
THE

House of Assembly Debates

(UNOFFICIAL REPORT)

PARLIAMENT 2013 – 2018

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, August 9, 2016

met at 10.15 a.m. on Tuesday, August 09, 2016.

PRESENT

His Honour MICHAEL A. CARRINGTON, B.A., LL.B. (Speaker) Her Honour Mrs. M-J. MARA THOMPSON, M.Sc. (Ph.Ed.) B.A.(Deputy Speaker)
Mr. G. A. CLARKE, B.Sc., Dip. Ed., J.P.
Mr. R. St.C TOPPIN, LL.B. (Hons.)
Hon. D. St. E. KELLMAN (Minister of Housing, Lands and Rural Development)
Hon. Miss MIA A. MOTTLEY, Q.C., LL.B. (Leader of the Opposition)
Miss CYNTHIA Y. FORDE, J.P., L.C.P.
Hon. R. D. JONES, B.A. (Hons.), M.A. Ed., J.P., (Minister of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation) Dr. the Hon. D. C. ESTWICK, B.Sc., M.B., B.S. (Minister of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Water Resource Management)
Mr. DALE D. MARSHALL, Q.C., LL.B (Hons.), L.E.C.
Hon. MICHAEL A. LASHLEY, LL.B. (Hons.) (Minister of Transport and Works)
Hon. RICHARD L. SEALY, B.Sc., M.B.A. (Minister of Tourism and International Transport)
Rt. Hon. F. J. STUART, Q.C., B.A., LL.M. (Prime Minister, Minister of National Security, The Public Service and Urban Development)
Hon. JOHN D. E. BOYCE, B.C.H., MRAC, M.Sc., C. Eng. (Minister of Transport and Works) (Leader of Government Business)
Hon. STEVEN D. BLACKETT (Minister of the Social Care, Constituency Empowerment, and Community Development)
Mr. JAMES D. PAUL, B.Sc. (Chairman of Committees)

Dr. the Hon. DENIS S. LOWE, Ed.D., M.Ed., B.A., Dip. Theology (Minister of Environment and Drainage)
Mr. ADRIEL D. BRATHWAITE, LL.B. (Hons.) (Attorney-General and Minister of Home Affairs.)
Hon. STEPHEN A. LASHLEY, B.Sc., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (Minister of Culture, Youth Affairs and Sports)
Hon. DONVILLE O'N. INNISS, Dip., B.Sc., M.B.A. (Minister of Industry, International Business, Commerce and Small Business Development)
Hon. CHRISTOPHER P. SINCKLER, B.A., M.Sc. (Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs)
Mr. TREVOR PRESCOD, B.A.
Mr. KERRIE D. SYMMONDS, B. A., LL.B.
Lt. Col. JEFFREY D. BOSTIC, M.V.O., B.A. (Hons.)
Dr. Mrs. MARIA M. AGARD, J.P., D.Ds., B.Sc. (Hons.)
Mr. DWIGHT G. SUTHERLAND, M.Sc., M.B.A. (Dist.), B.Sc.
Miss SANTIA J. O. BRADSHAW, LL.B. (Hons.)
Prayers were taken by Reverend Canon Ivan Harewood.

MR. SPEAKER: This House is now in Session.

MINUTES

MR. SPEAKER: Good morning, Honourable Members, this House is now in Session. Members, I have with me the Minutes of Tuesday, July 12 and July 19th, 2016 respectively.

Hon. J.D.E. BOYCE: Mr. Speaker, it is my understanding that the Minutes were circulated, and subject to any observations or corrections, I beg to move that these Minutes be confirmed.

Hon. A. D. BRATHWAITE: I beg to second that, Sir.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER

MR. SPEAKER: Honourable Member, under Announcements, first let me take the opportunity to welcome the family of our late departed brother, Sir Frederick Smith, to whom we pay tribute to this morning. We are not happy to have you, not necessarily the circumstances, but we hope that you would find this morning's proceedings enlightening and helpful.

I would also wish to advise, as you have recognised, that we have with our this morning our Chaplain the Reverend Michael Squires who is Priest-in-Charge of St. Matthew and the Church of the Resurrection. Our regular Chaplain is on holiday for the period August 01-24 and he was kind enough to make the recommendation and to secure the services of Reverend Squires for us today, so we welcome you, Sir.

PAPERS

Hon. J.D.E. BOYCE: Mr. Speaker, I am commanded to lay the following:

1. The Air Transport License Authority Annual Report, 2013-2013;
2. The Barbados Revenue Authority Annual Report, 2015.

CONGRATULATORY AND/OR OBITUARY SPEECHES

Mr. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. James South.

Hon. D.O'N INNISS: Mr. Speaker, today we gather in this Honourable Chamber as usual to thank and to reflect on the life and the immense contribution of our dearly departed former Parliamentarian, a gentleman, a father, a builder of modern Barbados. In many respects, a lawyer, a judge, a politician, former Member of Parliament, former Senator, Talk Show Host, all in the name of Frederick Gladstone Smith.

Mr. Speaker, needless to say, Mr. Smith is very much deserving of all the praises that will be provided to him today. He came into this world on July 6, 1924, and stayed with us on what would consider to be a rather long journey, some 92 years and five days, having departed this earth on July 11, 2016. Mr. Speaker, that was indeed a very

long time but it was time well spent for Sir Frederick. He was a gentleman who made a great contribution to the socio, political and economic development of Barbados over his tenure here with us. When the history of Barbados is either written or rewritten, he certainly would earn his rightful place as a builder of modern Barbados, one of those who perhaps would have made the greatest contribution to the development of Barbados since the 1950s and for that we are eternally grateful.

Mr. Speaker, we come into this Honourable Chamber sometimes and we do not reflect upon the history and development of the Parliament of Barbados and the profound impact that its Members and their decisions would have on the wider society. Mr. Speaker, in 1639 this Parliament was started, a mere 14 years after the British discovered Barbados. In those days, in 1639, I believe there were just six parishes, if I err I defer of course to the Right Honourable Prime Minister who is a noted historian, along with others in our midst, but I believe that it was in 1639 when the Parliament was formed there were just 16 Members of Parliament. The criteria then were that you had to be a prominent landowner and a white person, quite frankly, some may more diplomatically say, those of Caucasian type or property owners. Property owners in those time included those who owned property who today as we reflect, are the ancestors of all of us who sit in this Parliament. Sir, that perhaps captures succinctly the development of Parliament and Barbados over the years, the fact that in 1639 the ancestors of all of us who occupy Parliament today were slaves and the people who sat in here and made the decisions were the slave owners. Mr. Speaker, you can catapult that up to the 1950s and you realise that we are very fortunate then to have by that time men of the like Frederick Smith, Errol Walton Barrow, Cameron Tudor, Grantley Adams and several others who could readily identify as ancestors of slaves who were now occupying the Parliament and making the fundamental changes, legislatively and otherwise that will help to transform Barbados into what we have today, so that in that respect we must be eternally grateful for their contributions. Mr. Smith, in particular, as I said earlier, was born in 1924 and was a man not born into any wealth. He was the second of 11 children, and in those days, as it is today, to have 11 children must have been one hell of a task to be able to raise, feed and clothe them, Mr. Speaker. However, having the kind of parents whom he had, I believe that he was very fortunate to have been able to get the kind of guidance and physical nourishment that was needed back then.

Few of us can really identify with what Barbados was like in the 1920s-1930s. Certainly for someone like myself who was born in 1966, the year we gained Independence, my knowledge of that era -- the 1930s disturbances era and the 1940s and '50s -- is well gleaned from conversations I would have had with my grandparents

as a youngster and from the few history books that we were taught from at school. Mind you, there were rather Eurocentric historians, I gather. Of course, I also learned from listening to people like Frederick Smith. I consider myself to be very fortunate to have been able to sit with “Sleepy” Smith at his home in Wanstead Heights, at my home in Husbands Heights or at the Democratic Labour Party office in George Street, to talk with him on the phone, and to engage with him and learn firsthand what it was like in those days and the struggles that people like him went through to pave a better way for the people of my generation.

Mr. Speaker, I say we are very fortunate to be able to have captured in writing his autobiography, ‘Dreaming A Nation’, which was co-authored by his nephew Alan Smith, another very bright Barbadian. Mr. Speaker, before you or anyone ask me to make this a Document of the House, I would wish to be so bold as to suggest that each Member of Parliament ought to take a few pennies from their monthly allowances and salaries and purchase his or her own copy. That is not to say that the Parliament should not have a copy, Mr. Speaker. I wish it would not be mine but if that is the case, then I would go back on Amazon.com and buy one. I am suggesting that all Members get a copy because this book captures, to my mind, a very important part of the history of Barbados: 273 pages, written by someone who was creating history at the point in time. I do not think we can consider ourselves any less fortunate than to have this autobiography here, and I invite all Members of Parliament to arm themselves with a copy. It is great reading. It is full of humour, written in typical “Sleepy” Smith style.

Let me be very cautious about what I say in describing the man in light of what his son said about myself and him in his tribute. It is written with his candour, utmost respect and the epitome of diplomacy as “Sleepy” would know it to be. It reflected upon his own struggles at the personal level, what he would have gone through in the political hustings, and his role in leading this nation as a young, independent country. Those are the kinds of actions and thoughts and so on that are captured in this book, which certainly will help many of us to appreciate what our forefathers went through, what so many men and women struggled with in Barbados, the things that we take for granted, and the educational opportunities. When you reflect on the fact that in 1936 “Sleepy” Smith went to Harrison College, in those days there were very few black boys at Harrison College, and there was the cost of school fees at Harrison College. Going to Harrison College in the 1930s was considered a great privilege.

When I went to Harrison College in 1977, it was a predominantly black school. We did not have to pay much. There was a small petty fee, but many of us back then in the 1970s at Harrison College perhaps did not appreciate

what people like “Sleepy” Smith went through back in the 1930s. It is still a great school today, I am sure of that, but certainly when we read his book and listen to him, you really appreciate the kind of struggles that he would have gone through. His own experiences at that school helped him not just to build great friendships but also to appreciate and establish his own philosophical moorings, from which flowed his thoughts and actions in terms of economic, social and cultural development in Barbados, and the great attention he paid to the importance of education for the average Barbadian. If there is one thing that we must celebrate out of the life of Sir Frederick Smith, it is the great importance he placed on education. He encouraged everyone; not just his children, nieces, nephews and grandchildren, but everyone he came into contact with. He encouraged them to make great use of all educational opportunities to uplift themselves. For that we must be very grateful.

Mr. Speaker, of course he would have also had a stint with the military. He and I would always joke about it. I told him once, “I do not think you ever fired a gun in your life or ever did battle on the real battlefield, except the political battlefield.” He was extremely proud of the discipline which being in the Cadet Corps, the Regiment and the British Army back then gave him, and which in many respects shaped his own life and prepared him for the arduous task that lay ahead. Let us remember those were the days when the colonies were caught up in their own way in the Second World War, and were doing their own to support the British military, the British Government and the colonial master of the day. Of course, having completed his stint in the military, and, as we say, being honourably discharged, I believe at the level of lieutenant, he then continued into the battlefields of higher education. First, he went to Codrington College where he would have read the Classics, and then went onto London where he would have studied and been admitted to Gray’s Inn as an attorney-at-law.

Mr. Speaker, here again, not just in his book but in his words when you sat and talked with him, you appreciate the struggle that people like Frederick “Sleepy” Smith went through back in those days in the early 1950s in London; working with the London Transport or hustling to make ends meet. Of course, we sit back today and we talk about our young people accessing the Student Revolving Loan Fund which today, thanks to the Democratic Labour Party, the limit is up to \$100 000 which one can borrow to further one’s education. “Sleepy” had to benefit from £17 being sent on a monthly basis by his brother up to London, to be augmented by his work as a labourer in the system in London, in order to complete his legal education. While today there are some who spend five years studying Law in order to be admitted to the Bar, I think he did it in 18 months and he turned out to be a brilliant attorney-at-law. Mr. Speaker, I am reflecting on

his experience in London and such things because I want in the opening tribute to set the stage and help us all to appreciate the character that we are dealing with before we get right into the meat of his contribution here as a parliamentarian and Minister. I once asked him how he met his wife, Lois, to whom he was married for 58 wonderful years, and I believe they dated for seven years prior to that. He said he met her in London. She was a medical student in Aberdeen and he was studying in London, and they had mutual friends.

Mr. Speaker, I really did not know much about Errol Walton Barrow as a lawyer or a politician until I came back home in 1952 and started practicing with him. I was now able to access him in terms of his ability and competence. He was by no means a brilliant lawyer, he was sound able and tenacious. He prepared his work but like all black lawyers in Barbados at the time he did not received much work from the big solicitors such as Carrington and Sealy, Cottle Catford and Yearwood and Boyce. These were the harsh realities to which we had to resign ourselves.

Mr. Speaker, there you have it, in the early 50s a young black man returning from London and having a law degree and setting up shop, or hanging up his shingles as you call it then with who was then to become the illustrious and National Hero Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow but we can certainly reflect on the struggle they had as young black attorneys and you leapfrog now to 2016, some 60 years later and realise how the entire legal fraternity has changed and is now dominated by black individuals. Sir, I cannot speak to who is struggling and who is not struggling but certainly the fact remains that it was attorneys like Sleepy Smith and Errol Barrow who in many respects laid a foundation upon which many attorneys of colour today have been able to build upon.

Mr. Speaker, what was also interesting and captured well in his books was the fact that the linkage between politics and law and if I may quote:

“Errol handled most of the cases and what he could not do he either passed to me -- meaning Sir Frederick - or I got some of my own and we always felt that if we could fight for the working class they would see that we were in court to secure their freedom and ensure they are justly treated. The masses would then become eager to give you their vote and that is what matters especially in politics. In retrospect, I think that it is fair to say that our success in law had a great deal to do with our success in politics”.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps the lawyers in Parliament today could also associated themselves with that comment as well. Sir, the fact remains that in the 1950s Frederick Smith was able to work alongside Errol Walton Barrow in a court system dominated by white attorneys, carve out a niche for themselves but more importantly associate with

the masses, be able to give the kind of leadership, guidance and legal advice to ordinary Barbadians that in term enamored themselves to these individuals and was able to help them in their quest to become politics leaders of Barbados and, Sir, that connection must not be lost on any of us today in 2016. Sir, whether it is law, accountancy or any other profession, the fact remains that whatever your chosen field, you must use it to help to uplift those who are less fortunate than you. I think that is the message that Sleepy was sending forth then and that to me is the way he lived his entire life. It was not about himself, yes about his wife and grandchildren but equally important about the masses in this society, the people in St. Andrew that he represented from 1951 to the late 50s, the people in St. Michael South Central that he represented from 1971 to 1976 but above all, all the ordinary Barbadians whose lives he touched and had such a great positive impact upon.

Mr. Speaker, the other interesting point about Sir Frederick Smith is his connection with the labour movement and Barbados political history is replete with examples of politicians associated with union or having growth and development occurring within the union setting and many people do not remember that Frederick Smith had a very close connection with Grantley Adams thought of himself, even if nobody thought of that for him as the heir to Grantley Adams in terms of the Barbados Workers Union as President of the Barbados Workers Union. Sir, this is instructive because when you reflect upon his work there afterwards a lot of it speaks volumes to what obviously lay deep within his heart and that is his commitment and dedication to the less fortunate in the society, the workers and masses in the society all pivoted around democratic socialism.

Mr. Speaker, Frederick Smith did have a little fleeting relationship with the union and he did go over to the union office. Sir, the Prime Minister can correct me if I am wrong but back then it was located at the corner of Nelson Street and he would go over there on evening to help teach what we call today the shop stewards how to write letters to the employers of the day, how to use the right word. Sir, even though I may not have had seen such letters, knowing the man the way I know him, I am sure those letters were powerful letters. He certainly had a great command of the English language that a way of making his point in very few words therein.

Mr. Speaker, he sought the office of President of the Barbados Workers Union and obviously felt as a young black attorney, where there were few of them in the day, that he stood a good change. Of course, he was very gracious in his defeat, he was defeated by Mr. Blunt from the Port Authority...

Asides.

Hon. D. O'N. INNISS: Sir, that reminds me that the Port was very powerful then, as it is now, in terms of unionism but certainly Mr. Blunt was a man who worked in the fields and in the trenches and certainly go the support of the people. I think that Frederick Smith was a little bit disappointed that perhaps he did not get the support he expected from certain quarters of the union and certain quarters of the Barbados Labour Party. If you remember, at this point in time he was with the Barbados Labour Party, let us be frank about it. Sir, Grantley Adams was the political giant of the day in Barbados and people like Errol Walton Barrow and Frederick Smith were part of Mr. Grantley Adams' team helping to champion the advancement of blacks in society and making greater opportunities available for them. I think that as I reflect on conversations and even in his own writings and autobiography, he certainly had a parting of the ways initially then with Grantley Adams over the matter. Sir, needless to say, as I come closer to his contribution on the political level, reflecting on the fact that he had that baptism of fire within the politics of the Barbados Labour Party in the day of trade unionism and fighting the conservatives of the day in Barbados, Mr. Barrow, Mr. Smith, Cameron Tudor and several others were perhaps considered to be fire brands in those days in the early 50s. Mr. Grantley Adams, a lower gentlemen, statesman in every respect but who Errol Walton Barrow, Frederick Smith and those felt was rather conservative and perhaps a bit too close to the conservative in his own thinking even if not being physically associated with them and, of course, that led to many disputes between the Barrow faction, the Sleepy faction and the Barbados Labour Party and Mr. Adams.

Mr. Speaker, as far as I gathered what was the point of departure, the point of departure resided in what back in 1952, I think it was called the equalisation plan. There was a five year plan that Mr. Grantley Adams had put forward to Parliament and to the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) team then that did not get the support of Mr. Barrow and his team. Mr. Barrow and those sitting on the Back Bench then created a little bit of a revolt, objected to the plan because they felt, they had a great divide between Grantley Adams and themselves in terms of how any excess funds generated by the State would be used there afterwards. Mr. Adams and those felt that fund should be put aside for a rainy day - and we all know the history of putting money aside for rainy days in the economic development of Barbados - but the funds were to be put aside for a raining day and Mr. Barrow and those felt that the funds should be used to help provide improved physical infrastructure, improved education and healthcare facilities for the masses, they felt that if the State was able to generate more revenue than it needed for current expenditure that excess revenue should be used to help in providing the socio-physical economic opportunities to advance the down trodden in society. I think what also angered Mr. Barrow and Mr.

Smith as well in that era was that there was a grouping within the then Barbados Labour Party (BLP) that felt that some of the excess funds should be invested in South Africa and remember these were the heydays of apartheid, and that, Mr. Speaker, was in many respects, the last straw that broke the camel's back and led to Mr. Smith, Barrow, Alder, Cammie Tudor, Theodore Branker and those gentlemen of great repute in Barbados leaving the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) and forming the Democratic Labour Party (DLP).

