
THE SENATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

SECOND SESSION 1976 – 81

THE SENATE

Wednesday, 10th December, 1980.

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Public Buildings, on Wednesday the 10th December, 1980, at 2.40 p.m.

PRESENT

His Honour Senator the Honourable Sir ARNOTT CATO, M.B., Ch.B., LL.D., (President); His Honour Senator the Rev. G. ANDREW HATCH, M.A., (Deputy President); Senator O'BRIEN TROTMAN, (Parliamentary Secretary, Prime Minister's Office); Senator Sir MENCEA COX; Senator H. F. G. ROCHEFORD, B.A.; Senator R. L. FIELD; Senator H. R. LINTON, LL.B.; Senator K. E. HINDS; Senator Miss O. A. LYNCH, B.A., Dip. Ed.; Senator C. I. E. DEANE; Senator Mrs. E. M. LYNCH, B.A.; Senator J. D. S. MACKENZIE; Senator D. H. G. HUNTE; Senator J. A. CONNELL, LL.B.; Senator the Hon. D. G. BLACKMAN, (Minister of Labour and Community Services) and Senator R. E. BRATHWAITE.

ABSENT

Senator the Hon. N. A. BARROW, Senators AARON TRUSS, K. R. HEWITT, Miss M. I. St.C. BLACKMAN and J. C. WICKHAM.

Prayers were read by Fr. L. Crawford.

Mr. PRESIDENT: It does not seem as if we have any power at the moment, so perhaps we have to speak up a little more loudly until we can get that fixed.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

SENATOR THE HON. D. G. BLACKMAN: Mr. President, I beg leave of the Senate to lay the following documents:

Report on the audit of the accounts of the Auditor General's Department for the year ended 31st March, 1979;

Third Annual Report of the National Housing Corporation for the year April 1975 to March 1976;

Fourth Annual Report of the National Housing Corporation for the year April 1976 to March 1977;

Fifth Annual Report of the National Housing Corporation for the year April 1977 to March 1978.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

SENATOR THE HON. D. G. BLACKMAN: Mr. President, I beg to give notice of a Resolution to approve the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Order, 1980; a Bill to amend the Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited Act, Cap. 275.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Let it be recorded in the Minutes that the Bill has been read a first time.

SENATOR THE HON. D. G. BLACKMAN: Mr. President, due to the exigencies of Government, it is necessary for me to request permission of the Honourable Senate to proceed in dealing with the two items of which notice has just been given and to request suspension of the appropriate Standing Order so that these items may be proceeded with.

In the case of the Resolution to approve the Sugar Levy, as it is called in shorthand, this is an annual measure which is introduced into Parliament and it is fairly routine and it comes at this time in order for the Government to expedite the collection of Revenue.

The second measure, A Bill to amend the Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. Act needs to be passed before December 31, in order to accommodate the accounting

of Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Ltd. It is premature for me to give an explanation as to the substance of this Bill but suffice it to say that it constitutes an agreement between Cable and Wireless and the Telephone Company fixing proportions of revenue and it is deemed expedient at this time to have this measure passed in order to facilitate the accounts of both Companies who have been consulted by Government and have agreed to the terms embodied in the Resolution.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Before I put the question on the suspension of the relevant Standing Order, may I hear something more from hon. members on their feelings.

SENATOR C. I. DEANE: Mr. President, Sir, first of all it is necessary for me to declare an interest in both these matters, the Sugar Industry one and the Barbados Telephone Co. with respect to Cable and Wireless.

With regard to the Sugar Industry, as an outcome of the McGregg Report and as an outcome of consultations between the Sugar Industry and the Government, certain amendments were decided upon in order to make it plain that the Government fully appreciated the value of the Sugar Industry to Barbados and also to expedite and encourage development and experimentation into the whole set-up of the Sugar Industry.

I do not intend to go into what the actual figures represent but the Leader said this evening that it was to expedite this matter in order for the Government to get revenue. That I loathe and I also wanted to say that it also expedites the time that the final payments of last year crop will be made for canes in the Sugar Industry. Normally they are paid before the end of November but this year we have stepped well in to December. Today is the 10th and this is the latest, as far as I know ever on account of this. Sir, but it was worth waiting for, if I may say so, Sir.

With regard to the Cable and Wireless, this is most essential. I know in other places a far greater portion of the overseas takings are given to the Telephone Companies and this Telephone Company is moving towards getting something that would cut off the time of a rate case. If I may say so, Sir, and I exhort this Senate, through you, Sir, to support the Leader in the suspension of the Standing Order and to deal with these matters as expeditiously as possible. Thank you, Sir.

