

THE SENATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT)

FIRST SESSION 1981 - 86

THE SENATE

Wednesday, 14th October, 1981.

The Senate met in the Senate Chamber, Public Buildings on Wednesday 14th October, 1981, at 2.50 p.m.

PRESENT

His Honour Senator J. C. W. WICKHAM, M.B.E., (Deputy President); Senator the Hon. N. A. BARROW, B.A., LL.B., (Minister of Information, Communications and Culture) (Leader of the Senate); Senator the Hon. O'BRIEN TROTMAN, (Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office); Senator H. R. LINTON, LL.B.; Senator Mrs. E. M. LYNCH, B.A., G.C.M.; Senator C. A. GRIFFITH, (Parliamentary Secretary, Prime Minister's Office); Senator J. E. D. WILLIAMS; Senator D. A. C. SIMMONS, LL.M.; Senator Miss J. CLARKE; Senator M. C. C. WARD; Senator StC. HOWELL; Senator E. E. GREAVES, B.A., Ed.M.; Senator A. W. A. McCLEAN; Senator Mrs. G. G. READER, M.B.E.; Senator C. D. SEALE; Senator the Rev. Can. I. McK. JONES and Senator K. A. ROUSE.

Prayers were taken by Rev. Lionel Crawford.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The Senate is called to order.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. Deputy President, I have the honour to lay the following documents:

Instruments adopted at the Sixty-Seventh Session of the International Labour Conference held in June, 1981.

The Public Officers' Housing Loans Fund, Regulations 1981.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. Deputy President, I beg to give notice of the following:

1. A Bill to amend the Special Loans Act, Cap. 10.
2. A Resolution to approve of the use of the sum of US\$30 million from Orion Royal Bank Ltd, to assist with the financing of the Capital programme outlined in the Capital Estimates for the Fiscal Year 1981 - 82.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Before we proceed with Public Business, the Honourable Leader of the Senate, with my agreement, proposes to move a Resolution which I am sure would be concurred in by the Senate, Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. Deputy President, Sir; a few days ago, this country witnessed the passing of one of its greatest sons, Sir Erskine Ward, and in a few short days within the passing and interment of Sir Erskine, much has been said about the fulness of the life he lived, as evidenced by his participation at almost every level of social interaction ranging from sport, journalism agriculture, the Law, representation of the people as an Honourable Member of the Other Place, to service as an Honourable Minister in this country while an Honourable Member of this Honourable Senate.

As a lawyer, Sir Erskine served much of the Caribbean, moving from Barbados where he was a judge

of the Assistant Court of Appeal, to Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana, where he was a puisne judge, and to Belize where he was Chief Justice. Those of us who were too young to bear testimony to his vigorous pen as leader/writer in his earlier years — indeed, Sir, many of us were yet unborn — were yet given the opportunity to appreciate the talents of an outstanding journalist, when, in the middle sixties, he wrote editorials for the Daily News and sometimes the Observer, which was published by his great and good friend, Mr. Winter Crawford.

In agriculture, we are today thankful for the fact that, whatever he was doing at any point in time, he never lost touch with his interest in agriculture and so was able to do, in the evening of his years, what agriculturalists in this country would perhaps regard as the greatest work of his life, the re-organisation of the sugar industry. Many were his achievements, and I believe that none could be greater than his achievement as a member of the Deane Commission which sat after the riots of 1937. Those to whom the honour and privilege of having known this great man have been given cannot think of the Deane Report without identifying its concern for fairness and a better life for all in this country, as the concerns of Sir Erskine Ward.

Sir Erskine was not a man of pomp and circumstance, indeed he was a very humble man, a man who was well known also, Sir, for his sense of humour, a very friendly and very engaging person. He was a man with a strong commitment to certain ideals and he had the courage to speak out even when it might have been unpopular to do so. His commitment to the idea of Caribbean community resulted in his membership of this Chamber being brought to a premature end about 15 or 16 years ago, and his commitment to the ideal of social justice resulted in the quality of the report of the Deane Commission.

His work on the Deane Commission, Sir, was a perfect example of his thorough concern and the extent to which he addressed his mind to the needs and demands of the poor and unfortunate in the society, yet his wise radicalism in this respect has always been punctuated by a sense of the need for the preservation of law and order and the pursuit of social change through peaceful and democratic means.

A good look at the report with its far-sighted recommendations at once bears this out, for it has long been accepted that without Erskine Ward that Commission must indeed have reported in different terms. The report identified over-population, unemployment, seasonality in employment, low wages, excessive profiteering, the high cost of living and poor housing and living conditions as basic problems facing the working class and the mass of the population in the

1930's. The Commission in its recommendations took what was then the radical line of demanding a better deal for the working man. It recommended that the imperial powers explore the possibilities of emigration outlets to solve the problem of over-population and to ease unemployment, a recommendation, Sir, which found a lasting place in the policies of successive Governments and achieved major successes up to the 1960's.

The Commission also found that many of the economic problems facing the masses were due to inefficiencies within the plantation system, and demanded its reorganisation so that the labourers would be able to have a greater share in the fruits of their labour through increased wages. Quite a novel concept, Sir, for the time. In order to tackle the problems of the high cost of living, the Commission recommended a careful watch on the prices of food and basic necessities. It also recommended that measures be instituted to deal with excessive profiteering and illegal practices by merchants and peddlars. The report also recommended a minimum wage for agricultural workers and that a fair price be given to peasant producers in the sugar industry in order to stabilise their incomes. It made a strong call for the expansion of domestic agriculture, particularly in the field of dairy development, to ensure lower prices of food and higher nutritional standards among the mass of the population.

For the long term the Commission recommended that Central Government expand its public works programme to create further job opportunities. It called for the expansion of the Housing Board to look into the urgent problems of adequate housing and recreational facilities. The Commission considered that official encouragement ought to be given to the industrialisation of the economy to create more jobs and diversify the monocultural nature of the economy. For the protection of basic human rights and the maintenance of a democratic climate in the country, it strongly recommended that a Labour Officer be established to look into labour disputes, and that the rights to hold responsible public meetings be guaranteed.

These, Sir, are the recommendations of the Commission that knew the Barbados of that day, understood its ills and had the courage to prescribe for those ills. Many of the policies for social reform and amelioration of the depressed living conditions have been incorporated into official policies even to this day. Sir Erskine's contribution to this Commission must indeed have been the most outstanding work of his most illustrious career, for it was these recommendations in which one was able to see the foundation of the modern Barbados.

Sir Erskine's passing, Mr. Deputy President, has removed from this Island and from this community of the Caribbean an outstanding leader, a friend to all the people, and, Sir, on behalf of this Chamber I would like to extend to his widow, Lady Ward, and to his other sorrowing relatives our deepest sympathy. Accordingly, Sir, I beg to move as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate place on record its profound sympathy at the death of Sir Erskine Ward, a former member of this Honourable Senate;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to his relatives.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy President, I would like to say a few words on this Resolution, particularly as it relates to the contribution of the late Sir Erskine Ward to our national life. Of course so many tributes have been paid to the late Sir Erskine in so many quarters for the work which he has done over the years in this country, that I doubt very much that there is anything which has been left unsaid.

However, I would just like to say that I first came into contact with Sir Erskine Ward, I think in 1969, when he was recently appointed as the Director of the Sugar Producers' Federation. I had myself recently joined, just about a year before that, the staff of the Barbados Workers' Union and we were into sugar negotiations at that time, and one was immediately impressed by the way in which he was able to get down to business. You will probably recall that prior to that the sugar industry was plagued with a number of disputes of one sort or another, and if you were to check the record of industrial disputes and dislocations during the time that Sir Erskine was the Director of the Sugar Producers' Federation, you would see that the industrial disputes and dislocations were actually down to the very minimum. As a matter of fact, I find it very hard to recollect any disputes which took place, any strikes as such which took place during the time that he was Director.

That was not to say that there were not difficult negotiations and difficult times that we had around the bargaining table. Sir Erskine was a tough negotiator. It can be said that he wasted little time and he was a man who could take a point very quickly, and above all, he was not a petty person which I think was very important in situations where he had to participate, and particularly when the going got very tough and ticklish. Sir Erskine was able to command the respect not only of his colleagues on his side, but certainly those of us who formed the delegation from the Barbados Workers' Union and who attended these negotiations. It was very clear

that he was in command, and as I said, the fact that ever since he became director of the Sugar Producers' Federation, a number of disputes in the sugar industry was considerably reduced is a tribute to the foresight and work of this honoured gentleman.

He has also been accredited with the modernisation of the sugar industry in terms of the establishment of Barbados Sugar Factories Limited and generally speaking of welding the Sugar Producers' Federation into a well-knit body, and I think that it is very clear that he saw that in doing this he would be able to bring some measure of discipline to the employers' side, and he obviously recognised that this would be important in terms of being able to get negotiations conducted on a proper footing.

As Senator Barrow has said, Sir Erskine participated in the Deane Commission which investigated the disturbances in Barbados in 1937, and there is no doubt that the contribution which he was able to make to this Commission was very outstanding. I think it can be said that Sir Erskine was a Barbadian who was committed to the idea and to the principles of trade unionism, and I am sure that the work which he did in the formative years of the trade union movement in Barbados in terms of the kind of advice, encouragement and even the role which he played as I believe it was either the President or the Secretary of the Civil Service Association is again a tribute to him, because I believe that he was the kind of person, even although he was from the plantocracy and could by no means be said to come from working-class background, nevertheless he was able to empathise with the less fortunate people in the society. I think his work can be said to have shown very clearly that he was interested in seeing that the masses in this country got a better deal.

I think that in looking at the life of Sir Erskine we can say that he was an outstanding Barbadian. His life was one which in many respects I am sure many Barbadians would want to emulate in terms of his wide knowledge and his ability to become involved in almost every sphere of social and economic life in this country. I am sure that it will be a long time before we are able at least to see come on the horizon a person of the likes of Sir Erskine and I would like to join in the tribute which has been paid to him here this afternoon.

SENATOR A. W. A. McCLEAN: Mr. Deputy President, my association with Sir Erskine has been in the last ten years after his retirement, so to speak, from the many spheres of activity, not all, because during the last ten years he was still involved with the Sugar Industry, and I would say based upon my knowledge of him that I have no difficulty in accepting all that has been said about him, even if I do not have other ways of confirming the truth

of those statements, because any one who met Sir Erskine would recognise first of all his ability, secondly his candour and thirdly his keen sense of justice and fair-play, and the combination of these three things would have been sure to make him an outstanding contributor to the development of our region.

In indicating my support for the Resolution, I do believe it has stopped a bit short. I would have thought that the Resolution would have gone beyond an expression of sympathy and would place on record the appreciation of this Honourable Chamber, an appreciation of the outstanding contribution of Sir Erskine to the development of Barbados, and I am wondering if the person proposing the Resolution would be willing to entertain an amendment to it in the appropriate place with the appropriate words which would read somewhere along the following lines:—

"And be it further resolved that this chamber place on record its appreciation of Sir Erskine's outstanding contribution to the development of Barbadian society."

SENATOR THE REV. CANON I. McK. JONES: Mr. Deputy President, I am afraid to say much more about Sir Erskine would be to gild the lily, but I do think that one thing that can be said about him is that he was a man that had what I choose to call an aristocracy of spirit, and by that I mean he was the kind of man who had a profound knowledge of men and things. He was a man of the people and he had a very sound judgment of people, and to me that is the hallmark of intelligence. I do not consider intelligence as only the ability to be able to quote from Plato to William James, and I think he could do that too, but in my view what Sir Erskine possessed in rare abundance was that ability to judge people and judge things, and he understood people and had the power not only to understand them but to help them. I personally feel that he had as I said the kind of spirit, the kind of open heart to people, and I think that was the hallmark of his success. He could see the need of people of all classes. As Kipling said, he could walk with the common man and keep his virtue. He could talk with kings and not lose the common touch, and in my view that is what really made Sir Erskine the man he was. So I should like to support that added Resolution of Senator McClean, and I want to say I endorse all that the Leader of the Senate has said about him.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Before I put the motion for the Resolution, I should like to say that the Leader of the House has indicated his agreement to accept the amendment proposed by Senator McClean.

I should like also to take this opportunity to make a personal comment on Sir Erskine, and to express my

personal sense of loss at his death. A great deal has already been said, but I could not let this opportunity pass without making some comment especially as almost at the time of my birth a friendship between my father and Sir Erskine had already been established.

I was not Sir Erskine's contemporary nor was I ever at his level in social or intellectual attainment but I have to say this. I have to make that comment so as to stress what was an outstanding attribute of his character and personality and that was his warmth and affection which encouraged juniors and very humble folk to regard him as a friend, a point which Sir Hugh Springer in his eulogy made yesterday at St. Michael's Cathedral.

Sir Erskine was always very attentive to the literary and other cultural aspects of life in the West Indies and his background of classical scholarship gave him a breadth of reference and a capacity for rich illusion which many of his contemporaries and certainly most of his successors do not possess. He knew the West Indies well and was a rich store of antidote about the various foibles of the West Indies.

He was heartbroken when, in 1962, the Federal attempt had to be abandoned.

Sir Erskine was everything I have in mind when I think of Barbados and I treasure very deeply the gift of his friendship. I am also very grateful for this privilege to express my sense of gratitude to him and to speak in his memory and to join with this House in the expression of regret and condolence to his relatives.

I should be very grateful if the Clerk would read the Resolution as amended after which I will seek the agreement of the Senate to stand for two minutes' silence as a token of respect to Sir Erskine's memory.

"BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate place on record its profound sympathy at the death of Sir Erskine Ward, a former member of this Honourable Senate;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable House place on record its appreciation of the outstanding contribution of Sir Erskine to the development of Barbadian society;

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to his relatives."

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: May I ask the Senate to stand for two minutes silence.

(The Senate stood for 2 minutes' silence.)

The question that the Resolution do now pass was put to the Senate and agreed to.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, the items standing in my name up to Order No. 5 will be dealt with by me this evening and also Order No. 7 which I am proposing to take as the First Order of the Day. The others we will take seriatim.

Senator Trotman, Sir, will bear responsibility for all other Items on the Order Paper.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT DASH VALLEY, SAINT MICHAEL, FOR THE PROVISION OF RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The Seventh Order of the Day was called — to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Dash Valley, Saint Michael, for the provision of recreational facilities.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. Deputy President, the Resolution before us relates to the purchase of what might hitherto be expressed as four and a half acres of land at Dash Valley, lands of Hanson Plantation which are needed, Sir, for the provision of recreational facilities in the area.

As you know, Sir, from time to time these Resolutions come. This is an important part of the social development policies of the Government that there be adequate facilities for the outlay, particularly for the energies of the young and the area to be served by these facilities has a large young population.

It is, Sir, an area which is on the South Western end of St. George, the Dash Valley area, and the South Eastern end of St. Michael, Mapp Hill, Munroe Road, Haggatt's Hall and that area inside there. It is quite thickly populated and without any recreational facilities at the present moment.

I move, Sir, that the Senate do now concur in this Resolution.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is proposed that the Senate concur in this Resolution.

SENATOR E. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy President, I know that you would want to hear me on this. Senator Barrow might not want to and I am not too aware of the fact that one has to agree or disagree with any

Item to be committed to speak on it but anyhow at the outset, I would want to say that the opening statement by Senator Barrow on this matter about the commitment of the Government to the provision of recreational facilities and particularly in thickly populated areas I think is something which any right thinking person in this community or in any community would agree with.

I believe that these matters relating to the establishment of recreational facilities ought to be looked at more thoroughly because it seems to me that enough is not being done in this particular area and that is why I am glad to see that the Government has come down with this Resolution to acquire this area of land in that portion of the island which has been described as the South West end of St. George and the South East end of St. Michael.

Now, I would imagine that such a large area of land would be accommodating a playing field and a building which would be more than just a pavilion, but would have the kind of facilities that would enable the people in the surrounding community to meet and to really develop a sense of community because I think that that is one thing, which seems to me, to need developing in this country and every effort should be made to preserve a community feeling in various areas of Barbados. With the modernisation which is taking place, the fact that there is a lot of shift in populations in some areas, people sometimes living in communities do not have the opportunity to really make the best use that they could possibly make of the leisure time which they have and as I said, I think it is a very useful thing that this is being done.