I know, Mr. Speaker, that this tribute today is not one along any partisan lines so we do not want to feel that because I have reflected upon a bit of the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) history that it is anyway partisan. Really and truly it is seeking to capture the fact that Sir Frederick Smith played such a pivotal role in the political development of Barbados in the 1950s and to show some of the challenges that they faced and the basis on which they took actions later on to help create and foster a better Barbados. It was in 1954, I think it was, that Grantley Adams excluded these people that he called rebels from his Cabinet and he banished them to the Back Bench. I do not know that being on the Back Bench today is any banishment though, Mr. Speaker, but there were also called communists which is another very important point I must make. Could you imagine Frederick Smith in the 1950s being called a communists?

We may laugh at these things today but reflect upon the McCarthy era in the United States of America (USA) where you are on a witch hunt for those who you felt supported the USSR. He started a brand, everybody who opposed the status quo was a communist and the evidence is there as written by Alexander Hoyas, Fabb Hoyas as you would call him and those historians about that particular era, but you had these young, black professionals to make a contribution to the political development of Barbados and being branded as communists and it is written there in his book "Dreaming a Nation" the things that The Beacon newspaper said about "Sleepy Smith" back then, I think they called him "Sleepy Baggard" or something to that effect but you have these men who today we celebrate their life and their immense contribution who just 50/60 years ago were branded as communists in Barbados.

Mr. Speaker, it was on 14th April, 1955 that Errol Walton Barrow got up and condemn the Government of the day led by Grantley Adams and those and it was just a mere 13 days later, I believe, on 27th April, 1955 that the Constitution of the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) was adopted and that party, our party, commenced full engagement on 1st May, 1955 and the rest is history. What many Barbadians do not seem to remember as we talk about the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) and its formation and all of that is that Frederick "Sleepy" Smith was the first president of the Democratic Labour Party

(DLP). Many people still think that it was Errol Walton Barrow but Errol Barrow was not even a vice president of the party on its formation. He was an ordinary member but then again if you have seven or eight people forming the team being ordinary members still makes you a founding member but I still here many of our Democratic Labour Party (DLP) members and supporters reflecting on the history of Barbados and speaking of Errol Walton Barrow as the first leader of the party. The truth of the matter is and the evidence is there, it is all facts and not debatable, is that Frederick Gladstone Smith who was born on 6th July, 1924 was the first president of the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) when it was formed on 27th April, 1955 and even then you had a small team of powerful individual, Cammie Tudor, T. T. Lewis and what I also found very instructive as I reflect on my conversations with him and reading his book, et cetera, is that he was not a racist person. The party, when it was formed in 1955, I think we had T. T. Lewis who was there too and he was deemed a white rebel in many respects among his own grouping but he was necessarily a founder but the first white person to join the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) was Douglas Lynch, a lawyer, 001 was his membership number and the Honourable Member for St. George North knows that very well. I do not remember the Honourable Member for St. George North membership number for the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) but I am happy that he remembers Douglas Lynch's own, but Douglas Lynch at that point and time was part of the planter class in Barbados, the plantocracy as you called it then. A brilliant, young lawyer as well, one who had been in the British Army and war, et cetera, and he was welcomed, as far as I can gather, by Frederick Smith, Barrow and all of those black giants of the day back then, into the party. Then, of course, we had subsequently people like Peter Morgan, a British gentleman who inherited some money, bought a property and eventually ran for the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) just as Douglas Lynch ran for the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) at some point in time. Mr. Speaker, these things really help to capture the kind of character and the kind of circumstance that influence Frederick Smith in those early days in the political hustlings.

Mr. Speaker, one thing that I believe really and truly captures the method of the man and shows the fairness of the man, cause if there is one attribute about Frederick Smith that we must all celebrate is his ability to all concerned. He never joined a club but if he had to join one I would say he should have joined the Rotary Club, but Mr. Smith certain was one who undoubtedly knew how to treat all men equal and to show utmost respect for each individual. He never allowed partisan politics to determine the character he was. People asked, well why did he leave after the 58 era or whatever and it was, in part, because of his ability to stand up in Parliament, as leader then and praise Grantley Adams. Grantley Adams had been made the Prime Minister of the defunct West Indies Federation

and Frederick Smith, to his credit, felt look, even though he had served with Grantley Adams, even though they had a bitter falling out, even though they had clear lines of differences in terms of economic and political philosophy and whatever, he felt proud that a black Barbadian was now being bestowed the honour of being the first Prime Minister of the West Indies Federation, and he praised him. I think today in 2016 we can take a lot of lessons from that in itself, that there is a time for politics and there is a time to look at what is the national best interest. Sir, "Sleepy Smith" certainly in that point and time in his own life chose to take the high road and to give credit to Grantley Adams.

Mr. Speaker, he got a good cursing from Errol Barrow. As he said in his book, I think, the only thing Barrow did not tell him was that he would kill him. We sit back today and read these things and laugh at them and have a good joke, but I could imagine the intensity and the anger between Mr. Barrow and Mr. Smith. To Mr. Barrow there was no love lost between Errol Barrow and Grantley Adams and Mr. Smith, as leader of the grouping then in Parliament, found himself caught up in the middle but took a stance that he was prepared to be bold enough and man enough to give credit where credit is due and to say he fully supports and endorses Grantley Adams as the Prime Minister of the West Indies Federation. That, Mr. Speaker, I gather would have helped to cause Mr. Smith to pack his "georgie bundle" and head back to Jamaica with his wife then to work in the Jamaican public service as a magistrate.

When you read his book, "Sleepy" would in his own way start to blame all sorts of other things besides what really caused it. He said well you know the girls may be saying to his wife that he was friendly with them or he in a little pressure here or there with others and finding all sorts of reason why he had to leave Barbados, but the truth of the matter it was because of that little falling out with Errol Barrow.

He went on to Jamaica and served in the magistracy. I think at one point and time he acted as Director of Public Prosecutions and then had two stints working in West Africa, in the Cameroon, I think it was, in 1958 for two months and then in 1962 to 1963, if my memory serves me well, working out there and even acting as Attorney General in West Cameroon. Here it is that you had back then in the early 1960s a man of very humble origins out of St. George, the second of 11 children of working class Barbadians, his father eventually becoming a school teacher and Headmaster, as you called it then, who was now all the way out in Africa where, perhaps his great, great grandfather, I think Adam Waterman was his name, may have come from, his ancestors certainly would have come from in Africa and now he was back over there in the early 1960s making an immense contribution to the development of the legal system through the Office of

Attorney-General and Legal Advisor to the Government in Cameroon at the point and time.

As we stand here in 2016 in this Chamber and reflect on that, we have to appreciate that this was a man not just a strong character but a man who was also adventurous in many respects and a man who genuinely wanted to make a contribution to the development of whichever community or society he was tasked to be a part of at the point and time. Mr. Speaker, that really and truly captures succinctly the kind of individual we are paying tribute to here today, a man who knew no boundaries, a man who was prepared to go wherever he had to go to help those who are less fortunate in societies and more importantly, to build institutions and lay the solid foundation upon which we are able to build today. Mr. Smith certainly had that ability to get out there and work.

Mr. Speaker, it was then on the eve of us going into independence in November 1966 that Mr. Barrow then developed the intestinal fortitude to call Mr. Smith in Jamaica where he was on the Bench in the Magistrates' Court and ask him to come home to Barbados to serve as the first Attorney-General of an independent Barbados. As "Sleepy" once said to me, if you he could have swim, he would have swim and come right back to Barbados the same day. Mind you, I think he felt a little joy in knowing that Mr. Barrow actually called and begged him to come and do something given the little falling out they had a few years prior, but such was the man's commitment to Barbados and the development of Barbados that he did not hesitate to accept the invitation from then Premier Errol Barrow to come home to service his country because no matter where he has travelled around the world, "Sleepy Smith" was a Barbadian at heart and he wanted nothing but the best for Barbados. If he felt that he could make a contribution in whatever sphere to help move this island forward, he was prepared to do it, and so it was that he quickly demitted office in Jamaica and returned to Barbados, was appointed to The Senate and helped part of the debates around independence and the 1st December, 1966 was Barbados' Attorney-General there then earning a place in history as the first Attorney-General of an independent Barbados.

These are things, Mr. Speaker, that we must celebrate in the man's life. Of course, he went on to become Minister of Education and Sports and Minister of Communication and Works and also served as an elected Member of Parliament for the constituency of St. Michael South Central, and then in 1976 when the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) lost office he became the Leader of the Opposition as Mr. Barrow took a sabbatical. Of course, "Sleepy" always said nobody wants to be elected to Parliament to sit in Opposition and nobody wants to serve as Leader of the Opposition, they want to be Prime Minister but he did his work and he performed credibly in

whichever office he was assigned and whichever one he took. Of course, I leave it up to Honourable Members to figure out why he left but knowing the strong character he was and the strong -willed individual that he was, he decided at a certain point and time to pack it in.

There are those who talk about winning a seat by no more than a pack of cigarettes.

Asides.

Hon. D. O'N. INNIS: The Honourable Member for St. Joseph won his by a three-pack. There are those who certainly would reflect on the issues of Mr. Barrow and team because, of course, Mr. Smith felt look, I am here laying a foundation, buildings everything else, taking all the licks, et cetera, and Mr. Barrow will walk back in whenever he is ready. These were the characters we were dealing with but men who certainly never lose sight of the fact that it was about Barbados on the whole.

Even when Mr. Smith had his tussling with the then Speaker of the House and his own views in terms of people occupying certain offices with a Police Certificate of Character that cannot be available, the truth of the matter, Mr. Speaker, is that all of those things, as we reflect upon them, were the kind of actions that not just formed the character of Mr. Smith but of equal importance, also helped to form the kind of character of the institutions that we celebrate today.

Parliament today in 2016 is much richer for the contribution of Frederick Gladstone Smith. He was a formidable debater in his own style, not one known for long flowery speeches and such, very simple words but he got his point over. He offended some people. I do not know that you set out to offend people but perhaps that is the reason why he may not have gotten much further than he got but he took a stance and he was always prepared to give you his advice, not to tell you what he thought you wanted to hear but what he truly believed in. That, to my mind, helped in many respects to create the kind of lasting institutions and systems and policies and laws that today has helped Barbados to become a very stable and well recognised and celebrated economy and society in the western world.

Mr. Speaker, when we reflect upon, for example, the transformation that took place in Barbados in the late 1960s to 1970s, for example, the National Insurance Scheme legislation that was piloted in many respects by Frederick Smith as part of the team, the kind of legal transformation that helped to set a social revolution in Barbados.; the views in terms of the rights of women and children and eliminating the bastard children concept and such like in Barbados, you have to reflect, Mr. Speaker, ...

House C 37 Seq 5

11.08 a.m.

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Tuesday, August 09, 2016

Hon. Miss M. A. MOTTLEY: Mr. Speaker, it allows those who come after to have a clearer understanding to the nuances that sometimes are not captured in other history books, because a third-party observation will always never capture the emotional and other nuances that will allow people to have a better sense of how things went down and how people felt.

Mr. Speaker, I did not realise, for example, until reading the book, that he ran against McDonald Blunt as President of the Barbados Workers Union. Indeed, the first time I came into the constituency of St. Michael North East I met McDonald Blunt back in 1989, who lived in Butlers Avenue and therefore it gave me a better and fuller appreciation because McDonald Blunt became the first worker ever to hold the position of presidency of the Barbados Workers Union and therefore, there may have been a perspective, do we continue with the political class or do we transition to those in whose interests we serve.

Mr. Speaker, these are the things that would allow us to have a fuller and better appreciation. I would have like to have seen the writings of a Tom Adams. I would have like to have seen the writings of a "Richie" Haynes. I would have like to have seen the writings, particularly of a "Bree" St. John whose knowledge was voluminous and who had a perspective on things from local Government, indeed, his favorite topic was the Southern District Council, and then his own perspective as to how policy intruded, particularly in the 1970s where CARICOM and CARIFTA really started to get full expression and Sir Harold was, in fact, a committed regionalist, but there are too few people.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy that we have captured some of Sir Henry's views and some of Sir Philip's views on tape, but the truth is that time is passing very quickly and if we do nothing else, I believe that there is an urgent necessity especially in this 50th Anniversary of Independence. It does not cost any big set of money, if at all, any, because we can tape them with this but I believe that the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation or the Government Information Service needs to do some comprehensive interviews with some of the stalwarts, not just in politics but across the board. I believe the tribute to the Right Excellent Sir Garfield Sobers allowed us to get a glimpse of that on the Friday night when he spoke at the Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre, but there are people in this

Party, for example, who would not have known "Tom" Adams or who would not have known "Bree" St. John. There are candidates on that side who would run next time, who would not have known David Thompson, far less Errol Barrow.

Mr. Speaker, I remember only knowing Grantley as literally a toddler and my relationship therefore with him was more a playful one because he lived up the hill and we lived down the hill, and it hit me that we are literally the last bridge to those who went before and those who are now coming up, and it is a tremendous responsibility. Mr. Speaker, Sir Harold St. John, Sir Frederick Smith, Sir Henry, all of them reinforce every time you spoke that we have a duty to pass on to the modern politicians the things that matter and to tell them the story and to tell them how they should approach things.

Mr. Speaker, I will never forget both Sir Harold and Sir Frederick reinforcing the need to read, something as simple as that, do not to speak about something that you do not know anything about, you should take the time to read. Mr. Speaker, it sounds strange saying it but in a world in which the audiovisual medium dominates, it is not something that people do as readily as they used to before.

I want also to focus on Sir Frederick the family man because there is a common belief that politics must destroy families because of the demands that it places on people. Sir, politics will only destroy families if families allow politics to destroy it and I have on many occasions now want to speak to young people who want to come into public life and who are deeply concerned about that perception and perspective and I would tell you that quite often I say to you that once you are organised and once you understand that you have a duty to your family as well, you can make the time while as the same time serving your constituents or serving your party or the Government or Opposition as the case may be. Sir, Frederick Smith was one of those men who we can say without fear or contradiction was fully and totally committed to his family.

My knowledge of Sir Frederick did not come through politics, it came through engagements with his family and unless he was in Bridgetown or at the Law Court or at Becky Seale Barber Shop, who did you see Sir Frederick out with socially all the time? His wife. His children, Astrid and Gregg who are here today, with whom I grew up, meant the world to him, particularly he would always tease me and I would tease him and say to him that Astrid is really his daughter, she is the politician in the family, to which he would smile and giggle. Craig too had his acridness and frankness when he was ready. Mr. Speaker, but Craig and Astrid did not get there by accident, and I maintain that a lot of the difficulties that we face in this country come from people not necessarily

feeling as though they were loved enough or mattered enough to those who should take care of them.

I know fully that 90 per cent of who I am and the confidence that I carry comes from the love and nurturing that I felt as a child. Ironically last week I was reading excerpts from Hillary Clinton's book, "It Takes a Village to Raise a Child" and the same points were being made, that there is now scientific research that shows that the environment within which children are raised and the emotional development of children is intrinsically linked to the level of love, support and nurturing that they received at an early stage of their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I want to suggest that these are the things that we must celebrate because part of our culture, in fact, celebrates the opposite; part of our culture celebrates the fact that you are not manly enough if you do not have two or three women outside women, when in truth and fact our culture needs to celebrate those who have taken the time to commit to their families and to be able to raise them and their children in a way that allows them to be strong, stable and productive citizens.

Mr. Speaker, Sir Frederick Smith, George Moe, Sir Harold St. John... Mr. Speaker, it does not mean that people do not get divorced but it does mean that people take their responsibilities seriously. My own father, these are the men for me who stood out as real men because they accepted their responsibilities not just to their jobs but to their families. That is more my memory of Sir Frederick Smith than a political memory. I believe that his family must count themselves blessed for having had the opportunity to have him for as long as they did, because we all know that we can take nothing for granted in this world. Indeed, daily we are reminded of persons who are dropping at all ages, and I say so because the biggest shock for me was Renee Ratcliffe. It was surreal. You are watching somebody on television, they are full of life and vibrant, and less than a half-hour later the person is no longer with you. That is why I said I believe his family should count themselves blessed. I would like to say to Astrid's and Craig's children that you may not fully appreciate the extraordinary nature of your grandfather until you get older, because the ability to balance family and service to people as well as commitment to profession in order to earn and support the family, is not easily done. What is even better, however, is that not only did he do it but he did it with a charm that was so uniquely Barbadian and that caused him to be loved by so many; not by a particular class or a particular group or a particular party, but by all. What you saw was what you got, but above all else, you got it without rancour and without malice. That, to me, is the greatest asset and attribute of Sir Frederick Smith.

I pray that your memories of Sir Frederick will cause you to smile, even drop a tear, because it is only then that

you will truly appreciate that you have been blessed as a family to have had him as an anchor. Equally, we have been blessed as a people that your family's generosity was such that it did not place inhibitors on him in his desire to be the man that he wanted to be in the country, mostly, that he wanted to do it in. May God bless his soul and may God support you, and may your memories buffer you as you recall his life and your love for him and his love for you. I am obliged to you.

MR. SPEAKER: I am obliged. Yes, Honourable Member for St. Michael South Central.

Hon. R.L. SEALY: Mr. Speaker, I rise to associate myself with the tributes paid to Sir Frederick Smith: The two contributions we have heard in here this morning already, and indeed all of those many expressions we have heard coming from near and far of those many people who would have been impacted indeed by his life's work, which carried him way beyond the shores of Barbados. Tributes have been flowing, and that does not surprise us at all because of the capacity Sir Frederick had to touch a wide cross-section of people. The two tributes we heard here this morning kind of captured it all. We had the biographical sketch of a number of the various accomplishments that he has had as a soldier, as a student, as a lawyer, as an eminent jurist and of course as a politician and Government official, but we also heard about Sir Frederick the man and how personable and engaging he was. No doubt this would be part of the reason why so many people would have been touched by Sir Frederick.

I have the distinct honour of representing the constituency that he would have last represented, and so I also speak on behalf of his former constituents in expressing sympathy for those many people who are feeling this loss. Beyond that, like the Member who just took her seat, for as long as I have known myself I would have known Sir Frederick. Our families would have intersected at various points. I want to also associate myself with the delight that Sir Frederick had a chance to commit his experiences to paper and that we actually have a well-written memoir of his entire life experiences. I remember speaking on at least two other occasions when eminent Barbadians had gone to the Great Beyond. I remember speaking in the tributes we had to Sir Harold Bernard St. John. It was a tragedy that he never had that opportunity. I think we could have all benefited from that. The Adamses have gone. Even the Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow. He did publish a cookbook; a very good cookbook, mind you, but we would have benefited from having his memoirs, his take and his historical account on exactly what he experienced. Of course, we have had collections of his speeches and so on. One collection was edited by Yussuff Haniff, who did a very good one, so we do have something.