SENATOR D. S. MACKENZIE: Sir, I merely rise to support the Leader and to lend my weight to the hon. members of the Senate that these two items be dealt with this afternoon. They are both of an urgent matter.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Mr. PRESIDENT: I take it that the feeling of the Senate is that it is prepared to proceed with the Resolution in respect of Sugar.

On the question of the Bill, the question that Standing Order 42(2) be suspended in order that the Bill be proceeded with in all of its stages today was put to the Senate and agreed to.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT TRENTS, St. JAMES, FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A PUMPING STATION

SENATOR THE HON. O'BRIEN TROTMAN: Mr. President, Sir, there are no plans available for the first item. Those plans are not yet ready but what we are acquiring is a small portion of land surrounding a well and the roadway to that well. The amount of land being acquired, Sir, is 497 sq. meters of land, the property of Gordan Price of Trents in St. James.

The well was sunk by Mr. Price and the Chief Engineer is of the opinion that the well is a well which could assist the Waterworks Department in pumping about 800,000 gallons a day, and therefore the Ministry has decided to go ahead with the acquisition of the well. The question is not one of price really; in fact they are negotiating that and apparently they are getting on quite all right, because in fact at one time the proprietor of the property was prepared to give up the well to the Government on certain other arrangements. It was however considered better that Waterworks owned the well entirely since it is not considered desirable to have a private individual having an interest in our water supply. It would make the number of wells in Barbados fourteen at present. We already have two more in St. James and this would be the third. The number of persons who would benefit by this improved service, they tell me, is some 66,000. I suppose that includes the tourists in St. James as well. The well will be brought up to standard at a cost of approximately \$591,000 by the Waterworks Department, and it is hoped that by February the well would be in action.

I beg to move that the Senate concur in this Resolution.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

RESOLUTION TO COMPULSORY ACQUIRE LAND AT SHARON, ST. THOMAS

The Second Order of the day was called — to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Sharon, St. Thomas for the purpose of erecting a New Primary School.

SENATOR THE HON. O'BRIEN TROTMAN: Mr. President, the present Sharon School was established

some time in 1918 and at present comprises two buildings which are presently the property of the Moravian Church. Although the buildings themselves are said to be in good repair, it does seem that the buildings can no longer accommodate the number of pupils who attend the Sharon School. The roll at present is 411. They have a staff of 18 teachers and at present there is no playing facility for the children at Sharon.

The acquisition we are proceeding with this afternoon is part of the World Bank project for the building and remodelling of schools, and when the new school is constructed it will accommodate 420 pupils with some eleven classrooms, plus special classrooms for arts, crafts, and a separate administrative block for the Headteacher, storerooms etc.

At the beginning of the last year the cost estimate was that similar works would cost \$1 million approximately, the furniture \$81,000 and equipment \$19,000, but of course that was 1979 prices. I just want to say something about the Sharon school, Sir. The school seems to have been doing fairly well. In 1975 the school placed eleven pupils in secondary schools through the 11+ exam, in 1976 they managed 31, 36 in 1977, 38 in 1978, 40 in 1979 and 30 in 1980. The figure suggest that about 73% of all pupils from Sharon who take the 11+ exam succeed in getting places in secondary schools, so that the school seems to be making some achievement.

I beg to move that this Resolution be concurred in.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

RESOLUTION TO COMPULSORILY ACQUIRE LAND AT BAY STREET, ST. MICHAEL

The Third Order of the Day was called — to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Bay Street, St. Michael for the purpose of extending the accommodation of the Barbados' Family Planning Association.

SENATOR THE HON. O'BRIEN TROTMAN: Mr. President, we are not in a position to proceed with this Resolution this afternoon, and I ask leave to have it deferred until another time. There seems to be a problem between the surveyors of the two parties and I do not wish to proceed with it until the surveyors have agreed on what we are acquiring.

Mr. PRESIDENT: The Minister is asking that consideration of this item on the Order Paper be deferred for another occasion.

If there is no objection, take it off the paper.

RESOLUTION TO COMPULSORILY ACQUIRE LAND AT WHITE PARK, ST. MICHAEL

The Fourth Order of the day was called — to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at White Park, St. Michael for educational purposes in connection with the Roebuck Secondary School.

SENATOR THE HON. O'BRIEN TROTMAN: Mr. President, the Roebuck Secondary School, Sir, which was opened officially two years ago was built to accommodate 800 pupils. It has 26 classrooms, but no provision was made for libraries, commercial rooms, music rooms, book storage, lunch rooms, geography rooms and hard court. There is no sick bay for example, and there is also need for a demonstration theatre for science as part of the agreement with the World Bank, and the land which is being acquired this afternoon in this Resolution will seek to provide these facilities.