I would hope that the Government would, in the not too distant future, present a programme which would indicate future areas in Barbados where similar developments would take place, particularly in the rural areas. You know, I am very keen on this, not from any personal interest that I might have, in terms of seeing the kind of facilities which, hopefully, will be established in the Dash Valley area in St. George, I certainly would like to see similar facilities established in other rural areas.

I am sure that Honourable Members of the Honourable Senate, who have been Honourable Members of the Lower House, have heard me on this on many occasions and I am unrepentant and relentless in my quest to ensure that that northerly parish of St. Lucy, in which I still and I will always have a deep and abiding interest... (ASIDES. LAUGHTER) I really would like to see, you know, quite seriously something being done in that area. I have had to make the point already, that I think that this matter should transcend party, partisan political considerations.

People in St. Lucy, St. Peter, St. Philip, anywhere that you want to that you could pinpoint, are also taxpayers. They are citizens of this country and they are entitled to these kinds of facilities. I believe that, in mapping out a programme for the future, quite obviously, a serious look should be taken at those areas in the rural areas where there is a population bulge. Even although there is movement away from the rural areas to the urban and suburban areas, nevertheless, there are some areas, in the rural areas, where it can be clearly established that there is need for such facilities.

I mean, if I could call to mind, for example, some that I have identified, I would just like to remind Senator Barrow and Senator Trotman, who are members of the Cabinet and, therefore, members of the Government and the decision-makers of this country, I would like to prevail on them with my continued request which I have made and seriously, I think that if you look, for example, if you take an area like Checker Hall, which I believe is known to a number of Honourable Senators — Senator Griffith I only discovered recently has some roots down there, Senator Rouse would know St. Lucy quite well having fought and lost his deposit down there some years ago. (ASIDES. LAUGHTER). But, you know, if you take an area like Checker Hall...

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: On a point of order, Sir. I think the Honourable Senator is misleading the Honourable Senate, I am sure not deliberately, Sir, but there is no loss of a deposit, I do not think, Sir.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Sorry, I did not hear that one. (ASIDES)

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Please address the chair. (ASIDES) Senator Greaves, please address the Chair.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Sorry, I do not know. They are people — Honourable Senators ought not to be so thin-skinned. After all, I mean I think one could pass a joke. But, quite seriously, if you take the Checker Hall area, if you were to, for example, look at even the evidence as came out in the last Voters' List, you would see that there was a greater growth of population in that area than in most of the other areas. If you take the Crab Hill area, even without the evidence on the Voters' List, just go into that area a Friday evening or a Saturday evening or a Sunday and you would see the large numbers of people, who are really in need of some kind of guidance and in need of somewhere where they can give vent to whatever creative talents they have. I am sure that this situation can be, not can be, is repeated in a number of communities around Barbados and that is why I say I think that Government is pursuing a policy

which is not an entirely new one which I would certainly like to encourage them to pursue because it is encouragement in the right direction.

But, I would like to urge the Government to develop a plan, a national plan, for the establishment of recreational facilities around Barbados, so that it would remove whatever feelings of partisan, political considerations that might exist in decisions which are made from time to time, to establish recreational facilities in various parts of the island and make sure that urgent consideration is given to the appeal which I have made here for this matter and for, of course, matters related to the northern-most parish in Barbados.

Thank you, Sir.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Rouse.

SENATOR K. A. ROUSE: Yes, Mr. Deputy President, while I rise to support this Resolution, I must inform the Honourable Senator that I never lost my deposit, anywhere in Barbados. Nevertheless, Sir, that is not the point that is here before us now.

My reason for supporting this Resolution, Sir, is that I remember this type of interest became part of the Government's policy some time ago, and I have no doubt that St. George and other parishes will get when the time comes. But what I would like to see done in this place, Dash Valley, is not only a building set up, but courts similar to that of Deacons Road and other places that the Government has quite recently made available to the people of the area.

Also, Sir, you will remember some years ago the National Stadium was built for quite a number of recreational and other facilities in this country, especially that of bicycle riding and so on, but in recent years I find that there were a number of young people in this country who took the roads and used them for bicycle riding and undoubtedly caused a lot of headaches to motorists. At the present time, Sir, another craze has come about in Barbados which undoubtedly, Sir, as a motorist I find very frightening, that is roller skating. I find that the young people of this country became involved in roller skating, and the highway now seems to be not a place where the motorists should use as he wants to unless he or she becomes afraid to drive carefully because of this craze. When you see 10 or 11 or more dashing around in front of you, one at times does not know what he or she must do, because he does not know where that person upon those skates is going. I say this to say that either in this Hon. Chamber or in the Other Place I do hope that legislation would come in order to protect the motorists and also to prevent these ugly scenes on our roads.

You see, Sir, if a motorist had to become involved in an accident with these people, one would hardly believe that the motorist would have taken all the necessary precautions that he should have taken. I do believe, Sir, that something is going to happen and something has to be done now. I say that because I would like the Government to build in this compound somewhere where these people can do this skating, either exhibitionally or otherwise, and prevent a disaster on our roads.

I do hope, Sir, that other persons making contributions may cite my concern about this matter. Thank you, Sir.

SENATOR J. E. D. WILLIAMS: Mr. Deputy President, strange as it may seem, I rise to support my fellow Union colleague, Senator Greaves. I think the time has come when Government has to seriously look at the country as a whole in determining where it is going to set up recreational facilities. Senator Greaves obviously would take the opportunity to plug for St. Lucy, and that is understandable, but if you look at a constituency like St. John — I am just drawing an example, Mr. Deputy President — you will find that with 6,200 constituents you can only find one hard court, and in terms of land mass it is a very, very big constituency. There are a lot of places like Martins Bay and Foster Hall, Edgecliff and Sherbourne where people have become totally disillusioned. I think they feel that they are no longer part of this society when they see other constituencies with three and four hard courts and big complexes, and let us be very honest and frank, very close to each other, but they are asked to leave their own constituency and travel miles to obtain those sort of facilities that should be within their respective constituencies.

I think that it is time that Government maps out some sort of plan and say we are going to put facilities in Area A, B, C, or D, depending on the density of the population. I think that moving in such a direction would unite the society rather than create the fragmentation which exists at the moment. I see, and I refer always to the constituency of St. John, people who seem to have given up all hope and I would like to implore Government to seriously look at the areas to which I alluded with a view of redressing the situation. I do support the Resolution.

SENATOR THE HON. O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. Deputy President, some time ago when I used to sit in the chair to my right and had the honour then to handle matters of land acquisition, I well remember on more than one occasion having to draw to the then representatives from the corner the fact that more playing fields have been provided for the young people of

Barbados since September 2, 1976 than between 1961 and 1976, and more hard courts have been provided as well. So that when Senator Greaves says not enough is being done, that is so because nothing was done prior to 1976 and therefore it makes it appear as though there is some real pressure on now.

He said that he always had a very keen interest in the matter of recreation for young people. It is unfortunate that he was not able to press his interest on the people who then represented the Ministry of Sport and Community Services. As I understand it, what happens is that a representative makes a petition to the Ministry of Sport and all the presentations are taken together and the ones of greatest urgency are taken first. In this particular case Dash Valley is getting its playing field because the representative for St. George South made his point to the Minister of Sport some time ago.

I believe Sir, that if other MPs made their presentations to the Ministry of Sport, and I hope that Senator Greaves will make his presentation as an MP to the Minister of Sport, that St. Lucy will in due course get its playing field. If on the other hand failure to provide recreational facilities for young people caused a shift from that Place to this Place and if what Senator Williams has said is true that St. John only has one playing field for 6,000 people, then we might be looking forward to some shift from that Place to this Place following Senator Williams from St. John.

I beg to support the Resolution.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: Mr. Deputy President, I do not propose to be too long on this Resolution and in time I will have things to say. By "in time" I mean in a couple of months I will have an appropriate opportunity again to give some further thought to the matters raised by Senator Greaves.

I do not believe, Sir, that Government is without a plan for the development of sporting and recreational facilities. Perhaps it is that this plan has not been enunciated or that it is not known to Senator Greaves, but I do support the point made by Senator Trotman that I think it is evident to any Barbadian that more was done by way of the provision of recreational facilities between September 1976 and June 18 this year than perhaps in the 15 years of the Democratic Labour Party, and what was done from a pure desultory count that I have just done shows indeed that there is little merit in any charge that the provision of a recreational facilities has been without recognition of areas where there is a concentration of population, or that these facilities have been provided on any narrow or any partisan political basis. St. Philip never had a playing field provided by Government until 1979 when one was provided at Chapel. Boscobelle

in St. Peter and Warleigh in St. Peter, districts that should be well known because of their proximity to St. Lucy, to the hon. Senator Greaves, got playing facilities during the last five years. In Belleplaine, I believe, Sir, in St. James, Holders Hill I think it is, certainly before I left the National Housing Corporation on transfer to C. B. C. (*Asides*) that will come out later, certainly the plans were in the pipeline for the National Housing Corporation to construct in the Haynesville/Holders Hill area a playing facility, and that is now a reality. There is a lovely pavilion down there near where St. John the Baptist used to play.

We are familiar, Sir, with playing facilities and recreational facilities in Wildey, in Wotton, Blenheim, Dover in Christ Church and Applegrove. I believe Senator Ward may have something to say on that later on. I just picked at random, but I believe that random sample would be enough to convince Senator Greaves that the Government has been looking at the question of the provision of recreational facilities on an island-wide basis. Obviously every parish or every district with a high concentration of population could not expect to get at the same time, and I have no doubt that the plans as they unfold will take account of the advice suggested by Senator Greaves, that we look carefully at areas of heavy population for additional playing facilities.

What I would wish to warn the Government of is that it is not enough to merely put down a playing field. You have to have all the other ancillary services and as part of that provision of a playing field a man who knows what he is doing, who knows about the upkeep of grasslands and preparing cricket pitches and so on. You need a whole complex of persons to ensure that the playing facility is properly used and used for the purpose for which it was designed. I think that it may be a mistake to build pavilions as they are called of the size of the one at Chapel, and to that extent...what happened is that the one at Chapel was originally scheduled to cost \$22,000 but ended up at \$34,000. There were constraints of finance at the time that precluded the building of a more expansive facility, but I support those Senators who have called for not a pavillion as such, but something which could operate as a community centre and something for which the people from the particular district where the facility is placed could have recourse for their own discussions, film shows, debates, social evenings, whatever; a place to which old people can be invited to go and activities put on by youth groups and so on for the enhancement of the quality of life in those areas.

Another point that I would like to urge the Government to consider comes out of my involvement with a call for two playing fields in St. Philip, one in the Merricks-Wellhouse area and one in the Blades Hill area. Government in fact has taken active steps in respect of providing a playing field in the Blades Hill area. River Plantation to my knowledge or DaCosta and Musson who

are the owners of River Plantation were quite willing to provide 2.5 hectares of land near Baileys School, solid land with good foundation which would make an ideal playing field. They were willing to provide this, I think the figure was \$18,000 or some such thing, for the establishment of a much needed recreational facility in that area, and it seems to me, in fact I am almost sure that a number of plantations in Barbados would be willing to assist Government in the provision of playing facilities by the donation of land or lands which are part of the plantation at reasonable cost, and in some instances free.

I would urge Government to pursue a policy of seeking out those Plantations which might be willing to offer up bits of land for recreational facilities. I know it has been done, I think, by Edgecombe Plantation through Mr. Jeffrey Armstrong. A playing field was provided at Ebenezer and I cited the other two at Thickett's Plantation and River Plantation which were willing to give up their land. I am not saying that this was the case with the other two, of the last two mentioned that the land was being provided free.

I am sure that if Government attacks this question of recreational facilities on the basis of an invitation to plantation owners for lands which they might be willing to give up to Government, the Government may be able to create a land bank of available land on the basis of which Government could then plan its development of these various areas. I would not say at no cost but a minimal cost but I hope that some means would be used to invite the plantation owners to contribute.

Now, Sir, in respect of the problem raised by Senator Rouse, Barbados, of course, is a country which is well-known for its ability and particularly Barbadians for their ability to imitate and to ache after western standards and values inculcated from North America and to a lesser extent England but in particular U.S.A. and North America so it is no surprise that there is a problem now with roller-skating.

Roller-skating has been big in the United States. For the last two or three years I have seen people skating to record shops and dancing to the music. While you are buying a record you see people skating about and discoing. Well, it would catch on in Barbados and it is amazing how our values as a developed people can be so warped that they are people who would pay over in excess of \$100 for a pair of skates.

You know people will quarrel about paying 60 cents to ride on a bus but they would pay \$100 for a pair of skates because it comes from America and I have said, Sir, and I still maintain, even in 1981, the problem is, it has been expressed by Mr. Frank Walcott in terms of "mauby pockets with champagne tastes" I think this is easily understood but it is clear that we are still an

underdeveloped people who are trying to masquerade as westerners. This is going to run us into serious trouble.

It is one of the attitudinal things that caused an economic crisis in Jamaica, a country where the population and especially the middle class are trying to live above their means and we as Barbadians have to be very careful that we do not fall into the same trap.

All that is needed for the roller-skaters is a simple two line amendment to the Highways Act, Chapter 289, to make it an offence, an offence punishable by a proper fine. The Highways Act still contains fines of \$10, nonsense. That would not be a sufficient deterrent but it is posing a serious problem to users of motor vehicles.

I was telling Senator Rouse on Monday night that only on Sunday I was driving along Belmont Road and there was a fellow roller-skating in front of me going in the same direction towards Government House and a car was coming down from Government House and he tried to get into George Street and he came into the middle of the road and he left being in front of me and he went straight in front of the other car ahead of me and he did, as they say, a tack-a-too, he did a late one and he escaped and went into George Street.

Now, of course, if he had had a collision with that car, he would come into Court and swear on the Bible, if he lived. He would come into Court, if he lived and swear that the owner of the car was driving fast, not keeping a good lookout and all of those things and the problem that the Senator raised is a real one because sooner or later and sooner, rather than later, one of them is going to be very seriously injured and I can only call on the Government to act with great urgency.

I say that what is needed is a simple amendment to the Act. I have checked the Law before I got on my feet and it is quite possible to see where it can be done and if it is possible. There are all sorts of offences throwing things on the Highway, and so on. You only have to add on another sub-paragraph to one of these Sections and that would be it so it is not a big problem and Government must not be afraid to tackle it even though one of its candidates may have gone to his nomination accompanied by a group of roller-skaters. That has nothing to do with it.

I have said in here a few weeks ago that this society needs discipline and if this would help to put discipline back on the streets, well then let us try. If that does not succeed, perhaps more drastic action would become necessary.

As we say this solution we should be at the same time grateful to one or two entrepreneurs who have had the foresight to set up indoor skating rinks.

Obviously, for the time being while the novelty is still there, they are making a killing financially. There is one just across here in Palmetto Street, "Skate-On". It is good to see that that person had the foresight to help us get some of these skaters off the roads and bring them inside where they can probably do themselves very little harm or at least not as great harm. I believe you can break your hand or your foot if your balance becomes unsteady and you fell but at least there would not be the drama of a collision with moving pieces of metal.

I believe that perhaps if this craze is going to stick with us, I think we will have to consider some kind of — whether through the public sector or some other individual doing it privately — some place in which these people can have a resort off the street. Somebody with money could perhaps set up their own big indoor disco and let them go and dance about and skate there.

It is a healthy pastime and I believe it does have some athletic or it does assist in the development of some physical muscle toning and all of that. It might have its attributes. I am not doing it down as a past time. I want to make that very clear. I am not saying that it should not exist. What I am saying is it must exist if it has to, within controlled limits and it is up to the society, the public and private sector to get together and provide the facilities because if we do not do it, the roads are going to be in chaos.