What we have in 'Dreaming A Nation' is Sir Frederick's take on the whole process of Barbados becoming a nation state, watching indeed not only Barbados but the English-speaking Caribbean being transformed from a collection of British possessions to a series of sovereign nations with a few colonies in between. The book is as riveting and enthralling to read as having a conversation with Sir Frederick or "Sleepy", as everyone used to refer to him. I would associate with the view that it should be compulsory reading for anyone in public life.

It is unfortunate again that such nuggets are a rarity and, for that matter, much of the history post-Emancipation is not properly recorded. It is a 'must' indeed - I support fully the sentiment of the Leader of the Opposition because I expressed it on occasions like this previously - that we have to find the modest resources to see that those who are still with us can have their stories also recorded. It is important for those who do not have the benefit of direct interaction, so that generations to come can enjoy hearing the take that the very people participating in the exercise had on it and so that you do not have to only listen to the historians' opinions, because that is all a historian gives you; their opinion of what they anticipated was happening at the particular time in history. I am glad that 'Dreaming A Nation' was able to be published, and I think that we are better off, frankly, from having had that experience.

I of course mentioned that Sir Frederick was the Member of Parliament (MP) for St. Michael South Central. As a matter of fact, he was the first Member of Parliament for St. Michael South Central. The constituency existed in a different configuration in 1966 when Dr. Rameses Caddle would have been the MP. Sir Frederick impacted many lives there. He had good Ministries to have a constituency like that, so there are a few people in the School Meals Department, Ministry of Transport and Works, and so on, who recall having that little opportunity being given to them. Some of them are retiring or have retired -- that was a good few years ago -- but he did contribute based on that Ministry to the infrastructural development of the constituency as well. Carrington Village, even in the late 1960s to early 1970s, was not much different in many respects to the village that George Lamming had described in 'In the Castle of My Skin'. There were a lot of tracks and unpaved sections and so on, and limited, if any, sidewalks, so obviously in that Ministry Sir Frederick was in a position to improve much of the infrastructure, not only of the Carrington Village area but the surrounding areas going right up to Brittons Hill and so on. He has been able to impact the constituency in a very real way. Sir, needless to say, St. Michael South Central is no difference from Barbados, the Caribbean, Jamaica, Africa and every where else where you felt sleepy, the real memory is the impact the man had and continued to have up until he was unable to drive himself he would still be found in Arthur's Land by Arthur Lewis every morning at 10 o'clock and he

was there until 12 o'clock. I do not think the family knew how regular he used to go there because he was not supposed to go because Arthur would bring out the Doorly or the Mount Gay and the coke and that was it. He used to summons me from time to time and I would know that I would have to eat a big breakfast that morning because you could not just sit, you would have to drink some too, I mean, you can tad dry talk, but every day he was at Arthur Lewis at 10 o'clock and would leave around 12 o'clock, only if he had something to do that he would not make it. Indeed, he would always make it a point to still ask for people that he would have once represented.

Mr. Speaker, I know that we would hear the talk about the cigarettes and so forth but the fact is that he won a seat twice, in the 1976 elections it was very difficult and he did have an impact on the politics of St. Michael South Central and we remember that and we note it, and it is therefore my distinct pleasure to represent those folks and to pay tribute for the work that he did then.

Mr. Speaker, he had a tremendous life and I too am grateful that he was able to enjoy it for so long. Sir, up to a couple of weeks ago, Sir Frederick had reason to call me and even though he had some challenges healthwise, he was still as sharp as ever. In essence, for all of the 50 years of Barbados' nationhood, he has been able to participate in a meaningful way, even if offering advice from near or far but he has been around for this length of time and has been able to be fully compos mentis and could contribute, converse and offer advice and guidance all along the way. We have heard again of the tremendous life that he had. The one area that I want to single out because it so encapsulates the man and it has not been spoken about by either of the two speakers is something a bit controversial that he did. I speak of course of Lawyer on Call, the call-in programme he agreed to host. I know that it is a little controversial and that a lot of lawyers maybe even some of them in here did not feel that was the way that legal advice should be given. Well, first of all, it was free of cost and they felt that sensitive matters like that, you should have the benefit of a proper interview, you should research matters and giving legal advice off the cuff, some people did not appreciate that but, I would tell you that the majority of people who listened to that call-in programme, it was not about legal advice, it was about the snip bits that used to come in the margins and obviously as a man who literally and metaphorically helped build the nation, he was able to speak to some of the other important elements. Sir, much of it related to the law or to the rule of law, because he would always make the difference but those little lessons, basic civics that would come through in the call-in programme. It was not surprising that they actually asked him to do the regular call-in programmes, after a while I think that he started doing "Tell it Like it is" too but it started with someone who in a very folksy conversational style interacting with the nation over the broadcast

medium, almost as if he were sitting in your living room having a conversation with you and it did not matter what the issue of the day was. I remember very well when he happened to be in a vicinity of a roundabout when Peter Morgan was taking down a sign and people accused him of committing a criminal act. He said I was just standing up there, I just happened to be there when Peter was unscrewing the sign at the Dame Nita Roundabout and if I happen to be some place and somebody gets kill, does that mean I am a murderer. It was those interfaces but in between you got some serious lessons about civics. We do not teach this in the schools anymore and the only person could have hosted that programme in the way it was hosted was the late Sir Frederick "Sleepy" Smith, and nobody else could have done that, and nobody else could have got away with some of the things he would say too but that was all part of the whole exercise but it encapsulates the man again that we all knew, extremely comfortable in his own skin in who he was and therefore extremely comfortable interfacing with all people whether you saw him, as I have said, in Arthur's Land talking to the fellows on his way in or out of Arthur Lewis' house or whether you saw him at polo, as he put it, he love to see the horses jumping up and down. He would go to polo regularly and it did not matter, it was the same Sleepy that we all came to know and love and respect.

Mr. Speaker, like the other Honourable Members who have spoken already, I want to take this opportunity to extend heartfelt condolences to his entire family circle, in particular of course to Lady Lois, Astrid Craig who have their own families now. I extend sympathy to them and once again associate myself with these tributes and I ask for him to have a long peaceful rest.

Mr. Speaker, I am obliged to you.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. George North.

Mr. G. CLARKE: Mr. Speaker, I too rise to pay tribute to the late Sir Frederick Gladstone Smith, a gentlemen a fine person who was a Methodist lay preacher. Of course, we recognise that he was indeed a fine Caribbean man and I want on behalf of my constituency especially, the people of Byer, Market Hill, where Frederick Smith was born in the year 1924. Honourable Member would have said that those were the rough times and times of hardship and times when things were very hard indeed for the ordinary folk and despite when you look at the situation that as the young of a school teacher and, of course, the head teacher of the St. Augustine Primary School he would have enjoyed to some extent a better relationship with the church even though the salaries in those days were very meager, he would have enjoyed most than even ordinary people of the day.

Mr. Speaker, indeed, Sir Frederick Smith has traced his ancestry the village of Applewhaites in which he felt that the Burke family which still live there in Applewhaites in which he felt that the Burkes family who still live there in Bel Air and Market Hill were the direct descendants of the Waterman class, the waterman stray which is out of the plantation of Redland and some of the plantations around there which were a bit of a middle class in those days. Yet he was from the poor section and he really enjoyed the village life of Bel Air.

As a boy he would have played cricket and football, especially football at the rugged pasture of Market Hill and the St. Augustine School. Like most boys in those days, he would have roasted breadfruit, as he said in his book and, of course, he would have played with the ordinary people in the village. In fact, I recall some years ago, an ordinary gentleman who had just passed 100 years old, Mr. Clarence Elcock, remembered playing with Sir Frederick in those early years. Sir Frederick was also a man who did not single out Bee or Dee. He spoke to many of us, he gave advice and he was one of the persons who did not feel that he ought to give advice only to his party but he felt that as Parliamentarians you had a duty to represent the people of your constituency to do it to the best of your ability. He always found time, when he was able, to visit the playing ground at Market Hill. In fact, about 10 years ago, he was invited to the Market Hill ground to be given special recognition for his role in helping the Market Hill Cricket Club and, indeed, helping the people of the Market Hill area. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that Sir Frederick, who would have served in this Parliament on two occasions, he served in the early years with Sir Grantley and, of course, as the Honourable Member for St. James South said, in those early years, persons venturing out in the 1950's aligned themselves to the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) first and then later moved on to serve the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) which he founded in 1955 but certainly, it was a beginning for Sir Frederick to represent, not the people of St. George, but to represent the people of St. Andrew where he had gone on with his father and family.

One can say that he had a disciplined family. His family was discipline and we must recognise, Mr. Speaker, that family life is important and we must stress family life because we recognise that strong families bring strong communities and Sir Frederick was a member of a strong family who believe in education. He believed that this generation should be better than the generation before. He believed that his father was a 7th standard Head Teacher and that his generation should be better than the generation that was before him and so it was because raising 11 children in the early years of the 1920's and 1930's was indeed a terrific task and he remembered also the hardship of the riots which led to the 1937 riots. He said that those days were so hard that person scarcely had things to eat and as the Honourable Member for St. James South also

mentioned, I think Members should really read the book because you get a picture of what really happened in those years that led to the riots, the years that led to the Moyne Commission, the years that led to the Adult Suffrage and why persons like Sir Frederick would enter these Chambers in the early 1951 election. It is very important that it is out of that Adult Suffrage that the black persons were able to find room in this Parliament so that the history of Sir Frederick is indeed important because he went on to be the first Attorney General as Members have said in here and which was indeed a privilege. Mr. Speaker, even though he was not born with a gold or silver spoon, he was able to be the first Attorney General of an independent Barbados and that speaks volumes.

It is also noticeable, Mr. Speaker, that Sir Frederick retired at the age of 54 from this Parliament and went on to the Bench and it reminds us that Opposition life is not easy. What we found is that to do something for your constituency in Opposition is indeed important but we recognise that resources are so small that it is difficult for the Government to share equally the resources and one found that Frederick Smith retired at the early age of 54 to go to the Bench and indeed from all information he was a fair judge and, of course, he interacted with persons of the lower class even though he was a member of the Bench.

Mr. Speaker, I believe he has left with us something that we could hold on to. We could hold on to the fact that he did not single out A or B, he did not single out members of the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) or the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) and that is why we were able to turn out in our numbers at the funeral because we recognise that he was a man who was fair. He was fair while as a Minister as well as when he was on the Bench so I recognise, Mr. Speaker, that this man was indeed a person that all the ordinary persons within our community could associate with. As he walked through Bridgetown, through his constituency and throughout Barbados he was the same man even though he had acquire the status of Parliamentarian and Judge, and that is indeed important for us to recognise. As Members said, he did not feel that he was better than the ordinary man and I believe, Mr. Speaker, that we need to emulate him in some way.

I, on behalf of my constituency, on behalf of the Burkes of St. George and the Smith clan, would like to offer our condolences to his wife and children and to his family. We hope that in the days to come they would find the solitude that is indeed important at this time.

Mr. Speaker, I am obliged to you.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. Michael Central.

Hon. S. D. BLACKETT: Mr. Speaker, I too would want to add my voice to the tributes being made here today in this Honourable Chamber to this great man. The year 1924 saw the death of Vladimir Lenin and the coming to power of Joseph Stalin. The Ottoman Empire ended with the Turkish President of that ending the caliphate that was being established in Turkey, New York's Computer Tabulating Recording Company was reorganised and took the name of the IBM Corporation of which it has been known for years, Walt Disney created his first cartoon Alice in Wonderland and the United States of America had its first Macy's Thanksgiving Parade. On this side of the Atlantic, in this tiny 166 square mile island, another momentous occasion was occurring, and that was the birth of Frederick Gladstone Smith on the 180th day of that year, on the 6th of July.

I would say that I did not know Sir Frederick very well. I often met him in public spaces, in supermarkets and other places, and he would often regale me with stories of politics of yesteryear and politics of today and, of course, he imparted some of the rudiments of winning a seat and keeping a seat, and the old stories of wearing out several pairs of shoes and all of the things that we should do as Members of Parliament to engage our constituents and to keep them as happy as we should.

Several novel things have been attributed to this great Barbadian man but none more notable than his love for his God, for his family and certainly for his country. From all that we would have heard, he was a God-fearing man to the core and exhibited and practised that ecclesiastical fervour by dedicating some of his time to the lay preaching in the church of his choice, the Methodist Church, and I am sure that he would have won some souls for Christ.

His love of family was one of his hallmarks and this was borne out by the moving tributes by his prodigy which points to traditional paternal love and traditional care that evades some of our men over time, but this could not be attributed to this extraordinary Bajan man. He was the example that most of us should aspire to follow especially those of us who have the good fortune to be fathers. I believe that we should take an example from Sir Frederick's book and love our children and find time for them. I myself being the father of three boys go out of my way to spend quality time with them and to know their friends. If the children are grown, we should involve ourselves in their pursuits, entrepreneurial and otherwise, and just be there for them. From the words that fell from his children's mouth, I can see that Sir Frederick was just that kind of father.

Then there was his unquestionable love of country that saw him serve at almost every single level of the administration of this fair land of ours. At the political,

judicial, religious and Cabinet level he served with distinction and he certainly served with aplomb. It is often said that a person is measured by those three attributes in life, love of God, love of family and love of country. It is these features that normally governed who we are, fashioned who we are, fashioned our very being and personality and mould us into the human being we eventually become in life and sometimes in death. There is no wonder that Sir Frederick was the person he was for those 92 years he spent with us here and made the kind of impact he did to the social, political and spiritual landscape in this nation.

My most memorable picture of Sir Frederick, and it is printed indelibly on my mind, is that picture that appeared in the daily Nation, or the daily paper I think it was I do not remember which edition it was, that was taken at the George Street Auditorium in 1986 with him cradling the head of the Right Excellent Errol Barrow in his hands on the night the Democratic Labour Party won. I believe he was saying to the leader, well done, we have made it yet again, let us get on with the business of making the lives of the people of Barbados better and more comfortable. I believe that Sir Frederick dedicated his life to such things.

Sir Frederick being one of the founding fathers of the Democratic Labour Party has further fortified his position as one of the chief nation builders and architects of this country. He was among those who would have of course laid the cornerstones of this fledgling nation state and lived long enough to contribute to adding the walls and the roof to the structure and to see this country reach the year of its 50th Anniversary. It is significant that in this 50th year of our anniversary that it coincided with his death as if he was waiting to see this country reach its jubilee year.

I was not surprised by Sir Frederick's request that no eulogy be read at his funeral. It further reinforced my assessment of this noble gentleman's simplicity and unpretentious manner. Last Thursday when the Cabinet, under the Prime Minister's direction and guidance, assembled at the George Street Auditorium to view his body, I was equally surprised when I walked into the Auditorium and saw the simplicity and modesty of his casket and funeral arrangements. These are some of the fine features some of us will do well to emulate from this man. It credits us with nothing, especially those of us who are now serving in public life, to be haughty, obnoxious, offensive, pretentious, and certainly condescending with those we come into contact with either in our constituencies or in our ministries or if we are in Opposition in our daily life pursuits. Let us take a leaf from Sir Frederick's book and walk with a generous dose of humility and at all times we should strive to exhibit the milk of human kindness in all of our exploits and our

encounters, and certainly I think this would be pleasing to a man like Sir Frederick.

I say this morning to his wife, Lois Lady Smith, his children, grandchildren and his entire family that I wish to convey my deepest condolences on my behalf and that of my family and I say, may he rest in peace and rise in glory and may light perpetual shine on him.

I thank you.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for Christ Church East Central.

Hon. R. D. JONES: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I too would want to add my voice to all of those who have gone before in speaking in such great tones relative to Sir Frederick Smith

Mr. Speaker, I am not going to be long, because I would not pretend that I was born in 1924, even though sometimes the pressure coming from the Honourable Member for St. Thomas would want to bend me to those good years, but I am not going to succumb, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to add a few words to those which have already been stated. We recognised humility when humility is present. We recognised persons steeped in the culture and the origins of one's society and a reflection of that society comes about as a result of how we carry and how we hold ourselves, how we serve our families, how we serve our people, how we serve our God and how we serve our world. Sir, I would believe that all of those things were caught up in the persona of Sir Frederick Smith.

When the Democratic Labour Party was elected to the Government of Barbados in 2008, and I was asked to become Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, and Innovation if I would accept, of course I said yes and as I reflected over time as to outstanding Barbadians who one would want to recognise, of course having been recognised in several areas before and in several areas of his activity... as I look across the landscape though it is important, schools such as St. Lucy Secondary, St. James Secondary, St. George Secondary, Garrison Secondary, I ask myself the question, what do they signify. They signify that the St. Lucy Secondary School was built by the Democratic Labour Party as a means of expanding secondary education in Barbados; the Garrison also to suit that purpose; St. Thomas Secondary then became the Lester Vaughn under the Barbados Labour Party; St. James, et cetera.

Mr. Speaker, I remember writing to the various Boards of Management saying that I was contemplating recommending to the Cabinet of Barbados the name change for these vulnerable educational institutions, would you

make a recommendation as to what you would want. This was done in the true democratic spirit, even though the recommendation would come from the Minister to Cabinet. There was only one school that responded saying they did not want a name change, the St. James Secondary. I said to them that I was appreciative of their response but that I will recommend to the Cabinet of Barbados that the school be named after Frederick G. Smith and so we went through.

Mr. Speaker, in politics you have to have a hard head, as the first things, so that when you hit your head you would not feel anything, then you must have a broad back. I remember in a space of three weeks we started with St. Lucy Secondary School being changed to that of Darryl Jordan, a very outstanding and founding principal of that school. The Garrison Secondary School was then changed to Graydon Sealy but as I ventured with the relative parties, including Sir Frederick, to rename the school I noted the absence of a few members of staff. I understood that as a sign of disrespect to Sir Frederick because they too thought that the individual heading the school, who was another outstanding Barbadian who would have led that school for a number of years the school should have been named after him and so I understood that, but I thought that Sir Frederick shone brightly like one of those stars in the night. I am not going to talk about a morning star, because with the sun out I do not know how people could see morning stars, that could be another something, but in the night one could see those stars. I applied to recommend that the school be named after Sir Frederick.

Mr. Speaker, without hesitation, Sir Frederick adopted that school from day one. I remember when he spoke at the renaming the words which flowed from him had caused me to have those things which people refer to as 'goose bumps' because there was a man genuine in his contribution. I saw a few tears, these little drops that sometimes come from men who do not want to cry, coming down his face and him saying to the audience assembled there that he had had several recognitions in his life, but that the one of which he was most proud was this school of about 1 000 children being named after him.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud that the Government of Barbados and I were able to recognise his contribution as a Barbadian, because he has made contributions across so many areas by the simple act of naming the St. James Secondary School in his honour. I remember, we were not yet in Government, in 2006, I was not at that time attending graduation ceremonies of the University of the West Indies Cave Hill, but Cave Hill had conferred on him an Honorary Doctorate of Law. There are normally two addresses, one in the morning because of the size of the graduating group and an afternoon ceremony, and I had chance not to attend but to listen to Sir Lloyd on television a little time after that, just like I listened to Wes Hall sometimes after that, to the words spoken and I thought that those two

contributions were outstanding because they were not captured in the hyperboles that sometimes academics sometimes think that they need to use to convince people but his words were 'rootsy', earthy, motivating, powerful, poignant, reverberating in the consciousness of young people at that time.