I beg to move that the Senate concur in this Resolution.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE OF THE PUBLICA- TION OF A NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT OF THE ACQUISITION OF LAND AT CLAPHAM, ST. MICHAEL

SENATOR THE HON. O'BRIEN TROTMAN: Mr. President, when the residents of Emmerton Lane were being resited at Clapham, eighteen portions of land were acquired for the resettlement. Among those eighteen acquisitions was one, marked 8 on the map which I passed around, owned by a Miss Eldica Durant. Miss Durant earlier had permission to subdivide her land into four lots and she proceeded to do that.

One of the persons who bought the land from Miss Durant, a Miss Marjorie Rowe, sought permission to retain her land and requested that it be not acquired. That request was agreed to by the Government, but nevertheless the acquisition was made for the entire lot, marked 18 on the big plan. Now that the settlement is finished, Sir, the Government has encroached on a part of Miss Rowe's land, as shown in the smaller plan, and it is proposed to keep that part of the property which has been encroached upon as roadway, and it is proposed that the remainder of Miss Rowe's land be returned to her as requested some time ago, Sir. It is marked as lot 4 on the smaller map, and the part being retained is marked in blue. The rest of it is being returned to Miss Rowe, and she will be compensated for the part which is being encroached upon.

I beg to move that the Senate concur in this Resolution.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SUGAR
INDUSTRY (REHABILITATION, PRICE
STABILIZATION AND LABOUR
WELFARE) ORDER, 1980**

SENATOR THE HON. D. G. BLACKMAN: Mr. President, the Sugar Industry (Rehabilitation, Price Stabilization and Labour Welfare) Act, Cap. 270 provides that the Government may through a levy raise funds on all sugar and fancy molasses manufactured in Barbados each year, that the payment of the levy to the Sugar Production and Export Control Board should be made, and that the allocation of the levy to the Sugar Industry Capital Rehabilitation Reserve Board and the Sugar Industry Price Stabilization Reserve Board of the Crown should be made. The rate of the levy is to be fixed by ministerial Order with the approval of Parliament.

Every year, therefore, a Resolution of this kind is brought before Parliament, although this year, Mr. President, this Resolution represents an interim measure until such time as the new legislation can be passed which would abolish the Capital Rehabilitation Reserve Fund levy, the Price Stabilization Reserve Fund levy and the Labour Welfare Fund levy, and although the Sugar Export Levy Act will be retained with the appropriate amendments and a cess of 1.2% will be imposed on the ex-factory proceeds of sugar, molasses and bagasse, legislation will give effect to this proposal at the earliest opportunity.

I now move that this Senate do concur in this Resolution.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

**THE CABLE AND WIRELESS (WEST INDIES)
LIMITED (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1980**

SENATOR THE HON. D. G. BLACKMAN: Mr. President, this Bill amends the Cable and Wireless (West Indies) Limited Act, Cap. 275 to provide for the keeping of such books by Cable and Wireless as would enable the amount of revenue accruing to the company in Barbados to be determined, and the manner of apportionment of that part of the revenue attributed to the provision of overseas telephone services.

The historical background to this piece of legislation, Mr. President, arises out of a demand by the Barbados Telephone Company for a greater proportion of the allocation of revenue derived from overseas telephone calls between themselves and Cable and Wireless. At the present time the share of the Barbados Telephone Company is 30% and the lion share of 70% goes to Cable and Wireless.

After protracted discussion between the two companies, the Cable and Wireless Company proved unyielding to a demand by the Barbados Telephone Company for a greater share of the allocation, and faced with this intractability in the negotiations on the part of Cable and Wireless, the Barbados Telephone Company suggested that in order to maintain a viable concern it would be necessary to increase telephone rates.

Faced then with this situation, a Government committed to ensuring that basic utilities are within the reach of ordinary men and women, refused to countenance the prospect of an increase in telephone rates. There are some people who believe that the price of telephones should be increased. There are some people who believe that the telephone is an instrument which leads to social disintegration. The telephone is an instrument which facilitates rumour mongering in Barbados, which has reached proportions that threaten the very existence of the body politic, and there are some people who believe that if the use of the telephone were made more expensive then society might better be served.....

People with idle time on their hand might be persuaded to find some usefulness in the pages of a serious book.

It is not for me, Mr. President, to moralise although I believe that any serious Government has certain responsibilities with respect to the morals of society but the very nature of Government in our democratic system makes it impossible for Government to assume the responsibility of being arbitrators of morality. The moral argument aside, we felt that it was necessary, in view of the high cost of living in this country and it might be admitted that the cost of living in Barbados today is high. The cost of living everywhere is high as a result of the change internationally of economic conditions in 1973 which made previous assumptions about running Government and managing an economy out of date.