Before the hon. Senator who moved this Resolution replies, perhaps at the same time he might be able, if he has the available information, to tell us to what extent Government has made progress on the proposed indoor stadium. Now, this is something which is very necessary in Barbados. Whether you can skate in it or not I do not know, Sir.

I am not an expert in those areas, but I certainly know that what we need is an area where you can have table tennis, basketball, volleyball and so on, with proper seating facilities, something bigger than the Community College Hall which has, in the last few years, operated as a kind of substitute for a proper indoor stadium. In November, 1979, Sir, when we had the Chinese table tennis players here for the first time, I believe it was then that a statement was made that Government had every intention of establishing the National Indoor Stadium. I think it is a passage of two years now, or very nearly two years, and it is about time for us to know how far advanced these plans are and, if much has not been done, I make the call this afternoon, Sir, for urgent attention to be given to the establishment of this facility. We need the facility, we need places to which these people can go

and keep the youngsters off the streets because it is a brutish world outside now, Sir, a very brutish world.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Griffith.

SENATOR C. A. GRIFFITH: Thank you, Mr. President. Hopefully, I will be fairly brief on this matter. Now, I have sat and listened to Honourable Senators take the opportunity to make parochial calls for playing fields in areas of their respective interest, I would say, and while — (ASIDES) I said respective interest, not constituencies, they do not have constituencies — and while that is laudible, I believe it is rather important that we have a national policy on the development of recreational facilities which would obviate the necessity for people to try to make calls for facilities in a specific area. Of course, a national policy for recreational facilities would take into consideration the fact that sport, as a pastime, has a significant role to play in the development of a country, but the important thing also to note is that any national policy for the development of recreational facilities, like anything else, must have consideration, as far as financial constraints are concerned and when we set up recreational facilities in particular districts, if we do not take into consideration the need for finance to maintain the facilities, then we are but wasting our time.

I have seen, in this country, certain facilities which have fallen into disrepair because there has been no maintenance and it is very important. So, when we hear about the call for recreational facilities from Honourable Senators, we must bear in mind that it is important to have a national policy as part of our total developmental programme, and that policy should consider the provision of funds for maintenance of the facilities. People in districts should not take it for granted anyhow that because taxpayers' monies are used to provide recreational facilities that they are to be abused. We have seen, in many areas, acts of vandalism and a great deal of indifference and destruction reigned upon what people consider the taxpayers' money without appreciating the fact that they are inconveniencing other people in the communities, hence making it more difficult for Government to provide the necessary facilities in these areas.

Now, the last Honourable Senator spoke about discipline and the problem with roller skating and so on. To my mind, what has happened in this country I daresay has happened because of the improved communication between the bigger metropolitan centres and Barbados. I talk about communication, not only in terms of telephone and telegraph, but I am talking about jet transportation and the fact that more and more people in this country are exposed to what is happening in big metropolitan centres because of the fact that they have relatives in these countries and we find that some of the conspicuous patterns of behaviour in those big countries

are brought into Barbados, without people understanding and appreciating what goes on in this consumption.

For instance, the question of roller skating. I know, for a fact, that in New York City people were encouraged to roller skate to work as a part of the energy conservation programme and there were special lanes on the drawing board provided for people to do so. This did not materialise, however. Yet, you find that people in Barbados, where roads are smaller than the roads in North America, people in Barbados take to the roads on roller skates not only to provide problems for motorists, but to encourage the destruction of themselves. I believe this is part of the lack of discipline that Barbadians have, when they start to involve themselves in what I consider imported aspects of consumer behaviour.

We only last night were exposed to a situation, again, where a basketball game was terminated because the crowd encroached on the playing field with a matter of minutes to go. We have seen, time and time again, in the press, where appeals have been made to people who are horse racing fans to stay away from the track and from the paddock because they are creating problems, not only for the jockeys and riders, but for themselves. Yet, all of this seems to go unabated and there does not seem to be any kind of effort to put a stop to this thing, apart from calls to stop them. I believe it is important that people must understand that if they are going to engage in activities which are considered imported, they must understand that in those countries from which they were imported, there are also certain rules and regulations attendant upon people's behaviour. That is not the case in Barbados and I believe that it is about time that we get serious about these things before we have serious catastrophes on our hands. Even in the case, where people may be hurt, I do not see that as a deterrent on most of the occasions. It is about time that we take a serious look at trying to impose strict codes of behaviour for people to operate under in sporting events.

Now, we have a monstrosity on Waterford called the National Stadium. It is by no means a National Stadium and I remember distinctly, back in the sixties when debate was going on about the construction of this stadium, that knowledgeable people wanted to have an input and they were rudely rejected. Now, in order to convert the National Stadium, into what could be seriously considered a stadium which would have the utility that stadiums can boast of is going to cost millions of dollars in today's market. We find that, even at the National Stadium, when sporting events are being conducted, there is a lack of crowd control.

People get out of hand, there are all kinds of stow-aways, there are people jumping the walls and so on, and

I think it is about time, Mr. Deputy President, that an effort be made to put some form of control where crowds gather, because in the final analysis not only will those people themselves suffer, but the image of the country suffers as a result. I know people may want to talk about the riots that occur in far off places like Brazil and Peru during soccer games, and somewhere in Kuwait, I think it was, only a few days ago, but it is about time that we seriously look at the disciplinary aspect.

One other aspect I want to talk about before I sit down, Mr. Deputy President, is this. We notice that in this country most of the teams that play games now in competition, particularly in football and so on, we find that they have lost their identity in that they carry the name of a sponsoring company. Now, I can understand that being the case if they were professional teams, and even then that does not have to be the case, but it is a form of control and I believe that teams which represent a certain district should be carrying the name of the district rather than carrying the name of a sponsor. The support they get from the sponsor I do not think can be considered enough for them to be carrying that kind of identity, and I think that this is one of the areas that we should be seriously looking at, and those companies which may insist upon the carrying of their flag or the carrying of their name as a form of advertisement because a team may be provided with uniforms or whatever, I believe that they should desist from trying to use that kind of promotion for their own interests. It is a cheap form of promotion, and in fact all is lost as far as the district is concerned.

Mr. Deputy President, I think that we should be trying very very hard in Barbados to desist from the kind of parochialism which raises its head whenever there are Questions and Resolutions for playing fields, because as far as I am concerned it is cheap politics. Thank you.

SENATOR A. W. A. McCLEAN: Mr. Deputy President, in rising to support this Resolution, I would like to enter a slight modification to the suggestion by others that you should not only have your playing field but you should have your pavilion-cum-community centre-hard courts and so on, and I do believe that these things should come, but in the context of the present circumstances in Barbados I am not so sure that this is the time to make noises for such. Indeed, what I would like to make is a plea for the establishment of very strict priorities in terms of Government expenditure. Indeed I think that in many areas Government should engage in a thorough review of its expenditure plans, and in particular I would like to direct attention to a problem which many people seem either not to be aware of or to be concerned about, and it is a problem which touches communities all over the place. It is the problem of accommodation in schools.

There are many secondary schools in Barbados, some not so very far away from Dash Valley, like the St. George Secondary. There is Ellerslie, where you have insufficiency of chairs, insufficiency of class rooms. There are many floating classes where students have to move around trying to catch as catch can as students go out to the playing fields to see if they can find somewhere to study. When the rain is falling they have serious problems in trying to find even somewhere to shelter from the rain. Also in terms of the availability of class rooms you have insufficiency of chairs, people having to stand and endure all sorts of inconveniences.

I think these are things that should be corrected with much greater urgency than the provision of hard courts and so on. I thank you.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. Deputy President, before Senator Simmons spoke Senator Trotman gave an interim reply and therefore it is only left for me now to give the final reply.

The point made by Senator McClean just now is indeed a point that was in my mind, and it was in my mind not only from the point of view of the current situation which undoubtedly requires a Government so far as is possible to cut back its expenditure, but also because I have been wondering for a little while whether part of the approach to provision of facilities may not indeed be based on a misconception. I have been wondering, Sir, whether it is the most reasonable thing to carry all the facilities and then expect full community involvement in the use and care of the facilities. I have no answer to this and I believe, Sir, that it is a point which all of us who are in public life could well address our minds to and perhaps over the years we will begin to see some kind of solution surfacing.

I know, Sir, that to the recipient within the community it is an attractive idea that everything should be brought and put there, everything ready for use. I also have a feeling deep down that if you do not bring everything but you just make the basics available, people would organise in order to give real meaning to the facility, and I believe that in that way you get much better use of the facilities which you are programmed to provide. But as I said, Sir, that is something which in my view is arguable. I do not think that one can just off his head seek to lay down the law in anything like this.

As regards the point of the indoor stadium, Sir, the National Sports Council is already having a good look to see how they can provide for this, but it is not yet at the stage, for example, where positive submissions have been made to Cabinet.

The other point, Sir, which has been fairly well ventilated relates to the use of the streets as skating

rinks. I believe that there is not a single Senator in here who would disagree that while there may be attractions to roller skating, attractions of all sort, I have seen fairly grown young ladies, 20's moving on to 30's, who got hurriedly attracted to the soil, receive broken arms and so on. (SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Ministers too). Ministers too? You are getting all sorts of attractions to this thing, Sir.

Some of the performances on roller skates are really something to watch, but surely there is not a person in here who would disagree with the view that the public highway is not the place for roller skating. It is dangerous, it is hazardous to everybody, including the person on the roller skates, and the Commissioner of Police recently made the point and said he was going to recommend to Government that there should be legislation to put an end to it. So that clearly at the highest level attention is being paid to the problem of roller skating.

Those are the points that I thought were still left for comment. Once again I wish to commend to the Chamber this Resolution and urge our agreement to it.

The question that the Senate concur in the Resolution was put to the Senate and agreed to.

COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT APPLEGROVE, CHRIST CHURCH

The Fifth Order of the Day was called — to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Applegrove, Christ Church for the provision of a playing field.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Before Senator Barrow introduces the Resolution, Senator Barrow has sought my agreement to placing Order No. 5 in this position for the very good reason that it does in fact deal with playing fields. It is an acquisition of land and hon. Senators may wish to feel that they have already made their speeches.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. Deputy President, it may well be felt at this stage as though you have just introduced the Resolution, and therefore I have to do little more to commend it to the Honourable Senate for support.

The Resolution arises out of the fact that somebody who owns land right next door to where a facility has been provided considered that the facility could be made into a more useful facility, one of full size, if he offered the 2130 square metres of land, which is about half an acre of land, adjacent to it. This land being adjacent to the playing field already, he offered it to Government to allow the present facilities to be enlarged. Sir, that is really all there is to this.

I beg to move the Senate concur in this Resolution.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Mr. Deputy President, I am glad that I did not speak on the first Resolution, as by your suggestion I would have to remain seated. Anyhow, Mr. Deputy President, I would like to support this Resolution and make a few remarks before I get on to it. I think that all Senators would be fully aware that in Barbados at the present time there is a great need for organising youth in productive spheres as well as sporting spheres, because as it is known, you are inclined to get yourself in trouble when you have nothing to do, and therefore when Government spends money as they are doing in these two Resolutions that have come before the Senate, it is money well spent because a number of the young people in this country aspire to good things, and they only want the assistance and help from Government and from older people to go into right channels. Of course there are some who regardless of what you do, and this applies to societies all over the world, tend to go into the wrong direction, and therefore we should all heartily support anything such as buying land in this regard.

I enjoy hearing Senators speak on these matters, Mr. Deputy President. The Hon. Senator Greaves said with great emphasis that the time has come when we should have a plan. Does he mean that the Democratic Labour Party in their fifteen years of office had no plan? If he had said that when he was in Parliament and Mr. Barrow as Prime Minister, he would have been asked if he were trying to run the Government. He could hardly grunt at that time, but now that he is free, he has sprouted wings in the Senate.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy President, I really do not want to tell you how to rule, but certainly an hon. Senator cannot grunt.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Greaves, I interpreted the use of that verb figuratively.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Thank you, Mr. Deputy President. That is the position, that all of a sudden now there is need for a plan. I believe that over the years a plan has evolved. As there is population movement and one need and another crop up both in the Democratic Labour Party's time as well as in this Government's, it is found necessary to put in playing fields, improve pavilions, social centres and so on, so I really cannot see the necessity for saying that the time has come.

Senator Simmons takes issue with us following western styles. Needless to say we live in the West Indies and have a West Indies cricket side. We live in the West,

but we are not to follow western ideas. There is nobody that is more western-like than the hon. Senator. At school he played cricket, football, and today is one of the keen turfites, immaculately dressed in the best and most modern suits, but he finds it difficult to follow western styles. There is the hon. Senator Jones dressed in western style, straight from Oxford, but you must not follow western styles.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: If the hon. member would give way on a point of elucidation, it is not that I said you must not follow western styles. I just want to correct him because I think he has misinterpreted what I said. I said that we as people are great imitators and tend to ape those standards, and that we still forget that we are undeveloped. That is all I said, I am not saying that you should not dress in a suit while he dressed in his colonial style. That was the bush jacket that was worn in Africa by those people who went down there; but I will deal with him later.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Anyhow, I am glad for these clarifications. Floating Muhammed is floating coming around. All these are western habits and we live in a western world and adopt the customs in which we live. We dance western style, don't mind the thing that cost \$22 million in "wuk-up" called Carifesta; \$22 million of the taxpayers' money in pure "wuk-up". Anyhow, we dance western style, we eat western style, we worship western style. We are all christians, the majority of us. We may not all practice christian ways at all times, but sometimes we do. Anyhow, Mr. Deputy President, I just took that at my colleagues because I enjoy these things.

Now getting back to this Resolution, Mr. Deputy President, I have very great pleasure in supporting this, because without sounding boastful I was instrumental in having this land bought by Government. It is described as being in Applegrove, but it is better known as Briar Hall. I am not quite sure where Applegrove starts and Briar Hall begins and so on, but this area is very well known as Briar Hall, and the ground which the young people were playing on was the property of the Government through the former plantation of Graeme Hall, and this portion of land often was rented out to various people who took great objection to a football coming into their ground or vegetables and so on which is natural.

It caused great controversy to the youth and the people who owned the land and I got to hear about it and I made investigations and found out who owned this piece of land and at that time I took Minister Craig to have a look at the land and he agreed that Government should buy it but then a short while after Minister Blackman was in charge of Sport and I got the plot of the land from the owner and took it to Minister Blackman and asked him to pursue it.

In the process of Government it takes some time. It is over a year and a half now that this has been going on but I am extremely happy that this Resolution has come here for the purchase of this land at Applegrove for the youth in that area and I fully support Government in whatever they can do in the way of — (*Asides*) Well, Maurice King will take care of matters in the future but I took care of that one in the past. I do not know if Maurice King knows where Applegrove is.

However, Mr. President, I do support this very much and do indeed hope that the Sports Council will find it possible to put a pavilion on this land. Thank you.

The question that the Senate concur in the Resolution was put to the Senate and agreed to.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: At this time I propose that we suspend this Sitting for 15 minutes.

On Resumption

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The sitting is resumed.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT OISTINS, CHRIST CHURCH

The First Order was called — to move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Oistins, Christ Church for the purpose of road improvement and in connection with the Fisheries Terminal Project.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. Deputy President, a number of properties at Oistins have had to be acquired for the general purpose of the Oistins redevelopment programme and at the time of commencement of the acquisitions, there was a property owned by a Mr. Archer, which is the subject of this Resolution, which was not at the time acquired for two reasons.

In terms of the Fisheries Terminal Project the property was considered to be outside the Western limit of the area to be reclaimed and Mr. Archer, who is a boat owner carried out boat maintenance in his yard, an activity totally in keeping with proposals to the Western half of the reclaimed area. This portion has since been reserved for the haulage and maintenance of boats. Between the beach at Welches and at Oistins Police Station, this was the only property still privately owned.

At present, the reclamation for the Terminal stretches in a south-westerly direction to the existing Fish Market rejoining the coast to the beach at Welches, a few

yards west of Mr. Archer's property boundary. This resulted, Sir, from a change in design which became necessary due to the need to take in the shape of the reclamation in order to minimise not only the reclamation itself but on the beach at Welches and other properties along that part of the South coast.