Mr. Speaker, these are things that you applaud. There is a time and place for everything under the sun, words of our grandmothers, and you choose the moment to be reflected in that sunlight. Sir Frederick has always chosen the moment to be reflected in the sunlight. I remember as well annoying him and I did not know that that journey had started, because I was becoming distressed as a sometimes pretending historian that too many of our outstanding citizens were passing without capturing in their own words their journey on earth, the journey in the contribution to Barbados. I was saying to him that he had to write, that he had to capture his story. I had conjured up the notion of mobilising the Young Democrats to go out with recorders in their hands and to speak to persons like Sir Frederick, Sir Maurice King, Sir Philip Greaves, and then using their space time to transcribe and write their stories.

Mr. Speaker, Sir Frederick said to me that he does not know who Allan is. This Allan lived or was living somewhere in England. Sir, Frederick said to me that Allan and he will be writing or that they had started that exercise and so I then did this hasty retreat because he was started or had commenced his story. I believe Allan is a nephew whom I have never ever met in my life, so I did not know who he was talking about but subsequently about almost a year and one half ago or somewhere around the time I keep checking with him and he said to me that the book was finished, that he was going to send a copy to the Right Honourable Prime Minister but I was hoping that he was sending copy to me.

I was hoping that he was sending a copy to me. He said, "I am going to send a copy to the Prime Minister," et cetera, so I bought my copy. I do not mind. I will put it in hardback and get it backed properly, so that it is part of my library. I like to collect Barbadiana and books by Barbadians. In the position that I am in, thankfully I do get invited to the launching of books, so you know I would always get a copy. I would not then have to buy. What I actually do is that, in my office, I would buy two. I would give one to the Permanent Secretary and one to another friend once I go to those launches. It is not that I just get one and I keep it. I would buy two just to help in the effort.

I am so proud to note that, along with Alan, we can read and capture the journey of Sir Frederick in essentially his own words, because Alan would be an assistant, someone who helps to guide that journey and to elicit out of Sir Frederick his life story. I heard the Honourable

Leader of the Opposition talking as I journeyed here about reading and researching, and I do not normally echo many things from the Leader of the Opposition, but as someone who loves reading, someone who sees the mysteries of life unfold before your very eyes as you capture the stories of so many journeys of people and of so many instances of life, I would encourage you to read 'Dreaming A Nation'; I believe that is what it is called. In 'Dreaming A Nation' you can find the stories not only of Sir Frederick, because when your life touches the lives of others or when other lives touch your own, there is a symbiotic relationship taking place. There is a symbiotic relationship with the Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow in Sir Frederick's journey. There is a symbiotic relationship with the Honourable Member for St. James South, even though not captured within the folds of 'Dreaming A Nation', but one heard of that in the presentation of Craig Smith. Of course, he did not know what he did for the Honourable Member for St. James South. I saw him straighten up, preen a bit, clench his muscles and pull back his shoulders. Already his jackets do not button, so it is even now more difficult. His girth now becomes even more protruded in order of that recognition, but I understand it. I truly do; where he went to the altar of Sir Frederick to learn. When you can hear the phrase, "You know, when I look around, Donville Inniss is a bit like me," that is not true. Of course, that is not true, but one accepts the recognition for what it meant. One recognises it, so I hope it does not go really to the head of the Honourable Member for St. James South. That is a single honour to be repeated by his son at that moment last Friday.

We have to look at the lives of persons who have gone before us. It is almost like a pool, where there is a reflection; they are looking up at you as you look down, and you can say, "You know something? I have learnt a lot from that reflection." That is the life that I would want to emulate in a particular way; selfless contribution to human civilisation, selfless contribution to my country, to my family, to the school whose name adopted me, and to my village. This is the true essence of life; not necessarily the millionaire dollar bills that cause us to be posh. It is a nice British phrase: "Posh". This is not about those things but our humility reflected even though we know we have achieved. He was a young boy who left primary school and went into Combermere and then into Harrison College, reading the Classics, then going on and serving in the army -- I almost called it the colonial army -- reading the Law, and travelling the world including Africa and parts of Central America, and being home.

Mr. Speaker, I smile. I remember when I was a youngster that he did not serve all that long as a Minister of Education, but in the time he served he ignited so much passion in this country that it was remarkable. He ignited a lot of passion. I believe he would have served in the dying years of the 1970s during the Democratic Labour Party's

reign around 1975-76, so it was not a long period, but he made his mark. There are people who said they loved Frederick Smith, as he was called then. The Honourable Member for St. Thomas, being also a teacher at Sharon, knows it was argued that once the rain set up -- I heard a lot of people with that, and was still a youngster at school - that Sir Frederick recognised that we were still evolving out of people who went to school by and large without shoes, and that some children had one pair of shoes so you did not want him or her to go through mud, so you would hear, "There is no school today." It is known that the Minister has the authority, and only the Minister, unless you delegate that function to a Parliamentary Secretary or Chief Education Officer to close schools for anything. That is power exercised in the Act by the Minister of Education. It is power that I do not like using at all, but sometimes you have to use it. I can remember being cursed about two years ago when the rain was pelting down, and people complained that when it snows in the Eastern Seaboard or in England that people sent to school their children. We do not have any snow here. In the language of Sir Frederick, "We ain' ha' nuh snow 'bout hey. We ha' a lot o' rain and I ain' sen'ing school dem children." Fullstop. Done with that. He did not waste time, and did not get into any foolish talk, as I have done to those people as well. You have to take a decision and live by that decision.

I remember he had one or two minor skirmishes with the trade unions, with the Barbados Union of Teachers; nothing to worry about, as I seem to be having now. I have a major clash from time to time, but I see them as the journey in a democracy. They either break you or they make you, and I say thanks to them for the opportunity for making me and not breaking me. Resilient, comrade, resilient. I would have expressed it already to his daughter, but I just want to extend my deepest and heartfelt condolences to his wife, son and grandchildren. I expressed it to his daughter last Thursday. She is a lovely lady. I am beginning to sound like Donald Trump; you know he says everything is lovely for him, but let us put that behind us. As I said, I express my heartfelt condolences to all of you. May you continue to rest comfortably in the arms of God, knowing that God will hold you up and give you comfort in the midst of this loss. I wish all of you the best, and may you journey well and long. I thank you.

MR. SPEAKER: I am obliged. Yes, the Honourable Member for Christ Church West Central.

Hon. S.A. LASHLEY: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I could not of course let the opportunity pass without myself joining with the House in paying tribute to the late Frederick Smith who would have not only been a member of this House but someone whom I would have had opportunity to have come into contact with on many occasions. I believe that it is only on rare moments in the life of anyone that there is someone that passes your way

and by their very example is able to leave an indelible print in your consciousness based on the kind of life they would have lived. I believe that Sir Frederick Smith stands out as one of those individuals, someone who overtime would have acquired not only a wealth of knowledge in the area of his discipline but who would have amassed a significant amount of personal capital which he sought to share with anyone who would listen.

Mr. Speaker, as a young man I had the opportunity of meeting Sir Frederick Smith in Chambers, seeking counsel from him. I had numerous occasions in which to speak with him and on each occasion that I had that interaction I always encountered someone who was very conscious and full of comfortable in terms of who he was. Sir, later on, I had the opportunity practicing as an Attorney-at-Law before the Barr to also encounter him in his role as a judge sitting on the Court of Appeal and I was always impressed with the immense knowledge he had but I was also fascinated with the frankness with which he spoke.

Mr. Speaker, in listening to the tributes so far this morning, I believe that Sir Frederick Smith would stand out as being one of those politicians who believed very much in being very outspoken, even on controversial matters. I was always touched by the very calmness in which he delivered some of the most profound statements, often times the statements he made were not necessary contributive to the self-esteem of those to whom he directed them but he felt very strongly about the development of Barbados. He felt that he had a right to influence those who were placed in charge of the governance of the country whether or not those persons represented the Party he loved, the Democratic Labour Party, or whether those persons were of the Opposition Party. He did not leave any stone unturned in terms of placing before Barbados his view and I really want to say that I have quite a lot of time for that, a person who placed country about self.

Mr. Speaker, even as he would have moved from one phase of life to another, certainly my own personal recollection of Sir Frederick Smith was someone who was extremely passionate about his life for Barbados.

Mr. Speaker, I was very touched because even as he was in the afternoon of his days one of the profound statements he made whether we agree with it or not but he made some statements and perhaps these were his last statement on receiving the Commemorative Broken Trident at his home and he was asked about Barbados upon reaching 50 and he was very candid about it. He made the point that he still remained dissatisfied with the progress that Barbados has made over 50 years. He was not speaking in a partisan way, he was speaking very candidly about and I think that often times when someone

recognizes they have reached the stage of maturity where they are free to make statements not based on self-interest but free to make statements based on the national interest. I believe that statements of this kind ought to be taken very seriously by us.

Mr. Speaker, I reflected on those statements because he was making the point that after 50 years of nationhood, he still remained dissatisfied with fact that the ownership of capital in Barbados, in his view and in his opinion had really not changed over the 50 years of post Independence Barbados. He recalled his origins, the way in which he approached public life, the principles on which he fought both before Independence and after and he regretted that Barbados by and large still remained in the hands, in terms of ownership, of the same people he would have observed prior to 1966, when we became independent.

Mr. Speaker, much has happened over that time. I am relatively a young person but as the persons entrusted with the governance of Barbados I believe that those statements from Sir Frederick Smith ought to be taken very seriously and we have to examine in our own way and certainly in relation to where Barbados has come over 50 years, whether there is not some merit in what Sir Frederick Smith has had to say.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to say that one of the things that really touched me about Sir Frederick Smith is that even after retirement he was able still to make time to make himself available to Barbados. I recall his functioning as a talk show host on the Voice of Barbados mainly receiving calls pertaining to legal matters but knowing Sir Frederick Smith many of this commentaries did not only dwell on matter strictly of law and he felt that he had to make commentary in relation to wider issues. Sir, often those issues would relate either to the direction in which Barbados was going, personalities in politics and certainly he also had a very profound opinion about where Barbados was going in relation to the issue of whether or not we should go the route of becoming a republic and, in fact, he had very strong views on that.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege after having a conversation with him because he said to me that in terms of his household that his wife held me in very high esteem and that I had an obligation to visit his house and speak with house. He said to me he wanted to delay that as much as possible because I would afraid I would get to his house and take away his wife away from him. He confided that in me and told me to take my time in coming young man but I met his wife and we develop a very good relationship and I made sure that I respected everything thing that happened in relation to that union.

Mr. Speaker, he was very jovial, very comical and he found time to share much of the lighter side of Sir

Frederick Smith sufficiently so that I felt that a very important project that was being embarked upon, the putting together of a docu-drama on the life and time of Errol Walton Barrow, which is currently reaching its finality to be completed in time, of course, for the penultimate celebration of the 50th anniversary of independence and I felt it was important that docudrama should not be completed without having the input and the voice and visual of Sir Frederick Smith. I am happy to say to the House that before he had moved on from this life we were able to have his interview completed and I am sure many of you will be delighted to see that completed docudrama when it is ready in November. His contribution, of course, has been a wide and varied one in terms of the political landscape of Barbados. My encounters with him have always been very frank and candid. I admired the way that he spoke and in many ways I imitated it, how he would speak, very candidly and very unassuming but with much wisdom and great insight in relation to many of the things that he talked about. In fact, I believe that much of what he would have said is not captured in his book, "Dreaming a Nation". Most of his interactions were very profound and certainly with my interactions with him he felt that once he had moved on in public life, in other words, he was not in any Cabinet, he was not in any parliament and I believe even in Parliament he did not hesitate where necessary to confront the issues that he had to confront but he felt, upon retirement, that he had liberty to speak in a manner without having to mince words. I think much of what he had to say, though not necessarily written in his book, but, I believe, much of his commentaries in relation to his dream for the development of Barbados would have been captured, I hope, by the Voice of Barbados (VOB) which would have recorded his contributions during his stewardship as a Talk Show Host and much of it delighted Barbados in terms of his input and his insights. I believe that even as he has recorded his dreams, his passions, the things that influenced his life in his book, but I hope that the Voice of Barbados (VOB) can go back to those tapes of those call-in programmes and perhaps, produce a master tape of Sir Frederick's own voice in terms of those very profound insights that he made on many topics in Barbados not only of a legal nature.

Mr. Speaker, I was very happy to know that he wrote his contributions, his passions, his views and he put it in black and white for us to read in the book called "Dreaming A Nation". I feel that his example of seeking to document his story and this is rare because many times our stories are documented by others and not ourselves but here we have an example of a Parliamentarian a person who reached a very senior position as part of the judiciary, he not only served in the judiciary in Barbados but he served in the judiciary in the Turks and Caicos and I believe in other countries as well across the Caribbean. An imminent jurist who would have been able to tell so many stories about his life, about Barbados both pre- and post-

independence but I think his example of documenting his story is one that we should follow and we should find time to write our version of what has happened. I believe some of the characters that we would find in the book "Dreaming A Nation" would not themselves have had an opportunity to document their side of the story. Of course, Sir Frederick had been able to give his version of what happened during that time in his life, therefore, I believe that is a good example to follow.

Sir Frederick, of course, would have been born at a time when most of those persons whose contributions whether big or small would have assisted tremendously in the development of Barbados prior to independence. He was born in 1924 and my father was born in 1920 but I have a lot of time to spend in relation to the contribution of person born around that time. Those times were difficult and hard but there were a certain amount of sacrifice that was made, not only by persons who may have reached the status and stature and whom we celebrate by honours of varying kind such as Sir Frederick Smith but there are numerous Barbadians born around that time some were masons, as my father was, some were carpenters, joiners, cane-cutters, some loaded canes, and some worked in various endeavours but the most important aspect of that contribution in my estimation, Mr. Speaker, is the phenomenal impact that it has had on the development of Barbados and on the psyche of the Barbadian particularly at a time when we are celebrating 50 years of independence. Mr. Speaker, I believe that in the case of Sir Frederick, we can look back at him as black Barbadian who felt the sting of underdevelopment, who felt the sting of a Barbados post-emancipation that required the collective muscle power of a combined force of young, black men and women to chart a path for the fundamental transformation of a colony that had yet to find its way within a modern developmental strata of progress.

I think, Mr. Speaker, that we can honour our people in various ways, I believe that Sir Frederick has received various honours but I also believe that if you had to speak with him in terms of his own thoughts about the necessities that were required to transform, honour and tributes into what made a difference to Barbados he would want us to focus on truly transforming Barbados over the next 50 years. Mr. Speaker, we would have come to a point where many of the things that take for granted today and that we enjoy today whether it be free education, healthcare, national insurance system and other liberties that are enjoyed under a constitution which is arguably still a constitution to be repatriated because the constitution that we have is the Independence Order of 1966 which was passed in the British Parliament.

The essence of what I am saying, Mr. Speaker, is that where I think Sir Frederick was going in all of this was that he felt that the pace of progress in relation to

transforming Barbados in terms of the economy, the ownership of capital and the political reality of our constitutional situation he felt that pace needed to be quicken and hasten and he felt that we ought not to apologise as persons who had been the recipient of many years of social capital in terms of the transformation of our educational system that we ought not to apologise to talk about and to give the kind of direction to the whole issue of moving Barbados towards a republic. In fact, I believe he has had occasion on more than one occasion to speak to the issue of moving Barbados to the next stage.

I have to say, Mr. Speaker, that Sir Frederick represented an individual who overtime became very focussed and had an urgency about him in relation to where the development of Barbados was. I recall, as a student of The Lodge School, seeing him on many occasions visiting The Lodge School. He was very passionate about the development of The Lodge School, and I think he would be very pleased to see the transformation of The Lodge School now in terms of the school plant. What I remember very clearly, Mr. Speaker, was his concerns in relation to the impact of certain actions taken at The Lodge School when his brother was the Headmaster there. His brother was the Principal of The Lodge School. Of course, we know of the issues that impacted The Lodge School at the time which injured, I believe, to some extent the image of the Lodge School. Sir Frederick would have himself acted and spoken in defence of the institution of The Lodge School. His son would have been there at the time when I was at The Lodge School. What I admired about Sir Frederick at that time was the fact that he fearlessly stood on the side of the fact that education and the institution of The Lodge School ought not to be placed on the proverbial sacrificial altar of narrow politics and he identified with a bigger cause of ensuring that whatever the politics of the day that the institution of The Lodge School was protected. I want, Mr. Speaker, to certainly compliment his stance on that because I think that position is largely responsible for the fact that we do have a Lodge School today that can hold its head high because of the kind of focus which was brought to bear from persons such as Sir Frederick.

Mr. Speaker, I believe his life was outstanding not necessarily in relation to the accolades and the tributes that have been placed on him, but I believe in the finer things of his life that he would speak of, his role as a Christian man, his role as a family man and his role as someone who was not ashamed and did not hesitate to join with Errol Barrow and shaped a new political paradigm and being part of the formation of one of the greatest political parties in the world, the Democratic Labour Party, more so because it represented a movement away from a trend of socio-political thought that did not in his view squared with what was required for the proper and full development of modern Barbados. I think, Mr. Speaker, that if there was one great moment in the history of Barbados where we

could say that Sir Frederick stood by a trend of thought and a principle to re-engineer the dynamics of politics in Barbados, I believe it was that time when he became a founding member of the Democratic Labour Party where he thought that Barbados required a new trend of thinking, a new political system to further transform Barbados.

Mr. Speaker, in the 1986 election, I was one of those youngsters in St. John, I believe I was about 15 or 16 years old, who felt that...

Asides.

Hon. S. A. LASHLEY: A number of youngsters who grew up in Gall Hill and who revered Errol Walton Barrow felt that although we were not of the voting age that we should take a stance particularly at election time. We had a group of about 15 or 16 youngsters who used to get the placards and take our own stance, we had our own campaign strategies. At that election, when of course the Democratic Labour Party scored such a resounding victory, we got on any bit of transportation that was available and headed to George Street to celebrate the return of the "Dipper" to power. I recall at that time peering through the hundreds of people who were there at George Street to witness the crowning again or the return of "Dipper" Barrow to the leadership of Barbados and the passion and the energy that we felt because we felt that there was a new hope after a host of years of, we called it ... but it was not I believe. We were not impressed with the stewardship of the Barbados Labour Party. We felt that Barbados had a new chance to breathe after the infelicities of the then Barbados Labour Party. I recall, Mr. Speaker, a moment, I believe it is captured photographically, when Sir Frederick, given the intensity of the moment, very passionately went to Errol Barrow and placed his hands on his head in a calming moment to say "Skipper, you got it under control, we believe that your return to the helm of the Democratic Labour Party and to Government will create for Barbados a new era of hope". I recall that moment very very well, and I stood as a young boy and watched that for what it was worth.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want again to not only thank Sir Frederick for his years of service and his tremendous influence on the socio-political landscape of Barbados, but for the very profound influence he has had certainly on my life. I want to also thank his family, his widow, his son and his daughter for being part of a quiet revolution in Barbados that gave persons such as Sir Frederick the opportunity to contribute in such a way that we could now benefit from that transformation.

