The Honourable Leader of the Opposition also made reference to the utilisation of the church and this is already being done.

Sir, in closing, I am in support of this Bill and must praise the Honourable Prime Minister for this pledge of \$204 000 to the Global Fund.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. R. R. FARLEY, seconded by Dr. D. F. DUGUID, at 1.00 p.m. the Sitting was suspended to 2.00 p.m.
1.00 p.m.

RESUMPTION

Mr. SPEAKER: This Sitting is resumed. When the suspension was taken, the House was in Committee of Supply, to that it will now revert.

COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY – (Cont'd)

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Member for Christ Church East, acting Leader of Government Business, we only have another 24 minutes to go in this debate.

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. Chairman, I rise to close the debate on this particular Head so that we could move on to the others given the time constraint, the maximum of three hours, which the rules place on the debate of a supplementary.

Although we have several matters to be debated in this supplementary, I want to thank all Honourable Members for contributing to this debate and for clearly attaching the appropriate level of importance to this aspect of our contribution to the fight against HIV/AIDS recognising that we not only have to pursue it in its national dimension but that in making this contribution through this international Global Fund against HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria that we are discharging our responsibility as a member of the family of nations.

It is therefore only left for me to move that Head 13 stand part.

Hon. G. A. CLARKE: I beg to second that.

The question that Head 13 stand part was put and resolved in the affirmative without division.

HEAD 27 – MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT – \$4 190 294

Hon. N. A. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak to this supplementary for the sum of \$4 190 294 which is broken down under a number of sub-programmes under the Ministry of Tourism and International Transport in order to supplement the Estimates of Expenditure for 2003 to 2004.

Under Program 333, International Transport, Sub-program 10, which speaks to General Management and Coordination Services, the sum of \$14 027 is being requested for Other Personal Emoluments which has to do with a secretary that was assigned to the International Transport Division from September 29, 2003, as part of a request that was made for an additional secretary in that division. The sum of \$1 080 is also required to meet the cost of National Insurance Contributions for that particular position.

The sum of \$12 887 is being requested for the rental of property to cover two months of rent for the administrative section of the Ministry of Tourism and International Transport which is stationed at the Barbados Port Authority building. Inadvertently, the sums for June and September 2002 were not paid by the end of the financial year 2002, therefore this particular sum is to supplement that.

In addition to that, Mr. Chairman, under Sub-program 337, Airport Management Services, Maintenance of Property, the sum of \$16 745 is required to cover the cost of increased insurances for the particular section. The Insurance Corporation of Barbados, the insurers for the Ministry, would have informed us of this after the Estimates for 2003/2004 were passed.

Under Sub-program 338, which is Airport Management Services, the sum of \$77 708 is also required for Other Personal Emoluments. Last year, the Ministry of the Civil Service approved two course developers for the air traffic school under the Train Air Programme. Barbados is the only place in the Eastern Caribbean where Air Traffic Controllers are actually trained. Initially, six cadets were assigned under this programme but one of them later resigned, so part of that funding was used to supplement the salaries of these two course developers under the Air Traffic Train Air Programme, but the sum was not enough and therefore that is why this \$77 708 is being sought.

Under Sub-program 340 which is Airport Development, the sum of \$1 600 624 is required for the rehabilitation of the runway shoulders at the airport.

In addition to that, the sum of \$605 650 is required for the rental of property. This cost of rental is associated with the Common User Terminal Equipment (CUTE) system at the airport which makes it easier for passengers to check in. Airlines can use any counter at the airport to check in their passengers simply by putting up their own little shingle. The company that installed the CUTE system which we are renting is a company called Arrit out of the United States of America. They completed the first phase of the installation in 2002. The rental fee of \$590 892 620 for the period December 2002 to March 2003 was paid. However, the additional systems which have been installed for LIAT and Caribbean Star in March 2003 resulted in the additional expenditure.

There is an additional sum of \$1 712 889 which is required under the Airport Expansion Project for professional services. This amount is to be paid to Sypher Mueller International which is the consultant engineering company for the airport expansion project.
2.10 p.m.

Mr. Chairman, Sypher Mueller has increased its manpower at the airport, in response to complaints from the contractors regarding delays in receiving replies to queries. This is where the \$1.7 million has gone.