It means now, Sir, that Mr. Archer's property is surrounded on three sides by the reclaimed land which is the property of the Government and it is this change in design which has now brought almost a decision that the property should be acquired in order to avoid any possible problem in the use of the land at the back of Mr. Archer's property which formerly ended at the water's edge.

The property is 745 square metres and negotiations have been going on in relation to its purchase.

I move, Sir, that the Senate do now concur in this Resolution.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is proposed that the Senate concur in this Resolution.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT WHITEPARK ROAD, ST. MICHAEL

The Second Order was called — To move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Whitepark Road, St. Michael, for the purpose of the provision of a radio Station for the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: The acquisition, Sir, which is the subject of this Resolution concerns land at Whitepark Road which is approximately three-quarters of an acre and which is being sought for the building of a new radio complex for the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation.

When the CBC was first established, the radio station was still utilising buildings at the Lazaretto in Black Rock and when the decision was taken to add television, there was an argument as to what was the best arrangement.

The consortium as it then was with which the Government of Barbados did business over the establishment of the Broadcasting Corporation consisted of the Thompson Organisation and the National Broadcasting Corporation of the United States of America.

While the NBC argued in favour of erecting a complete complex at Black Rock, the other party argued

in favour of establishing a television complex at the Pine and leaving the radio complex at Black Rock. What happened, however, was that the television complex at the Pine was built. What is at the Pine now is a custom built television station and in time, Black Rock was closed down, except the transmitter site, and the radio station was transferred and housed in the same building with the television station, with continuous hopes, indeed, rather than plans, plans only more recently, but in the earlier stages, as you yourself, Sir, probably remember continuous hopes that the complex at the Pine would be redone and expanded, so as to accommodate the radio station.

Nothing was done, with the result that about twice as many people as should be inhabiting that building at the Pine now inhabit it, with the result that space has been allocated for use as radio studios which initially was not allocated for that purpose and the building, in fact, never had any proper radio station designed. Indeed, even as I am talking to you, Sir, the Corporation and the Broadcasting Authority have a running discussion going on about leaky radio studios and so on.

The situation has been reached where the inventory of assets indicates quite clearly that a whole-sale programme of re-equipping has to be done, since most of the equipment whether on the radio side or the television side is, if not obsolete, rapidly approaching obsolescence. The plain, stark fact, therefore, is that what has to be done is virtually the provision of new broadcast facilities. The question, therefore, has to be faced, what is the best formula? What are the best conditions under which to provide these new facilities? The weight of opinion is in favour of providing a separate radio complex. It is felt that it would be certainly not more expensive and probably would be cheaper to provide a new radio complex than to try further patching at the Pine. Secondly, that the building which was built for television purposes should be refurbished and used for that purpose only.

I wish also to add an additional point and that is that if it is one thing that the Grenada coup has indicated quite clearly, it is the effectiveness of coup by radio and, therefore, from the security point of view, it is also much better not to have all of your eggs in one basket as it were, not to have the entire thing at one place at the Pine, when, when you take one there, you have taken everything.

The Resolution before us, therefore, Sir, is to facilitate what is the total redevelopment of the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, along lines which I have just outlined. I move, Sir, that the Senate concur in this Resolution.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is proposed that the Senate concur in this Resolution.....Senator McClean.

SENATOR A. W. A. McCLEAN: Mr. Deputy President, there are a number of difficulties which I have in terms of supporting this resolution.

First of all, I believe I would need to have some information as to whether this is a genuine compulsory acquisition or whether it is another recourse to the expedient of using this route, as opposed to normal means of transferring title. If it is a genuine compulsory acquisition, I do not believe that that location is sufficiently strategic or necessary for the purposes of a radio station that land should be acquired compulsorily for that purpose. One, I believe, should establish fairly clear principles on which you acquire land compulsorily and these principles should evolve around the strategic importance of the parcel of land to the activity. For instance, if you need a playing field, you can only use land in the area if you need a playing field for Dash Valley. You cannot get land at Pie Corner for a playing field in Dash Valley. But, if you need land for a radio station, there is no reason why the radio station must, of necessity, be located at the corner of Country Road and White Park Road. So, as such, I would need some information as to whether or not this is a genuine compulsory acquisition. Whilst I am on that point, I would like to say, if it is not a genuine compulsory acquisition, that again I am a bit concerned about the need for recourse to this mechanism for transfer of title.

In my view, the route of compulsory acquisitions, bringing resolutions into Parliament and so on, ought to be more cumbersome than a normal means of transferring title and if it is less cumbersome, it means that something is desperately wrong with the mechanism we have in Barbados for transferring title to land and the Government must address that with urgency, rather than feeling that that is alright, and to their own convenience, for them to come in here every time they need to acquire land.

Now, in terms of the question of having a radio station located at some distance from the television station, I note that NBC had argued for a joint complex, albeit at the Lazaretto at the time, but, I do believe that they saw certain advantages in having a joint location. I myself, from time to time, am aware that when I am called to CBC to do something for TV, the radio people take the opportunity to get something from me at the same time and it would not be as convenient if you were going to the Pine for the TV and the radio is down at White Park.

The argument, or the point raised, in relation for the dispersal of the two things is a security point. But,

I do not think that it is too much more difficult to take over two locations as opposed to one. Already, there is some dispersal. This is not the only radio system in Barbados and if, indeed, the authorities in Barbados wanted to communicate with Barbadians in the absence of having access to our own radio stations, there are radio stations in St. Vincent, they have them all around us and they can communicate. Indeed, if you really want to communicate with the people on your own land, the protection against that is some secret thing, that you can activate when the time comes, not hoping that the people would not seize the radio station which you already have. So, I am not particularly impressed by the security point. I believe the economic points and the other points of convenience relating to the location of these two stations in close proximity, if not in the same complex should outweigh any security considerations.

It seems to me as though there is ample room for expansion at the Pine. Land in the City area is at a distinct premium and one should not site any activity which can be sited elsewhere in the City or its immediate environs. I think that particular land is within the City limits, and for those reasons I would like perhaps to urge that Government take a second look at their intentions in this particular regard. I thank you.

SENATOR J. E. D. WILLIAMS: Mr. Deputy President, my remarks will be mainly with respect to the engineering side. I have had about 13 years' experience in engineering, albeit telecommunications engineering, and unlike Senator McClean I do see the wisdom of Government in separating TV from radio.

Sometimes it is difficult in terms of the managerial function for the two entities to operate at their best under the same building, and to my mind it is a move in the right direction. As the Leader of the Senate said, originally we had the studios at Black Rock and the Pine was engineered for television, and so as to get both entities under the same building, I can say without fear of contradiction there were a lot of engineering shortcomings at that place. I would hope that having moved the radio section to Whitepark that the engineer and the other personnel at the earliest opportunity would try to redress the situation there.

I do not want to be specific and try to make any particular individual, reduce him in light, but I was pleased to see that at Black Rock only this year steps were taken to enclose the antenna. A lot of you would be surprised to know that from the inception that antenna was live, and I was appalled when I was told that it was not enclosed, and one can only imagine what could have happened if someone had accidentally touched that antenna. These are some of the problems that I am talking about. I do not want to identify any more, but I know they are there.

I know that the present engineer is *au fait* with these problems. He has constraints in terms of technical personnel, and I have no doubt that the Minister and the Board have been looking at this, in the past few months they have been recruiting staff, and so I would like to see in this area, and I will take the opportunity to say that there should be an ongoing programme at CBC on the technical side. Occasionally you find that someone will go off on a two or three month course and he will come back and years will pass, technology will have gone on and he will never have kept pace with technology.

I know that, like the Leader of the Senate said, a lot of equipment has to be changed. The transmitter to my mind is obsolete, and the Government and the Board should at the earliest opportunity try to purchase a new transmitter, one that will meet international specifications, because whether we like it or not, there are international bodies which control radio, and they even control radio in Barbados. I know that those bodies are tightening up on certain specifications and I think that CBC ought to put its house in order.

Further, I would like to see CBC having a proper outside broadcast unit. I would have to go along with all those people who wrote articles in the Press — and I am referring to CBC's inability to bring live coverage of the opening of CARIFESTA — I think that an activity such as that should have been brought live to the people of this country. Everyone was not fortunate enough to have been there, but the reason given for the Corporation not being able to bring it was that the present outside broadcast unit is not adequate enough to do that. I would hope that, again at the earliest opportunity, the Board will take a decision to get a proper outside broadcast unit and get some good advice on the kind of equipment they should buy, not buying something that after a year or two you realise that it really does not meet your needs.

Also, in the area of commercial productions, a lot of money can be earned, and I am sure that the Corporation can well do with some revenue, and I would hope that in the area of commercial productions they would upgrade the kind of equipment that they have to meet the local demand, because a lot of other firms are capitalising on this and they are making quite a sum, and I think CBC should also take the opportunity to do so as well.

Mr. Deputy President, in closing I would say that the Resolution is a good one, I see the wisdom in moving the two entities from each other, separating them, and I therefore support the Resolution.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy President, contrary to the feeling of Hon. Senators, I can assure you that you will not be here for too long, because I

will restrict what comments I have to make on the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, which has been described by a colleague of mine as the Caribbean Broadcasting Confusion, to a very limited period, partly because I am not feeling too well, otherwise it would have been a different story.

Now, I think that the Minister of Information, Senator Barrow, struggled vainly in an attempt to convince this Chamber about the need to acquire this area of land at Whitepark for the purpose of the establishment of a radio station, namely the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, or Radio Barbados, whatever you want to call it. I have not been convinced, and listening to Senator Williams I still am not convinced that there is need for the separation as the Government is trying to indicate.

I just want to say that for this reason I propose to divide the Senate on this matter because I am going to vote against this particular Resolution, coming at this time when in my view we have to exercise extreme care with the expenditure of money. I would have thought that since Senator Barrow has indicated this afternoon and on a previous occasion that the Government is in somewhat of a stranglehold, that cash flow is very limited and there are problems in the economy, some attempt would have been made to conserve expenditure in a number of areas, and even although one sees the value in a radio station, I think this is fairly clear, nevertheless it seems to me that as pointed out by Senator McClean there is enough land at Wildey where the Corporation is at present sited for some move to have been made to maybe extend the building. Indeed I thought that at one time an indication was given in the Lower House that this would have been the position of the Government, that is, that there would have been an extension at the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation to accommodate whatever need there is for space in that particular area.

I do not really see the need, indeed I am not convinced by the argument which has been advanced here this evening for the separation of the two stations, the television station and the radio station. It is clear that there is a very strong school of thought that the two entities could operate in the same area. I really would like the Hon. Minister to give some clear indication as to why it is necessary to go the route which he proposes to go. We know that at the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation there are a lot of problems. I believe that even before even proceeding with this matter of acquisition and all this that the Minister would be well advised to try and set the confusion existing at the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation to rest, and set the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, better known as I said as the Caribbean Broadcasting Confusion on a good footing.

The morale of the staff at C.B.C. is extremely low. Many reasons have been advanced for this. I am told that

they are not given the opportunity to really do a professional job in the way that journalists see that they should be doing their work. All this is well known and I would think that the Minister should as a matter of public importance try to put this right, and I believe that if he does that, at least that would be the one thing that he would be ready for in this country. It is clear as I said that there is some considerable amount of confusion at C.B.C. One has only got to examine even the Board and the activities of the Board. A number of Board members has taken the route of resignation for what reason I do not know, but as I look around the Table I see some past members of the Board sitting around here and they might be in a better position to indicate why it is that they found it necessary to run from the Board.

I am not in the habit, if I have a conversation or discussion with a colleague on matters, if for example a particular member might have resigned from the Chairmanship or membership of a Board and I am told, I do not think that I need to come in here and talk about it, but certainly I think that the large number of resignations from the Board is an indication that there is something wrong, and I am submitting that this ought to be looked at.

Staff turnover at the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation is extremely high, and I think that this is a further indication that something is wrong. C.B.C. for example has been advertising for the post of, I think it is, Executive Director for some time.

SENATOR THE REV. CANON I. McK. JONES: On a point of order or elucidation, I am not sure what the hon. member is speaking on. I thought it was something to do with the moving of the radio station to White Park Road, and it would seem to me that what he is talking about really does not relate to that, so I should like an elucidation.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I consider that Senator Greaves' comments are relevant to this discussion.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. President, I always hear that fools rush in where angels fear to tread. (*Asides*). I have not called anybody's name.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: You had to be referring to somebody before the remarks were made.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: There is only one Chair. Senator Greaves I think your allusion is unfortunate and I would be very grateful if you would withdraw that remark.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I beg to withdraw that.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Please continue. I said I considered your comments relevant.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Thank you very much. I would like to be able to continue without interruption.

As I have indicated, I think that the public in general see and know that we deserve better from the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation. The Minister who is in this Honourable Chamber ought to be able to give some explanation about the very serious problems at the Corporation.

Now I think it is generally accepted that radio and television are very important instruments for any country whether educationally, culturally, or politically.

I believe that a clear rule ought to be carved out for the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation in the promotion of our cultural and educational activities.

The Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation was described by me in the Lower House when we were debating the establishment of the Broadcasting Authority as a music box or a glorified juke-box and I am still firmly routed in this view.

I believe that there is not enough being done on radio and on television but I would concentrate more on radio since we are specifically talking about radio for the promotion of educational and cultural activities in this country.

I think that we have to move away from a situation where the Radio, for example, is used by some persons to promote themselves. There was a time, for example, when we used to hear people on CBC talking about promoting themselves like the big bad one, the cool one, the clever one, and now we hear about one Elombe and those kind of people. These are promoting themselves on the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation rather than trying to turn that institution into an institution for the further development of this country.

SENATOR M. WARD: Mr. Deputy President, I think there is.....

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: On what do you rise?

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: On a point of order, Sir. I think there is a great difference in dealing with the purchasing of land to put a property on and the administration or the output of a Radio Station. If you take up this matter as it is going now, we can talk about radios in New York, in London or in Soviet Russia. He is totally carrying this debate out of context, Mr.

Deputy President, and I ask you to instruct the hon. Senator.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: I understand your point, Senator Ward, and it would be for me when he talks about radios in New York and London to rule. At present, I think the Resolution offers the opportunity for all members to make fairly wide-ranging comments on the quality of our Broadcasting Station.

SENATOR E. GREAVES: I really, Mr. Deputy President, thought that hon. Senators wanted to leave in here early this evening. All the time it is just a matter of ruling.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Please, please.

SENATOR E. GREAVES: Yes, Sir. I think it is a very serious point that we, for example, heard this evening strictures levelled against roller-skating and the fact that roller-skating takes away unnecessary foreign exchange because we do not make roller-skates here. It was described as a foreign incursion into our national life.

Now I am saying that the one institution in Barbados which has been responsible for the promotion of roller-skating in this country is the CBC. I will tell you why.

On Saturday nights CBC used to, I am not sure if it does because on Saturday nights I do not watch television too much, but CBC on Saturday nights used to run a programme called Disco Party which used to show people doing the various gyrations on roller-skates but I am saying that we are in a society, as Senator Simmons has pointed out, which was very impressionable.

I think that this is a situation with most developing countries where people tend to ache after values in the more developed societies and whereas CBC should be aiming to give some kind of direction, some meaningful direction to our young people you will find that they would promote something like roller-skating through Disco Party because we have to understand the kind of impact which television has on the minds of people.

One has only got to remember, I would not even bother to get into the political campaign. I will leave that for another time but I am very concerned and I believe that all hon. Senators should be concerned (a), about the obvious lack of direction which there is at the CBC; (b) about the fact that CBC does not play the kind of role that it should be playing in shaping this young nation and the people of this young nation.

There is such a tremendous opportunity available for the CBC through its radio and television services for playing a fundamental role in developing this

country that one cannot really imagine, and all we are having at that institution, as I said, is nothing but confusion, quarrelling one with another, dismissals and all sort of activities which do not add to the development of that Corporation.

I recall hearing a former Chairman indicating on this question of the separation of the radio from television, separation of the two stations, his disenchantment about even the way in which it was done or indeed the need for this to be done. I recall the very words "against his better judgment." (Laughter).