I was very touched, Mr. Speaker, by the tributes that were paid at his funeral particularly by his daughter who told a story of a personal relationship with her father and who watched him developed and transformed the lives of

so many people around him. Of course, I smiled because in a sense having told the congregation that Sir Frederick did not wish to have a eulogy, she proceeded in a very quiet manner, just as Sir Frederick would have done, to deliver something that maybe could be called a quasi-eulogy but an excellent tribute to her father. I complimented her on that because I believe that she spoke from the heart and with a passion about her dad and her relationship with her father in a way that no other person, in my view, could have done. It touched all of us in the congregation. I believe it touched the entire Barbados because it gave all of us a glimpse that I believe that not even his book could have done and I certainly believe that it helped us to understand that even as we contribute to the political development of Barbados and even as we stand in our places each Tuesday and take hopefully our role seriously that we must reflect very seriously on that time when our stories would be told and whether our stories would be told in a way that they were told about Sir Frederick or whether they would be told in other manners that do not delight us.

I believe Sir Frederick represents one of those quintessential Barbadians whose story we can be proud of and whose stewardship as a public servant, whether in Jamaica, Barbados, in the Turks and Caicos or wherever, he gave service, that service, Mr. Speaker, redounded to what Barbados represents, the excellence of a Barbadian man.

Mr. Speaker, with those few words, I wish, once again, to indicate to his family my sincere sympathy, but also to identify with the fact that this is a moment not only of grief but of celebration of the life and times of a great Barbadian man. I am obliged to you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Leader of Government Business.

SUSPENSION

Hon. J.D.E. BOYCE: Mr. Speaker, having had an indication that there are many other Honourable Members who may want to contribute to this tribute of Sir Frederick, but because of the passage of time and the fairness to his family, indeed, I want to offer that this Honourable House be suspended for lunch until 2:30 this afternoon.

Hon. A. D. BRATHWAITE: I beg to second that, Sir.

The question was put to the Honourable the House and resolved in the affirmative, without division and Mr. Speaker suspended the Sitting accordingly.

RESUMPTION

MR. SPEAKER: Good afternoon, Honourable Members. This Sitting is resumed. When the Suspension was taken, we were on Tributes, and with that we shall continue. Yes, the Honourable Member for St. Michael North West.

Hon. C.P. SINCKLER: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I take this opportunity to enter the Debate in tribute - because all discussions in Parliament are debates - to a fallen hero of Barbados in the personage of none other than Sir Frederick Gladstone Smith, former Attorney General, Leader of the Opposition, Court of Appeal judge. The designations are so long that you would spend an entire afternoon reciting them, and that, I presume, is a genuine reflection of the tremendous level of achievement of this particular and very special personality in Barbadian society. I say "society" to include all facets of human endeavour which he would have participated in; whether politics, law, community development, trade unionism, you name it. It is so vast that it is unbelievable.

I had occasion only on the weekend to be searching the Internet for something which I cannot now recall. I believe it was something to do with the French Revolution, and I had occasion to stumble upon, by Google-ing, The 18th Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte, which of course the Honourable Member for St. James Central is very familiar with. It is a treatise that was penned, I believe, by Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels about the working class movement in France in the French Revolution, and about Napoleon and people involved in that process. One of the things that I drew out of that treatise in the discourse was the issue about philosophy and whether the philosophy made the man or the man made the philosophy. It is a very interesting question that, having myself read it before, the treatise of the Brumaire, it did not quite dawn on me at the time when I would have read it as a student of political science. I certainly was not studying it in that way then. We were doing it basically for the discourse in political science, but having re-read parts of it, as I said quite coincidentally because that was not what I was looking for, it raised a very interesting question when I considered and reflected on the life and times of Sir Frederick Smith and his contribution to Barbados. That question really is, "What would have shaped the other? Would his circumstances, so ably iterated by Members of the House of Assembly so far in this Tribute, have informed his general philosophical view of life, of circumstance, of development? Otherwise, would it have been that having come through the experience that we would have identified, certainly in the pre-Independence part of our history so unenviably dominated by colonialism, the white plantocracy, the class divide and class struggle of the 1930s and '40s and '50s, and then to have come in the 1950s and 1960s and into the '70s as he moved on into the latter part of his political career, which side of that experience would have

influenced him most in the character that we saw developed at the end of the day?"

I think that is a very important thing, because we are told that our life experiences shape our philosophical view. Our socialisation, the conditions we grew up in, the issues that would have confronted our society, who we associate with; these are all empirical sociological observations that help to determine who we are and shape us, we are told by the sociologists and the social anthropologists. Even if subconsciously -- if we do not know that it is there but it comes out over time -- these help in shaping the type of character that we become. His character would have been one, almost like in a pressure cooker-type environment in the 1930s, '40s and '50s, to see a country on the cusp of basically almost a revolution, having existed for hundreds of years until that point under a dreaded system of colonialism. He would have seen that this system rewarded people on the basis of status rather than on the basis of merit and achievement. In that type of environment, to be able to wrestle to the ground a psychological perception that you began not from a position of strength but from a position of weakness, but ultimately, psychologically, that you began from a position of compromise; that you could not possibly achieve success because of who you were or who in fact was the fortune or misfortune of your parentage. That, I think, is the quintessential part of having a full understanding of how characters such as Sir Frederick Smith's and the others who would have come through in that very important first phase of our Independence, would have been shaped.

In thinking about this question of man and his philosophy, I came to the very clear view that that period had to have been a seminal part of shaping this particular personality. Why I say that is because of the type of characteristics that he had. We often hear today -- it is almost like a gem in state of art, Mr. Speaker -- people say that "this person is a grassroots politician" and "that person is a grassroots politician," as though it is a phenomenon or a rarity. Back in the days of the Sir Frederick Smiths and others of that ilk, the majority of them were considered to be grassroots politicians. Today if somebody tells you in politics that you are a grassroots politician, it is almost like a tribute. It is some special garland that is placed around your neck, even though all of us, by and large, emanate practically from the same social class origins. One or two of us may be a little bit more privileged than others, but we ostensibly come out of the same condition. We are not perceived in how we do things as being grassroots. If we, even so, come from a social class, we all want to be considered to be working class, and we transcend our class origins; we are seen as something special.

In that time that was not the case because everything was considered predominantly other than those persons who obviously came from property class to be grass roots

politicians who identified with the common masses and with the struggle because it is not just an identification with the masses in terms of a physical identification with them but with the causes that would lead to their liberation from some type of bondage whether physical or psychological and that part of his philosophy, the part of the philosophy to say that whatever I do in politics, whatever if do in law, whatever I do in trade unionism, whatever I do in international relations or regional relations that I am just a manifestation, a representation of a particular type of person in this society that must always be in a position to advance oneself through the struggle to overcome bigotry, to overcome classism, to overcome racism and to overcome all those other obstacles that have been placed in the way of ordinary Barbadians and that I think more than other thing else characterized Sir Frederick Smith.

Mr. Speaker, secondly, the idea that conformity does not mean subservience is another interesting characteristic of this particular personality because we can say from his history and from his observation of this practice in all spheres of life, Sir Frederick Smith was not a conformist. The Honourable Member for St. James Central know that we used to write in books when we were at university. We used to write at the top of the books our names after then we would then call ourselves radical Marxist Leninist non-conformist revolutionaries, that is when we had the fascination with the class struggle and all those things. Sir, those were the good old days but a characteristic that Sir Frederick Smith had was that he was not a conformist. He was not a person that you can just tell something to and he would just go along with it because experts said it or some leader said it, some priest said it or whatever. He questioned it, he enquired why must it be so, not be an oppositionist but to push the envelope of thinking to examine all angles. I think that more than anything is what attracted the personalities between himself and the late Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow because contrary to what people have come to assume and perhaps the practice has led to this, my experience has always been that enlightened political leaders are not fascinated by people who are subservient and also sycophant to them, they actually prefer persons who ask a question, who challenge them. Sir, not all leaders have that ability or possess those characteristics but they respect even though you may not necessarily have to like a person but you can respect the fact that they have the maturity to be able to not to be so conformist as to see or hear something that is not necessarily in their view correct or right for moral or other reasons but are so either afraid of the leadership, afraid of the person because the person may not necessarily be in leadership or afraid of not being in the person's good books that they cannot say they have an alternate view on Police or Y matter and that is why personalities that form in the way in which Sir Frederick Smith would have been formed, who speak frankly on matter even if sometimes they have to deal with the consequences after is the type of

personality we have to celebrate and was important in that particular time because there were many questions that had to be asked about how for Barbados, if you take Barbados for example would develop, how it would look, what it would be, what type of country we would have, what type of leadership we would possess, what type of people we eventually would build. It was critical that we have those types of persons and that Sir Frederick Smith was present because that is what I believe has served Barbados extremely well over the course of its development.

Mr. Speaker, from a position of born into difficult circumstances to have seen the opportunity to be able to get an education, to return to a country with the intent of contributing certainly not to one's personal aggrandisement but to the advancement of those persons that you left behind who did not have the opportunity that you might have had, I think is noteworthy and praiseworthy of the type of character whose life we celebrate.

Mr. Speaker, he was fortunate as the Ministry of Commerce my colleagues from St. James South said because he had a long journey, what we consider long in our own way because 92 years is a long time particularly when one consider the fact... I heard one of my colleagues said that when Sir Frederick Smith was born, could you imagine the word internet or cellphones were not considered. The modern comforts that we now take for granted were not in existence and somebody was fond of saying that we would call it the good old days, as we look at what happens now. I remember a former Honourable Member of this House, Don Blackman, used to say that there was nothing good about those days, those days were hard and tough and miserable. What we call hard and tough today really does not compare. It is not a natural compartor of what we had in those days but to come from those circumstances and to have a monstrous superstructure of colonialism above that not only contained your capacity to be able to self-govern but contain your capacity to think and to escape the bondages of mental slavery in that way and to be able to come to the stage where you can sit, for example, in an independent country as its first independent Attorney-General, and then to move from their through other stations along the way in development of a career is just tremendous. We are all endeared to his personality, of strength, of intellectual prowess, of supreme capacity to articulate and, of course, we all know that Sir Frederick Smith had an amazing capacity to talk but that is not something that befalls a particular politician. Sir, many politicians talk but a lot of them cannot talk good, but he had the capacity to speak and to speak in a way to connect with ordinary people.

Mr. Speaker, when the Honourable Member for St. James Central was coming along as a young attorney in house training and all these other things, we used to hang around the courts and you would see Sir Frederick Smith in

the courts. I remember one time there was a vagrant in the court charged with something, loitering or something and he had no representation and the magistrate was a little rough on him and Sleepy said no, no, you cannot do that to him at all. I am here and I am representing him. The magistrate asked in what capacity he was keeping all the noise in the back. He said I am repaying amicus and we had some fun in there. Of course, the character was questioned memory recalled as to why he was wearing an outfit with Chinese writing to which he was asked to translate if he knew what was on the thing. Unfortunately, I cannot say to the House what his response to the magistrate was but when he blurted it out "Sleepy" said: "Oh Lord! Wuh I put myself in?" That was a good thing and we used to see him and, of course, later on when he was on the Appeal Court and you go to his chambers the Honourable Member for St. James South knows much better than I do because he used to be in there. You could never escape without having to collide with a grog. He used to keep the little thing down in the drawer and he would say: "Yuh leaving? Yuh can't leave yet." He used to go into the bottom drawer and pull out a little liquor so that type of personality in there, although I have spoken to him on many occasions, I never had an occasion to be angry with him or anything but I could imagine if somebody was, that he would totally disarm them with his personality in there too.

I used to listen very closely when he was doing "Lawyer on Call" but even before when he was doing, I think it was "Tell It Like It Is" on VOB, as it was in those days, it was the evening programme, and I recall on the death of the then Honourable Member for St. Thomas, the late Prime Minister "Tom" Adams, there had the State funeral obviously, I believe Ms. Billie Miller, the then Honourable Member for The City of Bridgetown, now Dame Billie Miller, was appointed as the person to coordinate the arrangements for the funeral and in the post days after the funeral a lady called into the programme, Sir Frederick was the moderator. In those days, they did not have the 10-second delay and people were reflecting on the funeral and the late Prime Minister, she went on and said: "I want to say what a wonderful funeral it was." He asked if she went down and she said yes I went down and I watched the police officers and the soldiers marching and the possession and all of that. The arrangements were fantastic, everything was good and she said, I really wanted to congratulate the Honourable Member for The City of Bridgetown, Minister Miller for her excellent work in the funeral. She said but there was only one problem with that funeral and "Sleepy" asked what was that and she said it should have happened 10 years earlier. The entire radio station just went dead, he could not respond at all and there was like a long pause. Then he came in and said no ma'am, no, no, no, that is not good enough at all. He said no, this is an important personality in the history of Barbados who has contributed tremendously to the development of this

country. I may not have agreed with him politically, we were on opposite sides but respect is due to him and his family. That had a lasting impact on me because he could easily have turned it into some Dracula thing or let the worst political instincts come to the fore and he did not do that. As a young person who was getting into politics, it left a lasting impression on me and I know a lot of other persons who heard it thought that he handled it beautifully in relation to that. As I said, there was not 10-second delay because if it had happened now, they would obviously cut it and it would not have gotten out but it came out and he handled it beautifully. That is the measure of the character that you are talking about, somebody who could have vigorous, rigorous, even cantankerous discussion and debate and battle with you. In those days, tempers flared in the House with Members and, of course, the then Prime Minister Adams was not an easy politician, he played his politics tough like we all do on occasion and he could have ingested that type of thing, carried it around with him and allowed it spew out on a radio station in Barbados when the lady was clearly out of line with what she should have been saying or not be saying, as the case, may be and he did not do that. That is, to me, the personal lasting tribute to the type of man that we celebrate today. I think that there is a lesson for all of us to learn in this, that we can come to politics from whatever station in life. We begin from different places. Many of us who are coming here today, some people come down to the Parliament by bus, some come by car, some are driven here, some walked, some people came from St. Philip, some from St. Lucy, some Christ Church or wherever but we all came to one destination and that was to come to the Parliament to conduct the people's business, in this case to pay tribute to a great Barbadian personality who has contributed and the fact that we will each get up in here and say genuine things about how we feel about that personality and even as we move on from this particular tribute to go into doing other business in Parliament and where we would have disagreement as we have debate, the fact of the matter is, we all came here for one purpose and that is to conduct business to advance the development of Barbadian society and Barbadians. That is what this gentleman stood for and that we can do so and leave here, whether we retire from politics get voted out as what will happen to some of us from time-to-time, that we can leave here and still have that level of respect for each other, that level of humility and humanity. I think that Sir Frederick "Sleepy" Gladstone Smith is the quintessential manifestation of what we should try to aspire to achieve in terms of our own practice of politics but more importantly, our own practice of humanity with humility. That is what, I think, is the lasting, above all of his other achievements which are numerous and we know all of them and great in terms of their contribution to Barbados. I think that more than anything else is what stood out for me.

It is what I heard when I attended the funeral a few days ago. I am not a eulogy person either. I do not do them because if we go to a funeral and it is family or a friend and you are asked to do one, you do it but I am not a eulogy person. I must say that I really was very impressed with both tributes from the children at that service. I must say I was really fascinated by his daughter's tribute, not that I was not fascinated by the son's too but I was fascinated by her tribute and really touched by it but both of them, I think, did justice without having it to be a heavy set eulogy in recitation of all of the things which we already know about Sir Frederick and that, I think, along with what we are doing here and what we will do in the future to remember this great Barbadian hero that has worked with us, given to us by God and has done a wonderful work with us and for us in this society is what I would like to personally remember and on behalf of my family, my constituents in St. Michael North West, I wish to express, first of all, our condolences to the family on his passing, but in a more celebratory mood, our gratitude for you, through the spirit of God, having lent him to us that he could do such tremendous work in this land. I hope that as you go forward with the precious memories of his life and times that you would see fit, as is necessary, to call on any of us at any time to assist in that particular regard. Of course, to his widow I extend very special condolences to you for your tremendous support of him while he was alive and vice versa, and I hope, as they say in the Christian parlance, that he may rest in peace and, of course through the good graces of our Lord Jesus Christ, that he would rise again to be with us in paradise.

I am obliged to you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I thank you.

Mr. SPEAKER: Yes, the Honourable Member for St. James North.

Mr. E. G. HINKSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to intervene in this debate in commemoration of the life of Sir Frederick Gladstone Smith better known to most Barbadians as "Sleepy Smith".

Sir Frederick was quite simply a legend in his own lifetime within the context of Barbados and Caribbean history and politics. He was easily one of the most outstanding Barbadians of the last 75 years. His career was truly a remarkable one in which he made an outstanding contribution to the socio, political and economic development of this country.

Mr. Speaker, his family and my family go far back. In fact, I knew Sir Frederick or rather I suppose Sir Frederick knew me as a little boy. He came from a background in St. Andrew even though I believe he was born in St. George. My father's ancestry, of course, is from St. Andrew. He would have been a junior Member for St. Andrew in the days when they had double Members

constituencies. He was first elected to this Parliament in 1956 when my father's first cousin Ermie Bourne later Dame Ermie would have been a Senior Member and the first female to become a Member of this Parliament.

When I was a little boy living in Grazettes I remember "Sleepy" in those days occasionally walking into my house, of course, with the front door open, meeting with my father. Those were the days when if you were friends you did not had to pick up the phone and say you are coming around or to see if you were home, you just come and walk into your friend's house and have some drinks. That was the Barbadian way of life in those days even if not today. My father was the godfather of one of his nephews. As proud as I am of my family background, I am also proud to be have married into a family of which he was a prominent member.

The Honourable Member for St. James South gave a pretty comprehensive outline of Sir Frederick's life earlier today. I believe a lot of people certainly younger people did not know or would not have known before hearing about it today that he was associated with the trade union movement, the Barbados Workers' Union and that he did a lot of service in terms of education with the Shop Stewards in the Union and that in fact he was a very close to Sir Grantley when he was a student in England and Sir Grantley Adams used to travel to England on his way to conferences at the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Geneva. Sir Frederick who considered Sir Grantley to be a mentor would have been with him on many of those occasions in England whether going to Oxford University or to other tours.