In view of the burdensome cost of living, it would have been a dereliction of responsibility on the part of the Government further to permit a situation which would add even further to an increase of that cost and consequently it became necessary to confer upon the Minister of Finance the power to determine the respective allocation of revenue between Cable and Wireless and the Barbados Telephone Company.

The provisions relating to accounts derive from the fact that up to the present time the accounting system within Cable and Wireless leaves the Department of Inland Revenue as confused as a person attending the Mad Hatter's party of Alice in Wonderland and since it is not possible at this time to determine what profits, if any, are made by Cable and Wireless in respect of its

operation, it is necessary for the Government to seek authority to ensure that on paying of the penalties contained within the legislation such a proper accounting system would be enforced and monitored by the Department of Inland Revenue.

I think that anything which would ensure that a Corporation paid its fair share of taxes and perhaps lighten the tax burden of others is a move in the right direction. Perhaps I should not say "the right" since that has philosophical connotations, but it is a move in a progressive direction and in view of the other basic concern of the Bill to forestall an increase in the price of the use of the telephone, I think that this is a measure that this Honourable Senate can support.

I move that this Bill be now read a second time.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

On motion of Senator the Hon. D. Blackman, the Senate resolved itself into Committee on the Bill, Senator the Rev. A. Hatch in the Chair.

On motion of Senator K. Hinds, the Bill was taken as read.

Clauses 1 and 2 were called and passed.

On motion of Senator the Hon. D. G. Blackman, Mr. Chairman reported the passing of the Bill in Committee and Mr. President resumed the Chair and reported accordingly.

SENATOR THE HON. D. BLACKMAN: Mr. President, I beg to report that the Bill has passed the Committee without amendment and I move that it be now read a third time forthwith.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

SENATOR THE HON. D. BLACKMAN: I beg to move that the Bill do now pass.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

Mr. PRESIDENT: Hon. members, before the Leader of the House gets to the point of moving the adjournment, I am sure hon. members will not need to be reminded that recently as we celebrated our Independence, certain Barbadians were given honours in accordance with the scheme approved by the Government and by Her Majesty after the recommendations of the Constitution Commission.

Hon. members would wish to make their own contributions, but I felt it incumbent on me whilst congratulating in general all those well deserving persons who have

been recognised, to make a specific reference to two persons who have served in this Chamber: one served in this Chamber when it was known as the Legislative Council and subsequently when it became the Senate, and I refer to Sir Kenneth Hunte. We actually took our seat in the old Legislative Council on the same day in early January 1951, and I need not say what a tremendous contribution Mr. Hunte has made to the business, commercial life of this country, and to the legislative work of the country. At the time of the hurricane he was very useful and performed an extremely useful function in relation to food matters and so on and in very very many other respects Mr. Hunte has made his contribution and well deserves the honour which he has received.

The other person in my mind is our own Senator Mrs. Enid Lynch. I am sure hon. members will be able to speak more usefully, more forcefully in respect of Senator Lynch than I can, but I have no hesitation in commending the wonderful educational work she has performed throughout her career as a teacher and the outstanding contributions which she has made from time to time in this very place. I have also a special memory of Mrs. Lynch because as it happens, long years ago, years which perhaps I cannot remember, I was of some little assistance to her in a matter of delivering her children. I believe all hon. members will agree that in this Chamber Senator Lynch has grown from strength to strength and is now a most outstanding legislator and a great contributor to the work of this Chamber.

I offer her my sincerest congratulations. I believe that when people do outstanding work for their country the time to honour them is not after they have ceased to be, but when they are in a position to appreciate that others appreciate them. I congratulate Mrs. Lynch again and all those other deserving people who have been awarded honours in the last list.

SENATOR THE HON. D. G. BLACKMAN: Mr. President, I want to associate myself with the paeans of praise that you have bestowed upon Senator Lynch with all the enthusiasm that I can muster. Mr. President, Senator Lynch has been known to me over the years dimly. I remember her when I was a boy as a teacher and she impressed me as a very forbidding lady, not in the pejorative sense that she repelled, but she was one of those older people who bore herself with such dignity as to inspire awe in younger persons, and now that I have grown into somewhat ripe manhood, I do not know, Mr. President, whether I experience any less awe of Senator Lynch than during my adolescence.

Senator Lynch is a candid, no-nonsense, forthright person who calls a spade a spade, and in these days of double talk, double speaking, in these days where the big lie is considered to be a mark of virtuosity, Senator Lynch is to be commended for eschewing those debased

practices and speaking out, calling a spade a spade in spite of whatever feathers may be ruffled. This facet of Senator Lynch's personality is the one that most endears her to me, an intrepidity which enables her to speak her mind fairly and which I think reflects an integrity which is the central feature of this lady's character.