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Please, please.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I think any reasonable person like Senator Simmons who was a former Chairman of CBC, would really question the need for the separation as envisaged by the Hon. Minister.

I think that we have to get serious about this. I was very surprised to hear the Minister advance an argument and giving as one of the reasons for the separation of the radio station from the television station about not putting all of the eggs in one basket and referring to the coup in Grenada which he described as a coup by radio and therefore if you separate the two, it would not be as easy to take over. Even if you take over the radio station, you would still have the television station presumably, or *vice versa*.

Of course, the reply to that has been given by Senator McClean and I will say that if the words Senator McClean used had come from my lips, I can imagine what I would probably see in a newsrag called the Beacon or what I would hear coming from Senator Barrow in his response, the acidity of the language that would be employed and even question the motives which I would have had if such a statement had come from my lips.

But, they did not come from my lips. So that all I would say is that the Honourable Minister struggled, struggled hard, he even had to rake up, he was really, he raked out the bottom of the pot, more or less, in trying to justify this separation, to go to the extent to say, or to suggest, that it might not be so easy to take over a country if you have the radio station separate from the television station. That is utter nonsense. One cannot, therefore, if this is going to be the kind of argument which is being advanced for this separation that argument falls very, very, very flat.

It is clear that the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation is in need of modernisation, in terms of the

equipment and what have you. Senator Williams, who is an engineer of 13 years' experience, I think, indicated a very salient point, in terms of technology and it would not serve any useful purpose to argue as is often done when criticisms come, that "well, the Democratic Labour Party did this and the Democratic Labour Party did that". What the members of the Barbados Labour Party must understand is that they have been in power for one term and they have been given a second term. There is no point in attempting to hide their mismanagement or their inability to cope with a particular situation by constant reference to the Democratic Labour Party in any particular area.

The fact of the matter is that technological changes are taking place in the world at such a rapid rate that the fact that CBC, both radio and television, have obsolete equipment is no particular surprise. I remember once watching a film on this question of technology and a very interesting comment was made by one of the characters in that film where he said that, "today's invention is tomorrow's obsolescence". If you look at the kind of development which is taking place in the field of communications, then it is fairly clear that we have to move with the times. I seem to recall somebody indicating, for example, that the day is fast approaching when black and white televisions will be more in terms of the kind of development that is taking place.

But, if we could get back to this whole question of CBC and the separation. It would seem to me that a number of things need to be done. In the first place, I would suggest that the Honourable Minister goes back to Wildey and acquire land, rather than acquiring this land in White Park. I wonder if he would give us some indication as to how much the land at White Park will cost and, just by the way, I think that we ought to be treated a little better in here, in terms of the presentation of information and the presentation of Bills and Government Business and, rather than waiting for the reply then to get information, I believe that the Honourable Minister ought to give out as much information as possible for the guidance of Honourable Senators. I would therefore, like to enquire from the Honourable Minister what would be the cost of acquiring this particular parcel of land at White Park. I would also like to find out what he envisages would be the cost of establishing the complex — There must be some planning in this. I do not know if there is a building on the site, at least, I am not sure. It is over on that open spot on White Park on the right hand side. (ASIDES) Yes, the Unique Institute, that is the one — and whether they are going to be building — I assume you are building a new building on the site and I would want to find out what would be the cost of that, because I believe that the expansion can take place in Wildey at much less cost.

Senator McClean pointed to the high cost of land in the city and its environs and since the Government already has land at Wildey, then, I believe that a lot of cost reduction could take place if the station could be extended up there in Wildey. Sir, that would be one of the important things.

The second suggestion I would like to make is that, rather than really concentrating energies on the separation, the energies of the Government or the Board of the Corporation and, indeed, the energies of the Honourable Minister should be concentrated on making CBC into a station of which all Barbadians can be proud. At present, I do not believe, and I know, people are not happy with what is, clearly, the partisan position which is taken by the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, particularly in political matters. I am making that as a charge and as a statement of fact. The Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation takes a very one-sided view and presents extremely slanted political news, pro-Government.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Greaves, while I agree that.....

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I know you would agree with me, Sir.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Excuse me. While I agree that Honourable Senators are entitled to make fairly wide comment on this Bill, I cannot see that a charge of partisan broadcasting is going to be affected by a move from one place to another.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I was just making the point, Sir, to say that I would hope that even although I am opposed to the move that if the move does not take place — as I believe it will take place, because you know the Government has the numbers, so that anything that I will say here will not make any difference and really I might only be talking for the record, but nevertheless at least I believe my views should be known — so that whereas I agree with you that one cannot range as wide as one would like, I will try to confine my remarks to the particular point at issue.

But if we can really concentrate our efforts in trying to make CBC into a truly national station, I believe that the people of this country would be eternally grateful. I am saying that at the present CBC is not a truly national station.

In Whitepark the Government is acquiring three quarters of an acre of land, and I am really wondering if for example the Government is not thinking in terms of maybe expanding the Roebuck Secondary School, and whether this land is not somewhere in the vicinity, if it is

adjacent and rather than acquiring this land for that purpose whether some consideration in terms of future planning could not be given to reserving that area, even if the land is acquired, reserving this area for the future expansion of the Roebuck Secondary School. I am just talking without any clear perspective as to the exact location of the land, but I seem to recall that it is in very close proximity if not adjacent to that particular area. But as I said before, I think we understand the power of the Hon. Minister whom I have described as the second most important man. I know he does not like it, I only have to say that and it is just like raising a red rag before a bull. He gets angry when I describe him as the second most important man in the Cabinet.

The comments I am making I would really hope that the Government would pay some heed to them and reconsider the move to separate in the way they are separating; consider for example what could be saved by expanding at the present site at Wildey. There is a lot of land up there and I do not believe that it would take such a big area of land to establish a radio station. I understand that the Voice of Barbados — I have not seen any expansion gone on at Rediffusion — but I do not think that the Voice of Barbados is any worse than the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation. All I am saying is that the whole question of space, I am not convinced, I am not satisfied that you need to move out in the way in which it is being suggested, and even if you need space, I am saying that there is a lot of space at Wildey which could be effectively utilised for this particular purpose, and so it is for this particular reason and for the reasons which I have advanced about the lack of direction at the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, the mass confusion which exists there, that I cannot and certainly will not be supporting this Resolution to acquire this area of land for this purpose. Thank you, Mr. Deputy President.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Mr. Deputy President, I think that the Minister has made a convincing case in relation to a need for separating the radio station from the present existing television station. Anyone who visits there can see that it is very congested, and radio stations and television stations, and the equipment they use is so sensitive, and such acoustics as are necessary can be severely affected by the cramped conditions under which they exist at the Pine-Wildey, but he has not put such a convincing case as to moving it that far away from each other as we would like.

It is my opinion that there is sufficient land to be acquired at Wildey that could provide ample conditions for a radio station, and there could be walking distance between the two, because if it is under one management it is obvious that if they are in close proximity that will

relieve a lot of misunderstanding. For instance the radio broadcast of the news is very similar to that on television, and therefore in close proximity I imagine would be an asset. That is one side of it.

The next side of it that I find difficult to understand how this piece of land has been selected where it has been, in Whitepark. CBC Radio operates for 18 or 20 hours and much of the time there has to be a change of staff. Some of the staff will come from Christ Church, others will come from St. Thomas, St. Joseph and St. George, and getting into Bank Hall — I happen to take my child to school on mornings now — and the traffic in Bank Hall, in Country Road and in Whitepark Road is colossal. I cannot understand putting a radio station in that area with so many members of staff on shift, because punctuality in a radio station is most important. I find it difficult to understand why a person who lives in the Oistins area or beyond, Silver Sands, and you get into Bay Street, there are numerous traffic jams in Bay Street. Now, if you go around Belleville you run into the same thing. People now to avoid Bay Street are going around and coming down by Government House, St. Winifred's School, by the Telephone Company. These are very very congested areas, and it is going to dislocate the changing of the staff.

Of course, you know, Mr. Deputy President, Ministers never ever seem to say we will reconsider, because so long as a decision is made only God can change it, but I am saying this, that if the Minister really considers where he is putting it and the staff getting to and from that particular site, it is obviously a wrong site. I am in complete agreement that there is a need for a new station, but I cannot agree that it should be placed where this has been selected. The road in Country Road in itself should be widened, it is like a snake, it should be widened from Country Road right through to the beginning of Passage Road, right down Passage Road and down Westbury Road to President Kennedy Drive, which would give traffic from the Deep Water Harbour a roundabout into that area, and that would relieve some of the congestion. It would be very inexpensive from Roebuck Street to the corner of Passage Road and Baxters Road.

That would be relatively inexpensive, but the Westbury Road side of it is going to be very costly but nevertheless the long term view of it is that that circular road around the City should be a two to three-lane traffic highway.

Mr. President, to get back to this matter of the situation of this radio station, I cannot understand it. Now take for instance expenses when it comes to security. You are going to have to have security men down there and security men at Wildey. Suppose a person does not turn out for work. Many of the announcers on tele-

vision also announce on radio. (*Asides*). Nobody announces on television? Are they muppets? These people that I see announcing the news, what are they? Have you got strings tied to them and they are moved by them? In case there was a crisis in Barbados such as a hurricane and you could only get your reporters or announcers to one station, you would have them in one area. The Government is now building a new road from St. Barnabas to Warrens which means there would be easy communication from the northern parishes to the Pine or easy communications from Christ Church by Cable and Wireless through to the Pine instead of having to come down to Bridgetown.

I would appeal to the Minister. I do not know what authority he has. Of course left to me I would withdraw it and carry it back for reconsideration, but you see I am a very humble person and I have been taught severely to accept correction and direction but everybody cannot accept direction or instruction. I would suggest to the Minister to consider this because most of the Senators in here whether they are going to speak or not do not agree with this as a suitable site for a radio station though we all agree that there is a need for a new radio station. I cannot understand the reasoning behind it. Whoever thought of that? I think somebody must have thought of it. I see the land next door to it is Government land, but is this land not yet utilised? This is 333,000 square feet for a radio station. The parking area to a radio station should be 10,000 to 15,000 square feet, because you are going to get a lot of people going there, plus the staff and other people visiting to make announcements and whatever. I really would appeal to the Minister to give serious consideration to this after the Senators have spoken, but I do not think it is a suitable place for a radio station.

SENATOR D. A. C. SIMMONS: Mr. Deputy President, there is no guarantee as to how long I will be on this one. I have some formerly direct interest with the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation. Formerly I was a director or the Chairman of the Board of the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, and to that extent as Chairman I know some of the immediate background to the matter before the House. To that extent I also have to be particularly careful in what I said.

Before I answer any of the points that have been made by those who have spoken in advance of me, I wish to point out that when the Independent Broadcasting Authority Bill was passed in 1980, I spoke in the Lower House then on that particular Bill and I am sure that the hon. Senator Greaves also spoke, and I think I was able to convince him then of the need for the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation to upgrade itself. What we have before us today, Sir, is a Resolution which seeks to do two things, and there is some hesitation as

I conceive it on the part of hon. Senators in respect of one of those objectives of the Resolution.

The Resolution it seems to me seeks to provide for the first time a separate radio broadcast unit or complex and secondly it seeks to provide that separate broadcasting entity away and apart from the Pine; so there is a question of separation and a question of location. It seems to me that Honourable Senators are particularly concerned about the need to move to this comparatively distant location from the present site, and with respect the Hon. Leader of the Senate, Senator Barrow, I say with respect, I do not believe has made out an altogether convincing case in his opening for the need to move to White Park. Perhaps in his reply, having heard the strictures, criticisms and advices of hon. Senators he may be in a position to be more convincing on the question of location.

Let me deal first of all with the location. During my tenure as Chairman at the National Housing Corporation, there had come before the Corporation a proposal from the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation for the acquisition of lands, I suppose it would be east — I am not good on the map, but as a typical Bajan would know it is above the present site. I think it is east of the present site where there is an expanse of grassland, and it was nothing to do with the Housing Corporation because the land had not been vested in the Housing Corporation. It was vested in the Crown. The Ministry of Housing and Lands was the proper authority to deal with that. There was a certain to-ing and fro-ing and I left the Housing Corporation and went to C.B.C. and nothing has been done.

I think it is appropriate for the Leader of the Senate in view of the fact that Government itself and C.B.C. itself in the years certainly of 1977 and 1978 were cognisant of this land and some action was being planned if not being taken to extend C.B.C. I think it is incumbent upon the Minister in these circumstances to tell us first of all what has happened in respect of the land immediately above C.B.C. which precludes now building or development on that site. I know there is an engineering view that the two, radio and television should not be close to each other. There is that engineering view which I believe is shared by Senator Williams. There is also another engineering view shared by Mr. John Brewster who was a Board member and who is employed with Cable and Wireless, a very knowledgeable technical person that they could work in the same complex. Indeed they have been working in the same complex, so the fact that we have been able to get by reasonably since 1962/1963 or whenever C.B.C. was established with Radio and Television at the same site must lend some strength to the argument that the two can co-exist in a compound that is

reasonably manageable, and therefore there is not the great need to move even though it may be engineeringly desirable.

There may not be a great need to move from as far as Wildey to White Park so I think the Minister has the clear responsibility in these circumstances to let the House know what has happened about the land next door to CBC just East of the two chattel units that were built there. That is on the question of location, Sir.

On the question of the actual physical separation of the radio unit from the T.V. unit, the Minister has indicated, and I do not think that anyone has challenged it, that when CBC was first built, it was designed to accommodate, I think, a staff of 34 and with the passing of time nothing was done to enlarge the premises and nothing significant was done until 1979 or early 1980 when some additional buildings were placed East of the present site.

Now, the significance of those two buildings, Sir. In the first place it was to relieve congestion and provide additional space for the staff. In the second place, having regard to the independent Broadcasting Act which made it Law for there to be a split of function, we were trying to separate some of the Departments, for example, for the radio news people in one section and the T.V. news people in another section so we were making meaningful, what had been legislated by the construction of these two premises.

Thirdly, the construction was of a chattel nature of wood precisely because since 1976 there had been talk, it had been mooted and there were actual attempts made at drawing up a Development Plan for CBC and so envisaging that we would have had a new complex, we decided not to put down a permanent structure but to have two chattel units which could be sold or moved elsewhere when we got the new premises.

The new premises are not a matter to be sneezed at because Senator Greaves in his contribution mentioned the question of staff morale. I do not think that anyone of us who has been connected with CBC can deny the fact that the morale at CBC has, for the most part, been low.

When you have achieved a settlement with the Union and they get 25% or whatever they got the last time and the Management get 20%, morale gets high for two weeks and then there is a slump to the norm but one of the chief reasons why the morale at CBC has been persistently so is that there is this over-crowding. There is a denial of facilities. There is no canteen. There is no rest room where when you are off duty you can go and play a game of dominoes, or chat, or whatever and in the light of all of these things there has been

of necessity an expansion in staff and at the same time, there have been numerous Ministerial and Chairmen, including myself, promises to do something about the upgrading of these facilities and nothing substantial has happened.

We made an attempt, as I said, with the two chattel buildings but nothing real has happened and in this state of promises, little performance and plenty frustration, there must be engendered low morale. Now, I have no doubt here that the plan to have a separate radio station, if it can be achieved, will alleviate some of that low morale. It would provide for some elbow room. I know it did with the Accounts Department.

When we moved from the rat-invested building across Fairchild Street and put the Accounts staff in more commodious premises just near opposite Parliament in the old Alleyne Arthur's building, things improved but for all that, for all the low morale, I think it is also fitting on an occasion such as this, Mr. Deputy President, to pay tribute to those who have laboured under those trying conditions, some from the inception of the station in 1963 to the present day and happily, through the regime of the present Government, we have seen a steady growth in revenue from 1977. It started with the present Leader of the Senate, Senator Barrow, who was then Chairman and we have seen the revenue position of CBC improved.