Sir Frederick, of course, ran for President of the Union but was beaten in the election for that position but he took it in all good democracy. I suppose that marked one of the disappointments in his life because he believed that Sir Grantley had promised him that position but then did not support him in that position, but he rose above that disappointment. Life is full of ups and downs and Sir Frederick's life would have marked that. What I certainly admired, and the Honourable Leader of the Opposition mentioned this today in her speech, is the ability to forgive and not to bear grudges, to be thick-skinned as an individual. In my opinion that is the only way that you can really get through life as a contented individual. There are going to be people who will disappoint you. There are going to be people who you will be vexed with at times but it makes no sense carrying the grudges throughout life, life is too short for that.

Sir Frederick, of course, would have been disappointed by both of the political giants of this country in the last 70 years the Right Sir Grantley Adams and the Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow in terms of promises made or allegedly made and not being fulfilled. In the case

of the Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow, he promised him, I believe, the Presidency of the Senate in 1986 and then did not come through with that. I remember as a young lawyer just having come back from Canada - and I believe the Right Honourable Prime Minister may well know this story -- that he would have told lawyers including myself - because those were the days when the President of the Senate routinely acted as Governor-General when the Governor-General was indisposed whether overseas or whatever and he was looking forward to being President of the Senate and therefore acting as Governor-General on some occasions - "when you are coming back on the way from the Boarded Hall Magistrates' Court and I acting as Governor-General, stop in at Government House and fire some liquors wid mah", that was Sir Frederick for you. His inimitable style as has been said in here in this Parliament today, a quintessential Barbadian, a Barbadian to the bone in spite of the internationalisation of the individual of whom we are paying tribute to today. Having lived of course in England, in the metropole, in Jamaica and Africa, he was still Barbadian to the bone.

Sir Frederick's ability to forgive and not to bear grudges must have had some grounding certainly in his family background, his father being a schoolmaster and of course in his religion as a Methodist lay preacher being one of the many facets of his life. He was easily one of the best criminal lawyers this country has ever produced. Certainly, in addition to his easy personality, which the Honourable Member for St. Michael North West who just spoke said, his ability to communicate with Barbadians is key for any politician or any outstanding lawyer. You have to be able not only to talk or to speechify but to communicate well and to be understood by any and everybody, and certainly "Sleepy" mastered that art.

Of course, again what I am sure many people, certainly younger Barbadians, did not know, his first political outing would have been with the Barbados Labour Party. He was close to Sir Grantley. Sir Grantley was a man who even though he parted company with politically on, I think, mainly macro-economic grounds, different philosophy of how Barbados should be going economically at that particular time as we went into self-governance within a colonial State in our pre-independence history, he was certainly an individual who had tremendous respect throughout his life for Sir Grantley.

I believe as the Honourable Member for St. James South said earlier today, he would have resigned from this Parliament after two years, between 1956-1958, one of the reasons given, certainly in the book mentioned here today, "Dreaming a Nation" would have been a difference with the late Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow over the treatment of Sir Grantley. Sir, that shows the fairness of the individual of whom we are paying tribute today, he

believed that all persons were equal before God and that justice should be meted out to every one and that every man should be given his due. Even though he might have disagreed philosophically on the way Barbados should be moving forward economically with Sir Grantley, he still understood that for a black Barbadian to become the first Prime Minister of the West Indies was a tremendous tribute and honour, not only for the individual, the late Right Excellent Sir Grantley but for Barbados as a whole and therein lies the integrity of Sir Frederick.

Mr. Speaker, certainly everyone who seeks to be elected to this Parliament of Barbados and who does succeed in getting in should see that kind of life and standard set by Sir Frederick in terms of integrity, in terms of political morality and character, they should hold that as the role model because after two stints in politics in Barbados, I certainly have never heard one iota of a hint of corruption against Sir Frederick Smith in any capacity whatsoever.

Mr. Speaker, of course, Sir Frederick became the first Attorney-General of Independent Barbados, that, in itself, is an honour and would have made him a fit person to have received a Knighthood, the second highest Honour in Barbados, after the National Hero Honour. He said he saw his role Attorney-General of Barbados as one who must give the best advice within his capacity and within his sincerity to the Prime Minister and to the Cabinet of a country, and not the advice that the Prime Minister or the Cabinet would want to hear. That, again, is certainly a standard by which all Attorney-General should go by. Therefore, when the late Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow wanted to downgrade the Parliamentary Immunities and Privileges Act which I believe was passed in this Parliament in 1964 under the late Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow and which that National Hero subsequently came to say was one of the worse pieces of legislation ever to be passed in this Parliament because it gave immunity to Parliamentarians to libel other people and therefore he wanted to remove that privilege and immunity of Parliamentarians, Sir Frederick told his political leader straight, that he was not in that as Attorney-General, that that would have been going against all traditions of Commonwealth Parliaments that follow the British tradition and that if the then Prime Minister wanted to pass such legislation that he would have to sign off on it himself as Attorney-General and therefore as the person who had to certify that every law brought before Parliament was not unconstitutional, Sir Frederick said that he was not signing off on that.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that the late Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow must have appreciated that advice because even though, I believe, there was a draft amendment to the Act in all, it was never brought before this Parliament, certainly it was never passed by this

Parliament and therefore today we in this Parliament still have that privilege and immunity which, in my submission, has to be part of the whole morals of this Honourable Chamber. Mr. Speaker, Sir Frederick was a political giant who had strong principles. Again, that is great testimony to his life because in my opinion anyone who seeks to enter politics must have strong and abiding principles, they must stand for something. I have said that in here before, you must be able to see what that person stands for based on political philosophies, moral groundings character.

Mr. Speaker, Sir Frederick, I would be bold to say, has imparted those principles on his daughter as well but certainly on his son, Craig, whom I know very well as we still play tennis together and Craig certainly is someone of principle. I am sure that he would have got that from his father and obviously from his mother as well, but I know his father and that is whom we are speaking about today. Sir Frederick was certainly a man of principle who stood for what he believed was right and just and who spoke his mind freely against the injustices that he saw, whether they were within his own political party or other parties within Barbados. We certainly have to admire an individual like Sir Frederick.

Mr. Speaker, I would want to pay tribute to his wife here, I believe I heard 58 years is the length of the marriage. Sir, a lot of us men probably do not credit our wives enough for the success that we may have achieved on this God's earth and certainly 58 years is a long time and his wife has to take a lot of the credit for his success over that period of time. I am one who believes in the Caribbean idea in CARICOM and of course his wife is Jamaican born. Sir, many prominent Barbadians, in fact, have been married to Jamaicans. I believe that there are more Barbadian Knights married to Jamaican women than any others. At one time I counted about 10 Barbadian Knights who were married or are married to Jamaicans, including two Prime Ministers and we have to give credit to this wife for that.

Mr. Speaker, I know there was the avoidance of the word "eulogy" at his funeral last Friday but there was an outstanding appreciation by his daughter, it was one that I have never heard and I am certain that most, if not all of us in this Parliament have heard that outstanding appreciation which was delivered with tremendous confidence. I want to say that I know how difficult it is to give an appreciation of a parent at the funeral. Really and truly, I admired how his daughter delivered her appreciation of her father last Friday. Sir Frederick, of course, as a Minister of Government after being the first Attorney General of Barbados for five years, then became Minister of Communication and Works. He saw that, I believe, as a demotion from the prestigious position of Attorney General but still it gave him the opportunity to help develop the physical infrastructure of Barbados after having been a part

of the legal development of post-colonial Barbados. What is noteworthy as well, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that his first salary as a Cabinet Minister 50 years ago was £750 a year. At the time I believe the pound was worth \$4.80, so this translated to BDS\$3 600 a year as a Cabinet Minister. Some of us in here should take note of that. Those were the days when people primarily served at the political level unselfishly to make a contribution to their country's development and not to try to get the most that they could out of politics, whether in terms of salaries, benefits, remuneration or whatever. That was when politicians served with their heart and soul. I would really want to commend that type of stance to present-day Democratic Labour Party Members of Parliament.

He then for a year fortuitously became Minister of Education after a Cabinet shift in 1975 in the fading years of that Democratic Labour Party Government, but it was fitting that he had the opportunity to serve as Minister of Education in this country. We have heard today from both sides of Parliament and from his son at his funeral about the weight that he placed on the education of people, and of course that is the way which is accepted universally in this country for poor people born at a disadvantage and without a golden spoon in their mouths to get by in this country, and to raise their levels and improve their socio-economic status; not only their status but that of their families, villages, communities and the country overall. Therefore, it was great that he had the opportunity, only if for a year, to serve as Minister of Education in this country. I believe he himself expressed the view that ministerial responsibility for education is probably the most challenging and important Ministry to have in a newly independent country. The naming of St. James Secondary School by this present Democratic Labour Party Administration was a fitting tribute to his life as a politician. Of course, many of my constituents go to that school. It is not physically in my constituency; it is just on the border but it is actually physically in the constituency of the Honourable Member for St. James Central. Across the road in Trents is my constituency and many of my constituents go there. Therefore, I commend the naming of that school after Sir Frederick Gladstone Smith.

He was one of the few politicians to have represented two constituencies in this Parliament. I believe in this Parliament as presently constituted, the Right Honourable Prime Minister may be the only individual who has represented two constituencies in this Parliament. I know Sir David Simmons would have been another. There would have been a few, but there are not that many. Sir Frederick, of course, represented both St. Andrew from which he then resigned in 1958, as I said, and then St. Michael South Central between 1971 and 1978. Of course, the vagaries of politics apply, and even though he would have considered that he did a lot of work in the five years in St. Michael South Central, an urban constituency,

between 1971 and 1976, he had to fight to retain the seat with the Barbados Labour Party, "the Great Combination", coming in 1976. He only won, as we heard earlier today, by what he described as a pack of cigarettes. That would have shocked him, but a win is a win within our democracy, and whether you win by 20 votes or 2 000 votes, you are still in this Parliament.

Having resigned for the second time from this Parliament two years later, in 1978, he then set up his law practice. This is another aspect of his life for which commendation has to be given, because it gave him the opportunity certainly to be a mentor for young lawyers. Having set up the firm, many young lawyers passed through there, including Mr. Justice Randall Worrell who would certainly have developed as a criminal lawyer and became one of the best criminal lawyers in Barbados under Sir Frederick's wings. You would have had a former Member of this Parliament, the late Tyrone Estwick, brother to the Honourable Member for St. Philip West, working in that law firm as well, along with other lawyers who have gone on to be top lawyers such as Beverley Lady Walrond, Faith Seale, and Rosalind Smith Millar who was a cousin of his. They all served in Sir Frederick's law firm, being mentored and tutored and learning the skills of law at his feet.

After I started practising law in 1986, I worked just two doors down from Sir Frederick in Pinfold Street and of course our paths used to cross regularly, and I can say that, as a senior lawyer then, Sir Frederick would have been an advisor to me on any occasion that I needed advice. He was always helpful to young lawyers. The two or three matters I had with him were all resolved amicably, where we had clients on differing sides. I remember a divorce matter that we had, and I went across to his chambers one afternoon and there were two parties who, if they could have killed each other and got away with it, would have done so. Within an hour, we had an agreement worked out between them in terms of the children and the property, and a large part of that would have been due to the calm and persuasive manner of Sir Frederick, who would have been telling his client, "You cannot unfair this woman so. She was your wife for X number of years." We were able to get an agreement. I enjoyed, as I said, the two or three matters which I recall at this stage having worked on opposite to Sir Frederick. By that time, of course, he was a senior attorney while I was a green, young lawyer with the academic qualifications but obviously without the practical experience; so it was a joy to have worked with him on those matters.

Mr. Speaker, other life principles could be taken from Sir Frederick. One was his belief that anyone who is elected to this Parliament should believe that they have the capacity to be leader of Barbados. That is the confidence that Sir Frederick had in himself and in his capacity. Mr.

Speaker, a lot of Barbadians seems to speak ill about the ambition of politicians to be Prime Minister. the late Tom Adams, I remember a lot of Barbadians in the mid-70s cussing him bad and saying that he wanted power and that he wanted to be Prime Minister before that. I suppose yes, the same could be said about the Right Excellent Errol Walton Barrow. They were people who said he just wanted political power but Sir Frederick Smith told you straight, he did not hide it that if you come in here, you should feel that you have the capacity to reach the top, and all he was saying was that you have to be the best that you can be in whatever you want to be. Therefore, Sir Frederick Smith wanted to be the best in everything, he wanted to reach the top in everything. When he realised that he would probably not have the opportunity ever to be Prime Minister of Barbados, he made the decision to leave in here. There might have been other reasons more immediate for him leaving but ultimately that was one reason, he might have wanted to be Governor-General of Barbados as well but he had the honour of serving certainly in two of three arms of Government. He served in this Parliament and he served on the judiciary at the highest level as the Chief Justice of Turks and Caicos Island. He had the honour of being in the Court of the Appeal as President of the Court of Appeal in one of the major cases ever in the Caribbean, if not in the Commonwealth, the trial of the 17 persons in the overthrow of the Maurice Bishop regime who were charged for treason. Therefore, he lived a very satisfactory life even though he might not have achieved all his ambitions. He lived a fulfilling life and he was a man greatly admired. He was a legend in his own lifetime. He was simply an outstanding individual.

Mr. Speaker, we are privileged as has been said on both sides of the House earlier, he has written a book with the help of his nephew Allen Smith, who I know very well and is a good friend of mine, an outstanding individual in his own right, an outstanding Barbadian and more politicians need to write books, as the Honourable Leader of the Opposition said.

Mr. SPEAKER: Honourable Member, in spite of the occasion, please wrap-up.

MR. E.D. HINKSON: Sir, I will wrap up now. Sir, I believe that more of our politicians need to write. We are grateful here today that he has written a book.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, I would like to extend deep sympathy to his immediate relatives, to his wife, son, daughter and grandchildren and express thanks on behalf of the people of St. James North for having lent Sir Frederick to his country to make the contribution that he made. Sir, I am obliged.

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

Hon. Dr. D. LOWE: Mr. Speaker, I did not want this day to end, this particular Sitting to end without having made my own contribution to what has already been a very colourful representation of how the late Sir Frederick Smith touched the lives of so many people in so many spheres of society. The truth is, Sir, I would only have met him the most on about four or five occasions, would have heard him on several occasions making full and colourful representations of his views on different issues and was always amazed at not only his tonal inflections when he spoke but at the substance of what he had to say on varying subjects. I would want to associate myself fully with the comments made from both sides of the House. I would certainly want to join in extending condolences to this family both immediate and extended and would want to indicate that what we have before us today as this traditional exercise is a reflection on a life well lived, a life that does not require an after life footnote in the traditional eulogy to accentuate the contribution of this great man to this country and other countries.

Mr. Speaker, I like to see him as a true nation builder who had a desire to see a Barbados that lived up to the promise of creating a society where all men and women could pursue their dreams unimpeded by society class, unimpeded by notions of privilege, unimpeded by geographic location of where one was born but could pursue a path to self-fulfillment or self-actualisation once those individuals were prepared to give life its best shot. I cannot recall on any occasion listening to the voice of this great Barbadian where there was any remorse on having lived his life as a Barbadian, having pursued his own dreams and was able to make his contribution on his terms in a society that can at times be unforgiving based on its own notion of what you must, could or should be. Sir, he was a nation builder who believed in standards that would ensure the full support of all Barbadians, the full pursuit of a type of Barbados that would give evidence to the work of the founding fathers including himself. He believes in standards, standards that governed how people behaved, standards that governed how people should be treated within the law and without the law, standards that would govern how people should be perceived in a society that can otherwise be very, very prejudice against certain people. Sir, this was a man of his time that would have had to rub shoulders with persons who accepted him and persons who thought they could not accept him although he found himself acceptable among all. What intrigues me about today is not just a reflection on how this man lived but a reflection on the legacy of his living style, the legacy of how he conducted himself, fearlessly in a society where he could otherwise have played second fiddle to other more prominent socialites in this society, a nation builder, a man of standards and a man of humanity. One would say, a humanitarian, another could say a humanist and others would say just that "Sleepy Smith" was a man of the people for all times.

I indicated at the beginning that I would have had at the most five conversations but I remember, fondly, four of them. I remember one where I was not yet sent to this House by the good people of Christ Church East but I was in The Senate sharing The Senate Chambers with the Right Honourable Prime Minister and the other Members of The Senate. After listening to a speech, I was able to have a conversation by his own seeking and one of the things he said to me was: “Young man, you have a good future ahead of you but don’t let your head get too far past your heart” because the truth is that he spoke passionately, not just from his head, but he spoke passionately from his heart. As a matter of fact, some would argue that in order to speak passionately the words you utter should come from the heart and not just the head because there are those who find great, great comfort in intellectualising the things that they wish to say but when you test it for passion and conviction and when you test it as a product of the chamber of your heart you cannot find residence in it but the late Sir Frederick spoke and acted from his heart.

He was very giving and some of us on This Side know how he would quietly contribute to our efforts in and out of political season to ensure that we were okay. If he got word that there was any issue that would affect us negatively, I know he called me and said: “You don’t worry. If you need any help you can always turn to me.” I could not have been more fortunately to have had such an encounter. A nation builder who built on national standards, who built on the principle of humanity, a nation builder who believed in community.

Sometimes in the hustle and bustle of politics we seem to forget that our greatest requirement is what we do for our societies and our communities and how we seek to infuse in our communities, particularly our neighbourhoods, a certain kind of thoughtfulness that reflects on what the community has given to us. The community, he believed, really was a village. He was the Member of Parliament for St. Andrew in 1956 and later resigned, as I understand it, in 1958 which would be the year I was born. I do not know if his knowledge of my impending birth said to him that he should try to gallop out of St. Andrew and that I would be a troublesome kid in the area but to this day, residents of St. Simons, Belleplaine and Shorey Village still speak almost excessively fond of Sir Frederick’s years in that area of working with the people. As a matter of fact, Hillaby, Gregg Farm, Turners Hall and those areas that connected back to Bordon and Walkers and those areas, when I became interested in running for St. Andrew, persons from those areas were able to tell me stories about “Sleepy Smith” along with Neblect, Joy DaCosta Edwards, Hommie Corbin, and a whole parade of Member of Parliaments who would passed through that area. No wonder he felt it was not necessary for anyone to write a postscript on his life because he knew that he had left footprints in the sands of time that persons

would not easily forget and, as one Member said earlier this morning, he had etched indelible imprints in the lives and the minds of Barbadians of all types. St. Andrew is for the better because of his contribution along with the contributions of many others who would have represented the constituency.

Sir Frederick Smith from my perspective lived a life well lived and it was governed by this notion of building a nation through standards and humanity and community and helping people to be able to look through their own prisms and believe by his example that anyone from any part of this country could rise to be a prominent contributing citizen of this island. That is something to emulate and something you would want to look at as an example. Mr. Speaker, that is something that you would want to ask your children to contemplate as an example of how they should conduct their development in a society, a society that was opened up to all Barbadians as a result of the vision of the founding fathers that brought independence to this great nation and that allowed this nation to be able to see itself as the breeding ground for professionals and individuals who could look back sometime and say that they have had an opportunity to make a contribution to this country.