Another facet of Senator Lynch no less important than the first is her obvious concern for social problems. In these days of high economics, when the jaded listen becomes a target of all kinds of statistics, it is refreshing to find that there are still members of a doughty minority who believe that social questions are of paramount importance because in the last analysis, behind all of the complicated and fancy statistics stand human beings who are made of flesh and blood. If their skin is pierced with a knife it bleeds; if they are stabbed they feel pain, and in the last analysis that is what all of the statistics and the verbiage is about — people; and so I believe also as a member of that band of disreputable thinkers in this society who believe that social questions in the last analysis take paramountcy over economic questions for those of us who fight against the deadening hand of economism, because we believe that Government ought to be a humanistic enterprise or nothing at all. It is this small minority of persons to whom Senator Lynch belongs and oft her voice is raised loudly and cogently entreating those who would listen to deal with the social problems that give rise to fragmentation and other kinds of deviants within our society.

I do not want to tire the Senate in talking about her long distinguished career as a teacher. I believe that her richly lived life and her public service contributions are recognised and they have been chronicled in the appropriate places, and this is precisely why she has been granted the Gold Crown of Merit. I believe that it is an honour richly deserved, Mr. President, and I join all those well wishers of Senator Lynch in congratulating her on a well earned recognition.

SENATOR K. E. HINDS: Mr. President, I would like to add a few words to the already well expressed congratulations to Senator Mrs. Enid Lynch.

I happen to have known of Senator Lynch for quite some time, and I can say that especially in the teaching profession — I have not been one who has been a member of the Foundation School, but in my own home I have seen two young people who have had that privilege, and I am quite satisfied that they have benefitted tremendously from being under her hand for the time that they were there.

Mr. President, some time ago when we congratulated Sir Mencea Cox, it was widely agreed that when some people are awarded some honours, they bring

dignity to such an honour. I would like to say that in the case of Senator Lynch, her being awarded the Gold Crown of Merit, has to some extent enhanced such an honour. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR SIR MENCEA COX: Mr. President, I rise to join those who have preceded me in congratulating Senator Lynch on the award which she has recently been given.

I happen to have known her many years ago, Sir, long before she became a Head Teacher, and I would like to say quite frankly that she is one of those persons who has made a most invaluable contribution to the upliftment of the under privileged in this country. I remember when we first started the organisation which brought the masses of this country out of the condition which existed at the time, Senator Lynch although perhaps not being a member yet gave the organisation her whole hearted support. Senator Lynch's mind was always bent on helping the under privileged and trying to improve the life of those people of this country.

I remember when she became the Assistant Head of the new Foundation School which was built by Captain Tomlin during the period that I held the portfolio of Minister of Communications, Works and Housing, and indeed I think Miss Inniss was the first person who was the Headmistress, and then it was Senator Lynch who succeeded her in becoming the Head, and indeed I was very pleased, because I felt at the time that the children or students of that school would get the fullest and the best that could be offered in this country by any Head of a school.

Today I am glad and proud to see that she has been honoured, that the work that she has done has been highly appreciated by the Government, the Prime Minister in particular, and I do hope that she will live long enough, for years to come, when people can see and hear about her and know what great and invaluable work that she has unceasingly done in this country, and I repeat, to the under privileged in particular.

Now, Sir, I would also like to congratulate Sir Kenneth Hunte who has done a very good job in this country in so far as the industrial aspect of it is concerned. He was a member of this Hon. Chamber for some time, and indeed I think I would say he was a pioneer in this industrial development. He served on the Control Board for some time and he has been very useful. Whatever his politics may have been, he was very useful to the advancement of this country, and I congratulate him and compliment him on the achievement of his Knighthood.

I also congratulate Sir Edwy Talma who, although I think read in the paper that he was the First General Secretary of the Barbados Progressive League, I say that he was the second. The first was the late Dan F. Blackett, then Sir Edwy took over in late 1938 or early 1939, and then it was William Fitz Herbert Seale who took over from Sir Edwy in 1939, and then when he was removed then Sir Edwy took over, and it was in 1940 after the election and Sir Hugh Springer won the seat in St. George he then became the General Secretary of the Barbados Labour Party which he relinquished in 1947 to take up the secretaryship of the University of the West Indies.

In 1940 Sir Edwy ran as a member of the Barbados Labour Party but he was unsuccessful. However, he did not give up, in 1944 he contested the seat in Christ Church and he was successful from then until 1948 when he lost at that election and then he was re-elected in 1951 which he held from then until 1976. He became the first Minister of Agriculture in Barbados when ministerial status started in February 1954.