In addition to that, under that Head, there is an additional \$340 000 for the Parish Land Realignment Project, \$250 000 for the Spencers location, which is supposed to house the new cruise terminal for cruise-and-stay passengers who come through the terminal. There is another \$40 000 for the legal advisor.

Sir, maybe the most important item in this Supplementary has to do with the rehabilitation of the runway shoulders at the airport, which is in the sum of \$1 600 624. Under this Head, a provision in the sum of \$3.1 million was made in the Estimates for the rehabilitation to these shoulders. This forms part of the ongoing maintenance programme of the airport under the Maintenance and Development Unit, as opposed to the Airport Expansion Project.

Mr. Chairman, in this particular programme, the plan was first to remove all of the existing asphalt on the runway shoulders, down to 100 millimetres and then to apply asphalt to that area again. When the runway was inspected, it was discovered that there was growth of vegetation coming through the parts of that shoulder that was in bad condition. This, in effect, warranted deeper excavation of the area, therefore, the base under the asphalt had to be removed.

Sir, when tenders were awarded in the sum of \$4.9 million, with only \$3.1 million in the Estimates, another \$1.8 million was needed to complete the work up to March 2004. Sir, 60 per cent of the work on the shoulders of the runway would be done by that time but there is still another 40 per cent which is to be done during 2004-2005.

Sir, it is also important that this work be carried out because of the fact that the International Civil Aviation Organisation, which does audits of airports across the world, is coming to audit the Grantley Adams International Airport at the end of this year.

In addition, there is another sum of \$148 684, which is for the purchase of a high-lift truck. Funds were provided for in the 2002-2003 Estimates but by the end of the financial year, the purchase had not been made. When the truck was

then purchased, the amount that was in the Estimates 2002-2003 was paid in, and we are now seeking a Supplementary to add to that.

Mr. Chairman, I say to you that the work on the runway shoulders is the most important and critical part of this Supplementary. Sir, because of the increased activities at the Grantley Adams International Airport, particularly during this season, one could see where an airplane could easily drag some of this debris from the broken shoulders onto the tarmac, and if the same is picked up by that aircraft or by another, it could result in a very disastrous happening, either during takeoff or landing.

Sir, with the increase of activities during this time, I think all Honourable Members would appreciate the danger. Anyone who visits the airport at this time, can see much increased activities there, which make it rather hectic.

Asides.

Hon. N. A. LYNCH: On any given day at the airport between 1.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m., one could see as many as 17 wide-bodied planes, and this is not counting the air-to-sea transfers. As a matter of fact, during that three-hour to four-hour window, we now have a number of flights such as: two Virgin Atlantic; three British Airways; one British West Indian Airways; one Excel; two American Airlines, one coming out of Miami and the other from New York; one US Air coming from Philadelphia; one Continental Airline coming out of Newark; two British West Indian Airways (BWIA), one coming from Miami and the other from New York; one Air Jamaica coming out of New York; three Air Canada, with two coming in from Toronto and the other from Halifax.

Sir, this speaks to the type of work that has been ongoing in the Ministry of Tourism and International Transport. It speaks to a thriving industry, and one that is not showing any pangs of recession. As a matter of fact, the jury is already in and we are already beginning to show...

Mr. D. St. E. KELLMAN: On a point of order. The Honourable Member is speaking but I do not think that we have a quorum here. I do not think that there is any legality to this.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Yes, we should have a quorum consisting of eight Honourable Members and the Presiding Officer. We do have another Honourable Member coming, which now constitutes a quorum but I think that Honourable Members should make sure that there is a quorum at all times in the Honourable House because on the Government's Bench, the Honourable Members here are sparse.

Hon. N. A. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman, I wish to end by saying that the figures are already in for the performance of the tourism sector for 2003.

Sir, without any reservation I can say that 2003 has undoubtedly been the best overall year in tourists arrivals. The total visitors arrivals to Barbados are 531 464 long-stay, land-base arrivals, which is second only to 544 000 in the year 2000. Sir, 625 946 cruise passengers is the largest number of cruise passengers that have ever visited Barbados, in the history of recorded figures.

Sir, those figures of 531 464 land-base, long-stay passengers and 625 946 cruise passengers have beaten the last recorded highest cruise passengers total arrivals by more than 100 000. It accounts for the largest overall number of passengers between cruise and land-base that Barbados has ever seen. It accounts for 1 157 410 passengers coming to Barbados in 2003 combined.
2.20 p.m.