Sir Frederick Smith was a true nation builder but I have noticed something. I have noticed something particularly as I listen to the presentations today. I have not had the opportunity to read his book as yet but I certainly will read the book but what I noticed, Mr. Speaker, is that Sir Frederick Smith lived his life on a trilogy of life principles among others that represented the hats, the truest personality of why he became who he became and why he lived the way he lived. Mr. Speaker, this trilogy of life qualities behoves all of us, especially those of us who have been elected by the people to be makers of policy, to shed ourselves of all of the symbols that we have defined ourselves by, that we think help people to know who we are and that we think allow people to recognise our worth. Sometimes it is of good virtue to strip ourselves of these things and look at the first principles, and in this trilogy of life qualities I see three first principles by which he lived.

Principle number 1 was his love for God. Now, I have noticed something in the markings of history, Mr. Speaker, that many perhaps most great leaders the world over were or are individuals who have a deep embrace of faith in God. If you go back and look at people like Martin Luther King the reformer first and then Martin Luther King Jnr, the great Mahatma Ghandi or at some of the great writers of yesteryear you will see a common thread running through their life stories where their beginnings were heavily influenced by a sustaining faith in God that kept them going in the face of adversity so that when they came up against opposition in any sphere of life they were able to resign in their faith to find those shadowing wings under which they could flee, to find those mountains upon which

they could lift their eyes and to find those caves where in the quietness and darkness of those hollow spaces they communicated with God.

Mr. Speaker, I dare say that though Sir Frederick was not a man who walked around and touted his faith and asked people to define him by his faith that his life demonstrated a commitment so deep and rich in faith that he himself became a disciple of the Master and perhaps that is why a footnote to his life in the form of an eulogy may not have been necessary. He lived what he preached. His life was anchored in his faith and he was committed to using his faith as one of the vicissitudes of his life, that value, that constant that was there.

The trilogy of his life qualities also include his love for family. It is almost a pairing that is difficult to delink, that a man who so deeply routes his life in faith from a position sometimes where people think it is almost impossible to be a politician and yet still to be a man or woman of faith. The truth is he exemplified the ultimate family man by the testimonies of his children.

I was not able to attend the funeral and for that I regret deeply. I was not able because of my own personal travails that I have been going through of recent but I was well-informed about the circumstances of that event. If only you can link the happenings of such a moment with the life lived, then you have really truly lived a life of honour, and in this case you can. A father, a husband, a grandfather, a relative and a man of pray and faith, Sir Frederick Smith made it a tenet of that eulogy of life qualities.

The third principle in the eulogy that I delineated is not only his love for God or not only love for family but his love of country. There could not be a moment found even in the perils of his own political contortions and challenges where this honourable honoured gentleman would ever speak ill of his country Barbados for after all he was one of the architects of this new nation, for after all he was one of the builders of this new nation and after all he was arrested also by the fact that there was deep inequality and injustice in the parent society. He understood that the birthing of a new nation had to also mean the birthing of a new day and therefore he fought for principles of equal justice, equal opportunity and the sharing of wealth. As a matter of fact he was very concerned about the transition of wealth and ownership from the original planter-class, the people like us, and he fought that battle. Sometimes we hear the hollow echoes of those who would like to pose themselves as builders of this nation but when you listen deeply into the conversation the only thing you get is a ringing in your ear because what does not come through is a conviction that in the pursuit of executing one's political responsibilities there must be some goals and objectives that outlast the passage of time, and he in my view understood that. So

deeply was the concern about justice that he threw himself deeply into the justice system and became a formidable jurist not only here in Barbados but overseas.

As a matter of fact another marker that is significant in building out the lives of great Barbadians is their opportunity to be great students of history and travellers of the world when opportunities arise, so that this great nation builder was a man who believed in nation building through standards, his contribution to humanity and his commitment to community. A life well lived is a life that is anchored in love of God, love of family and love of country and a life that is anchored in a strong and true understanding of self.

Mr. Speaker, there are people who journey through life, who have never, ever come to know who they are really, the discovery of a sense of authentic-self escapes them, they try to live out the fantasies of families, their own fantasies but they ever come in true contact with who they are, because until you do you cannot speak with a kind of conviction that Sir Frederick Smith spoke with.

Mr. Speaker, I heard people characterised him as being outspoken, as a person who speaks freely. Mr. Speaker, you can only do that when you are speaking from a position of conviction, when there is harmony between what you say and what you believe, when there is congruence between what you practice and what you preach, when there is a relationship between how you treat others and how you expect to be treated. Mr. Speaker, it comes in a package. Mr. Speaker, if you wonder why he was so able to speak and to speak with such conviction, it was because it was coming from a place of conscience, it was not just a matter of coming from the head, he was as an intellect as anybody else in Barbados but he spoke from a position of conviction and one of conscience.

Mr. Speaker, let me wrap up by saying and noting this, Sir Frederick Smith lived a life well-lived, anchored in a commitment to true nation building that involved the pursuits of great standards, his outreach to humanity and his commitment to community. Coloured through his life are a trilogy of markers and these markers include love of God, love of family, and love of country. Sir Frederick Smith became who he was because of a strong belief and understanding of self that was authentic, he said things the way he saw them, not from any rehearsed speech, that is why he could have done the call-in programmes so well. I think that some of his most brilliant moments in Barbadian history would be reflected in his handling of that particular social responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, finally, Sir Frederick Smith left us all some great lessons. What lessons can we learn? We can learn from him that a life well-lived is a life of principle and not privilege; a life well-lived is a life driven by

principles, guided by principles and not by privilege. Sir, at the end of every great life, a great story is scripted. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am much obliged.

Mr. SPEAKER: The Honourable Member for St. Joseph.

Mr. D. D. MARSHALL: Mr. Speaker, I am not aware that Sir Frederick Gladstone Smith was known for being longwinded in Parliament and I hope therefore that the brevity with which I will address this Honourable Chamber would commend itself to his memory. I regret that I do not have much in the way of personal reminiscences to offer this Honourable Chamber but I would not allow that to stop me from paying a very brief tribute to someone who I think all Barbadians should admire greatly.

Mr. Speaker, I think that there is hardly a politician, for example, who would not be aware of the feisty that he employed on the election of a predecessor to the seat which you now hold, I think in the 1976 Parliament when he was then Leader of the Opposition. I think that is a story of how best to succeed in being critical of a Member of Parliament while still trying to stay within the rules of good conduct in this Honourable Chamber. Certainly his reputation as an attorney-at-law in Barbados and beyond is one that we should all look to. I recollect that as a young student of law when we had to consider the Court of Appeal decision of which he was President in Grenada, dealing with the appeals of that court of the individuals involved in the Grenada coup and the subsequent assassination of their then Prime Minister, I think we all looked to that decision as the font of much new and important jurisprudence, I well-recollect discussions well into the night on the doctrine of necessity as formulated by that court.

Mr. Speaker, Sir Frederick Smith was an outstanding Barbadian. Sir, I think I amused myself as I was trying to think of what connections I could possibly find between myself as insignificant as I am, and Sir Frederick Smith the Barbadian giant. I know his son Craigg. I have had the distinct honour of being Craigg's lawyer and remaining his friend, something that many people cannot always claim.

I recollect visiting Sir Frederick Smith's home on only one occasion, one of his grandsons was a classmate at St. Gabriel's and St. Winifred's of my son, but as I was thinking, Sir, it hit me that I had an uncle who emigrated to England in the 1960s, who married a beautiful woman from Dominica. As it turns out, my understanding is that my uncle's wife was the sister of, I think, Lionel Smith's wife. It put me in mind of something that we call six degree of separation, that you could always find within six steps a connection to just about anybody in the world. Mr. Speaker, I do not claim any particular credit, though, because I suspect that route of connection is rather tenuous,

if any, I prefer to think of Sir Frederick Smith as having been burnished in the crucible of a place called Combermere.

Mr. Speaker, I do have, though, one reflection of a personal nature to share with this Honourable Chamber as I wrap up. Sir, despite the gulf of difference between Sir Frederick Smith and myself politically and between Sir Frederick Smith and the Chairman of my own law firm, the Honourable Member for St. Andrew politically, some years ago the firm of George Walton Payne and Company felt that as a way to give back we would institute a scholarship for a student graduating from the Law Faculty to go to the Hugh Wooding Law School. It was then and is still a very substantial scholarship. We wanted to make sure that the members of the firm had absolutely no connection to the scholarship and therefore we set about trying to find a number of individuals who we felt understood what it was to have come from a humble background, who we felt would have understood the significance of a legal education to an individual like that and so we asked Sir Frederick Smith to be the Chairman of the Trustees. Sir Frederick readily accepted and served faithfully and diligently as the Chairman of the George Walton Payne and Company's Scholarship Trust for ten years, Sir. All of the applicants were interviewed, and on one occasion there was a bit of a hiccup and one of the applicants, based on their documents, was certainly somebody that the Trust would have considered, but by then that applicant had gone onto law school somehow. Therefore, we said that Sir Frederick needed to go down to represent the charity to interview this student. We made royal arrangements for Sir Frederick. He was flying to Trinidad, but in those days you still had Caribbean Airlines flying, and we flew Sir Frederick to Trinidad first-class. It was only for the day, and we made sure that he was accommodated in a suite at the Hilton. We thought that by treating Sir Frederick as the eminent person that he was, in our view, we were doing a great thing. On Sir Frederick's return, he called up myself and the Member for St. Andrew and lambasted us for wasting money. In his view, "How could we spend so much money to fly somebody first-class to Trinidad when the plane will only be in the air for half-hour? We should have saved the money and given it to the students. Why did we book him into a suite at the Hilton? He did not need any suite to go anywhere." We really thought that we were doing right by Sir Frederick. It was perhaps, Sir, the best lesson in humility that I think I have ever encountered, and I hope that in whatever many or few years that are left to me, that somehow as a parliamentarian, as a lawyer and as an individual who still is involved in that charitable exercise of the scholarship Trust, I would somehow seek to exemplify some of the best features and characteristics of Sir Frederick Gladstone Smith. On behalf of myself and my family and other Members of this Chamber on our side, I would like to thank him for the lessons that he has left with

us and for his outstanding contribution to Parliament and to the life of a modern Barbados. I am obliged to you.

MR. SPEAKER: I am obliged. Yes, Right Honourable Prime Minister.

Rt. Hon. F.J. STUART: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. The day is now far spent and I shall be very brief because much of what was to be said about Sir Frederick Smith has already been said, but I would have thought myself to be in serious dereliction were I not to make an intervention to this set of tributes. Of course, the tributes we pay today are as a result of a tradition well established in this House; that when former Members of this Chamber pass to the Great Beyond, or when close relatives of former Members pass to the Great Beyond, time is taken out to pay tribute to either the former Member or the former Member's relative. Therefore, it is in keeping with that tradition that we have spent the day paying tribute to Sir Frederick Smith, whose funeral took place at the James Street Methodist Church last Friday. It was a very impressive and dignified occasion befitting the man whose mortal remains were going to be interred just a few hours later.

As I said, practically everything that has had to be said about him has been said already. He was born in 1924 at a time when things were very rough in Barbados. There were no mass political parties. There were no trade unions. I believe Charles Duncan Oneal's Working Men's Association was going to be formed about two years after his (Smith's) birth. The disturbances of the 1930s of course had not yet happened, so the great transformations that were supposed to take place in Barbados had not yet taken place. In 1924, therefore, the distance from that year and from the circumstances of his birth to the Office of Attorney General of Barbados seemed a considerable journey to travel.

I believe I heard the Honourable Member for St. Michael North West reference Karl Marx's 18th Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte, and it is interesting that was referenced because it was in that book, I seem to recall, that Marx said, "Men make their own history," but they do not make it as they please; they make it in the context of what their concrete circumstances would allow. Sir Frederick Smith, of course, was born in modest circumstances, in a large family, and was able to secure admission to Combermere School, then onto Harrison College where he did sufficiently well to justify his admission to the University of Durham. Codrington College here was a college of the University of Durham, and that was where he did what most people of that day did; persons who could not afford to go abroad of their own accord or in their own right. He read a Degree in Classics at the University of Durham: Latin, Greek and Ancient History. It has always been my sense that this training, along with the training he would

have secured at Gray's Inn where he read Law, was always reflected in everything that he said and did. People who have studied the Classics -- Greek and Latin -- are either Latinate in the way they express themselves or they reflect the modes of expression and the character of the Greeks. It was always my sense that although he taught Latin at Combermere for a year some time later, he was profoundly influenced by his study of Greek, because Sir Frederick Smith was a very deep thinker and, of course, very philosophical in his cast of mind. Since the Greeks were regarded as the real classicists, not necessarily the Romans who were a lot more flamboyant and were better known for their practical approach to life -- the Greeks were a lot more cerebral -- Sir Frederick's mode of expressing himself always tended to be more in the Greek mode than in the Roman mode.

Of course, having read Law at Gray's Inn, he returned to Barbados and joined the Chambers of the late Right Excellent Errol Barrow. That is what he is now but he was just Errol Barrow back then, but before that, 1944, I seem to recall, Sir Frederick would have been recruited to the British Army as the Second World War inched its way to its end. That part of his life meant quite a lot to him. In fact, up until recently he was very active as a legionnaire here in Barbados. He always took very seriously the fact that he had served in the army and that he was a legionnaire. Sir, every Remembrance Day, he presented himself and of course, was part of that uniform outfit obviously very proud of the contribution which he made to that effort to keep at bay fascism which the Second World War was really about, to keep at bay the influence of Adolf Hitler and Germany, the influence of Benito Mussolini in Italy and the influence of General Franco in Spain. Having studies in England in the late 40s early 50s, it is not surprising that he came back here armed with a passion for social righteousness. He had, as I have said, grown up here in Barbados in a difficult Barbados but in England around the time he was there, there was current of socialism pervading that country and pervading other parts of Europe and he not only just sit on those influences but I think that he drank rather heavily of them because his very last days, he was pleased to describe himself as a democratic socialist.

The political Party with which he associated himself on his return was the Barbados Labour Party which was the only mass political organisation in the country at the time, the other organisation would have been representing the planter class and Frederick Smith, as he then was could have no association with what was then called the Electors Association later to change its name to the Progressive Conservative Party and still later to change its name to the Barbados National Party but representing the interest of the planters and merchants of Barbados. He identified himself with the Barbados Labour Party and of course because of the close nexus between the Barbados Labour Party and the

Barbados Workers Union, not surprisingly, he aimed to become the President of the Barbados Workers Union and was encouraged so to aim by his then political leader Sir Grantley Adams but then of course, was trumped in that contest by Mr. McDonald Blunt who served as President of the union for some considerable time.

He was a founder member of the Democratic Labour Party in 1955 on April 27th, as we have heard earlier today. Most political Parties find themselves in a situation where you would have three titanic figures any of whom could become leader, any of whom could become Prime Minister, or Premier as the case was at the time and in that position Frederick "Sleepy" Smith. There was Errol Walton Barrow around, there was James Cameron Tudor, who would trained at Oxford and had done philosophy, political science and economics and Errol Walton Barrow had done economics and law at the London School of Economics, and there was Frederick "Sleepy" Smith who was a classicist but also a lawyer having been admitted to the Barr at Graves End. Sir, all three of them were highly taught of by the people of Barbados at the time and when the Democratic Labour Party was formed therefore, understandably there would be some undercurrent of rivalry between the three. This is no secret. I have heard the late Sir James Tudor speak about it at length and I have heard Sir Frederick Smith speak about it at length but there was always scope for some measure of rivalry between the three. Cameron Tudor, of course, set the pace as it were by confronting the Barbados Labour Party and Grantley Adams in St. Lucy in 1954, in that famous by-election where almost single-handedly he worsted the Barbados Labour Party and imparted confidence to all those who felt that the Barbados Labour Party was impregnable so that he was the first to leave followed later by Barrow and by Smith.

It is not correct for anybody to think that Barrow left first and provided the leadership in that endeavor, it was Tudor first and he was followed later by Barrow and by Smith. The Democratic Labour Party was pleased then to have Frederick Smith as its first Chairman, that is indicative of the esteem in which he was held, and he held that position until such time as he left around 1958 when he was succeeded by Mr. Charlie Broome. Sir, in 1956, the Party's first General Election, he was returned to the constituency of St. Andrew and interestingly enough in that election when he won seat, Mr. Barrow lost his in St. George and lost his to a planter, Mr. Herbie Dowding but Tudor, of course, was secure in St. Lucy. In the House of Assembly, in this Chamber, there was Smith and Tudor while Barbados was on the outside. Now, C L R James wrote a very interesting essay in 1958 about the state of the political situation in Barbados and James made the point that although Barrow was out of the House, it was clear that he was still the person to whom the masses of the people were looking for leadership. While the men in the

House, that would included Smith and Tudor and Crawford, were able men, it was James sense that the people were still looking to Barrow for leadership. Eventually after the Federal elections were fought and a vacancy was created in the parish of St. John, Barrow returned to House but by then, as has been said earlier today the Federal Parliament had been constituted and Grantley Herbert Adams was named the first Prime Minister of the West Indies Federation. Frederick "Sleepy" Smith thought it the proper thing to do to stand up in this Chamber and to praise Grantley and to express how he felt about Barbados being able to produce the first, and as it would turn out to be, the only Prime Minister of the West Indies Federation and that led to a collision with Barrow as a result of which he resigned as Chairman of the Party, resigned as a member of this House and went off to pursue his professional career.

Sir, if one stops there, that story takes on a particular character but once one goes beyond that though, one gets the real character of Frederick Gladstone Smith because between 1958 and the time of the publication of "Dreaming a Nation", Sir Frederick Smith kept his mouth shut as to the real reasons why he left the Democratic Labour Party and Barrow in 1958. All sorts of rumours were flying around but he kept his mouth shut because his loyalty to the Democratic Labour Party and his loyalty to Barrow never faltered therefore he allowed whatever people were saying to be said. I only became aware of the real reasons when a few months ago, I believe, sometime late last year, he came to the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) Headquarters and we wanted to record him telling his own story and all those parts of his story that he wanted to tell and that was the first occasion on which ... In fact he said that he was saying it for the first time, and it is now reproduced in the book, the real reason he left. Of course, he pursued his profession in Jamaica and in the Cameroon, he went back to Jamaica and was summoned by Barrow in 1966 to be Barbados first Attorney General after independence.