I would say that he made a good contribution towards the development of this country. While I cannot say anything about the lady because I do not know the lady who also was given the honour but I daresay that she richly deserved it and the Prime Minister gave it to her, so all in all, Sir I am glad to have the opportunity of congratulating those persons who have received these honours and hope that they may live long to appreciate and enjoy the honours which have been placed upon them.

SENATOR MISS M. BLACKMAN: Mr. President, Sir, it gives me indeed very great pleasure to be able to add a word of appreciation for the work of Senator Lynch. I have known Senator Lynch for many years as we came up through the Girl Guides Association. We have camped together. We have wintered and withstood the winds and the rains together under the canvas tents.

Only very recently I was saying to her what a great pity it was that we no longer have the privilege of carrying our Guides out on the canvas tents but because, Sir, we have had this sort of experience together, I am very conscious of the sort of work that Senator Lynch has done with the youth of our nation, long before she reached the peak and became the Headmistress of her school. Long before that, she has been working with the youngsters of this nation to help them become the sort of citizen that this country can be proud of.

Today, we are very glad to say that we are proud of her because we know the work that she has done has been done with all sincerity, without any fanfare and

without any trumpets blowing. Mrs. Lynch has put her hand to the till and she had put in a wonderful job of helping to work with the youngsters of this country. We are glad that she has received some recognition and we hope, Sir, that there may be even further rewards for her and that others would attempt to emulate the examples she has set.

My very hearty congratulations and my best wishes that she will enjoy these honours for many years to come. Thank you.

SENATOR R. BRATHWAITE: Mr. President, I am very happy for this privilege this afternoon whereby I can congratulate Senator Lynch on such an occasion. I am sorry that I cannot say that I knew her for quite a number of years but I would say that I believe that I live too far North of our Island. I have mixed with some of her students and I always consider after knowing this lady why they had to be such students.

I would like to let Senator Lynch know that my family at home were actually friends of Senator Lynch before we met her. Whensoever Senator Lynch goes to the T.V. screen, my wife and myself always take a very keen interest because we know that she is one that stands for fair play and sincerity. We always can gain something from what she has to say.

In coming into this Chamber from the time I have met this lady, and I realise that when she gets up to say anything I always have something to think of on my way back home. I also want to let her know that the day that I come to this Chamber and I do not have a conversation with her, I do not feel happy, so, Mr. President, I am very happy that I can stand here and say a few words on behalf of Senator Lynch and I congratulate her on this occasion. Thank you.

SENATOR MISS A. LYNCH: Mr. President, as one who has benefited sometimes from a mistake in names and therefore one who has been credited with great things which I have not yet been able to do, I think it is my duty and privilege to congratulate Senator Enid Lynch, Mrs. Lynch, not a Lynch by blood, on her receiving this high award. No doubt without the award, we still knew that Senator Lynch deserved it. Good wine needs no bush and we know what she is worth.

I have not had the privilege of learning from her as a pupil but I have had the privilege of learning from her in the course of my stay here in the Senate and I have gained very much experience. I must say, however, that not all of the things with which I have been credited have been extremely pleasant.

I remember getting a call about taking their Wrestling off the television and I had to hurry and say

"I have nothing to do with CBC. Please do not put any of those holds on me." The wrestling grip, for Senator Hunte's clarification. I suppose Senator Lynch has not had the chance to teach Senator Hunte otherwise he would have understood what I was saying.

However, I would just go on to make it very brief. I know that Senator Lynch deserves the high award and I believe that there will be higher awards coming to her in the not too distant future. I congratulate her heartily.

SENATOR C. I. DEANE: Mr. President, Sir, first to begin with, I believe I am slightly bigger than the Hon. Leader yet I, too, have not all of Senator Lynch but it is a sacred *all*.

Moreover, Mr. President, you mentioned Sir Kenneth Hunte, I have the privilege, even now, of working on Boards with Sir Kenneth Hunte and I know, as you do, that he richly deserves his knighthood.

I congratulate all those who have been honoured in the Honours List and I want to say that Senator Mrs. Enid Lynch gives me this impression. She carries her banner of goodness and integrity with a courage and pride that few do.

Now you remember, Sir, in your remarks you said "our own Senator Mrs. Enid Lynch" but I feel honoured to think that I can say that even more than you can. Look where she sits in the Senate. It is "our own".

Now, apart from that, Sir, you know like the Bible, when they refer to man, they mean "man and woman" and when our old friend, Mr. Longfellow wrote a few lines that I shall quote in a moment, I am sure he had people like Senator Mrs. Enid Lynch in his mind.

I was privileged to sit recently at a gathering with Senator Lynch and these words, it was she who inspired them, and these are the words I want to quote:

"Lives of great men (or women) all remind us,
we can make our lives sublime,
And departing leave behind us,
Footprints on the sands of time."