It is unfair to allege that nothing has been done at CBC, it has not changed and so on because much has been achieved. In the area of training for example. Senator Williams mentioned the area of training. I think he was thinking particularly of training on the technical side and engineering but for hon. Senators' benefit, in 1976, the last year of the Democratic Labour Party rule, no money at all was spent on training.

In 1977, \$4,826 was spent. In 1978, \$7,103 and in 1979 \$30,116. In addition to that, Sir, a number of courses and programmes of training have been put on. I am making use, I must say, Mr. Deputy President, not of notes but of previous information when I was Chairman which I have given in another place.

There have been training programmes organised by Howard University of America, Thompson Television, Technical programmes organised by a gentlemen called Mr. B. Rowe, Mr. Ossie Springer of Cable and Wireless and probably known by Senator Williams. All of these have come and helped. There have been training programmes in other areas apart from the technical side and we have been trying to assist within the constraints of limited space and also limited finances.

I wonder how many people appreciate that CBC is not a Statutory Board of the same ilk as the National

Housing Corporation. It gets no subvention from Government. The Child Care Board and all of those get millions of dollars every year. I hope there are millions of dollars because they deserve it. Housing certainly gets millions from Government.

CBC has to finance itself. It is therefore expected to run as a commercial venture. I am not going to engage with the Minister in a discussion as to whether the licence fees amount to a subvention or not. The two of us have had that out tooth and nail and we did not see eye to eye nor do I see eye to eye with the Prime Minister as to the nature of licence fees. I do not think that it is a subvention in any event. It is not a meaningful one in the context of things because it probably amounts to \$400,000 a year but that is a separate matter, Sir. I do not want to be side-tracked into that.

I want to make the point to hon. Senators that the station has been trying to perform but there have been problems. At least I think hon. Senators should be conscious of the fact that the Leader of the Senate, and I am sure if he has not done it expansively in his opening, certainly in his reply he will have the opportunity to lay before this House the plans because we have been grappling with a Development Plan for CBC for a few years.

When Mr. Best was there he worked on one plan which was submitted, but there were criticisms of it, then he had to do a second plan and that (ASIDES) — No, that plan was better balanced than the first one, it was better on economics and cost analysis than the first one. But, I think it is proper to disclose to this Honourable Chamber that the development plan as envisaged in 1980 for a new complex for radio and television would have cost \$14 million. I knew that, prior to my resignation, the Honourable Minister had given very close thought to the idea that it would be cheaper, in the light of that kind of expense, it would have been cheaper and made more economic sense having regard to the economy and the fragility of the economy to build a radio station and, as he said, refurbish the present facilities into an upgraded and enhanced television station. At least there is a plan.

Honourable Senator Greaves is entitled, of course, he is entitled to criticise, but I go back to the Bible of his own Party, the Manifesto of the Democratic Labour Party for 1981. They who seek to criticise with such vehemence have no plan for the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation and its development because — I will quote, Sir, I want it in Hansard — on page 33 of the Manifesto, this is what they say:

“One of the first tasks of the Democratic Labour Party Government will be to improve the image of the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation.”

What does that mean, Sir? They are going to put on some paint? Harris Paints? What does that mean?

“Improve the image”

This kind of generalisation pervades the whole document, then they move into a criticism. That is what they say, Sir, that they will:

“improve the image”

but, they do not tell you how. They then say:

“C.B.C. has had four chairmen and three general managers since 1976, and there has been a rapid turnover of staff in all departments due to resignations and dismissals directly attributable to political interference.”

Not true.

“Under the Barbados Labour Party the freedom of the press has been eroded, its independence undermined and its integrity threatened.”

Nice words. Not true, Sir. But, I am not finished, I said I did not expect that I would be too short, Sir:

“Persons high in government have been abusive to journalists who displease them and have extended their displeasure to threats of physical violence.”

“The Party reaffirms its belief in:

- (a) freedom of expression for all on terms of equality without special privilege for Parliament.”
- (b) The need to provide training opportunities for journalists.
- (c) The principal.”

I am quoting, Sir, “p r i n c i p a l,” not “p l e,”

“The principal of equal time in Parliamentary and political broadcasting.”

That is the Plan, headed “THE MEDIA” page 33 then, the next item is “FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND NATIONAL SECURITY”. That is what the Democratic Labour Party in 1981, today, by its chief mouthpiece and spokesman in here, is willing now to criticise a Government which has a plan for the development of broadcasting.

Now, why is a plan necessary? (ASIDES) Mr. Deputy President, Sir, I have been accustomed to the toing and froing of debate in the Other Place, but, I also know that there is a rule of the Other Place and of this Honourable House that a member should be allowed to speak in silence. Others must be silent when he speaks, Sir. Just ask Senator Greaves, Sir, if he has opened himself to some blows from me, Sir, to take them, but do not interrupt me while I am addressing Your Honour,

please. Why is it necessary to have a plan for the development of broadcasting, Sir?

In 1979, November, for two days CBC TV had to shut down and go off the air. There was an outage for two days. I think that we all will recall it. It was a period of heavy rains and what had happened was that the Democratic Labour Party, when they built CBC, had — I do not know, I really was not able to find any document telling me who had been the contractor, but, we could not find any documents up there. It may have been built by a tailor, Sir, because, in the construction of CBC, the cables all ran underground, cables should run underground, but these ran under the station itself, under the studio, so that to get to some of them, you would have to dig open the studio. So, we have no Sixty Minutes and "Time to Sing" and Reverend Wiltshire and these people would not be able to perform. Foolishness. But, we had them — Light and Power people had to come and try and locate these faults. They ran underneath the station. Luckily, where the problem was was just outside the station and it was necessary to tie it off, Sir. Then we had to run some wires overhead coming over the station from the transformer outside. But it was pure chaos.

We realised then that the equipment, the station, its design, were obsolescent. Apart from being obsolescent, it was unable to cope with the demands of a modern broadcasting station. Take TV, you have one studio to do Sixty Minutes and all of these things, the same studio has to have time available to do commercials and as Honourable Senator Williams has said, very often people get frustrated because the studio is being used for something else, GIS, a Ministerial broadcast or whatever. The result is that there are certain private persons in Barbados who are now opening their own establishments and are making money with video cassette machines and all kinds of sophisticated equipment, so you really need an additional studio at CBC. You cannot have it on the present site while you also have radio in the same house. So, there is a case to move out radio. It would be more costly, Sir, to move out TV and build a new TV station, far more costly, but all the equipment needs updating, perhaps, except for some of the — what you call them — the EMG equipment which we bought in 1979 and 1980. The place wants rewiring. I am not going into the details, Sir.

I just want Hon. Senators to be aware that the equipment is, as Senator Barrow said, obsolescent and we have now to embark on a re-equipping programme. This is Capital expenditure. It was never done for, this is now, 18 years. Surely technology has moved on, everything has moved on, the time is not now, it was ever since, years ago, for this to be done. So I do not think that anyone can quarrel with the need to upgrade the facilities at CBC.

Now, the charge was levelled, Sir, which I do not treat entirely seriously, but I have learnt both from the political platform and in the Lower House that when statements which are perhaps less than true are made there should be an immediate rebuttal. It cannot lie in the mouth of the Hon. Senator Greaves to argue that CBC is pursuing a partisan political line. I really do not think he is serious in that. (SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: I am very serious, otherwise I would not have made the point). I am glad he rose to the bait, Sir, I just wanted the chance to deal with him.

In February 1976 when his party was in power there was a debate as to the establishment of an industrial park for the people of St. Philip. The Minister Taitt at the time, Minister of Trade, went on television and tried to convince the country that the then Government had plans for an industrial estate. I was the candidate in the bye-election who had made the call for the industrial estate, I was not given a chance to reply. Indeed, I was in a bye-election and never given the chance to speak on radio or television. The Hon. Senator McClean was running a party at the time and had a candidate in the field, and I think he will attest that his candidate never got a chance to be on television or on radio, but in 1978 in the bye-election in St. Michael South Central there were Haynes, Hinds and Haddock, the three H's, and all three were given time to appear on television and radio in this country.

Have we not seen Senator Connell before his disagreement with his party, Mr. Cameron Tudor? Only the 5th October, 1981 the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Errol Barrow himself talking about Jackie Opel? Did not we see him on television? Was it commonplace to see the now Prime Minister when he was Leader of the Opposition on television between 1971 and 1976? Indeed CBC never used to come and cover Press Conferences held by the then Leader of the Opposition. All of that has changed. We have opened up the station, Sir, on Friday nights I have taken part since being Chairman in debates on our discussion programmes, Night Ride programmes, with Mr. Cameron Tudor on imperial honours and this kind of thing. I believe that Mr. Tudor then was and still is a big wheel in the Democratic Labour Party. The Hon. Senator really cannot urge on us that CBC has been running any partisan way to the exclusion of the Opposition.

During the Pele enquiry you used to see Eric Sealy, the biggest and loudest opponent of the Government, and the vilest in Barbados, fully dressed in three pieces filmed there before your eyes on nights, and they would carry what he said. Fringe groups get exposure on television. MONALI only has to make a few platitudinous statements about solidarity and they carry it as a news item. But least of all should Senator Greaves complain, Sir, because every weekend without fail Mr. Frank Walcott publishes a column called "The Union Speaks", every

Sunday, page 2 of the Advocate-News, and what is in there — now this is a paid advertisement — and for news, something that is supposed to be newsworthy, CBC relentlessly every weekend lifts material from Mr. Walcott's paid advertisement and gives it out on the weekend, sometimes Friday, Saturday and Sunday the same piece, so they get a lot of publicity, the Union gets a lot of publicity.

I am only trying to make the case without going into too much detail that everybody can understand. Now, it has gone down in the record today, Sir, that Board members have resigned and the staff turnover has been high. That comment by Senator Greaves that Board members have resigned and so on had a little bait in it, but he knows me too well to expect me to rise to that debate and engage with him in any washing of linen. I resigned on a matter of principle, I said it to the Press. Thankfully all the Board members at the time knew why I resigned and that it was on a matter of principle and I still believe that I did the proper thing. In the circumstances if I have a disagreement on a matter of policy as Chairman with the Minister, I think it is proper for me to offer my resignation. But of course that kind of level of behaviour was a little bit foreign to members of the Democratic Labour Party, as is clearly evidenced in the Duffus Report in relation to the behaviour between Mr. Bernstein and the then Minister of Finance, Mr. Barrow. When Mr. Bernstein should have resigned and done the proper thing, he stuck it out and continued to be Mr. Barrow's barrow boy. Not so with me, Sir.

There is a problem which all developing countries running television stations have, Sir, and that is the problem of cultural dependence. Your finances, your technical expertise, indeed your cultural pool may be limited to the extent that you are not able to churn out on a sufficiently regular basis material that is really relevant to your particular society and that should be regularly consumed by the public of that developing society. It does not cost two cents to produce the thing that Banks used to produce, Cabaret I think it was called. You have to pay people who take part in it, you have to get advertisers and sponsors, and very few companies are going to engage in a society like Barbados in that kind of expenditure.

There are problems. I am not going into all of them. I do not want to bore members, but I think we have to be patient and to understand that in a developing society there has to be of necessity, because of the constraints of lack of trained personnel, lack of financial resources and equipment and so on, a mix between imported foreign programmes and local productions. What all developing countries, and Barbados like any other, have to do is try gradually to increase the percentage of your local programming so that every time you will be able to reduce

the imbalance in cultural infiltration. When I left C.B.C. I think the figure was 38% of local programming that was being done by C.B.C. at the time, and that was a great increase upon what we found in 1976. But Trinidad for all of its oil money still has a heavy dependence on foreign programming. You are talking, but before a lot of people talk they have to understand how the thing operates. You have Dallas, you have Sanford and Son and Good Times, well sponsored by the Hon. Senator Seale. How is it done? Barbados or C.B.C. could not go out on its own and contract these programmes for itself; the cost would be prohibitive. So what is done is that all the stations in the Caribbean get together on what they call a bicycle and if ten of us are going to put on a programme, each one of us has 10% in the cost, so that Trinidad would have it, then they would lend it to Barbados, then Barbados lends it to Antigua or St. Kitts or wherever and the programmes circulate and the cost to every member of the participating group is thereby reduced.

I am making the point also to emphasise that all the other countries in the area have this problem of importing foreign material. We have to do it because we are just not able. Trinidad has the money but they do not have the personnel and the expertise and so on to do the massive local productions that are necessary; but I still urge C.B.C. to be a little bit introspective and to look within the organisation itself and the capabilities of the organisation to see if they cannot do a lot to help themselves.

I saw an outside broadcast unit. My friend Senator Williams was talking about an outside broadcast unit. It has been a problem of money. The Hon. Leader of the Senate will know that we were trying to negotiate with the Japanese. We knew that the Japanese had given Jamaica two OB vans and we were trying to negotiate with them, but the Japanese have stopped. Since the middle 1970s when they gave Mr. Manley's Government the two OB units, they did not give anybody anything and we were trying to beg for one from them and could not get it. What I saw in Trinidad is a good example of do it yourself. It was an OB unit which was rigged up there by Mr. Deighton Parris, the Chief Engineer, and now or certainly he was up to the last time I spoke to him manager of the Station. But at TTT he had constructed an outside broadcast unit using just four wheels and an ordinary trailer like a cart that you can use on the back of a cane truck or a trailer that you use on the back of a tractor, for example. He constructed an outside broadcast unit on top these four wheels and two axles and all they had to pay for was the equipment. I do not remember the figure he told us, but it was less than \$40,000, and it has been working in Trinidad. It covers carnival, racing, everything. I saw it as well as Mr. Best at the time because we had a trip to Trinidad. I know Mr. Down who is executive engineer on an attachment from

England says he can do it; so it is a question of getting the money.

Mr. Deputy President, I am going to sit down just now, but I wish to urge the Hon. Leader of the Senate to give us perhaps a more convincing reason in his reply for the need to go to White Park. I think that is the only thing that is bothering Hon. Senators. Like Senator McClean I do not accept the argument about security at all. It is not only a red herring; I think it is *de minimis*. I say it is *de minimis* for this reason: at the Pine a complex can be put up and be secured. Indeed last year I did speak to the Prime Minister about detailing members of the Defence Force or the Police there on shift. It seems to me that is not a big thing if you decide you need five men to patrol the compound and they change every three hours or something; whether you do it by the Police or the Defence Force is a matter of detail, but presently it is a very insecure place.

The station compound stretches down into a kind of valley surrounded by a wire fence. Anybody can go out with a pair of snips and come in, so it is not properly secured. I do not know how you will improve that if you go to White Park, because the same people who are at the gate will presumably be at the gate at White Park. What you need is a different type of security person. You need somebody up there with a gun patrol.

Now I gather that in Government's plans there is one to establish the headquarters of the Police in the Wildey area. Whether that is going to see the light of day I do not know. I believe the police are deserving of a new headquarters, and I would think this a bit of a priority and we have to bear careful note of what Senator McClean said today and re-order our priorities in the light of current economic difficulties. If they are going to build a new complex for the police in Wildey, can't they have some land up there where they can build a complex for the radio station and just let the police walk across from Wildey or wherever it is and man it and secure it?

I don't know, but I think those are the great areas of this Resolution which only the Minister can clarify for Hon. Senators, but I think to stress the security aspect is no big thing because if anybody wants to make an attack on the station they would make it whether it is in White Park, Chimborazo or the Pine. I am obliged to Your Honour.

SENATOR C. D. SEALE: Mr. Deputy President, like all previous Senators I agree with the decision of CBC to separate the radio from the television, and as other Senators have said, from a visit to CBC you will quite readily agree that up there is overcrowded and this is needed. However, I cannot see the necessity of purchasing a spot of land at White Park. Sir, the Hon.

Leader described the building that is going up at White Park as a radio complex. When I hear the word "complex" I think of a very spacious area. Thirty-three thousand square feet with about 4,000 lost in roadway does not give me the impression that that would be very much of a complex.

Also, Sir, as other Hon. Senators have mentioned, the security bit was only a little bit of a red herring put across, Sir. I will cast that aside because I cannot be convinced that the security at Whitepark would be any better than the security at the Pine and if the hon. Leader can convince me of that, Sir, I would tend to agree with him.