Before he became Attorney General, of course, the Office was held by Mr. Hilton Vaughn and the Office of Attorney General becoming political as I said in this House a few weeks became a political office around 1964 but he became the first independent Attorney General. Again it was an interesting note he added to that assignment. He said to me on that evening at the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) Headquarters, I am not sure if he repeated this in the book, he may have, that even though he was appointed the Attorney General he was never really given a ministry, he was not minister of anything, he was just the Attorney General of Barbados, there to give advice to the Government and the Cabinet but he was not minister of anything. He said that persons who came later and were appointed Attorney General were Attorney General and Minister of Home Affairs or Attorney General and Minister

of Foreign Affairs or whatever but he was simply the Attorney General of Barbados but that did not, in any way, diminish the contribution which he was able to make in that important office. The Office of Attorney General is an elevated and exalted office. It is outside of the Office of Prime Minister and that of Governor-General, the only other office mentioned in the Constitution of Barbados in terms of the governance structure of Barbados so to be Attorney General of the country at independence was an elevation richly deserved and one is entitled to think that the very fact that he was summoned from where he was represented an admission by the person who summoned him, Mr. Barrow, that his services could not be done without. They were two precious to be done without as we were embarking on this independence project. During his incumbency as Attorney General of Barbados, many important pieces of legislation would have been passed when Barbados joined the International Monetary Fund (IMF), legislation had to be brought here. It was brought here during his incumbency. When the Parks and Beaches Commission, now the National Conservation Commission (NCC) was established it was during the incumbency of Frederick Smith as Attorney General. The National Insurance and Social Security Act was passed during his incumbency and there are other pieces of legislation to which one can point that reflect his character and his contribution as Attorney General of Barbados. Between 1966 and 1971 he served with distinction from the Senate as Attorney General of Barbados but that is not all he, by then, had begun the court the constituency of St. Michael South Central and, of course, would be elected in the 1971 General Election with a comfortable majority. The first occasion on which Single Member constituencies were being done in Barbados. I well recall as a late teenager, looking forward every weekend to read the Party's newspaper, "The Democrat" and I looked forward to it because every weekend you could see a well-written and well-argued article by Frederick "Sleepy" Smith, not only putting the Party's case but also putting the case against the then Opposition with all the vigour he could muster at that time. Unfortunately, of course, the newspaper came to a grief end, it libelled two Members of the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) and in an editorial and the newspaper came to grief and has not surfaced since but he made a great contribution to the newspaper at that time and people looked forward to reading him every weekend.

He was very well-known for a good sense of humour and even in some of those pieces he wrote, one got an opportunity to have a good laugh because of his way of framing issues and, of course, describing events. I had learnt of that sense of humour before I started to read "The Democrat" though because I was given to understand by some of the oldsters in the parish of St. Philip where I grew up that around 1956 there was a public meeting of the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) outside Government House -- that used to be a fairly familiar area for public

meetings since the Governor was always the target of anti-colonial venom -- and so the story goes, Frederick Smith spoke that night and spoke with daunting eloquence and with much fire but not far away there were some young students are Erdiston Teachers' Training College who came over to hear the meeting and after the meeting, after he had spoken and so on, they descended on him to take him to task for a number of the things which he had said. These young whippersnappers, I suppose, feeling very bright there in Erdiston Teachers' Training College, they felt they could take on "Sleepy Smith" and they were pointing out to him what they thought were errors of fact in what he said and what they thought was areas of illogic in what he said, what they thought were not secretors in his reasoning and he listened to them, according to the reports which we received and which were the occasion for much laughter, with patience and then when he had heard them out, he enquired of them, where did you all say you all came from again? They said: "We are students of Erdiston." He said: "Oh, well it serve wunna right, wuh I dine talking to wunna." He was talking to somebody else. He was talking to the man in the street. He was not talking to people who were in to the sophistication of analysing logic and that kind of thing but he had an enormous capacity to laugh at himself and to share a light moment wherever one was required.

By his own testimony, Mr. Speaker, he had three ambitions in politics. There is nothing wrong with having ambitions. He said he had looked forward to the day when he could become Prime Minister of Barbados, he had also looked forward to the day when he could become Minister of Finance of Barbados and he had looked forward to the day when he could become Governor-General of Barbados, either all three or any one of the three.

As he said in the book all three of those aspirations were cheated of fulfilment and he has had to content himself with being the first post-independence Attorney-General of Barbados, but he always rejoiced in the fact that he was able to contribute to his country in the way in which he was allowed to, and whether as Attorney-General or as Minister of Communications and Works or as Minister of Education, he was proud to be able to contribute to the upliftment of the people of this country.

After the 1976 General Election when the Democratic Labour Party lost, he was Leader of the Opposition for two years until 1978 when he resigned from Parliament. Now, everybody remembers the encounter he had with Speaker Burton Hinds. When Speaker Hinds was nominated by the new Government of the day to the Speaker of the House, the Leader of the Opposition Mr. Frederick Smith made it quite clear that he could not support this nomination. Of course, he countered that nomination by proposing the then Member of Parliament for St. Lucy, Mr. Evelyn Greaves. He made it quite clear

that as far as he was concerned the person being proposed by the then Government was unfit to hold the office of Speaker of the House of Assembly. That did not win him any friends and of course from that day until he left Parliament there was a running battle between him and the Speaker.

It is often forgotten that the Speaker post 1976 was not the only Speaker with whom he collided. When the Democratic Labour Party was in office and Speaker Neville Maxwell was in the Chair, he had collided with Speaker Maxwell too. In fact, I think it would be of great benefit not only to the Chair but to other Honourable Members to read the Maxwell rebuke of Mr. Smith at that time. There was some harsh exchange between him and the Opposition Leader Mr. Adams and he threw a newspaper across the House at Mr. Adams and the Speaker had to put him out, so I was not surprised when I heard in the very dainty and well-delivered tribute paid to him by his daughter on Friday that sometimes when she got home he was there before her and she wondered whether he had lost his job because he was not afraid to confront authority if he thought he was right. Speaker Maxwell actually had him put out of the House and then sent Marshals to make sure that we was not on the premises because had he been found on the premises other consequences would have followed but he took all of this in the spirit of robust Westminster politics and harboured no bitterness.

The Honourable Leader of the Opposition is quite right, his whole personality was effectively sealed off from any encroachment by malice or hate or vengeance. In fact, in the book he makes very clear that these are very useless emotions, that harbouring grudges and walking around with bitterness and so on really is a waste of time and that in fact those persons who are prisoners of bitterness and prisoners of revenge and prisoners of hate are really victims and the persons whom they hate are really the winners, so he was immune to that kind of thing. He insulated himself from that kind of thing but he fought his battles fiercely in politics until he resigned from this House in 1978 to create the famous bi-election in St. Michael South Central would lead to the election of Dr. Richard Haynes to this Honourable House.

His faith in the Democratic Labour Party never faltered, he maintained contact with it. Certainly since I became Prime Minister I heard from him on many occasions. Whenever he thought that there was something that he could share that would be of benefit to me he took up the telephone and called, and whenever there was any issue involving any citizen or any visitor that he thought I could assist in resolving he did not hesitate to make similar contact.

As a lawyer, as has been quite correctly said, he was a formidable advocate at the Bar whether at the

Magistrates' Courts level or at the Supreme Court level, especially before juries. I felt a sense of elevation in 1985 when I did my first murder case and he was the other defence lawyer alongside whom I worked. We were representing separate accused and I learnt quite a lot from him in that exercise, lessons that I have not forgotten and that have only hardened and been burnished and refreshed with the passage of time.

We celebrate today, Mr. Speaker, a great Barbadian. He not only practised law at the Bar here and not only established a very prestigious law firm here in Barbados, the firm Smith and Smith, in which many youngsters have been trained and have honed their skills to a razor-like sharpness, but he served abroad as Chief Justice of the Turks and Caicos Islands and also as President of the Court of Appeal of Grenada after the tempestuous events of 1983 when Prime Minister Bishop and most of his Cabinet were savaged at Fort Frederick [Rupert]. The judicial calm and the legal incisiveness which he demonstrated as President of that court led to decisions which very few people were able to question. Of course, no judicial decision is immune from question but the decisions he made were so well-argued in the context of all that had happened in Grenada that it commanded regional respect. I well recall the late Justice Aubrey Fraser speaking very highly of that decision when it was eventually published, so whether as jurists or as politicians or as family man, because as has been quite correctly said and quite properly said in this House, he never allowed politics or his profession to subtract from his commitment to his dear wife of 58 years Lois Lady Smith and of course his two children, Craig and Astrid. He spoke very fondly of them and bestowed paternal care on his children full measure pressed down shaken together and running over and of course bestowed affection on his wife in similar measure.

Mr. Speaker, Sir Fredrick Gladstone Smith was a quintessential part of Barbadian life: easily approachable, a man of whom the average man in the street of Barbados felt a part, a man who whether hosting a call-in programme or just walking the street and talking to people infused them with a certain amount of confidence and a sense of importance that what he achieved if they were prepared to put the work in and make the sacrifices they could achieve as well.

Mr. Speaker, every honour bestowed on him, whether it was Queen's Counsel in 1966 when he became Attorney-General, or later when he got a Knighthood around 1987, or in the year 2006 when he got an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the University of the West Indies, every honour that he received was richly deserved because he contributed selflessly to the country of his birth, he contributed selflessly to the Caribbean and of course further afield as far as Africa.

We will not easily replace Sir Frederick Smith in the public life of Barbados but the time comes, of course, when these burdens have to be laid down and other people have to be pressed into service to carry on the work started by people like him. As has been said, he was motored, for the most part, by a robust faith in God. The celestial fire of which Charles Leslie wrote about and spoke about was very much a part of Sir Frederick Smith and therefore he saw it as part of this duty and as part of his calling to preach in the Methodist Church. From my own inquiries I have never actually heard a sermon from him but the resounding consensus from those persons to whom I have spoken is that there was always a take-away after you had listened to a sermon from him. They were not very long sermons, they were very much to the point, connecting scripture with the everyday challenges that people have to face from time to time and there was always a take-away, so that he ministered not only in politics, not only as a lawyer but as a lay preacher in the Methodist Church and contributed to the enrichment of the lives of all those who had an opportunity to interact with him.

We are indebted to his family in sharing him with us. I know that politics places very heavy pressure on families. I heard the Leader of the Opposition today making the point that people in public life have to make time for family because family ultimately is important when all else fails and when everybody else turns on you, as can easily happen in political life, it is to your family you have to go home, it is they who will embrace you if you have treated them as you were expected to treat them.

Mr. Speaker, there are too many of Barbados' great politicians, and I have talked to a few because one tries to learn something new every day, and one tries to learn as much as possible about what one is doing, and there is a disturbingly large number of Barbadian politicians who, when asked the question if you had to do it all over again what would you do differently, and invariably they would say they would spend a little more time with their family, because in this trivial round and common task of politics there is always the tendency to believe that your family can do without you but that the people whom you have to serve in constituencies and across the country cannot. Sir Frederick Smith never made that mistake and I think it is to his credit that he stuck to his family and established that balance between his public duties and his familiar responsibilities, that is why both his son and his daughter could speak as glowingly last Friday about him as they did. I think that is one lesson that we can all learn from the life of Sir Frederick Smith.

Mr. Speaker, whenever we get to the point where we have to pay a tribute of this kind, we are reminded, hauntingly sometimes, that our own time will come and what is it that people would be able to say about us and the quality of service which we have rendered to our

countrymen and to our country. Would they be able to say that we were selfless contributors to the public good, in the way that most of our predecessors have been, or will the verdict be of some other kind? Mr. Speaker, there is an even more important verdict on which we have to ruminate, a much more important verdict that should engage our attention, what happens after we leave this life and that is a matter of faith. As I said, Sir Frederick Smith was a man of robust faith.

Is death the end? The renaissance cleric Dr. John Dunn, in a famous sonnet which he wrote to death, a famous apostrophe to death, argued that death should not be proud, though some people call it mighty and dreadful because it is not so, because the people whom death thinks it overthrows do not really die, and as John said to Death, "They don't die and you can't kill me either." In a moving concluding couplet to that sonnet, Dunn posed the question to death, "Why swelleth thou then?" And he answered, "One short sleep pass we wake eternally and death shall be no more." And he said to death, "Death, thou shall die." Mr. Speaker, now I know from my own interaction with Sir Frederick Smith that he firmly believed in the afterlife and would have easily identified with the sentiments of John Dunn, that one short sleep pass he will wake eternally and death shall be no more. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, to his wife Lois Lady Smith; to his son, Craig; to his daughter, Astrid, and to their families and to all those countless others who were gladdened by his life but who are now saddened by this death.

I should like on behalf of my own family, myself and of course on behalf of the Cabinet of Barbados to extend heartfelt condolences. I should like once again to place on record my own gratitude to his family for sharing him with us and for the enrichment from which we all benefited as a result of our exposure to the late Sir Frederick Gladstone Smith. I am obliged to you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. SPEAKER: Honourable Members, let me identify myself with the various comments that have been made from both sides of the House and for me I remember his capacity to have this calming voice in the face of adversity. I would simply want to add that perhaps the best tribute we can pay to a man like Sir Frederick Gladstone "Sleepy" Smith is essentially to try to emulate him, not necessarily for our own good but certainly for the good of our God, our family and our country.

With that having been said, let us all stand and observe one minute of silence in memory of Sir Frederick Smith.

The House rose and observed one minute of silence in memory of Sir Frederick Gladstone "Sleepy" Smith.

MR. SPEAKER: ... Members, I also have with me the accounts and statements for the months of April 2015 to December 2015, as prepared by the Accountant General.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Hon. J.D.E. BOYCE: I beg to move that Standing Orders 6, 16, 18, 20, 42 (5), 43 and 44 be suspended for the remainder of today's Sitting.

Hon. R.D. JONES: I beg to second that.

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. J.D.E. BOYCE: I beg to move that the Sitting be suspended for ten minutes until 5:20 this evening.

Hon. R.D. JONES: I beg to second that.

The question that the House do now suspend until 5.20 p.m. was put and resolved in the affirmative without division, and MR. SPEAKER suspended the Sitting accordingly.

RESUMPTION

Mr. SPEAKER: This Sitting is resumed. When the suspension was taken, we were on Government Business, and with that we shall continue.

Hon. J.D.E. BOYCE: Mr. Speaker, Sir in actual fact, we have come to the end of Government Business for the day. ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J.D.E. BOYCE: Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this House be adjourned until Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at four o'clock in the evening when the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals, 2016, will be presented by Honourable Minister of Finance to this Honourable Chamber.

Hon. R.D. JONES: I beg to second that, Sir.

The question that the House be adjourned until Tuesday, August 16, 2016 was put and resolved in the affirmative without division and Mr. Speaker adjourned the House accordingly.

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LASHLEY, Hon. S.A. (Christ Church West Central)

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EDITORIAL NOTES — NOT PART OF THE REPORT

Prepared with the transcript; for checking against the recording and the Minutes.

EDITORIAL QUERIES

Points noted while preparing this report from the edited transcript. The text has not been altered except where stated.

Q1. Masthead. The session is not stated in the source, so no session line is printed.

Q2. Tributes, take-slips about 11.08 a.m.. The source carries reporters' notes 'Insert s6 CHRIS' and 'INSERT S7 CHRIS' at this point, and the speech of Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley begins mid-thought ('Mr. Speaker, it allows those who come after...') with no call from the Chair. The end of Hon. D. O'N. Inniss's speech and the opening of Miss Mottley's appear to be missing. Printed as in the source.

Q3. Papers, item 1. The title reads 'The Air Transport License Authority Annual Report, 2013-2013'. Printed as in the source.

Q4. Tributes, speech labels. The Member for St. James North is labelled 'Mr. E. G. HINKSON' and then 'MR. E.D. HINKSON'. Printed as in the source.

Q5. After the minute of silence. The Speaker's announcement of the accounts and statements for April to December 2015 begins '... Members', as if part of the sentence is missing. Printed as in the source.

Q6. Adjournment. The heading 'ADJOURNMENT' appears at the end of Hon. J. D. E. Boyce's sentence rather than as a separate heading. Printed as in the source.

DEBATE SUMMARY

(Editorial summary — not part of the record.)

The House of Assembly met on Tuesday, 9th August, 2016 at 10.15 a.m., with His Honour Michael A. Carrington, the Speaker, presiding; prayers were taken by Reverend Canon Ivan Harewood, although the Speaker's announcements welcomed the Reverend Michael Squires, Priest-in-Charge of St. Matthew and the Church of the Resurrection, in the absence of the regular Chaplain. The Minutes of 12th and 19th July, 2016 were confirmed, and the Speaker welcomed the family of the late Sir Frederick Smith. Hon. J. D. E. Boyce laid the Air Transport License Authority Annual Report and the Barbados Revenue Authority Annual Report, 2015.

The Sitting was given over to tributes to Sir Frederick Gladstone 'Sleepy' Smith, born on 6th July,

1924, who died on 11th July, 2016. Hon. D. O'N. Inniss, Member for St. James South, recalled him as lawyer, judge, politician, Senator and talk show host, commended his autobiography 'Dreaming A Nation', co-authored with his nephew Alan Smith, and spoke of his part in the National Insurance legislation and in legal reforms on the rights of women and children. Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley learned from the book that he had run against McDonald Blunt for the presidency of the Barbados Workers Union and urged that the recollections of other national figures be recorded while time allowed.

Hon. R. L. Sealy, Member for St. Michael South Central, spoke for the constituency Sir Frederick last represented; Mr. G. Clarke, Member for St. George North, described his roots in Applewhaites and boyhood at Market Hill and noted he was a Methodist lay preacher; Hon. S. D. Blackett, Member for St. Michael Central, spoke of his love of God, family and country; and Hon. R. D. Jones and Hon. S. A. Lashley, who had sought his counsel as a young man, recalled his humility and outspokenness. The House was then suspended for lunch until 2.30 p.m.

On resumption Hon. C. P. Sinckler, Member for St. Michael North West, reflected on how life experience shapes political philosophy, citing Marx's 'Eighteenth Brumaire'. Mr. E. G. Hinkson, Member for St. James North, called him a legend in his own lifetime and spoke of the links between their families; Hon. Dr. D. Lowe, Member for Christ Church East, called him a nation builder and recalled their conversations; and Mr. D. D. Marshall, Member for St. Joseph, recalled his stand over the election of a Speaker in the 1976 Parliament.

The Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. F. J. Stuart, said that Sir Frederick had read Law at Gray's Inn and joined the Chambers of Errol Barrow, and that by his own account his three ambitions, to become Prime Minister, Minister of Finance or Governor-General, were unfulfilled; he had instead been the first post-independence Attorney-General and served as Minister of Communications and Works and Minister of Education. The Speaker associated himself with the tributes and the House observed a minute of silence.

The Speaker announced receipt of the Accountant General's accounts and statements for April to December 2015. Standing Orders were suspended and the House was briefly suspended until 5.20 p.m., after which Mr. Boyce said Government Business had ended. The House adjourned until Tuesday, 16th August, 2016 at 4.00 p.m., when the Financial Statement and Budgetary Proposals, 2016 were to be presented.



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