And the next verse:

"Footprints that perhaps another
Sailing o'er life's solemn main
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother
Seeing may take heart again."

Now I am sure many are going to benefit from those footprints made by Senator Mrs. Enid Lynch. Thank you, Sir.

SENATOR D. H. G. HUNTE: Mr. President, my colleague Senator Connell has trusted me to speak this evening on his behalf, and I would simply like to join in the congratulations which have been showered on Senator Mrs. Enid Lynch, and I think I am going to surprise some members on the Government side too.

Mrs. Lynch, I think, Mr. President, richly deserves the award which she has been given. I recall meeting her outside of education matters when as President of the Barbados Youth Council on one occasion we had a camp at Canefield House and we invited her to address the members of that camp assembled. I remember it was an early Sunday morning that she came down and she gave us food for thought.

In my official capacity presiding over the internal estimates of the Ministry of Education one year, she came to the Ministry and with her usual persuasiveness she put forward her proposals for the Foundation School in no uncertain terms. Of course everything that was asked for was not granted, and I think she realised when she came that everything would not have been granted. I remember too when the construction of the addition to the school was approved addressing a youth group gathering up there and she was present at the meeting, and I said to her that the plans had been finally approved, and she said to me that she would not reach the promised land. I believe she retired before the school was actually finished, but her contribution is well known in this country and perhaps it is regrettable that some people tend to catch the spotlight a lot more than others who would really deserve to be in the spotlight.

I speak not only because she hails from Christ Church, Mr. President, but because where honour is due I think it should be given, and I think everyone will realise that Mrs. Enid Lynch has made an outstanding contribution in the field of education.

Senator Miss Blackman spoke about her activities in the field of Guiding, and we had one Government Senator who, it is a good thing the newspapers do not report everything or do not report you verbatim, and I looked around when Senator Roy Brathwaite was speaking when he was coming to the end of his address when he said how much he is endeared to the goodly Senator. In the short space of time that he was in here he has a good vantage point sitting over there and it appears, Mr. President, that at least some kind of union might emerge, but I noticed that Mr. Lynch was not in the Gallery this evening, and Senator Brathwaite immediately left after he finished his remarks so that he had no chance of combatting Mr. Lynch going down the stairs later on. I certainly think that the honour is one which is richly deserved, and I certainly join in offering my congratulations to her and hope that this would inspire others

who have served with her and under her to even greater heights. Thank you.

SENATOR MRS. ENID LYNCH: Mr. President, I should like to thank you and all those other members of the Senate who have expressed their congratulations and overwhelmed me with expressions of appreciation for my contribution to this community. I would like to say that when people seem to give much, it is usually because they received much. I was fortunate to be born into a christian home, one in which there were plenty of books as far as I can remember and lots of family photographs, but very little money. The books indicated a lot of learning. I was brought up by my grandmother because I lost my parents early, and I think that I received a great deal of attention from a variety of people largely for that reason.

The family photographs had a special significance and they are commentary really on the conditions obtaining in Barbados for people who were black, bright, poor and proud, and this was the condition of many people who were described as middle class but who in reality had an even more difficult struggle than those who might seem to be less fortunate. It was significant to me that I grew up in a home where there was a missing generation because that generation however scholarly, however hardworking had to leave Barbados in order to get employment of the kind which they felt they were equal to performing. So that we had to be told continually of what that absent generation was capable of, and the way in which they had struggled to be scholarly and hard-working, of the fact that they could not get certain kinds of jobs in Barbados at all and had had to make their contribution to other communities. So I think I grew up with a balanced view.

I did not have any illusions about what I had to do to earn a living and I noted that it was the most scholarly and the most able of my relatives who had the most tragic endings; so I was very careful about this scholarly business. I was going to give that just enough of my attention. But I came up also in a home where there was a strong sense of neighbourhood, where people came if they wanted some advice about a doctor or something of this sort, and where we were encouraged to be interested in the people who lived around us. That is why you hear me speak so passionately about the mixed neighbourhood where people are able to help each other, because I grew up in that kind of neighbourhood.

It also happened that one of my earliest childhood recollections is of a very happy sort of a club which my mother used to run, and since my mother died when I was five years old, I must have been just three or four when this club was in progress. It was a club for adults and I remember that when I ought to have been in bed, I was being handed around and had a very enjoyable time

in the laps of all the ladies and gentlemen who were doing various things, either learning to type or learning to cook or presenting a play or singing.

So I believe that there in my sub-conscious remained this idea that a club was a very jolly place to be. It also meant that I did not have a fear of adults, because my memories of those occasions were very pleasant, so when I became a teacher fortunately for me there were only two kinds of jobs that somebody looking like myself could get in those days, and I was lucky, because I happened to like teaching, I came from a teaching family and I suppose it was natural for me to think that I would like to be a teacher.