Now from a commercial point of view at CBC. We have heard a lot of talk about CBC and what's not, Sir, and, as I have had to deal with the station in a commercial manner, there is one bit of blackmail that the station carries on that I will like to see stopped, Sir.

I do not know if it is generally known to the public, but every Easter and Christmas CBC raises its advertising rate. I do not know, but people shop at Carlton Supermarket, my place, Sir, and I do not think that for Easter I could raise the price of rice and at Christmas raise it again, Sir. I think that it is a bad policy because they realise that they are going to get a lot of advertising and it is blackmail, Sir. I think that that should be stopped. Rates are rates and I think that they should be continued on a level rate throughout the year. Those are just the few words I had to say, Sir. Thank you.

SENATOR Mrs. E. LYNCH: Mr. Deputy President, I am not going to speak at great length but I was in the situation that I was Deputy Chairman to all the Chairmen that have served since 1976 including the Leader of this House, the present Minister of Information, Mr. Ezra Alleyne and Senator David Simmons.

I contrived to be able to support them all, each in turn, not always with difficulty, Sir. Now, to be fair, I must say that I do not think that people are sufficiently aware of the tremendous amount of thought, discussion and effort that have been put into trying to improve CBC. Whatever might be said of the Board or about the Chairmen, whether we resigned or stayed, we all tried hard to improve CBC and, I believe, with success in some directions.

It is not easily understood that the modernisation of equipment, the re-equipping of CBC, is a very extensive undertaking. I used to criticise CBC a great deal myself before I was on the Board but I was really shocked at what it cost to run a television station. There were definite plans for the re-equipping of CBC. It had been costed, how it would be paid for and things of this

sort. Now, I do not know what progress has been made in that direction but, definitely, we faced the fact that it had to be re-equipped and we set out with very definite plans for having the money to do this.

Shortly before my departure, the mobile van was put into service which was thought to be fairly satisfactory. I am amazed to find that it has not been functioning efficiently but there was a definite effort to equip the mobile van so that it is not that nothing was done but that we are in an area where we have not got a pool of people equipped and ready for selection.

If you are in a big country, you advertise that you need a Newscaster or a technician or this or that and somebody who has been trained for this post arrives and you appoint the person. We usually have to take somebody with a certain amount of basic requirements and then make an intelligent guess as to whether this person would likely develop into the person that we need.

Now this is a chance that you are taking. A person comes on, he might look as if his basic qualifications might be sufficient. Then you might send that person up for training and discover that he has not quite taken the training. You see, you have not got your staff ready-made. You have got to be making your staff as you go along and that is the difficulty.

Definite efforts were made to improve the technical staff, very definite efforts. More people were being trained. There was an Executive Engineer brought down on contract. We hoped that, while he was there, other people would be trained to take over. The people selected were already people holding qualifications in engineering so efforts were being made but if you have a staff of people you cannot replace that staff all at once and bring in ideal people to take their places and so on. You are gradually training the people you have there. Some will leave. Some will go on and it takes years to train a staff and get the staff that you really need.

Now when the decision was made to separate the stations, I did comment that here we have a staff which is working in this situation, some work in both radio and television and, when we separate the two, we would likely accentuate the weaknesses because, quite naturally, if you have the two groups of people working together, the weak might have been supplementing the strong and you have a kind of working team, but then when you break that down into two, you would probably show certain weaknesses for a certain time until you were able to bring both sides up to mark.

I would like to say that in anything that CBC has undertaken, there has been a great deal of thought, a great deal of discussion and, I am sure, advice from people who ought to be qualified to give such advice, I

have always felt, I might not look on it as an amateur, that I might have liked this or that, but I am bound to admit that I am fairly certain that the Minister would not undertake a change of this sort without receiving advice from people who ought to be qualified to give it and, certainly, I am certain that the advice of the persons on the job would have been sought.

Indeed, before I left I think I saw some document written by the person who heads the radio station. I do not think that you would find that the Board and the Minister undertook this sort of change without giving a great deal of thought to it. I do not know whether he has taken us entirely into his confidence as to the nature of the thoughts but I know that this was being discussed just as I left. I do not think that it was a hasty action so it may be that the Minister could, as another former Chairman has done, go into greater detail as to the kind of advice he received in making his decision. I am an amateur and if the advice he received was from somebody who had more knowledge in the field, I am afraid that I would have to say that the Minister was more likely to take that advice than to accept ours.

Now the other question of criticism. I always felt that the basic problem at CBC was the problem of human relationships.

I do not know whether my Chairman felt as strongly as I did about it, but I always felt this and I think that giving them more physical space will probably help a great deal in those problems. If you have people so close to each other, working so close to each other all the time, I think that there are little foibles and weaknesses, and tempers and so on are more likely to give difficulty. Certainly the Chairman made some effort at giving recognition to people who had served well, as, in the time of the hurricane threat and so on, those people who had served beyond the call of duty and things of that sort, received recognition.

I think that CBC could do with a little less adverse criticism and a little more encouragement. The Opposition has departed, but I was surprised to hear comments about partisan positions and not being a national station and so on because very definite efforts were made to widen the number of the kinds of persons who got an opportunity to appear on CBC and, certainly, in the Bye-Election of 1978, every effort was made to give the Opposition full opportunity to appear on CBC. All kinds of people have appeared on CBC and I think that the public itself should be in a position to say, "Well, that is not true, we noticed that many, many more persons, a greater variety of persons have had the opportunity to appear on television since 1976". That is just a fact, it is not a question of being partisan. It is a statement of fact and it was definite policy. I would say that the present Honourable Leader of the House did make this very clear that people were to

be able to express their opinions and so on, as great a variety and so on, on the television. So that, even where there has been an effort at CBC to do something praiseworthy, they did not get any praise for it. In fact, I think they got an attack on the night of that bye-Election. I was a bit upset about that.

I feel that in the question of local programming, we have to realise that the script has got to be written and we have to be able to find a sufficient number of persons who, when you begin a local programme, will be able to keep it going, you might get one of a series but that is not — we do not want one of a series, we want a continuation of a series and it is very difficult to maintain, even if you get one thing, to maintain that level. We just have not yet got the people we need for this particular — I do not know if you can call it an industry, this is Industry Week (ASIDES) — We just have not got all the people and I think we have to select them, and train them and that the public must support them. I do not mean not to be critical, but what I noted was that when people had something to congratulate CBC for, they wrote a private letter to the Manager and when they had something which was adverse criticism, they sent the letter to the press. So, you always see the adverse criticism, but you do not see the letters of congratulation or appreciation sent to the Manager and it is very important that where there has been a good film that this should be stated, so that the people at CBC know what the public considers to be a good film, what they appreciate. But they are silent when there is a good film. They do not know that you appreciate the film. There is also the problem of sponsorship for local productions. Sponsors more readily sponsor the imported film than the local undertaking. It will not have the slickness, of course, and the finish of the imported work.

So that, the question of personnel selection, the changing technology — you might buy a bit of equipment and then one bit is missing and, when you try to get it, you discover that that is not being manufactured any more. So, that is money gone, you have to get an entirely fresh set. While we are going into discussing the changes we want to make, I noted that we had several plans. In fact, I can almost see the booklet before me in which we had all the details of the new CBC that we were going to create. Each time you make a plan, you are being very careful, you are getting all the advice you can, so that you will do what is best, and so you are always making plans because, before you can start on the plan you first had, another plan appears. This has happened. All the time you were planning, you are so busy trying to make it perfect, you are so busy trying to get the finance for it, that the situation changes and you begin on another plan. So, I do not know what is happening with this one, but, this is another plan that we are on.

I think that we should place some confidence in the persons who undertake the task of re-organising CBC. It

is going to take time and there will be criticism, but, I wish, too, that with the criticism, the public would mix some encouragement and some appreciation sometimes, which will be heartening to the workers, that you will not, as soon as a young telecaster arrives and begins to show a little promise find that fans make the youngster feel that he or she is top class. The person is just beginning and, very often, people who have begun well deteriorate because it seems to me, in the nature of this kind of job, people who have to appear before the public, actors, telecasters, even politicians, who have to appear constantly before the public, it tends to do something for their personalities, it tends to do something to their ego and they can get very difficult to deal with. Their fans make them believe that they are wonderful and that they have arrived and then, this youngster who is promising, deteriorates and does not fulfil his promise.

So I support the Resolution although I too have had my questions to ask, but I believe in the competence and intelligence of the Honourable Leader of this Honourable Chamber. I do not believe that he would embark upon an undertaking like this without getting advice and I would like to give him some, that is, that if he is in any doubt, get some more advice and then, act before he has to make another plan. The people at CBC will know the discomfort in which they now try to function.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. Deputy President, in replying, let me first of all thank Senator Lynch for the advice. She is quite right in that I did seek advice very carefully on this matter.

Senator Simmons, I am sorry he is not in his place, now, but he referred to the previous plan which ran a cost of some \$14 million, that is, at October, 1980 prices. The point is, in relation to that previous plan, that it really reached a little further perhaps, than it would have, had it come to the Ministry first. If you recall, that plan went straight to Planning and Priorities Committee who raised a number of questions and said that before they were prepared to consider it, they would have to see a financing plan to justify Capital Expenditure of \$4.9 million in the first instance.

The point is that that plan did envisage building at the Pine as opposed to what we have moved to. Fourteen million dollars is a lot of money to spend, and once the plan which was not even finally costed was going to be a plan of those dimensions, I for one would automatically look for more economical ways of doing the same thing, and this, Mr. Deputy President, is how we came to be in the situation we are in today.

First of all, let me mention one other thing. If we are talking radio we are talking about all the modern

thought in radio which is emphatically of the view that radio stations operate best where the action is, which is usually in the centre or near to the centre of town. This is a basic point, and you will see that the Voice of Barbados will go on the air with transmitters in the St. George valley, and Barbados Rediffusion Limited who owns the Voice of Barbados will build a radio complex perhaps at Wildey, but they are not going to close that facility at River Road down, because that is key to their effectiveness as a radio station. This is the point, and I am very sorry really, Mr. Deputy President, that I did not go fully into this, but when you live too close to a subject you sometimes forget that you acquire a great deal of information which is not easily available to other persons, and for that I am sorry. Because I think you, Sir, are in a position to know that what I just said is a positive fact, and so is Senator Clarke. That facility at River Road is not going to close down, no matter what is built at Wildey, because the more modern development in radio becomes community radio, the more radio stations are going to be situated, as indeed they are in every big city, right where the action is.

If, therefore, we are talking about redesigning the plan, and we are talking about building a separate radio station, the decision would have to be taken whether we are going to go where the action is or whether we are going to build at Wildey. In my humble submission, Sir, it would not make a great deal of difference whether you just stuck to the old plan or not, if you decide to build at Wildey.

The second point in relation to that is that all land has cost, so we are not to behave as though if you are building on land that you own already at Wildey that this is necessarily such a great economic gain, because the cost of the land at Wildey may be cheaper than the cost of the land at Whitepark, but building at Wildey, because east of where the Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation's buildings are and where the extension would have to take place is a bottom, and building at Wildey we were advised technically is a much more expensive operation because of that than building at Whitepark where there is perfectly good foundation. So if it is a matter of just looking at the cost, we are not sure at all that we are going to come out with any savings by building at Wildey. The factors there seem so close as indeed not to have attracted a great deal of attention when the matter was considered at the highest level.

The points that have been considered out of the advice we have got, the points that seemed most persuasive were as follows. The Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation has to maintain a presence in Bridgetown even if it does not build a radio station in Bridgetown. At present that presence in Bridgetown with rents going up, and they are really going up, house rents themselves are pushing \$1,000 now, and a three bedroom house in

an established neighbourhood \$500 where the Government provided subsidised housing in Oxnards and so on, and if you look around twice and you have a house like I am sure Senator Greaves would have, you could snap your finger and get \$1,500 or \$2,000 for it, and then there are those who have been collecting four and five thousand a month for a little while now.

The point is that rents in this country are going up. Let us not fool about it. The CBC is at present paying \$2,500 a month for premises over there, \$30,000 a year. When the radio complex is built in Bridgetown the need for renting there will disappear, because you will provide within that complex the window which you need for your television shopping licences, and your radio accounts and your radio advertising will all be under one roof at Whitepark.

Within the same Corporation it is easy for radio and television to trade space and rent space, and when you refurbish the Pine you are able then to bring your television accounts and television advertising all under one roof, so involved in this scheme is also taken into consideration the outlay which is essential for the provision of at least a window in Bridgetown being provided currently at \$30,000 a year. Consequently, the advice to us is that savings would result by the provision within the radio complex of accommodation for a television station which would still need a presence for the efficient collection of licence fees.

Secondly, the close proximity to Bridgetown and major bus routes have definite programming benefits and there should also be advertising advantages. Thirdly, the site is a good one for all technical purposes. I believe, Sir, that its line of sight with the transmitters at Black Rock, which is considered to be a point of great importance. The site provides adequate space for parking and is accessible from two directions, Whitepark Road and Country Road. Whitepark Road is also seen as a better location from the point of view of foundations.

Finally, the only possible disadvantages were seen as the additional cost of separate power facilities and an additional self-supporting tower. So that is the summary of the advice which we received before a decision was taken that the construction should take place at Whitepark. The position, in addition, Mr. Deputy President, is that you do not easily find yourself capital assistance for buildings. Part of this will facilitate an approach which we think will be in the interest of everybody.

Now, Sir, what people are running us down to sell is equipment and usually you can find knocking around proposals for equipping on fairly generous terms. The part of it therefore is to facilitate a complete

break down of the project. In addition the engineering advice it that it is the simplest, quickest, cheapest and most effective solution to the Corporation's problems because it means that you can build the station, clean radio out without at all interfering with what is going on at the Pine, and then you can do your refurbishing, but as Senator Simmons said, television needs an additional studio if it is going to function properly, but it is more than that. You have two radio studios at the Pine, both make-shift, no proper audience participation in the studio. You do not have anywhere that if you want to give anybody a dexterity test who comes in to look for a job as an operator or whom you want to look at as a member of the technical staff and you want to see how he looks with studio equipment, you have nowhere to run that test; so a lot of the recruitment at the technical level and operational level has to be done in the dark.

This, of course, Sir, is more to do now with the new complex rather than with where it is to be located. I dealt specifically with the location point first, so we can get that out of the way, so you can understand that the technical advice is for that kind of location; so we have got that out of the way. Now how can you operate not only an AM station but also an FM station? Because when we took over the station with a new Board in 1976, I think Senator Lynch will remember that we found an FM transmitter purchased and sitting out there in the cold at Sturges not even powered, therefore I think it was just good luck that we caught it in time because if the persons appointed by Senator Greaves had been allowed to return to their mal-administration, presumably it would have remained there until the weather decided its fate ultimately. I am sorry, Sir, not by Senator Greaves; he is not the Senator most important.

The point about that, Sir, is this: you must if you are going to talk about running an FM station, and there is equipment, you are going to have to get the studio facility and operate it. If you are going to run an FM station, that itself is going to require studio provision even if you are going to run a fully automated service.

Now as I said before, it does not really make sense to refurbish for radio at the Pine, and I believe I do not have to stress this point, Sir, because as the discussion has developed in here, I got the impression that nobody is asking to be convinced of the need to build a radio station. All that was being asked was why move it to White Park, and I hope I have answered that question. At least I have tried to. I have given the technical advice, and we are prepared in these matters to be guided by technical advice rather than by hunches.

Senator McClean also raised the question as to whether it was genuinely a question of land acquisition. Let me say two things in reply to that. First of all this

is not the only land that Government is buying in the White Park area, and as Senator McClean would no doubt have observed, Government has an extremely keen interest in the form of development taking place particularly in the main approaches to Bridgetown. Therefore whether this land was needed for a radio station or not, it is likely that Government would have expressed an interest in it. It is all those lands there on the White Park side of the new Roebuck Secondary School; so that is one point in relation to it. The second point is that we have made an offer and I have not mentioned money in this case because I do not know how proper it is while a negotiation is going on and while you are hoping that you will settle to reveal anything about what figures are in the ring, and I would wish the Senate to just accept that we have made an offer, the vendor has responded quoting a higher price, as I recall something like 50% above what we are offering with transactions taking place in the same area, and of course what is the going price is going to be determined more by these transactions than by what we are offering and what he is asking. But perhaps I could say one thing, that to the best of our knowledge no transaction is taking place of the order of \$10 a square foot in that area yet, so that that would at least give you some idea of an outside figure in relation to the cost of the land since it is about 32,000 to 33,000 square feet. Beyond that I do not believe I can say anymore.