In 1998 we had 1 019 224; in 2000 we had 1 077 974; in 2002 we had 1 034 765; in 2002 we had 1 021 152, in 2003 we had 1 157 000 plus passengers in Barbados and this is the highest recorded figure since we have been keeping notes.

Sir, some would like to dispute the absolute arrival figure as to whether it is a proper gauge of tourism performance. I want to say that this is not the only gauge but that it is the easiest one to follow. I also want to say that we have done exceptionally well in this regard.

I also want to congratulate all those who have worked diligently to ensure that we had such a good performance in 2003. I am pleased to report that already 2004 has started out well, that the first twenty-two days of January have produced figures that are 9.4 per cent over 2003. Sir, again we are talking about a very good winter.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Member for St. Michael South, I would like to draw to your attention the fact that we have five more minutes in this debate.

Hon. N. A. LYNCH: Mr. Chairman, with those words I ask that Head 27 stand part.

Hon. G. A. CLARKE: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

HEAD 14 – MINISTRY OF FINANCE – \$11 892
244.00

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. Chairman, this matter relates to the payment of arrears of personal emoluments. This is

consequential on the conclusion of the negotiations and approval of the settlement here in this Parliament. Sir, provision would not have been made in the various Ministries for the payment of arrears of salaries because they would have been no basis on which a prediction could have been made in terms of what the outcome of the negotiations would have been. This calculation is now being made to cover the period which relates to this supplementary April to December of last year because new salaries were paid from this year.

This is under the Ministry of Finance because the advice we obtained said it made more sense to put all of the arrears under one Head for distribution rather than voting Head by Head and if there were errors, not being able to make the necessary adjustments.

Sir, with that simple explanation, I beg to move that Head 14 stand part.

Hon. G. A. CLARKE: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

Mr. R. L. SEALY: Mr. Chairman, it is very clear that we are dealing with expenditure under the Ministry of Finance. Two weeks ago the Auditor-General's Report was laid in this Parliament but it was not distributed to Honourable Members. The contents of that Report which relates to several of the Heads in this supplementary but I speak specifically to the St. Leonard's Boys' School.

Mr. Chairman, I rise as the debate on its dying legs to ask the Acting Leader of Government Business in the House to consider sending the necessary Standing Order into abeyance that this debate can be extended so that we can have a debate on the Head that relates to the St. Leonard's School. The Honourable Member also happens to be the Minister of Education and I am sure he would welcome the opportunity for transparency on this issue because at this moment, to an outsider, it appears as though the Government is hiding something. I would not ascribe anything dishonourable to anyone in this Honourable House, but to an outsider, it would appear as though there is an attempt to hide something.

I am suggesting that the acting Leader of Government Business has an opportunity now to get up and let us have an honest debate on the matter of the St. Leonard's School. A special audit was conducted and ten pages in the Auditor-General's Report is dedicated to that fiasco at St. Leonard's School and we need to have a debate on it.

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. The Honourable Member is misleading the House and

by extension he is misleading the entire country of Barbados. It is not a simple matter of casting any Standing Order in abeyance because one cannot change the Rules of the House in that matter. There would need to be a recommendation made to the Standing Order Committee of this House in order to do that. Sir, this is called newness and I may have a new word for it but it is not parliamentary but the Honourable Member is misleading the House in that regard.

Mr. CHAIRMAN: Honourable Members, time is up for the debate.

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: I beg to move that Head 14 stand part.

Hon. A. P. WOOD: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

HEAD 20 – MINISTRY OF COMMERCE,
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT – \$75 959.00

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: I beg to move that Head 20 stand part.

Hon. A. P. WOOD: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

HEAD 22 – MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT – \$45 985.00

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: I beg to move that Head 22 stand part.

Hon. A. P. WOOD: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

HEAD 25 – MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT – \$1 240 352.00

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: I beg to move that Head 25 stand part.

Hon. A. P. WOOD: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

HEAD 43 – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
– \$2 189 299.00

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: I beg to move that Head 43 stand part.

Hon. A. P. WOOD: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES

HEAD 20 – MINISTRY OF COMMERCE,
CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: I beg to move that the Explanatory Notes to Head 20 stand part.