I have reason to be grateful specially to the people who taught me, because as I said, I was not too enthusiastic about shining too brightly, I had a suspicion that that was the way how not to get on in Barbados at that time. I have to thank my teachers for seeing to it that I did do what I ought to do where my studies were concerned. I was fortunate to come under the guidance of a brilliant Headmistress who Barbados seems to have forgotten. These are days when it is unfashionable to speak of the contribution of the expatriate in the colonial era, but Miss Lucy Brown is a person to whom Barbados is so greatly indebted that I am surprised that there is no school — there is a scholarship because the old girls of St. Michael's have created a scholarship — but people seem not to realise the tremendous contribution made by Miss Lucy Brown. At a time when, as I pointed out, people like myself had no great encouragement to achieve, Miss Brown gave us the encouragement and the moral support to make that effort. She would not let us do less than our best, and she made it clear that she was very proud to be Headmistress of our school and to teach people like us, and therefore in this list of honours on Independence Day there are at least three of us who were inspired by her. Dame Nita Barrow, Miss Sylvia Watts and myself.

At that same time St. Michael's was fortunate to have Miss Nella Taitt, the inspiration of our generation, not merely because she was so highly gifted, but because to meet her and be taught by her was to experience a vision of unselfish commitment which has been unsurpassed in teaching circles in Barbados.

We also had Lady Grace Adams. Her special contribution was that she had a genius for getting the maximum amount of work out of the student, and an unflinching courtesy even when she was reproving you for something which was wrong and you thought that she was very angry. It seemed to us that the more angry she was the more courteous she became, and this was something which I think we learnt, that it is possible to be angry and still be very courteous.

The opening of St. Michael's Girls' School in 1928 was a very important event, because it made all the difference to the amount of opportunity which was available to the girls of our generation, and I had the good fortune to be among the first batch of Vestry scholars to enter St. Michael's School. I could therefore have no doubt that I owed my society something, and I came up in a school where we were very carefully taught, very carefully disciplined, and when I hear the Heads of the newer secondary schools bewailing their fate, I think they should remember that we had the same sort of experience in what was then called the Second Grade School, but we had no doubt at all that there was nothing second rate about our school. We had no doubt about that, we felt that our school was first rate, and it is the children who go to a school who really are the people whose opinions matter most what they feel about their school.

When I went to teach in a primary school I was only 18, but one of the first things I realised was that if I was going to be a successful teacher I would have to be a social worker as well. I had to know a great deal about the background of the children and meet their parents and things of that sort, and I have always been specially thankful that I spent those four very happy years in a primary school. In fact, I went back afterwards and did clubs and so on, a Guide Company and various things at that school.

So I was as much really all through my teaching life a social worker as a teacher, and in fact I got more training as a social worker, because I was sent to Jamaica on one of the Development and Welfare scholarships. Therefore, I have a special interest in rural reconstruction and I have always combined these interests of community involvement and education. A great many people worked with me, including Miss Marjorie Blackman and other people of this sort, Mrs. Thelma Vaughan especially, and at Girls' Foundation School — I was never an Assistant there, I was Head there — my work was successful largely because of all the co-operation I received from the teachers who worked with me.

I have enjoyed working with people, in a way receiving a recognition of this sort makes me feel very humble, because I feel that I have already been rewarded several times over, and I am really being rewarded for something which I was happy doing, which I enjoyed doing and which was really a way of life. The Girl Guides after all trained me to do a good turn every day, and that made me observant, made me quickly see where help was needed. Each generation has to make its own contribution, and there are problems in each generation. I thought that I would have been able to retire from youth work, but I find at the moment the needs of youth are as great as ever and I have no intention of retiring from my various activities so long as I am physically able to make a contribution of any kind.

Again, I wish to thank you all for all of the kind things you have said about me. I am not as awful or formidable as I appear to be, as my students would tell you that my office was a place where they frequently came whenever life seemed a bit tough, but I am human and I think it is good for other people working in education and in the field of social work that they should see that the country has recognized not only me but a very wide range of persons who have contributed in other ways.

I cannot sit down without expressing my congratulations to Dame Nita Barrow who was a close friend of mine and who was at school with me at the same time and with Miss Sylvia Watts who was my junior at school. I know these two ladies very well and I am very happy that we are associated in this recognition of our country. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

SENATOR THE HON. D. G. BLACKMAN: Mr. President, I beg to move that the Senate do now adjourn until Wednesday, 17th December, at 2.30 p.m.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to and Mr. President adjourned the Senate accordingly.
4.25 p.m.