Nobody who spoke this evening seemed to take seriously what is in fact a very serious point, the point about security. I understand, Sir, that I have to take the blame for that because instead of going into details for technical reasons, I just mentioned the security point and I did not go into any sort of explanation on that. We have had the Ministry of Defence and Security do a study on the security arrangements presently in force and make proposals to us, and I believe that it is true to say that it is inconsistent with your best security arrangements so to set up your broadcast facilities that you allow one thrust, one successful thrust to determine control over them. It is not in my view a petty point and it cannot be in my view a point which one should fail to consider. For example, Sir, one of the reasons why I have always been of the view that a second radio station should have been licensed is that it gave that much greater depth in terms of the security of your broadcasting arrangements. It cannot be as easy to knock out two stations as it is to knock out one, and it cannot be as easy to knock out three as it is to knock out two. I cannot see how it can be regarded, Sir, as a point of minimal importance if importance at all.

I think, Sir, that we realise that it is not a matter really of what happened with the land at Wildey. The point is that the reasons are completely different. Most

of the points raised by Senator Greaves have been dealt with by Senator Simmons. A couple of points were raised by Senator Ward. He is not in his place, but one point he raised about traffic jams has me something at a loss because one would have to believe that people do not have to go into Bridgetown to work every morning and that some of them are not in fact C.B.C. staffers; so I do not quite understand. His point on traffic jams seems to have jammed off Senator Ward's thinking for a while.

Senator Seale seemed to have a problem about advertising rates which he says go up every Easter and every Christmas and, according to him, that is blackmail. I believe, Sir, that CBC has been studying how to apply loss leaders in the business of attracting radio and television revenues because I understand that is the alternative way to do it. Anyhow, I am not too sure about the details on that point.

Senator Simmons replied to a great deal that Senator Greaves said, in fact, I believe every point, and in so doing made the point that CBC, up to when he ceased to be Chairman, was doing something like 38% of local programming.

I wonder if Senator Greaves has ever been into a radio station, has ever been into a television station because I believe he should be taken on a tour of CBC immediately. If he could see and understand the equipment with which this type of programming was done, the one thing that cannot be said about CBC is that, given the state of equipment, the content of their local programming is low. That is the one thing that cannot be said.

It might have been said prior to 1976 and I believe, Sir, that even then it would not have been fair to make, that point. As a matter of fact, one of the things I remember is that among the number of people who came down and who have given advice in one way or another — we have had people from Granada Television. We have had people from the Thompson Organisation and one of the more recent people pointed out that, perhaps, CBC would be better advised to try to do a little less and to do it better because it had been stretching its equipment really to limits that in the United Kingdom surely they would never have done.

I believe, Sir, that those are things which had to be said because all that we hear from people like Senator Greaves is about low staff morale. People sitting down virtually on top of one another, low staff morale, are you surprised? You hear about staff morale being high. I would invite Senator Greaves to come down from Mangrove and do a little bit of negotiations, help Trotie with a little bit of negotiations like at the Advocate, like

at Rediffusion, like at the Nation because he would be surprised to find that of all of the businesses in Barbados in a similar line there is less of a staff turnover at CBC than anywhere else.

It is a direct and dedicated effort on the part of some miscreants who obviously determine some of what goes into the *Nation* and who, when they telephone people and ask questions, are told there is no problem as has happened recently in the case of Marvo Manning when she said "I have no problems with the Corporation. It is simply that I have this offer. I have been broadcasting for a long time and I want to try something new." The young lady replied "But I cannot tell my Editor that." It has to be sensational. If it is not sensational, it is not worthy of publication. If that line continues, God help that particular paper.

So, if anything happens at CBC, we will find that a particular version has to be put on it and in the columns of the *Nation* Newspaper there will appear their version of the facts. But they will never tell you that, if CBC had anything like the staff turnover that the Nation has, the CBC news room would have been cleaned out at least four or five times for the year already.

As a matter of fact I believe, Sir, that when people meet people on the steps of the Nation and they had ever seen them there a day or two before, they could never tell whether they were going in or coming out. That is not staff turn-over. That is staff circulation, but that Newspaper has the gumption to publish.

It is something, Sir, akin to those who have, of recent times, taken to defend the cases of those, who when the Union needed their support during the days of the Democratic Labour Party, would never give it and having found themselves in serious breach of all that is expected in any reasonable place of employment, now find themselves running to the Union for protection. That is another point which I think is still waiting to be resolved elsewhere.

I am very near, Sir, to the end of my reply but I cannot allow one point made by Senator Greaves to escape total recognition. Senator Greaves who did not think obsolete equipment to be any big thing, talked about people promoting themselves over CBC and, indeed, when, on having made a couple of references he was urged to be a little more specific, before he moved off the point made a reference to Elombe.

I am sure, Sir, that Senator Greaves does not listen to radio. If he did, he would perhaps go through what to many is an interesting, enjoyable and educational experience from which he could only benefit, which is to listen to the Jazz Programme, Jazz Junction, by Elombe. People who know and understand a little bit about music con-

sider that as a very well and presented programme and it is one of the better Jazz programmes presented anywhere. So what I would like to do, Sir, is to suggest to Senator Greaves that he at least listen to the programme first, give it a chance and if he enjoys it then we can always understand. He can then come back and ask us "But why is it necessary for the gentleman to call his own name" and then perhaps we could explain to him that in radio there is not a great deal of anonymity. You usually get the name of the announcer or the presenter of the programme. There is nothing too unusual about that.

The business of talking about a glorified duke-box, nobody is going to try to defend the quality of programming totally but what we would say, and I will repeat the implication of the point made by Senator Simmons, once we are satisfied that a great deal is being done within the present limitation, though we want to ask for more and though our standards would require that we ask for more, we are not to overlook that people are at least making a real effort to bring genuine education and entertainment by use of the air waves.

I had almost forgotten one point. There was reference made to the outside broadcast plant.

Senator Williams indeed was the person who first made the reference. The point is, Sir, that, it has been known now for some time, certainly, before the Budget Debate of 1980 that the outside broadcast van was not capable of producing pictures for broadcast quality any longer. I think it was the 1980 Budget Debate that did not go anywhere near the full length. The picture quality was appalling and it looked as though, at any time, it was just going to be gone. (ASIDES) The Opposition, I am reminded Sir, did walk out and the debate ended prematurely. I believe, Sir, that when Senator Greaves makes his long speeches up here, it is because he does not want to be accused of walking out of up here too (ASIDES). What I was saying, Sir, is that in 1980, the broadcast was only completed because the debate did not run anything like its full length and I believe, Sir, that it was Senator Simmons who volunteered the information. The Opposition walked out and the thought struck me, Sir, that Senator Greaves is perhaps talking as much as he is up here because he does not want to be accused ever of walking out from this Honourable Chamber. But, however that may be, for the 1981 debates, \$120 000 in equipment was hurriedly got and a van, was ordered in time for that but it could not be got in time for that and that van has arrived and the equipment will now be put into that van.

The problem with CARIFESTA is that in the present arrangements it takes CBC, it takes a minimum of 36 hours to set up the outside broadcast equipment and it was not possible for them to do the CARIFESTA opening and the opening of Parliament, on the same equipment. They

had to set up and run tests and that simply was not possible. Evidently, this leads clearly to whether the operation can afford having not one, but two OB vans because they need that kind of flexibility. I mean TTT governs like anything because they operate on two OB vans. But, operating on one OB van, there are difficulties, when events come that closely one to the other. So, that is the real problem with that, but there is OB equipment, I believe, currently being installed in a van, and for radio, there is also an OB van, there is equipment either on order or it may have arrived, I am not sure.

Mr. Deputy President, I trust that the advice which I have read out and which should make it clear that the decision has been reached, after full consultation and that the advantage of operating a radio station in the town close to the action, right where the action is, is one of the factors to be considered. I trust that Honourable Senators will now find it rather easier to support the Resolution.

The motion that the Resolution be now concurred in was put to the Senate and agreed to, the Senate dividing itself as follows:

The following Honourable Senators voted aye:

Senator the Hon. N. A. BARROW, Senator the Hon. O'B. TROTMAN, Senator C. A. GRIFFITH, Senator H. R. LINTON, Senator J. CLARKE, Senator K. A. ROUSE, Senator J. E. D. WILLIAMS, Senator D. A. C. SIMMONS, Senator StC. E. HOWELL, Senator Mrs. E. M. LYNCH, and Senator Mrs. G. G. READER: 11.

The following Honourable Senators voted no:

Senator E. E. GREAVES, Senator C. D. SEALE, Senator Rev. Can. I. McK. JONES, and Senator A. W. A. McCLEAN: 4.

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT HASTINGS, CHRIST CHURCH

Order No. 3 was called – To move the passing of a Resolution to approve the compulsory acquisition of land at Hastings, Christ Church for the purpose of road improvement.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: Senator Barrow.

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. President, I was minded just now to perhaps ask that we take the dinner break at this stage, but bearing in mind the subject matter of the two resolutions and of course, Sir, there is the Civil Establishment Order, I thought perhaps, I would try to see how far we could get in the next few minutes, Sir, because I did not see that they contained, on the face of them, any complexity.

The Resolution before us, Sir, is as it says, for the purpose of road improvement. It is proposed to acquire this land at Hastings, which I think is at the corner of St. Matthias. That whole Hastings area with Pavilion Court and so on in that general area is one at which we need not only look, in terms of road widening, but in which the Government, Sir, has an active interest, as indeed has the National Trust because there are, in that area, particularly at Pavilion Court one or two other buildings of importance, historically and culturally to the country.

I move, Sir, that this Resolution be concurred in.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: It is proposed that this Resolution be concurred in....Senator Seale.

SENATOR C. D. SEALE: Mr. Deputy President, having lived in that area a number of years ago, Sir, I wholeheartedly support this resolution, Sir, because that Hastings Road is a very busy road, Sir, and reading from debates of the Other Place, Sir, one Honourable Member has a favourite expression he uses all the time, Sir, "tip of an iceberg". I hope this is only the tip of an iceberg of many acquisitions to widen corners on that road, Sir. There are many places that we could mention. There is Garden Gap entrance, Sir, a little higher up, there is the entrance from Luigis, I think it is, coming out, it is an absolutely blind corner — near to where Dr. Hoyos has his office and even further up, Sir.

I think that right now when the Government's funds are a little low this type of acquisition and these types of jobs are created in which there will not be a great deal of foreign expenditure going in, but people would be working. This is the type of programme I think could go on for a couple of months, widening roads and clearing blind corners, Sir. It does not really take a great deal of material but it provides quite a bit of work. Thank you.

The question that the Resolution be concurred in was put to the Senate and agreed to.

4. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE COMPULSORY ACQUISITION OF LAND AT BOSCOBEL, ST. PETER

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. Deputy President, this is a Resolution of equal complexity. It had been proposed at one point to buy a larger area of land, and once Government had examined carefully the land for the purpose and decided to reject the idea of its purchase, it recognised that it still had one claim however on this land, and that is that the Barbados Water Authority wished to erect for the con-

venience of persons living in that area one one-million gallon capacity storage tank, and that lands would need to be bought in order to facilitate its erection. Consequently, Sir, the Government decided to negotiate the purchase of the 11,000 square feet of land involved shown on the plans which I am making available, and this Resolution is in respect of those 11,000 square feet of land.

I move that the Senate concur in this Resolution.

SENATOR A. W. A. McCLEAN: Mr. Deputy President, in rising to support this Resolution I would like to direct attention to a problem which has arisen in relation to the reservoir, or storage tank, or whatever you want to call it, at St. Stephen's Hill. On two occasions very recently it has flooded the area and I hope that in the construction of this one they will examine the efforts at St. Stephen's Hill and see what has gone wrong there and not only correct it but make sure that it is not duplicated at Boscobel.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy President, unlike the previous Resolution, I have no difficulty in supporting this particular one. I happen to know Boscobel very well. As a matter of fact, I can very well recall the kind of difficulties which people who live in Boscobel have had over the years in getting a steady water supply. I myself have had to take water up there as a youngster for an aunt who used to live up there, so at least I can well understand the purpose of this Resolution.

As I recall, the now Water Authority but previously the Waterworks Department had outlined a plan to provide storage tanks on the hilly areas of that part of Barbados, starting as I recall by the establishment of a reservoir at Springhall and moving on to a higher level at Lamberts where I think a booster station has been established, and part of the overall plan included the establishment of a storage tank of this nature in the Boscobel area. I could very well recall entering into discussion with a former Minister of Communications and Works on the provision of the facilities which would have brought better water service to the people who live in this particular area of Barbados. I am talking in terms of the eastern part of St. Lucy and going on to the general area of Boscobel, and I would certainly want to support this, because I believe that it would relieve a very serious problem which people who have lived in this area have experienced over the years.

The question that the Senate concur in the Resolution was put to the Senate and agreed to.

6. RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CIVIL
ESTABLISHMENT (PAYMENT OF
PASSAGES) ORDER, 1981

SENATOR O'B. TROTMAN: Mr. Deputy President, the Resolution under consideration is one of several amendments which we have been bringing to Parliament to bring about equality between the sexes in this country, not only resulting from the Commission on Women's Rights, but generally in the Public Service there are certain discrepancies as far as female officers and male officers are concerned.

You will remember two weeks ago, Sir, there was the question of equal pay for men and women, and now in this Order we seek to provide female officers recruited from abroad the same opportunity to bring their families with them as has been provided for men since 1948, I believe. The Order therefore seeks to provide for the payment of passage and incidental expenditure to officers recruited from abroad for themselves, their spouses and I think children under the age of 18, unless that child is mentally retarded and unmarried. The female Senators will probably rejoice in seeing one more advance made in the name of women's rights, Sir.

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

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: Mr. Deputy President, I believe the Minister could give us a little background on this matter of paying passages of Civil Servants overseas. As far as my understanding of it goes, and I will be happy to be corrected, I believe this started in the colonial days when Civil Servants came out here from Britain and so as to have their holiday at home.....

SENATOR O'BRIEN TROTMAN: Could I just assist the Senator, Sir? The question of vacations at home I think is covered by another Civil Establishment Order known as the Leave Passage Order. This is the Payment of Passage Order which has to do with the recruitment of officers from abroad and has nothing to do with the payment of passages for colonial Civil Servants going back home.

SENATOR M. C. C. WARD: I accept what the Minister says, Sir.

SENATOR E. E. GREAVES: Mr. Deputy President, I do not think that anybody would disagree with this particular change, because I think it is in keeping with the generally accepted position relating to the question of equality. I would just like however to raise a further question which I believe would be indirectly related to this, and I wonder if the Hon. Minister who has introduced this Bill could give us any indication as to what progress has been made, if any at all, towards the equalisation of pensions for men and women in the public service.

Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT: The question is not in my view strictly relevant, but if the Introducer would like to give the courtesy of a reply, I have no objection.

The question that the Resolution be concurred in was put to the Senate and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

SENATOR THE HON. N. A. BARROW: Mr. Deputy President, that concludes Government Business for this evening. Orders Nos. 8, 9 and 10 were for first reading today with the two matters of which I gave notice this evening, one a Bill and one a Resolution, Sir, will therefore come up together at the next meeting at which point I have to regret that I am unlikely to be with you for a few days anyway.

Accordingly I beg to move that the Senate do now adjourn until next Wednesday, 21st October, 1981, at 2.30 in the afternoon.

The question was put to the Senate and agreed to and Mr. DEPUTY PRESIDENT adjourned the Senate accordingly.
8.13 p.m.