Hon. A. P. WOOD: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES

HEAD 23 – MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: I beg to move that the Explanatory Notes to Head 23, as amended, stand part.

Hon. A. P. WOOD: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

EXPLANATORY NOTES

HEAD 25 – MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: I beg to move that the Explanatory Notes to Head 25, as amended, stand part.

Hon. A. P. WOOD: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

2.30 p.m.

On the motion of Hon. R. R. FARLEY, seconded by Hon. A. P. WOOD, Mr. CHAIRMAN reported the passing of one Money Resolution in Committee, and Mr. SPEAKER resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

On the separate motions of Hon. R. R. FARLEY, seconded by Hon. A. P. WOOD, the Resolution was read a first and second time and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. R. R. FARLEY: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that this House do now adjourn until Tuesday, February 3, 2004 at 10.00 o'clock in the morning.

Hon. G. A. CLARKE: I beg to second that.

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

2.32 p.m.

CONTENTS

MINUTES

Hon. R. R. FARLEY 1

Confirmation of Minutes of Tuesday,
January 20, 2004.

PAPERS

Rt. Hon. O. S. ARTHUR 1

Annual Report of the Insurance Corporation of
Barbados for the year 2002.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING
ORDERS

Hon. R. R. FARLEY 2

Suspension of Standing Orders Nos. 6, 16, 18,
20, 42(5), 43 and 44 for the remainder of the
Sitting.

WITHDRAWAL OF ORDER NO. 7

Hon. R. R. FARLEY 2

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 8 – RESOLUTION THAT THE
SUM OF \$19 838 133 BE GRANTED FROM
THE CONSOLIDATED FUND AND BE
PLACED AT THE DISPOSAL OF THE
GOVERNMENT TO SUPPLEMENT THE
ESTIMATES 2003 – 2004 2

HEAD 13 – PRIME MINISTER’S OFFICE – \$204
000 2

Hon. R. R. Farley, 2, 22; Hon. H. F. Lashley, 6;
Hon. K. D. Symmonds, 8; Dr. W. F. Duguid, 9;
Mr. D. St. E. Kellman, 11; Hon. J. X. Walcott,
11; Hon. N. A. Lynch, 13; Dr. D. C. Estwick, 14;
Rev. J. J. S. Atherley, 16; Mr. C. A. Mascoll, 18.

HEAD 27 – MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND
INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT – \$4 190
294 22

Hon. N. A. Lynch, 22.

HEAD 14 – MINISTRY OF FINANCE –
\$11 892 244 24

Mr. R. L. Sealy, 24; Hon. R. R. Farley, 24.

HEAD 20 – MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CON-
SUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT – \$75 959 25

Hon. R. R. Farley, 25.

HEAD 22 – MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT – \$45 985 25

Hon. R. R. Farley, 25.

HEAD 25 – MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT – \$1 240 352 25

Hon. R. R. Farley, 25.

HEAD 43 – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, YOUTH
AFFAIRS AND SPORTS – \$2 189 299 25

Hon. R. R. Farley, 25.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

HEAD 20 – MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, CON-
SUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT 25

Hon. R. R. Farley, 25.

HEAD 23 – MINISTRY OF HEALTH 25

HEAD 25 – MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND
RURAL DEVELOPMENT 25

Hon. R. R. Farley, 25.

SUSPENSION 22

ADJOURNMENT 26

Hon. R. R. Farley, 26.

SPEAKERS IN THIS ISSUE

ARTHUR, Rt. Hon. O. S. (St. Peter)
ATHERLEY, Rev. J. J. S. (St. Michael West)
DUGUID, Dr. W. F. (Christ Church West)
ESTWICK, Dr. D. C. (St. Philip West)
FARLEY, Hon. R. R. (Christ Church East)
KELLMAN, Mr. D. St. E. (St. Lucy)
LASHLEY, Hon. H. F. (St. Michael South East)
LYNCH, Hon. N. A. (St. Michael South)
MARSHALL, Mr. R. D. (St. Michael West Central)
MASCOLL, Mr. C. A. (St. Michael North West)
SEALY, Mr. R. L. (St. Michael South Central)
SYMMONDS, Hon. K. D. (St. James Central)
WALCOTT, Hon. J. X. (Christ Church South)